

RECALL

By

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an idea by Lee Andrew Taylor

MUSIC INTRO:

INT. ROOM INSIDE CELLAR OF OLD COTTAGE - NIGHT

A bulb hanging from a cable swings, lights up a basic room, almost bare of items.

The light catches a male figure (face unseen), hovering over a female figure (face unseen). She isn't moving.

EMMA WILSON(31) has just been badly beaten by her husband **ADRIAN WILSON**(35).

CLOSE UP:

of Adrian's hand gripping the bulb, squeezing it until it breaks.

FADE TO BLACK SCREEN:

MUSIC INTRO STILL PLAYS:

CUT TO:-

INT. CELLAR OF OLD COTTAGE

Adrian slowly walking away from the cellar. His face is still unseen.

FADE TO BLACK SCREEN:

MUSIC INTRO STILL PLAYS:

CUT TO:-

Emma Wilson dragging herself across the floor, blood pouring, seen from the moonlight coming in from a small window. Her face is still unseen.

MUSIC STOPS:-

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - EARLY MORNING

Emma lies in a bed, sedated. Bandages cover most of her face. Only her eyelids are seen. Her parents, **MARGARET**(55), **RAY**(60), stand beside her bed, worried. A little boy, **CALEB**(5), Emma's son, is crying.

INTO FRAME:

Appears a **DOCTOR**. He looks at Emma, sighs.

DOCTOR
(to parents)
Thank you for coming so quickly.

Margaret holds Emma's bruised hand.

RAY
(to doctor)
What happened?...The police said
she was found like this.

DOCTOR
Maybe you should take the boy for
something to eat...He don't need to
hear this.

Margaret reaches out to hold Caleb, walks him out of the
room. The doctor closes in on Ray.

DOCTOR
Yes...Your daughter was found
walking in a daze on a country road
in the early hours...She'd lost a
lot of blood.
(smiles at Emma)
She collapsed.

RAY
(alarmed/angry)
Was she attacked?

The doctor touches Ray's arm.

DOCTOR
We're not sure. She hasn't said
anything yet.

Ray stares at Emma. His eyes well up.

RAY
And her face? Is it bad?

DOCTOR
(cringing)
Yes, it is...I need to reconstruct
it...She'll be left scarred.

Ray grabs Emma's hand, sheds a tear.

RAY
(to Emma)
Where have you been for the past
ten-years?

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - MINUTES LATER

Margaret arrives with Caleb holding a drink. The doctor smiles at them, leaves the room.

MARGARET
(to Ray)
What did he say?

RAY
(smiles weakly)
Later...Right now we need to look
after our grandson who we didn't
know existed.

Emma wakes, stares confused at the others. Doesn't recognise anyone.

FIVE YEARS LATER:

EXT. OUTSIDE OF OLD COTTAGE - DAY

Thursday, the 26th of March 2020.

1:00 pm

The start of the Covid Lockdown -

PAN OUT:-

to see an old, three-bedroom cottage **300-feet** away. The surrounding area is full of fields, trees. A driveway is seen **100-feet** away.

the camera moves along the driveway, closes to **20-feet** from the cottage. A *radio* is heard - **OS** - coming from inside. A news report on local Radio.

RADIO HOST - V.O.
Here's an update on the missing
animals from a local farm...

Blood spots are seen on the ground below the open front door of the cottage. Also on the door handle. It leads inside.

CUT TO:-

INT. LIVING ROOM OF COTTAGE

The blood spots leave a trail inside the living room.

There's a small cuckoo clock on a wall, chiming as the time reaches **10:00 am**. A telephone on a wall, near a fireplace with a smart speaker device on. Basic furniture - sofa, table, chairs, wall unit, hanging mirror, & a bookshelf with family photos in frames from two generations. One in **B&W** of woman(30), girl(7), girl(6) - and the other in **colour** of woman (35), girl(10), boy(4)

A small suitcase, travel bag sit on the floor. A laptop with the lid open sits on the table. A printer close by.

More words come from the radio - **OS** -

RADIO HOST - V.O.

Police are still investigating the cause of why animals have disappeared from a Bedworth farm in the past few months...

CUT TO:-

INT. KITCHEN

The blood spots lead up to a sink. Blood is inside. A first-aid kit with bloody finger prints sits nearby. The radio is on a nearby shelf.

RADIO HOST - V.O.

Please contact the police if you have any information...More reports to follow.

INTO FRAME:

Appears Emma. She has two large scars on her face, a bandage wrapped around her left hand. She jumps at the sound of the laptop ringing - **OS**

EMMA

Damn! He's not going to be happy.

She turns off the radio.

CUT TO:-

INT. LIVING ROOM

Emma racing over to the table, sits down, answers the call. Her boyfriend, **TOBY SPENCER** (32) is on the other end of the screen.

TOBY
(shocked)
Hey! What happened to your hand?

Emma looks at her bandage, sighs.

EMMA
It's nothin'...I cut it on the door.

Toby glances at his watch.

TOBY
(concerned)
I've been callin' you all morning.
Why didn't you answer?

EMMA
My phone was on silent.

TOBY
And on here?...I was worried.

EMMA
Sorry about that...I was all packed to come home but was stopped by police and told to come back...I was rushin', that's why I cut myself.

TOBY
They won't let you come home?

EMMA
Not yet...I was told there was a lockdown. Something about the virus spreadin'.

TOBY
Yeah...It's happenin' here as well...It's not lookin' good, babe.

EMMA
(worried)
I've only paid to stay here until today...I don't know what to do?

TOBY
Just speak to the owner. They will
understand.

 EMMA
 (calm again)
Yeah, you're right. It's not like
anyone else can rent this place.

Toby looks to his left.

 TOBY
It's strange. Outside is so empty.

 EMMA
Are you watchin' the news?

 TOBY
Yeah, earlier. Why?

 EMMA
The TV doesn't work here.

 TOBY
 (laughing)
You don't need a TV to watch the
news...Check it out online.

 EMMA
 (laughs back)
Yeah, silly me...Okay. Will do.

 TOBY
Any progress on the missing
animals?

 EMMA
I'm still investigating...It's hard
being a reporter with nothing to go
on.

 TOBY
I believe in you, babe...At least
now you have more time to find the
answers.

 EMMA
Yeah, I suppose.

Emma opens up a folder on the laptop.

EMMA

I took some photos yesterday of the farm and where the animals disappeared from...Hold on, I will send them to you.

She copies, pastes the photos into an email, sends it to Toby.

EMMA

Done.

Toby looks down, eyes wide, looks at the screen again.

TOBY

Got 'em...You're right. There's not much to go on.

Emma shrugs, sighs.

EMMA

I know...Might be a dead end already.

TOBY

If you want to keep tryin' then let the boss know.

EMMA

But won't you see him? Don't you have an assignment?

TOBY

We're on lockdown remember.

Emma scratches her head.

EMMA

I'm not with it today.

TOBY

Maybe you've lost too much blood.

EMMA

Maybe...Anyway, I'm not giving up. I've not traveled here for nothing.

TOBY

I will let you carry on...Call me later.

EMMA
Definitely.

Emma ends the call, googles local news, sees posts about the virus spreading across the UK, sighs.

She cringes. The cut stings. She presses her other hand over the bandage, jumps again when the house phone RINGS!!

EMMA
Who is phoning?

She walks over to the phone on the wall, picks it up.

EMMA
Hello.

The phone goes silent. Emma replaces the handset, walks back to the laptop.

INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER

Emma sits at her laptop smoking a cigarette. A cup of coffee sits on the table beside her. She stares at the screen, cringing from more pain in her wounded hand. She stares at her hand, blood has soaked the bandage.

She gets up, walks towards the kitchen.

CUT TO:-

INT. KITCHEN

Emma unraveling the bandage by the sink, washes her blood-stained hand under a tap, opens the first-aid kit. Almost drops it when the house phone RINGS!! again.

CUT TO:-

INT. LIVING ROOM

Emma picking up the phone.

EMMA
Hello...Hello...Hello!!

It's silent again.

EMMA
(annoyed)
Hey! Who is this?

She holds the receiver up to her face, glares at it, puts it back to her ear.

EMMA
Whoever you are, you have the wrong number.

She slams the receiver back on the phone's base, rushes back towards the sink.

INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER

Emma sits at her laptop. Toby is on video call again.

TOBY
Now you're takin' a break, you can give me a guided tour of the house.

EMMA
It's a cottage, not a house.

TOBY
(laughs)
Okay...But still, tell me somethin' about it?

EMMA
Not much to tell, really...You know I rented it cheap from an estate agent.

TOBY
Oh, yeah, the one who magically phoned you...I'm still wrackin' my head around that one.

EMMA
Yeah, it was a bit odd.

TOBY
How did he know where you were workin'?

Emma shrugs.

EMMA
No idea, but I'm here now.

TOBY

Did you phone him about extendin'
your stay?

Emma taps her head.

EMMA

Damn! I forgot...I've been so busy.

TOBY

I'm sure he'll phone you if he
wants you out.

EMMA

Yeah, maybe...I'll call him
later...You know me, I'll only end
up panicking if I don't.

Toby laughs again, stares beyond Emma.

TOBY

It looks old.

EMMA

It is...I'm surprised you haven't
googled it.

TOBY

Why? When you're there...You can be
my google today.

EMMA

(laughs)

I'm not sure what happened to the
last person who stayed here though.

TOBY

What do you mean?

EMMA

I mean, this place is full of their
stuff...Thought it would be cleared
out before leasing it to me.

TOBY

And what did the magical agent tell
you?

EMMA

(laughs again)

Toby, you clown...Not much...He
said the last owner had only just
got it. Something about the bank
taking it back recently.

TOBY

Oh, right...So it was rented to you
in a rush.

EMMA

Hey! I needed somewhere and I got
somewhere. I don't mind.

Toby puts his hands up like he's surrendering.

TOBY

Okay, don't stress...Are you takin'
your meds?

EMMA

Of course.
(points at the table)
They are right in front of me.

CLOSE UP:-

of four bottles of meds on the table.

EMMA

Did you phone me earlier?

TOBY

(confused)
Phone you? On video call you mean?

EMMA

No...The house phone here. It's
rung twice already today.

TOBY

Did you answer it?

EMMA

Yes...But no one was speaking. It
was weird.

TOBY

Babe, how would I know the number
of the cottage?

Emma rubs her face, frowns.

EMMA

Good point...Oh, if you get bored
and want to help investigate the
animals, just let me know.

TOBY

Wow! You're lettin' me help? You must be feelin' sick.

EMMA

I'm being serious.

TOBY

Okay, babe, just send me the info' and I'll see if I can find out more.

EMMA

Will send now...Speak soon.

Emma ends the call.

INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER

Emma holds a cup of coffee, stares at the bookshelf with family photos on. She grabs one of the B&W photos, frowns at how sad the woman & girls look.

She sees a date on the bottom of the photo - **1948** - so looks at the other B&W photos. It's the same date on all of them.

She puts the photo back, checks the date on the colour photos, sees - **1980** -

She walks towards the kitchen but hears a floorboard creak upstairs. She stops, looks up, waits, hears nothing.

INT. A BEDROOM - LATER

Emma cautiously walks inside one of the bedrooms, sees a bunk bed on one side with girlie bedding, a large chest of drawers but no child's clothing or games.

She looks at writing on one of the walls, sees lines with the names - **Suzie & Donna** - written next to them, with the years **2012 age, 2013 age, 2014 age, & 2015 age** leading up the wall like some form of height measurement.

The age of the girls in 2015 are Suzie 12 & Donna 10.

Emma smiles after touching the wall.

EMMA

I wonder who Suzie and Donna are?

She walks over to the bunk bed, touches the duvet on the bottom one, shrugs her shoulders.

EMMA

That's so odd...The photos downstairs are from before 2015, so where are the photos of this family?

She hears the laptop **RING - O.S -**

EMMA

What's he want now?

She looks at the wall again, leaves the room.

CUT TO:-

INT. LIVING ROOM

Emma sitting at the table, answers the call. It's her parents.

MARGARET

Hi...We wanted to check on you to see if you're okay?

EMMA

Yes, I'm good, but I'm stuck here.

RAY

Are you serious?...Can't you just sneak off?

EMMA

Maybe...I tried earlier but an officer stopped me. Told me to stay put.

MARGARET

How long for?

EMMA

Not sure...Maybe a day or so.

MARGARET

What about food and drink?

EMMA

It's okay, mum, I can still order in.

Emma looks beyond her parents, seems upset.

EMMA
Where's Caleb?

Caleb, now 10-years-old, appears from behind Ray & Margaret.
Emma smiles.

EMMA
Hey, how are you, son?...You look
taller.

CALEB
(smiling)
How can you tell? You only spoke to
me last week.

Ray & Margaret laugh.

EMMA
I'm your mother. I notice.

CALEB
(annoyed)
If you're my mother then why aren't
I living with you?

Emma forces back tears.

EMMA
Do you remember when I had that
accident?

CALEB
Yes.

EMMA
Well, my memory was lost so I
couldn't remember you anymore.

CALEB
I know that...But you remember me
now.

EMMA
Yes, darling, I do, but I only
remember the last five years with
you...I'm just worried I will lose
my memory again.

CALEB
But you won't...I know you won't.

EMMA

I know, son, but it's better for you to live with your grandparents for now.

CALEB

(angry)

But I don't want to anymore. I want to live with you...Can I?

Emma turns away from the laptop, dries her eyes, looks at Caleb again.

EMMA

When I'm back home we'll talk about it...Okay?

Caleb nods. Margaret hugs him.

EMMA

Don't be upset. We'll be together again soon. I promise.

Caleb stares at the camera. A tear drops.

MARGARET

Emz, we'll leave you be now.

EMMA

(emotional)

Thanks, mum...I'll call you later or in the morning.

MARGARET

Okay...That'll be nice.

Emma waves towards the camera.

EMMA

Bye, Caleb...Be good...I'll see you soon.

Caleb puts his head into Margaret's stomach. Margaret and Ray shake their heads. Emma ends the call.

The sound of the cuckoo clock '*chiming*' spooks Emma. She looks up at it, sees it's **10:00 am**. She shakes her head, checks her watch. It's **5:00 pm**.

EMMA

Damn thing.

She leaves her seat, walks over to the clock, takes it off the wall, checks the back. There are no batteries, just a small key inside.

She drops the clock. The cuckoo breaks off. The key falls out.

She picks up the clock and key, places them on the end of the table, stares at the key.

INT. KITCHEN - LATER

Emma holds her phone against her ear, listens to an answering machine - Please leave a message after the beep -

EMMA

(nervous)

Hello...It's Emma...The person you rented the old cottage to last Friday...Can you phone me, please. I'm still here.

She ends the call, sighs.

INT. A BEDROOM - MONDAY NIGHT

Emma is asleep in the master bedroom. It's as basic as the bedroom with the bunk beds in, with an old rocking chair in the corner.

CLOSE UP:

of the rocking chair moving back & forth.

INT. LIVING ROOM - TUESDAY MORNING

Emma sits at her laptop. There is a cup of coffee & toast on the table beside her. Also, printed photos of the farm she visited. A field, a large fence.

She types up notes on the laptop while glancing at the photos.

She picks up the one with the large fence, stares at it.

EMMA

How did someone take animals from this field without being seen?

She drinks from the cup, stares at the bookcase with the photos on, sees a small tin box, old & rusty.

EMMA

That weren't on there yesterday.

She rises from her seat, walks over to the bookcase, picks up the box, checks to find it locked. She places it on a shelf above the fireplace, sits back down.

She types on the laptop, but a CRASH - OS - spooks her. She turns, sees the tin box on the floor.

She gets up, picks it up, puts it back on the shelf, shakes her head, sits down again.

INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER

Emma laughs while talking to Toby on video call.

EMMA

Did you find anything interesting about the missing animals?...I've been staring at the photos all morning.

Toby looks down at a notepad.

TOBY

Yes...The tyre marks in the mud were from some sort of cattle truck.

EMMA

(shocked)

But why wasn't the truck seen?

TOBY

Maybe, whoever took the animals, works on the farm.

EMMA

Good point...I need to check who works there, or did work there.

Toby holds up his notepad, coughs.

TOBY

(smirking)

No need...I've done it already.

EMMA

(smiling)

I knew there was a reason I fell in love with you.

TOBY

Don't get too lovey dovey. The only names I've got are of people who still work there...I couldn't find any names of people who'd left.

EMMA

(concerned)

That's strange...It must be someone who still works there.

TOBY

I will do more diggin' into the names I have. See if anyone stands out.

EMMA

That'll be great.

Emma stares at the table, sees the broken clock, but the key is missing.

TOBY

Emz...Are you okay? You look puzzled.

Emma looks back at the screen.

EMMA

Yeah. All good...I'll speak to you soon. I need to do somethin'.

TOBY

No probs...I'll let you know if I find out anythin'.

Emma ends the call, looks at the table again, rubs her head.

She gets up, checks under the table, the floor in the room. Sees nothing. She feels a cold breeze, turns to look at the shelf above the fireplace, sees the key in the lock on the tin box.

EMMA

What the---

She slowly walks over to the box, turns the key, opens it, sees photographs of the people from the picture frames on the bookshelf. Also, newspaper clippings of their deaths.

She takes the box to the table, pulls out the pictures/clippings, lays them on the table, reads the date on one of the clippings. Sees 1948.

It reads:-

A mother(30)& her two daughters(7 & 6)were found dead this morning inside the basement of a house in Warwickshire. There was no sign of a struggle but the deaths are being treated as suspicious. Police are looking for the father and eldest son.

Emma reads another clipping from the family of 1980.

It reads:-

A mother and her son(4)were found dead inside a house today in what witnesses' described was some type of a suicide pact. There is no news on the whereabouts of the ten-year old daughter, father, and other son.

Emma studies the photos/clippings, picks up one that reads:-

There is no further news on the mysterious deaths of Mrs Roberts and her child.

It's from the 1980 murders.

Emma puffs out her cheeks, walks over to the photo frames on the bookshelf, picks up one of the B&W ones, opens the back to see the photo is folded. She unfolds it to see a man (35), boy(5), with the name - **Roberts family photo 1948** - written on the back.

She places it on the table, picks up a colour photo, opens the back of the frame. It's also folded. She unfolds it to see a man(37), boy (5), with the name - **Roberts family photo 1980** - written on the back.

She shakes her head, places the photo on the table next to the other one.

EMMA

What is going on?

She jumps after the box suddenly falls off the table.

INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER

Emma is talking to Toby again. She holds a glass of wine.

TOBY

It's a bit early to get smashed.

EMMA

I need a drink after the day I've had.

TOBY

It's not even eleven in the morning...Are you okay?

EMMA

Not really...There's something creepy about this house.

Emma reaches for photos from the tin box, shows photos of both murdered families to Toby.

EMMA

I found these inside an old tin box...Both families have the same surname and the mothers and children died in an unexplained way.

TOBY

Go on...What ya' thinkin'.

EMMA

I don't know yet, but something's odd about them...Why are they inside an old box?

TOBY

Take snaps of everything you found and send them to me...I'll look into old archives on the office computer files.

EMMA

Sure...Sounds good.

Emma reaches for her mobile phone, takes photos of everything inside the box.

TOBY

Have you done it?

EMMA

Don't rush me. I'm sending them to you now.

Emma attaches the items, sends them to Toby's email address.

EMMA

Done...Check your inbox.

Toby stares at his laptop screen, concentrates, smiles.

TOBY

Got em'...Give me a few minutes to check the families out...Enjoy your little wine.

EMMA

(laughs)

It won't be a little wine by the time I'm finished.

TOBY

(laughs)

Cool...I'll call you back soon.

Emma ends the call, finishes off the glass of wine, gets up.

CUT TO:-

INT. KITCHEN

Emma pouring another glass of wine, hears a female child whisper - *get out* - drops the glass on the floor.

EMMA

(nervous)

Hello! Is anyone there?

She grabs a brush & pan, brushes up the glass, throws it into the bin, shakes her head.

She grabs a cloth, cleans up the wine, hears a whisper again - *go now* - coming from a locked door to the side of the kitchen.

She walks up to it, listens, but a video call - OS - stops her. She grunts, walks away.

CUT TO:-

INT. LIVING ROOM

Emma sitting down, answers the call, sees Toby looking worried.

EMMA

Hey! What's wrong? You couldn't find anything?

TOBY

I found somethin' alright. The Roberts family from those years never consisted of any children...In fact, none of the adults ever had kids.

EMMA

(stunned)

That's strange. The children are in the photos.

TOBY

I've double-checked. Either those kids didn't belong to the parents or the newspaper was lying.

EMMA

Can you do some more digging?

Toby notices Emma frown.

TOBY

What's happened? You drank all the wine?

EMMA

I wish...I thought I heard a child speak to me.

TOBY

When? Just now?

EMMA

Yeah.

TOBY

And what did the child say?

EMMA

I don't know. It was just a whisper but it freaked me out.

TOBY

(smirking)

How many wines have you had?

Emma scratches her head.

EMMA

Not funny...This house is full of weird noises.

TOBY

It's normal for an old house to feel creepy.

EMMA

Yeah, you're right...I might put some music on to drown the noises out.

TOBY

You do that...Just relax. You'll be home soon.

Emma ends the call, stares towards the kitchen.

She looks at the photos again, sees how sad the children look. Saves her report about the missing animals, googles **missing children from the years 1940-1980**...stares at the screen, scrolls through pictures.

INT. LIVING ROOM - FIFTEEN MINUTES LATER

Emma sighs, looks away from the screen.

EMMA

Nothing.

She scrolls down for another few seconds, sighs again.

INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER

Emma is talking to her parents via the laptop.

MARGARET

Are you okay, love. You look terrible.

EMMA

(shocked)

Thanks, mother.

MARGARET

You know what I mean...Did you sleep well last night?

EMMA

Not really...I thought I heard something creaking in my bedroom.

RAY

it's just old houses, love. They always creak.

EMMA

I know dad. Toby said the same thing.

MARGARET

And how is Toby?

EMMA

He's okay. He's helping me.

RAY

With the animal thing?

EMMA

No, dad, with something else.

RAY

(curious)

And what is it?

Margaret slaps Ray on the arm.

MARGARET

Stop being nosey, Ray.

RAY

It's not being nosey to want to know what my daughter is up to.

EMMA

I'm still here you know.

MARGARET & RAY

Sorry, love.

EMMA

I can't say what it is just yet. It's early days.

RAY

No worries. You take your time.

MARGARET

As long as you're okay. That's all that matters.

EMMA

Any news on the lockdown being lifted? I've not checked the news today.

MARGARET

No positive news yet...Just sit tight, do your work. It will end soon. I'm sure of it.

INT. KITCHEN - LATER

Emma stares at the locked door, searches the kitchen for a key. Can't find one. She taps on the door, waits, taps again, walks away.

She jumps when a tap - OS - comes from behind the door.

EMMA

(alarmed)

Hello! Is someone in there?

The taps become constant, louder. Emma panics, reaches for a cutlery knife, tries to slip it inside the crack in the door.

EMMA

(shouting)

Hey! I'm coming.

She slams the knife into the crack, tries to force the door open, but the knife snaps.

She listens, waits for another tap. Nothing.

She huffs, goes to the fridge, retrieves a bottle of wine, opens it, drinks from the bottle.

She shivers, puts the bottle down.

CUT TO:-

INT. LIVING ROOM

Emma rushing down some pills, swallows, rubs her face.

EMMA

(feeling paranoid)

It's just the house...No need to worry...It's just the house.

She sorts the photos into timescale, places the clippings from the deaths next to the appropriate photos, jots down some notes.

EMMA

Alexa. Play some Ed Sheeran.

ALEXA - OS

Playing Ed Sheeran.

An Ed Sheeran song is heard. Emma relaxes, takes in the song, smiles from a memory.

ALEXA - OS

Do you want to listen to the voice recording?

Emma stares at the smart speaker.

EMMA

Sure...Why not.

She puts the photos, clippings back inside the box, places it onto a chair.

ALEXA - OS

Playing recording.

FEMALE CHILD'S VOICE - OS

(scared)

He's coming...I can't hide from him.

Emma races towards the smart speaker.

FEMALE CHILD'S VOICE

(whimpering)

Help me.

Emma runs towards the door.

CUT TO:-

EXT. OUTSIDE OF OLD COTTAGE

Emma shivering, looks back at the house, turns, runs down the driveway, bumps into a male police officer, (Adrian Wilson), wearing gloves & face mask. He stares at her.

EMMA

(frantic)

You have to help me...I need to go home.

ADRIAN

Home?
 (points at cottage)
 Isn't that your home?

Emma grips onto him, nervous.

EMMA

No! I can't go back there.

ADRIAN

Why not?

EMMA

It's haunted.

Adrian laughs, turns her around.

ADRIAN

No one is going anywhere whilst
 we're in lockdown...And you need to
 wear a mask.

Emma gulps.

CUT TO:-

INT. LIVING ROOM

Adrian walking Emma into the room. Ed Sheeran is still playing. Emma reaches for a tissue from her bag, holds it over her face.

EMMA

Sorry...I wasn't prepared for this.

ADRIAN

No one was.

He scans the room.

ADRIAN

See...There's nothing here.

EMMA

Alexa. Play recording.

Adrian looks at her weird.

ALEXA

No recording found.

Emma races over, picks up the smart speaker, shakes it.

ALEXA
No recording found.

Emma throws Alexa against a wall. Ed Sheeran still plays.

ADRIAN
Made of strong stuff those things.

Emma is in tears.

EMMA
But I heard it.

ADRIAN
Heard what?

Emma gulps, breaths deep.

EMMA
Nothing...It doesn't matter.

She slowly picks up Alexa, puts it back on the shelf. Adrian looks at the table, sees the laptop open, slowly moves closer to take a look. The home screen shows a picture of Toby.

ADRIAN
Boyfriend?

EMMA
Yep.

ADRIAN
(smiling)
lucky man.

CLOSE UP:

of Adrian's feet. He's standing on one of the photos.

He removes his foot, walks towards the door.

ADRIAN
If you get scared again, get in touch.
(pulls out card)
I'm in the area.

He hands the card to Emma. She takes it, smiles.

EMMA
You never flinched at my scars...Thank you.

Adrian smiles back.

ADRIAN

They are just scars.

He leaves the house.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Emma is trying to sleep. The rocking chair has moved. It's now next to the bed, rocking back & forth.

It stops. The bed covers move like someone is getting into bed. Emma turns in her sleep like she's having an erotic dream. She moans sexually, takes a deep breath, opens her eyes, feels something move next to her.

She gulps, moves her hand to touch the other side of the bed.

The rocking chair rocks again.

Emma sheds a tear, closes her eyes again.

INT. BEDROOM - WEDNESDAY MORNING

Emma wakes, sits up, sees the rocking chair back in the corner of the room.

She gets out of bed, yawns, places on a dressing gown, walks towards the door.

CLOSE UP:

of two lines indented into the floorboards, leading from the bed to the corner of the room.

INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER

Emma sits at her laptop, talking to her mother. She is very tired. Her mother notices.

MARGARET

I can see you never slept well.

EMMA

Yeah...It's getting harder to relax here.

MARGARET
Any weird dreams?

Emma blushes.

EMMA
Nothing...Just finding this place
creepy now.

Margaret looks to her left, looks back at the screen.

MARGARET
Your father is showing young Caleb
how to garden...If you need to get
anything off your chest then do it
now, while it's just me.

Emma holds back a tear.

EMMA
I just need to go home.

MARGARET
Are you sure that's all?

EMMA
Yep. I'm sure.

Margaret smiles.

MARGARET
And Caleb?

EMMA
What about him?

MARGARET
He still hasn't opened up about
what happened that night?

EMMA
You mean the night I almost died.

Margaret wells up.

MARGARET
Yes.

EMMA
He's said nothing about the police
finding him...He was lucky he hid
from his father that night.

MARGARET

He's got a good head on his
shoulders.

The sound - os - of Caleb talking to Ray causes Emma to
choke with sadness.

MARGARET

Looks like it's my cue to let you
get on with your work...Your father
and Caleb have returned.

Emma shivers, smiles.

INT. THIRD BEDROOM - LATER

Emma enters the final bedroom. Another child's room from the
wallpaper design. Again, it's just basic. A single bed,
empty drawers, wardrobe.

She stares at the bottom of the wardrobe, sees the letter C
still visible from a marker pen.

She rubs her face, leaves the room.

INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER

Emma is talking to Toby again. She has another glass of wine
in her hand.

EMMA

Is what you found gonna' make me
drink this quicker?

TOBY

(concerned)

Yes.

Emma gulps the wine, panics.

EMMA

Don't keep me in suspense...What is
it?

Toby places two old 'missing' posters of young girls close
to the camera.

TOBY

Do you recognise any of 'em?

EMMA

Where did you get those from. They look old.

TOBY

They are old. From nineteen-forty-six.

EMMA

Nineteen-forty-six?

Toby pokes the posters with a finger.

TOBY

You don't recognise the children?

Emma squints, looks closely at the posters.

EMMA

Nope.

TOBY

Then I suggest you get those photos out of the box again.

Emma appears shocked.

EMMA

No! It can't be.

She rummages through the tin box again, pulls out photos of the murdered family from 1948, stares at the two girls.

EMMA

They look like the girls who were murdered.

TOBY

The girls who went missing from their homes two years earlier.

Emma pulls out photos of the murdered family from 1980.

EMMA

And the child from this year?
(shows photo)
What happened to him?

Toby bows his head, slowly looks up.

TOBY

I found missing posters for all the children...Disappeared from a garden in nineteen-seventy-seven.

EMMA
How did you locate them?

TOBY
(smiling)
You told me to do some diggin', so
I did.

EMMA
I feel sick, but I need to know
more.

Emma touches the faces of the children in the photo, holds
back a tear.

EMMA
How did missing kids end up with
those families?

TOBY
I'm workin' on it, babe.

EMMA
I can't do my job until I know more
about the families...This will eat
me up if I leave it.

TOBY
(concerned)
The farm job?

EMMA
(angry)
YES! Toby! the farm job.

CUT TO-

A montage of Emma looking through the photos, typing on her
laptop, getting out of her seat, drinking wine. Music plays.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Emma stands at the printer as it prints off two pages. Both
are 'missing' posters of a father and son.

She looks at them closely, sees the boys are of similar age.

She sits at her laptop, smiles at Toby.

EMMA
Do you know the ages of the boys?

Toby looks at a notepad.

TOBY

Yes. They were both five years old.

EMMA

So, the father and son from the nineteen forty eight murders went missing, and so did the ones from the nineteen eighty murders.

TOBY

You mean fake sons.

Emma gulps.

EMMA

What happened to them? ...And the missing girl?

Toby looks at his notepad again.

TOBY

Looking over the archives, I can see that both families once lived in the cottage where you are now.

Emma shivers.

TOBY

Arthur Roberts, the father from the nineteen forty eight murders is dead now. Died of cancer in 1990.

EMMA

And his son?

TOBY

In a psychiatric prison...William went a little doolalee.

Emma studies the printed posters, looks closely at the boy from 1948, then the man from 1980.

EMMA

He survived both murders.

TOBY

Looks that way.

EMMA

Something stinks about this...Can you find out when he went doolalee.

Emma stares at Toby who is staring past her. He seems transfixed on something.

EMMA
 (clicking her fingers)
 Hey! Wake up! This is interesting.

POV:-

Of Toby staring at a **girl** standing by the living room door.
 Her face is blurred.

EMMA
 Toby! What's wrong?

Emma jumps when the lights go out.

EMMA
 What the---

The lights come on again.

TOBY
 (shaken up)
 Did you see the little girl?

EMMA
 What little girl?

TOBY
 The---

The lights go out again. The table rocks. Emma turns cold,
 shivers.

Toby sees an elderly **man** with his head down moving slowly
 from the kitchen entrance. Toby can't speak.

The man nears Emma, slowly lifts his head, races towards the
 laptop, scares Toby into falling off his seat.

The lights come on again.

EMMA
 (concerned)
 Toby, what is wrong with you?

Toby slowly gets up, face white as he sits again at the
 laptop.

TOBY
 (whispering)
 You need to get outta there.

EMMA
Why?

TOBY
(shouting)
Because it's fuckin' haunted Emma,
that's why.

Toby can't stop shaking. Emma is worried.

EMMA
Talk to me...How do you know?

TOBY
I saw a girl, then something
hideous came out of the darkness.

The laptop SLAMS shut, spooks Emma again. She opens it, sees a hand print on the screen. It slowly disappears.

Emma wells up, stares at Toby, reaches for the card Adrian (police officer) gave her.

TOBY
You need to leave, Emma...Right
now.

EMMA
I will...After I get someone to
check this place out.

TOBY
You're mad...It needs a fuckin'
exorcism.

Emma gathers herself, breaths slowly.

EMMA
I'm not going anywhere until I know
the truth.

Toby gets up in rage, shuts the lid on his laptop.

Emma feels a cold breeze pass over her.

EMMA
(nervous)
Hello!

Emma looks at the card.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Adrian is standing in the room, holding a cuppa. Emma is close, nervously watching him. She sees tattoos on his fingers - LOVE & HATE -

Adrian walks away from her, removes the mask to sip his drink.

ADRIAN
Everything seems fine here.

EMMA
But it wasn't not so long ago.

Adrian sips the drink again.

ADRIAN
I needed that...It's gone chilly
out.

Emma looks at the locked door by the kitchen. Adrian notices.

ADRIAN
(concerned)
Do you need something from inside
there?

EMMA
You wouldn't believe me if I told
you.

ADRIAN
It's why I'm here, isn't it?

Emma points towards the door.

EMMA
I think someone is behind it.

Adrian chokes on his drink.

ADRIAN
Serious?

CUT TO:-

INT. KITCHEN

Adrian closing in on the door, sees it's locked.

ADRIAN

Key?

Emma walks towards him.

EMMA

Couldn't find one.

Adrian sighs, kicks at the lock. It drops off.

He reaches for the handle, pushes the door open. A musty smell escapes.

ADRIAN

No ones been inside there for a while.

EMMA

(cowering)

Can you check for me.

Adrian nods, walks inside a small space, like a walk-in pantry.

Emma waits, worried, sees Adrian shining a torch.

EMMA

Anything?

ADRIAN

Yep.

He opens the door wider. Emma sees a child's bedding on the floor, dusty with spiderwebs on.

ADRIAN

Whoever you thought was in there, hasn't been for a long time.

Emma rubs her face.

EMMA

But Toby said he saw a child.

ADRIAN

Toby?

EMMA
Boyfriend.

Adrian laughs.

ADRIAN
I think he's messing with you...Is
he a prankster?

Emma nods.

ADRIAN
There you go then.

Adrian looks at the house phone.

ADRIAN
Is it okay to make a call? ...To
get another officer out to check
this place over thoroughly.

EMMA
No mobile?

ADRIAN
Nah...Left it at home.

Emma nods.

CUT TO:-

INT. LIVING ROOM

Emma sits at her laptop, hears Adrian talking.

ADRIAN - OS
I'm off shift soon...Need someone
to check a cottage out.

Emma smiles, checks her emails. Clicks on one from Toby with
heading - File of William Roberts - psychiatric hospital -

ADRIAN - OS
Glad to hear it...No
problem...Speak soon.

Emma is about to open the file when a loud CRASH is heard -
OS -

She jumps when Adrian appears.

ADRIAN
Sorry about that. Wasn't trying to
scare you...Just dropped my cup.

Emma lowers the lid on her laptop, smiles.

EMMA
These things happen.

Adrian smiles back, walks towards the door.

ADRIAN
Is there anything else you need me
to do?

Emma feels stupid. She blushes.

EMMA
I'm okay now...Thanks for coming
over.

CUT TO:-

EXT. OUTSIDE OF OLD COTTAGE

Emma shivering from the cold as she watches Adrian walk down
the driveway.

EMMA
(shouting)
Thanks again.

Adrian puts up a hand, keeps walking away.

The house phone rings - OS - Emma turns to face the house.

CUT TO:-

INT. PHONE

Emma rushing towards the phone.

EMMA
Could be for Adrian.

She answers.

EMMA
Hello...Hello...

The phone is silent.

EMMA

Hello...

A crackly old man's laugh spooks her. She slams the handle down, checks the phone cable, follows it along the wall. The phone isn't connected.

Emma's eyes open wide.

EMMA

(shocked)

What is happening?

She rushes for the door.

CUT TO:-

EXT. OUTSIDE OF OLD COTTAGE

Emma racing down the driveway looking for Adrian. Can't see him.

EMMA

(shouting)

Hey! Who are you?!

CUT TO:-

INT. LIVING ROOM

Emma reaching for her mobile phone. She places it against her ear.

EMMA

(panicking)

Come on, Toby, pick up.

She rushes to the window, pulls back a curtain, presses her face against the glass.

EMMA

(angry)

Toby! Answer your fuckin' phone.

She scans the outside, tries to see where Adrian is. Can't see him.

She throws her phone onto a chair, races for her laptop, calls Toby. It rings for 20 seconds.

She curses under her breath. Toby appears.

EMMA
(still panicked)
Hey! Where have you been? I needed
you.

TOBY
Wooh! Babe. Calm down...What's up?
(also panicking)
Did you see the girl?

EMMA
No...The police officer was here.

TOBY
But I told you to leave...The
fuckin' place is haunted. Can't you
see that?

Emma's breathing slows down.

EMMA
I can't leave...The officer won't
let me.

TOBY
Where is he? I will speak with him.

EMMA
He's not here now.

Toby looks at Emma sadly.

TOBY
What aren't you tellin' me.

Emma sheds a tear.

EMMA
I don't think he's who he says he
is.

TOBY
Then who is he?

EMMA
(shouting)
I don't know!

INT. BEDROOM - MINUTES LATER

Emma is throwing clothes into her suitcase, crying.

Toby is on loudspeaker on her phone.

TOBY

Just leave your stuff.

Emma carries on throwing clothes into the case, still crying. She shuts the case, picks it & her phone up, carries them out of the room.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM

Emma racing over to grab her laptop.

ALEXA - OS

You have a voice recording.

Emma freezes, stares towards Alexa.

ALEXA

Do you want to hear it?

EMMA

(teary eyed)

Yes.

TOBY

(loudspeaker)

What's goin' on? ...Get outta there.

ALEXA

Playing recording from last night.

FEMALE CHILD'S VOICE

(shouting)

Stop! Leave her alone!

Emma rushes over to Alexa.

FEMALE CHILD'S VOICE

Get out of her bed!

Emma shivers.

TOBY
(shouting on loudspeaker)
Emma! What are you doin'?

Emma stares at Alexa.

EMMA
Toby. I can't leave...There's a
child in this house...I need to
find her.

TOBY
(shouting on loudspeaker)
She's a ghost, Em...Wake up!

EMMA
I have to go.

Emma turns off her phone.

ALEXA
A new recording is available.

EMMA
(curious)
Just now?

ALEXA
Do you want to hear it?

EMMA
Sure.

ALEXA
Playing new recording.

It's just heavy breathing.

CUT TO:-

INT. KITCHEN

Emma aiming for the fridge, pulls out a bottle of wine.

EMMA
Alexa, play dance music.

Emma listens to the music, breaths fast, sighs.

She gulps, drinks some wine, looks at her suitcase.

EMMA
I'm not leaving until I find you.

INT. CUPBOARD - CONTINUOUS

Emma opens the cupboard door, stares at the child's bedding, leans down, moves it, sees a small teddy bear dressed in dungarees.

She picks it up, cuddles it.

EMMA
Where are you?

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Emma sips more wine, spaces the photos, clippings out on the table. Stares at the murdered families.

EMMA
Who are you?

A strong gust of wind blows a photo onto the floor. Emma bends down to pick it up as the ghost girl's image reflects onto the laptop screen.

The photo is of the murdered family from 1980.

Emma holds it in the air.

EMMA
Who are you?

FEMALE CHILD'S VOICE - OS
(whispering)
Amy.

EMMA
Amy?

She gets up, looks around the room.

FEMALE CHILD'S VOICE - OS
(whispering)
Amy Roberts.

Emma checks behind the curtains.

EMMA
I can't see you.

FEMALE CHILD'S VOICE - OS
 (frantic)
 Help! Help! Help! ...He's coming!

Emma speeds up, checks around the room.

CUT TO:-

INT. KITCHEN

Emma entering the room, checks cupboards.

EMMA
 (concerned)
 Amy! Talk to me.

The voice has gone.

Emma shudders, realises Toby was right.

INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER

Emma checks her watch to see it's almost midnight. She yawns, appears startled as she video calls Toby.

EMMA
 Come on, Toby. I need you.

She yawns again, shivers when he appears on the screen.

TOBY
 (still annoyed)
 What now? You found Casper?

EMMA
 This isn't a joke...

Emma clasps her hands together as if praying.

EMMA
 You were right...This place is haunted.

TOBY
 But you're stayin'...Right?

Emma sighs.

EMMA
 I think the ghost wants my help.

TOBY

What about the other one? ...The thing that freaked me out.

EMMA

I think the girl you saw is scared of it.

Toby leans back in his seat, holds his head.

TOBY

You should be scared of it...It will harm you.

EMMA

(nervously laughing)
Ghosts can't harm humans.

TOBY

Can't they?

Emma gulps.

EMMA

Stop trying to spook me...Tell me what you found out...I've not had time to open the folder.

TOBY

William Roberts, the survivor from both murders, was found by police the day after his wife and son were found murdered.

EMMA

Did he say what happened?

TOBY

Nope...He was taken to a psychiatric hospital to be checked over...He was just mumbling.

EMMA

And the surviving son and daughter?

Toby splutters, chokes into his hand.

TOBY

I think we both know what happened to the daughter.

Emma winces.

EMMA

Was Amy Roberts her name?

Toby looks down for a few seconds, looks up.

TOBY

Yes...How did you know? ...She was the so-called daughter who disappeared after the ninety-eighty murders.

They look at each other with sadness in their eyes.

TOBY

No news on the boy...But this will freak you out...When William returned home, he said his father was there.

EMMA

And?

TOBY

William returned home in nineteen-ninety-one...His father died in nineteen-ninety.

Emma sweats, looks around the room.

EMMA

You think his father is the other ghost.

TOBY

Looks that way.

Emma controls her breathing.

EMMA

Do you know when he went back to the hospital?

TOBY

Yes, around ten-years ago.

EMMA

When my son was born.

TOBY

Appears so.

EMMA
Keep digging...I am leaving
tomorrow...This is too much for me.

TOBY
(nervously laughing)
I thought you wanted to stay with
the ghosts?

EMMA
Fuck that...The girl can't die
again.

Toby gives Emma a concerning look.

EMMA
That was a bit harsh...You know
it's the stress talking.

TOBY
(smiling)
I know.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Emma tosses-and-turns in her sleep. The rocking chair rocks
next to the bed.

Emma sweats. The covers move towards the rocking chair. Emma
is left without any covers.

She shoots up, sees the covers, pulls them back.

EMMA
Must've been a nightmare.

She lays back down again.

INT. KITCHEN - THURSDAY MORNING

Emma stands in the kitchen, sipping coffee. She's still
tired. A loud noise - OS - causes her to drop the cup.

EMMA
Not again...I hate this place.

CUT TO:-

INT. LIVING ROOM

Emma entering the room, sees a blown up photo of Amy Roberts on the table. She slowly nears it, looks around, picks it up, sees words scratched into the table - Please stop him -

EMMA

I can't...

The mirror on the wall smashes. Emma jumps.

EMMA

(frantic shouting)

What do you want from me? ...I
can't help you.

She bends down to pick up the broken glass, sees Amy reflected. She's just watching Emma.

Emma rises, stares at Amy.

EMMA

Help me to help you.

Amy moves towards the kitchen.

CUT TO:-

INT. KITCHEN

Emma following Amy towards the cupboard, watches Amy disappear through the door. Emma opens it, sees Amy crouching down as if pulling on something.

Emma moves the bedding & carpet, sees a trap door. Amy disappears.

Emma pulls the handle on the door. It opens.

CUT TO:-

INT. CELLAR

Emma walking down a ladder, sees shelves with laboratory equipment on, bottles, funnels, a table with straps connected.

Emma sees Amy lying on the table, pleading. Her hands & feet are strapped tight.

A clock on the wall chimes - 10:00 am - Amy cries, breaths no more.

Emma races back up the ladder.

CUT TO:-

INT. KITCHEN

Emma climbing out of the trap door. The clock in the living room is chiming - 10:00 am - OS -

The sound of the clock in the cellar gets louder & louder.

Emma holds her ears, kneels.

EMMA
(shouting)
STOP!!

The clocks stop chiming.

Emma rises, leaves the cupboard. The trapdoor stays open.

EMMA
Did you die at ten in the morning?

AMY - O.S
(whispering)
Yes!

Emma bursts out crying.

She races towards the living room.

CUT TO:-

INT. LIVING ROOM

Emma almost falling over a chair to reach her laptop.

EMMA
(in tears)
What happened to you?

AMY - O.S
(whispering)
My father killed me.

EMMA
Why?

Emma types fast on her laptop, finds more information about the family deaths, sees the same cottage with police officers, medics, reporters standing outside.

EMMA

Were you killed here?...Were all
the victims killed inside this
cottage?

AMY - O.S

Yes.

Emma looks around the room.

EMMA

Amy...I need to know why?

AMY - O.S

(angry)

You know why.

Emma stares towards the window, sees Amy's ghostly image.

EMMA

I don't.

AMY

(still angry)

You need to remember.

EMMA

(concerned)

Remember what?

AMY

What you did.

EMMA

What I did?

Amy's ghost races around the room, knocks the photos off the
shelf.

AMY

(with the old man's ghost
voice)

(still angry)

YES!! What you did.

Amy's ghost disappears. Emma is shaken.

Emma video calls her parents, wipes tears from her eyes. Her
mother appears on the screen.

MARGARET

Hey, love. Toby said you were
coming home today.

EMMA
(fidgeting)
Yes...I've just got to do a few
things here then I'm leaving.

MARGARET
Is everything okay?

Emma looks around the room, breaths heavy.

EMMA
I'm fine...Just tired...The usual.

MARGARET
(smiling)
Just make sure that police officer
doesn't drag you back to the
cottage.

EMMA
(biting her lip)
He won't.

Emma sees Caleb in the background, smiles.

EMMA
Hey, son...Do you want to talk to
me?

Caleb comes closer to the screen, sits on Margaret's lap.

CALEB
Are you really coming home today?

EMMA
Yes, son...I am.

Caleb stares behind Emma.

CALEB
Where did you find my teddy bear?

CLOSE UP:

of the teddy bear sitting on the fire mantelpiece.

Emma reaches for it, brings it closer to the screen.

EMMA
(laughing)
This isn't your teddy bear...I
found it here.

CALEB

But it is...I remember it...You won
it for me.

Emma & Margaret stare at each other, act surprised.

MARGARET

(to Caleb)

You must be mistaken...Your mother
is working at another house.

Caleb jumps off her lap, points at the teddy bear.

CALEB

It has my name on it...I know it's
mine.

Emma looks at the bear, can't see anything.

CALEB

(to Emma)

Inside the clothing...you wrote my
initials...You must remember.

Emma checks, sees C.W.

CALEB

Are you staying in our old house?

Emma turns white as a sheet. She picks up the laptop, walks
around the room with it.

EMMA

Do you recognise this place?

CALEB

(excited)

Yes!

MARGARET

What's with all the picture frames
on the floor?

EMMA

I will explain later.

Emma points the laptop towards the kitchen. Caleb shudders.

EMMA

What is it, son?

CUT TO:-

INT. KITCHEN

Emma walking the laptop into the room. Caleb points at the cupboard.

EMMA
What about it?

CALEB
(sniffling)
It's where I would hide from daddy.

Emma almost drops the laptop.

CALEB
A little girl would speak to me
inside there.

Caleb stares at Emma.

CALEB
You must remember...I told you
about her.

Emma shrugs, shakes her head.

CALEB
She said she lived there.

Caleb bows his head, sobs.

CALEB
Where are my sisters?

Margaret & Emma look shocked.

The front door is knocked on loudly - O.S -

ADRIAN - OS
Let me in...I need to speak to you.

Emma shivers, stares towards the front door.

MARGARET
Emma! Emma! Who is that?

Emma puts the laptop on a work surface.

CUT TO:-

INT. LIVING ROOM

Emma racing for the window.

MARGARET - O.S
Emma! Talk to me!

Emma sneaks a look outside. Adrian has gone.

CUT TO:-

INT. KITCHEN

Emma walking back to the laptop, picks it up.

EMMA
(worried)
I have to go now...Look after
Caleb.

She ends the call, closes the lid, places the laptop back on the work surface.

Adrian bangs on the back door - O.S -

ADRIAN - O.S
I know you're in there...We need to
talk.

Emma sees a folder slide from underneath the work surface.
Adrian bangs on the door again - O.S -

Emma races for the folder, opens it, sees photos of the fathers & sons from the 1948 & 1980 murders, plus a drawn diagram of a laboratory.

She stares at them, concentrates on William Roberts, shivers when she sees a resemblance to the police officer (Adrian).

Emma drops the photos.

CUT TO:-

EXT. OUTSIDE OF OLD COTTAGE

Emma racing towards her car.

ADRIAN - O.S
(shouting)
We need to talk!

Emma turns, hears him closing in.

She reaches the car, sees the tyres slashed, shivers, grits her teeth, races around the side of the cottage.

CUT TO:-

EXT. SIDE OF COTTAGE

A large tarpaulin covers a vehicle. Emma quickly lifts up one end, sees a cattle truck, shivers.

CUT TO:-

EXT. NEARBY FOREST

Emma runs quickly, looks for Adrian. Can't see him.

Emma races towards a large tree.

ZOOM IN:

on a blunt object smacking against Emma's head. She falls.

INT. LIVING ROOM OF COTTAGE - LATER

Emma wakes on the sofa, rubs her head, feels dried in blood.

She is drowsy. She lifts off the sofa, shivers, frantically scans the room.

FLASHBACK:-

EXT. BACK GARDEN OF OLD COTTAGE - DAY

Emma is playing tig with a 5-year-old Caleb, 12-year-old Suzie, & 10-year-old Donna. They all look happy.

END FLASHBACK:-

INT. KITCHEN

Emma stands at the window, rubs her head again, stares at the garden.

FLASHBACK:-

EXT. BACK GARDEN OF OLD COTTAGE - DAY

Emma is chasing the children around the garden.

They all stop, look petrified as they stare at a male figure. His face blurred.

END FLASHBACK:-

INT/EXT. KITCHEN

Emma remains staring at the garden, falls back into the table when Adrian appears at the outside window.

ADRIAN

(calm)

Hey! I came by to see how you are?
...You look spooked.

EMMA

(frantic)

I've called the police.

ADRIAN

I am the police.

EMMA

Are you?

Emma races for the back door, locks it, hears Adrian outside
- O.S -

Emma slowly appears at the window again. Adrian is back,
still calm.

ADRIAN

Are you okay?

EMMA

(sneering)

I'm fine.

ADRIAN

So let me in.

Emma gulps.

EMMA

(tearful)

Please go...

Adrian looks at Emma, sends more shivers down her spine. The look lasts longer than expected.

Adrian smiles, walks away. Emma sheds a tear.

CUT TO:-

INT. LIVING ROOM

Emma places her phone against her ear, makes a call.

EMMA

Hello...Is that the estate agent
who rented me the cottage?

ADRIAN - O.S

Yes.

Emma gulps, turns to stare at the front window, sees Adrian
with his phone against his ear, grinning.

CUT TO:-

INT. KITCHEN

Emma racing into the room, still teary-eyed.

She looks shocked. Her laptop is gone.

She checks the room, frantic.

The ghost of Amy laughs - O.S

Emma is about to lose her nerve.

EMMA

(shouting)

Give it back...I need it.

AMY - O.S

But I want to play with you

EMMA

Not now.

AMY - O.S

But Caleb liked to play with me.

Emma looks horrified.

AMY - O.S

(evil grin)

When you lived here before.

EMMA
Where are you? ...Explain.

Amy appears.

AMY
You must remember now...What you
did.

Emma holds her head again. A shooting pain brings her to her
knees.

FLASHBACK:-

INT/EXT. - FRONT GARDEN OF HOUSE - DAY

Emma sits inside a car, parked opposite a house. A **woman**
sits on a picnic blanket in the garden, holds a 1-year old
girl. Another **girl** (3) plays with a child's swing & slide
set.

Emma takes photos with a camera.

END FLASHBACK:-

INT. KITCHEN

Emma rises, stares at Amy.

EMMA
What did I do?

AMY
(evil grinning)
You did what your husband told you
to do...You are an evil bitch!

Emma is in pieces.

CUT TO:-

INT. GIRLS BEDROOM

Emma racing into the room, touches the wall with the names
Suzie & Donna on. Amy stands next to her.

EMMA
Please, I need my laptop.

Amy points to the bunk bed. Emma lifts up the bottom
mattress, finds the laptop, takes it.

Emma video calls Toby. But Toby is DEAD!! Adrian has morphed into Toby.

EMMA
(hysterical)
I think I did something bad.

TOBY
(Pretend worry)
How bad?

EMMA
(in tears)
Very bad.

She walks the laptop over to the wall, shows Toby the height markings with Donna & Suzie on.

TOBY
Yes, you mentioned the girls who lived there.

EMMA
I think I took them.

TOBY
(Pretend concern)
Are you still takin' your meds?

EMMA
(angry)
listen, Toby! ...I've been having strange visions of me playing with three children in a back garden.

TOBY
And?

EMMA
It's the back garden of where I'm staying now.

Toby jumps up, alert.

TOBY
Slow down...It must be the side-effects of your medication.

EMMA
So, why do I remember it? ...And also spying on a woman with young children?

Toby shrugs his shoulders.

EMMA

I need you to find out if two girls
were taken from their parents
around two-thousand and six.

TOBY

I can do that...You just stay where
you are.

EMMA

You've changed your tune...You
wanted me to leave yesterday.

TOBY

(smiling)

That was yesterday.

Emma scowls at him.

EMMA

Your voice seems different.

TOBY

How different?

EMMA

I can't put my finger on it.

Toby smiles again, lessens Emma's concern.

EMMA

And anyway...I'm not sure this
house will let me leave.

Emma ends the call, cries.

She stares at Amy.

EMMA

Do you know where the girls are?

Amy nods.

EMMA

Where?

AMY

I'm not allowed to say.

EMMA

Please! ...Help me remember.

Amy walks through Emma, leaves her shivering.

FLASHBACK:-

INT/EXT. FRONT GARDEN OF HOUSE - DAY

Emma looks at the driver of the car, Adrian (police officer), but his face is blurred. He points at the girls/mother in the garden.

He reaches for his phone, dials a number.

Emma stares at the family, hears a phone ring - OS - the mother smiling as she places the 1-year old girl on the picnic blanket.

Emma gulps as the mother races towards the house.

ADRIAN

Now go...Bring me back those children.

EMMA

(nervous)

But---

ADRIAN

(raising a hand)

Just do it.

Emma slowly opens the car door, shivers as she walks over to the children.

They smile at her.

CUT TO:-

Emma holding the children as she races towards the car. Adrian opens a backdoor.

CUT TO:-

the car speeding down the street.

END FLASHBACK:-

INT. GIRLS BEDROOM

Emma collapses to the floor. Her laptop rings.

EMMA

No, Toby. Not now.

The laptop keeps ringing. Emma wipes her eyes, answers the call.

 TOBY
Hey! Before you shut me down again,
you need to hear this.

 EMMA
Go on.

 TOBY
You need to stay where you are.

 EMMA
Why?

 TOBY
To investigate other kidnappings.

 EMMA
Did you find out anything involving
children being taken from a garden?

Fake Toby holds back a sinister smirk.

 TOBY
Yes.

 EMMA
A garden with a swing & slide set

 TOBY
Yes!

 EMMA
(quivering)
What were their ages?

 TOBY
One and three.

Emma sighs as she looks at the height markings again.

 EMMA
From two-thousand and six?

 TOBY
Yes.

 EMMA
They were with me until
two-thousand and fifteen...Before I
was left for dead.

TOBY
Are you remembering the past?

EMMA
(angry again)
I think so...I can't explain it but
this cottage is trying to tell me
something.

TOBY
That you lived there and you stole
two kids...
(fake laughing nervously)
It's just a creepy house that's
playing tricks on you.

Toby shows Emma a newspaper article of the kidnapping. The garden, swing & slide set are in a photo. Emma freezes.

She looks for Amy but she's gone.

TOBY
The children were never found.

He stares at Emma.

TOBY
Treachle! ...Did you hear me?

Emma shudders.

EMMA
Why did you call me treacle?

Toby flinches, knocks his laptop onto the floor.

Emma hears it like it had come from inside the farmhouse.

She rises, leaves the room.

CLOSE UP:

of laptop on the floor. Fake Toby appears, looking for Emma.

INT. CELLAR - TWO MINUTES LATER

Emma stares at the laboratory equipment, slowly walks past each piece, touching it.

She sees an old, dusty book on a table. Reaches for it, blows off the dust. It's titled - **THE RISING** -

She opens it, sees drawings of people gathered around a person strapped to the table, a male figure mixing liquids into a beaker, & one person injecting the liquid into a child.

The bottom of the page reads - 2015 - It failed again...I need my wife back to complete the ritual.

EMMA

What Failed?

Amy stands next to her.

AMY

You need to figure it out before---

EMMA

Before what?

AMY

It don't fail.

Emma gulps, walks over to a door inside the room. It's locked. She searches the room for a key, pushes test tubes onto the floor in rage after not seeing one.

She holds her head, cringes from another sharp headache.

FLASHBACK:-

INT. COTTAGE - LIVING ROOM - THE NIGHT EMMA WAS ATTACKED

Emma turns away from a blurred image of Adrian, but he grips her arm. Emma sees tattoos on his fingers - LOVE & HATE -

EMMA

(shouting)

Let go of me...And leave the girls alone.

ADRIAN

You know I can't do that...This is what you signed up for.

EMMA

(shouting)

Now I want out.

ADRIAN

(laughing)

There is no out.

END FLASHBACK:-

INT. CELLAR

Emma feels dazed. She slips, falls into a wall, keeps hold of her head.

FLASHBACK:-

INT. CELLAR - THE NIGHT EMMA WAS ATTACKED

Adrian is setting up his equipment. Emma can see his face clearly now.

She holds up her hands as if surrendering.

EMMA
(petrified)
Adrian, you don't need to do this.

Adrian ignores her, concentrating.

EMMA
Please! ...Just let the children
go.

Adrian glares at her.

ADRIAN
I need to do this...I know it will
work.

EMMA
(shouting)
Do what?!

ADRIAN
You will see.

END FLASHBACK:-

INT. CELLAR

Emma sits on the floor, cries, sees a key stuck to the underside of a table, grabs it, opens the door.

She enters to find it full of technology equipment, computer screens, a microphone. Like a music studio.

She places a hand over her mouth after seeing a police-issued jacket wrapped around a computer chair.

INT. GIRLS BEDROOM - MINUTES LATER

Emma runs into the room. The screen on her laptop keeps flashing the words - HIDE!! He's coming!! -

FLASHBACK:-

INT. CELLAR - THE NIGHT EMMA WAS ATTACKED

Emma is grabbing onto Adrian's hand. He pushes her off.

EMMA
(hysterical)
Don't kill them?

Adrian ignores her. Seems to be searching the room.

ADRIAN
Where is Caleb?

EMMA
(crying)
No! ...You can't have him.

ADRIAN
I need him to watch.

END FLASHBACK:-

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Emma races into the room carrying the laptop.

CUT TO:-

INT. KITCHEN

Emma grabbing a carving knife, running into the cupboard.

CUT TO:-

INT. CELLAR

Emma in shock after seeing the old man ghost trying to strangle the ghost of Amy.

Emma wipes her eyes, rushes towards the secret room.

INT. ROOM

Emma stands inside the room, sees empty crisp packets, chocolate bar wrappers scattered.

She reaches inside the police-issued jacket, pulls out cards with the same mobile number on as the officer (Adrian) she spoke to.

EMMA

(angry)

He's been here all this time.

She turns on a computer, sees a ghostly image app. She clicks on it. A vision of the old man ghost appears.

Emma walks through it, grimaces.

She clicks on the app, sees the police officer's (Adrian) image linked with the ghostly image.

EMMA

What is he up to?

Emma squirms when she hears someone upstairs.

CUT TO:

INT. CELLAR

She races into the room. Amy & the old man ghost are gone.

ADRIAN - OS

(shouting)

You remember me now, don't you...

Emma grips the knife tight.

ADRIAN - OS

(shouting)

You do know you were meant to come back here...to help full fill the ritual.

Emma holds a hand over her mouth, sheds tears.

She looks up the ladder, hears Adrian in the kitchen.

ADRIAN - OS

(shouting)

And Caleb...

EMMA
(nervously shouting)
You can't have him.

ADRIAN - OS
(laughing)
I see you're in the
cellar...There's no way out.

Emma scans the room, sees the window is too small to fit through. She holds the knife at head height, still shivering, waiting for Adrian to come down the ladder.

EMMA
(shouting)
Is that why your family kept the
eldest boy alive...To carry on the
ritual?

ADRIAN - OS
(shouting)
Now you get it.

EMMA
But why kidnap the children?

Adrian is quiet.

Emma gulps, hears the ladder creak.

She moves towards the strapped table, hides behind it.

Adrian's feet appear on the ladder, then his body, then his head. No mask.

ADRIAN
Because we could.
(laughs)
And with your help we got three
more.

Emma watches him closely as he comes off the ladder.

ADRIAN
Just come out, so I can finish the
ritual.

EMMA
I saw your secret room...What's
with the creepy illusion?

Adrian stares in the direction of where Emma is.

ADRIAN
To scare you.

Adrian closes in.

EMMA
Why?

ADRIAN
To make you remember...That you
belong here...With me.

Adrian closes in again.

ADRIAN
Did you feel someone in bed with
you recently?

FLASHBACK:

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

The ghostly image of the old man gets into bed with Emma. It crackles, morphs into Adrian.

END FLASHBACK:

INT. CELLAR

ADRIAN
(sadistic grin)
It was me, Emma...I sat in the
rocking chair every night, watching
you sleep...But you couldn't see
me.

Adrian grips the straps on the bed.

ADRIAN
I even scared that sweet boyfriend
of yours when my illusion charged
towards your screen.
(laughs)
I scratched the words into the
table and I was the voice on the
phone.

EMMA
And Amy? ...Were you her as well?

Adrian shakes his head.

ADRIAN
That was all you...Your mind is
fucked, Emma.

Emma cringes.

FLASHBACK MONTAGE:

INT. LIVING ROOM

Emma walks in a trance, as if sleepwalking. She puts the tin box on the bookshelf.

Emma records the audio voice of a little girl onto Alexa.

INT. GIRLS BEDROOM

Emma hides the laptop under the mattress.

END FLASHBACK:

INT. CELLAR

Emma shuffles across the floor.

EMMA
How did you do it? ...Create what
you did.

ADRIAN
Five years of research...I built
the computer room for you.

EMMA
Why? ...You left me for dead,
remember.

ADRIAN
Because you stopped the
ritual...You turned on me.

EMMA
And I will stop it again.

Emma rises off the floor.

EMMA
Where are the girls?

Adrian mimics Emma's voice. It makes her angry.

Emma charges Adrian with the knife. He slaps her around the face. She falls, rises swiftly, throws glass beakers at him.

He protects his face.

Emma races up the ladder. Adrian chases after her.

CUT TO:-

INT. KITCHEN

Emma reaches the room but Adrian is fast, catches her up.

Emma swings the knife. It grazes Adrian's cheek.

He wipes the blood away, smiles sadistically.

ADRIAN
I've missed you.

Emma runs but Adrian pulls her back. He grips her throat but Emma sticks the knife into his leg.

ADRIAN
(in pain)
You bitch!

Emma kicks him, smashes plates over his head. Adrian drops to one knee.

Emma races towards the living room.

CUT TO:-

INT. LIVING ROOM

Emma reaching the door leading to the front door. Adrian staggers into the room, bleeding.

ADRIAN
(raging)
If you leave, Caleb dies.

Emma stops.

EMMA
You don't know where he is.

ADRIAN
Don't I? ...How are your parents.

Adrian points to a corner of the room. Emma follows his finger, sees a tiny red dot flashing from inside the frame of a picture.

ADRIAN

I've been watching you remember...I know your every move.

He points at other areas of the room.

ADRIAN

(cringing)

I have cameras everywhere...In this place, your home.

(smirks)

I've even got some in your bedrooms.

EMMA

What are you saying?

ADRIAN

(raging)

I've been watching you for the past fuckin' five years.

Emma spits on the floor.

EMMA

You won't get away with what you did to me...I'm calling the police...The real police.

Emma runs towards Adrian, pushes him to the floor, picks up the house phone. Adrian **LAUGHS**.

ADRIAN

It doesn't work.

Emma **YELLS**, drops the handset.

Adrian rises, grabs his injured leg. Blood still pours.

EMMA

You need to get out of here before you collapse and die.

ADRIAN

Don't you want to kill me?

EMMA

I killed you the day I lost my memory...You're dead to me.

ADRIAN

We can still make it work...You, me
and Caleb...

(cringes in pain)

We can start again...Be a normal
family.

Emma searches for her mobile phone. Curses when she can't
find it.

EMMA

We were never a normal family.

(teary eyed)

We stole children that you wanted
to sacrifice.

ADRIAN

For a good cause.

Emma looks disgusted with him.

She moves past Adrian but he flips a leg and trips her over.
She tries to get up but he falls on top of her, tries to
strangle her.

Emma gasps for air.

She chokes, eyes roll, losing her breath, but Adrian falls
off her. He's unconscious.

Emma squirms at the sight of the puddle of blood.

She gets up, panting.

CUT TO:-

INT. GIRLS BEDROOM

Emma entering the room to find her phone. She dials a
number, waits for someone to speak.

EMMA

(still petrified)

Police!

INT. GIRLS BEDROOM - MINUTES LATER

Emma slowly walks towards the door, listens. Can't hear
Adrian.

CUT TO:-

INT. LANDING AT THE TOP OF THE STAIRS

Emma slowly walking towards the top of the staircase,
listens again.

EMMA
(shouting)
Adrian! ...The police are coming.

CUT TO:-

INT. LIVING ROOM

Emma slowly walking into the room. Adrian is gone.

Emma freezes, listens some more. The sound of a police siren
- OS - is heard.

CUT TO:-

EXT. OUTSIDE OF OLD COTTAGE

Emma is standing outside, still shaken. Hand print marks
around her neck.

A police car pulls up in the driveway. Two **OFFICERS** are
seated in the front seats. Face masks on.

They get out, walk towards Emma.

OFFICER 1
Did you report an intruder?

EMMA
Yes! ...But he's gone.

OFFICER 2
Gone where?

EMMA
(crying)
I don't know where.

OFFICER 2
Okay, but keep your distance...You
need to wear a mask.

Emma sighs.

CUT TO:-

INT. LIVING ROOM

The officers see the blood on the floor.

OFFICER 1
Was he injured?

Emma gulps.

EMMA
Yes...I stabbed him.

The officers look at each other. Emma fears she's about to be arrested.

OFFICER 2
I'm sure you did it in self
defence.

Emma nods, sighs.

The officers check out the living room, see the photos, clippings on the table, & Emma's tablets.

OFFICER 1
What's your line of work.

EMMA
I'm a reporter.

OFFICER 1
of missing people?

EMMA
Something like that.

Emma rubs her neck, cringes.

OFFICER 2
I want you to stay here, keep the
front door locked...We're gonna'
check out the back.

Emma nods. The officers smile.

INT/EXT. KITCHEN - MINUTES LATER

Emma watches the officers walk around the back garden, both shaking their heads.

INT. KITCHEN - MINUTE LATER

The officers enter the room, shake their heads again.

OFFICER 1
My partner will stay with you, in
case the intruder comes back.

EMMA
(concerned)
And you?

OFFICER 1
I'm off back to the station...Once
you've given me a description.

officer 2 smiles at Emma.

OFFICER 2
We will find him...He won't get far
losing that amount of blood.

Emma puffs out her cheeks.

INT/EXT. FRONT OF HOUSE - LATER

Emma watches from a window as the officers walk towards the
police car. Moments later, officer 2 walks back to the
cottage.

Emma shudders after seeing the blood again.

CUT TO:-

Emma returning from the kitchen with a towel, about to clean
up the blood.

Officer 2 steps inside the room, holds up a hand.

OFFICER 2
Whooah!! That's
evidence...Forensics are on their
way.

Emma backs away.

EMMA
Sorry...I'm just shaken up.

OFFICER 2
I know.

INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER

Emma & officer 2 sit at the table. The officer picks up a photo of the murdered family from 1980.

OFFICER 2
Do you know these people?

EMMA
Sort of.

Officer 2 notices she's about to cry.

OFFICER 2
Hey! I didn't mean to upset you.

Emma sniffs.

EMMA
What time will forensics arrive?

OFFICER 2
Soon I hope.

Emma rises, looks nervous.

OFFICER 2
Is something troublin' you?

EMMA
Yes...There's a secret room in the cellar.

OFFICER 2
What's in it?

CUT TO:-

INT. KITCHEN

Officer 2 stands by the cupboard.

OFFICER 2
Stay here. I won't be long.

EMMA
(scared)
But what if?

OFFICER 2
He won't come back now I'm here.

Emma nervously smiles.

INT. KITCHEN - MINUTES LATER

Emma listens out for the officer. Hears nothing.

She pops her head inside the cupboard, looks down the ladder.

EMMA
(shouting)
Hello! Are you okay down there?

She listens out again. Still nothing.

CUT TO:-

INT. LADDER LEADING TO CELLAR

Emma climbing down the ladder.

EMMA
Hey! Did you find it?

Still no reply.

Emma nears the secret room, sees a door open at the far side. She closes in, holds her nose from a revolting, rotten stench drifting towards her.

She sees the officer standing in the doorway, pale, about to puke.

EMMA
Hey! Are you okay?

The officer bows his head.

INT. SECRET ROOM

Emma steps inside the room, closes in on the officer, peers inside the other room, sees a rotting carcass of a sheep on the floor.

EMMA
What the---

OFFICER 2
That's not all.

He points to a dark corner of the room. Emma hears grunting, snarling.

EMMA

What is it?

OFFICER 2

Not what...Who.

He taps on the wall. Two teenage girls covered in feces and torn clothing stagger into the light.

OFFICER 2

I think someone's been feeding them animals.

The officer shows Emma a necklace with the letters A M Y attached.

Emma bursts into tears.

INT/EXT FRONT OF HOUSE - MINUTES LATER

Emma slowly walks the girls towards the door, holding back tears. officer 2 is close behind.

OFFICER 2

An ambulance is on its way.

Emma enters the outside with the girls. They hide their eyes from the daylight.

Officer 2 is about to leave when he collapses.

Emma stares at Adrian holding a bloodstained knife.

ADRIAN

We can't have him knowing our secret.

EMMA

You are a sick and twisted freak.

Adrian laughs as the sound of an ambulance is heard - O.S.

Emma turns to the sound, turns back. Adrian is gone.

Officer 2 is dead.

INT. HOME OF EMMA'S PARENTS - A DAY LATER

Emma sits with Margaret and Ray. Caleb sits on Emma's legs.

Emma's laptop rings nearby.

EMMA

That will be Toby.

Emma puts Caleb onto the sofa, rises, walks over to her laptop, answers the call.

It's Adrian.

ADRIAN

I almost forgot...You need to see this.

It's a video recording of Toby sitting at his laptop. Adrian is creeping up behind him.

Emma gulps, notices her parents watching her, smiling.

Adrian slits Toby's throat. Emma squirms.

MARGARET

Are you okay, love?

Emma doesn't respond. Adrian walks upto the laptop.

ADRIAN

I killed your miserable boyfriend
and took his place.

(laughing)

You've been speaking to me.

Adrian's face morphs into Toby's face, then morphs back.

ADRIAN

Until next time.

He shuts the laptop.

FADE TO BLACK:-

MUSIC:-

THE END:-