

Homecoming

by

Robert Cox

Robert Cox  
4980 Vista Pl.  
San Diego CA 92116  
(619)867-1610  
robcoxtwo@aol.com

FADE IN:

EXT. LOS ANGELES SKYLINE - AFTERNOON

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - ESTABLISHING SHOT - MORNING

A large campus, with a lot of STUDENTS milling around.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL PARKING LOT - CONTINUOUS

Large parking area, rapidly filling up with student's vehicles. A JEEP pulls into a parking space and stops.

The driver's door opens and ALEX COOPER (18) gets out. He opens the back seat, reaches in and pulls out a backpack. In the empty spot next to him, a sedan pulls in and stops.

Alex straightens up and smiles as TERI (18) gets out of the car with her backpack. She smiles back at him.

ALEX

Gee Teri, what took you so long? I thought you were right behind me.

TERI

I would have been Mr Alex Cooper, except that you decided to go through that red light on Front street.

Coming around each other's cars, they walk towards the school, holding hands.

ALEX

It wasn't red, it was yellow...  
(chuckles)  
Well, maybe orange.

TERI

You take too many chances. How many times have I told you--

He stops walking and interrupts her by kissing her, which becomes passionate. She looks at him with a sly smile when they break apart.

TERI (CONT'D)

Is this how you plan on ending all arguments?

ALEX

Only with you. That a problem?

Teri smiles.

TERI  
Not. At. All.

She kisses him again.

BOBBY (O.S.)  
Oh, would you two get a room.

Teri and Alex break apart and turn to see BOBBY (18) as he comes up to them, a look of mock exasperation on his face.

ALEX  
Hey Bobby.

BOBBY  
I swear, can't leave you two alone for a minute.

TERI  
You're just jealous.

BOBBY  
Damn right. So, you two going to go to class or stand out here and kiss all day?

ALEX  
Do we have a choice?

BOBBY  
Not hardly.

The three start walking towards school.

BOBBY (CONT'D)  
(to Alex)  
So Alex, how does it feel to finally be eighteen?

ALEX  
Not much different, but mom did make my favorite breakfast this morning. You're coming to the party this afternoon, aren't you?

BOBBY  
Me, miss cake and ice cream? Not a chance.

ALEX  
Mom wanted to make a big deal out of it, but I told her just a few people. I didn't want a--

Alex winces in pain, puts his hand on his forehead.

TERI  
 (concerned)  
 Alex, you okay?

ALEX  
 Yeah, just a headache.

He takes a deep breath.

ALEX (CONT'D)  
 There, all better.

TERI  
 You're sure?

ALEX  
 Yeah. We better get to class before  
 we're late.

The three continue on their way to the school.

EXT. RESIDENTIAL AREA - LATE AFTERNOON

A suburb of the LA basin, someplace like North Hollywood.  
 The SOUND of CLAPPING and CHEERING is heard O.S.

PARTYGOERS (O.S.)  
 (singing)  
 "Happy birthday to you... happy  
 birthday to you..."

EXT. COOPER HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

A middle-class home. Well tended yard and house.

PARTYGOERS (O.S.)  
 (singing)  
 "...Happy birthday dear Alex..."

EXT. BACKYARD - CONTINUOUS

Landscaped, with a large patio, set up for a birthday party,  
 complete with balloons, streamers and a big sign that says  
 "HAPPY 18TH BIRTHDAY ALEX".

On the patio, seated at a large table, are about about a  
 dozen PARTYGOERS. Alex sits at the head of the table. Teri  
 sits next to him with Bobby on the other side.

MRS. COOPER (40's), Alex's mother, carries in a cake with  
 lit candles that she places in front of Alex as the partygoers  
 finish their song.

PARTYGOERS

(singing)

"...Happy birthday to you."

Partygoers break into CLAPPING and CHEERS again. Teri leans over and plants a big kiss on him to the delight of the partygoers.

MRS. COOPER

(smiling)

Okay you two, break it up or Alex won't have enough breath to blow out the candles.

The partygoers LAUGH. Teri stops kissing Alex and sits back at her place. Alex is blushing. Bobby gives him a playful punch on the shoulder. Alex returns the favor. He looks down at the cake.

On the cake, it says "Happy eighteenth Alex". The candles surround the writing.

MRS. COOPER (CONT'D)

Okay Alex, blow them out...

Alex blows out the candles. The partygoers clap.

MRS. COOPER (CONT'D)

Okay, who wants ice cream?

All hands go up. Mrs. Cooper turns to Teri.

MRS. COOPER (CONT'D)

Teri, would you help me serve?

TERI

Sure Mrs. Cooper.

MRS. COOPER

(to partygoers)

We'll be right back.

Teri gets up and follows Mrs. Cooper into the house. Bobby turns to Alex.

BOBBY

Now that you're eighteen, what's the first thing you're gonna do?

ALEX

Haven't decided.

BOBBY

Thought we'd get some of the guys  
together, pick up a few six packs  
and--

MR COOPER (40's), Alex's father, seated next to Bobby, CLEARS  
HIS THROAT, which stops the line of conversation. Bobby  
looks sheepishly over at Mr. Cooper.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

Six packs of coke, Mr. Cooper.

MR. COOPER

Yeah right.

ALEX

Maybe I'll take Teri to a movie.

Mr. Cooper looks over at Alex. The Partygoers LAUGH. Alex  
smiles at him.

ALEX (CONT'D)

G rated of course.

MR. COOPER

Oh, of course...

Again, the partygoers LAUGH, Mr. Cooper among them. About  
that time, Teri and Mrs. Cooper come out to the patio carrying  
plates, a large knife, an ice cream scoop and a tub of Ice  
cream.

MRS. COOPER

What's so funny?

MR. COOPER

We were asking your son what's the  
first thing he'll do now that he's  
eighteen.

Mrs. Cooper begins to cut the cake, Teri dishes out the ice  
cream.

MRS. COOPER

What did he say?

MR. COOPER

He's taking Teri to a G rated movie.

MRS. COOPER

(to Alex)

Really?

Alex nods. Mrs. Cooper looks toward Teri.

MRS. COOPER (CONT'D)

Teri, hold out for PG.

The partygoers start laughing again, Alex included. In the middle of his laughter, he looks as though he's in pain. He puts a hand up to his forehead, grimacing. Teri notices.

TERI

That headache again?

ALEX

Yeah. Too much excitement today, I guess.

MRS. COOPER

Why don't you go take a couple aspirins while I serve the cake.

ALEX

Good idea.

(to Bobby)

And don't eat mine while I'm gone.

BOBBY

No promises.

Alex gets up from the table and goes inside, while Teri and Mrs. Cooper pass out the cake and ice cream.

INT. COOPER HOUSE - BATHROOM - AFTERNOON

Alex comes into the bathroom and opens up the medicine cabinet. He opens the bottle of aspirin and grabs a couple.

Before he can take them, he has another spasm of pain, that drops him to his knees. He quickly takes the aspirin and struggles to his feet, looking at his pained expression in the mirror.

ALEX

Damn it, not now.

EXT. BACKYARD - A FEW MINUTES LATER

Alex, looking a bit better, comes back outside and over to his seat. All the cake and ice cream has been served, and Mrs. Cooper and Teri are seated. Mr. Cooper looks at him, concerned.

MR. COOPER

Better?

ALEX

Yeah, much.

(MORE)

ALEX (CONT'D)

By the way dad, I would have thought my eighteenth birthday called for champagne?

The partygoers react to that with AD-LIB agreement.

MR. COOPER

We're saving the champagne for your twenty-first.

ALEX

Sorry, I don't plan on being here for that one.

MR. COOPER

Really? And where will you be?

ALEX

Vegas!

BOBBY

Oh yeah!

Bobby and Alex high-five each other. The partygoers LAUGH again. Alex laughs with them for a moment and then his smile fades.

INT. COOPER HOUSE - ALEX'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Typical teenage boy's bedroom. Sports memorabilia, movie posters, and one pinup poster. Bed, dresser, desk with computer. His door is shut. A robe lays on the bed as well as a textbook.

Alex, in his briefs, paces back and forth looking out the window, obviously troubled.

There is a KNOCK on the DOOR. Alex puts on his robe, and sits on the bed, opens up a textbook and looks at it.

ALEX

Come in.

The door opens and Mrs. Cooper enters. Alex looks up.

MRS. COOPER

You still up?

ALEX

Studying. Exam tomorrow.

MRS. COOPER

Well, don't stay up too late.



She looks at him a moment.

MRS. COOPER (CONT'D)  
What's wrong?? Still have that  
headache?

ALEX  
No, it's fine.  
(beat)  
Mom, spring break's next week. I  
was thinking about going camping.

MRS. COOPER  
Sounds good. Who's all going?

ALEX  
Just me.

Mrs. Cooper looks at him curiously.

MRS. COOPER  
Not even Bobby? That doesn't sound  
like much fun to me. What's up?

ALEX  
I graduate in a few months. I need  
to figure out what I want to do with  
my life.

MRS. COOPER  
You just turned eighteen today, what's  
the rush? Besides, I thought you  
wanted to study medicine. That's  
why you're attending UCLA, isn't it?

ALEX  
Yes, but, well, I guess...

MRS. COOPER  
Mourning your lost childhood?

ALEX  
(smiles)  
Maybe a little.

MRS. COOPER  
You have plenty of time to grow up.  
Tell you what, you have my permission  
to act childish - on occasion. Fair?

Alex nods.

MRS. COOPER (CONT'D)  
Good. Now, lights out.  
(MORE)

MRS. COOPER (CONT'D)

You can map out the rest of your life better when you've had some sleep.

ALEX

Thanks mom, for everything.

MRS. COOPER

That's what I'm here for. Good night.

She exits, shutting the door behind her. Alex closes his book and stares out the window.

EXT. MOVIE HOUSE - NIGHT

A multiplex theater.

INT. THEATER - NIGHT

Large screen in front, with rows of seats in front of it, disappearing into the darkness. The theater is about one quarter full of MOVIEGOERS, watching the movie.

In the back on the theater, in the semi-darkness, sit Alex and Teri, making out, paying no attention to the movie. After a few moments, Teri pulls away from him. Smiles.

TERI

Don't you think we should watch at least a little of the movie?

Alex smiles back.

ALEX

Movie, what movie?

TERI

The PG movie I talked you into taking me to.

ALEX

Oh, that one. You do know that the movie was just an excuse to get you alone.

TERI

Alone, in a theater?

ALEX

You know what I mean, without Bobby and the rest of our friends. You really can't blame me. I'm not going to see you for two weeks.

TERI

Alex, about this camping trip. I don't know how I feel about you going off by yourself.

ALEX

We've already talked about this. It's something I have to do.

TERI

Why?

ALEX

Because I have to. I'm doing this for us.

TERI

I just don't--

Alex interrupts her by kissing her, and she responds accordingly, finally breaking away after a few moments.

ALEX

You have to trust me. After I get back, everything will be fine. We can talk about it later, okay.

Teri nods.

EXT. COOPER HOUSE - MORNING

Early. There is a Jeep parked in the driveway, with camping gear in the back. Alex comes to the jeep from the house, Teri and Bobby on his heels. He carries a sleeping bag. Teri looks sullen.

BOBBY

I just don't see why I can't come with you. We've always gone camping together.

ALEX

Not this time.

BOBBY

Do you even know where you're going?

ALEX

I'll know when I get there.

Alex gets to the jeep and tosses the sleeping bag in with the rest of the equipment.

BOBBY  
(To Teri)  
Teri, help me talk him out of it.

TERI  
I can't, I promised.

Alex goes to the driver's side while she talks to him. She follows behind. He turns to her. Bobby comes up to them.

ALEX  
Bobby, I have to do this.

BOBBY  
Do what?

ALEX  
I can't tell you, not now.

He looks at Teri.

ALEX (CONT'D)  
Do I get a kiss good-bye?

Teri comes over and kisses him passionately. Bobby rolls his eyes.

BOBBY  
Oh brother.

Separating, the two of them laugh. Teri sticks out her tongue at Bobby as he comes over and gives Alex a hug.

BOBBY (CONT'D)  
I'll miss you, you idiot. Hope you find what you're looking for.

ALEX  
Me too.

The boys break apart. Alex opens up the driver's door and gets in. He starts the engine and leans out the window.

ALEX (CONT'D)  
See ya in two weeks.

Alex puts the car into gear and backs out of the driveway. He puts the car into drive and goes down the street, arm out the window waving. Teri and Bobby watch him go.

BOBBY  
I still wish he wasn't going alone.

TERI  
Me too.

EXT. OPEN HIGHWAY - LATER

Alex's jeep travels down the highway along with the other traffic.

INT. JEEP - CONTINUOUS

Alex is enjoying the freedom of the open road. In the seat next to him is a water bottle. He winces in pain, then reaches over to the glove compartment and opens it. He pulls out a large bottle of aspirin.

While still driving, Alex opens up the aspirin bottle and puts several into his hand and then into his mouth. He picks up the water, washes them down and continues on his way.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. DESERT - ESTABLISHING SHOT - DAY

Barren, windswept, and empty. The only sign of civilization is a two-lane road that bisects the desert and some telephone poles parallelling the road. All this under a bright and unrelenting sun.

SUPER: ONE WEEK LATER

On the desert floor, Alex, dirty, sunburned and naked walks with faltering steps towards the road. He is totally exhausted and just about at the point of collapse. There are a number of bruises on his body.

He makes it to the side of the road, then his strength gives out and he collapses.

In the distance, a car comes towards where Alex lays. Going fast, it drives by him and then screeches to a halt. A MAN and a WOMAN get out of the car. The man runs towards Alex while the woman takes out her cell phone and presses buttons.

EXT. HOSPITAL - EVENING

Small hospital in a small town.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - CONTINUOUS

A single occupant room, typical set-up; bed, monitoring equipment, a couple of chairs, and curtains for privacy.

Alex is in the bed, sheet up to his chest, unconscious. There is pulse monitor hooked up to him as well as a drip from an IV bag. Alex is sunburned and bruises are visible. A bandage covers the top of his head.

DR. WILLIS (40's) comes into the room from the outside hallway. He goes over to the foot of the bed, picks up the chart, reads it and puts it back.

The SHERIFF (30's), comes into the room from the hall and up to Dr. Willis, who glances over at him.

DR. WILLIS  
Afternoon Sheriff.

SHERIFF  
Dr. Willis. How's your patient?

DR. WILLIS  
About the same. Find out who he is?

SHERIFF  
Not yet. Fingerprints aren't in the system, and I've circulated his picture through missing persons. No hits. He certainly didn't have any ID on him. Anything more you can tell me?

DR. WILLIS  
Just that he's between seventeen and twenty, so it's likely he has a family somewhere. Could be a runaway.

The NURSE (20's) comes into the room and up to Dr. Willis, carrying an envelope.

NURSE  
Excuse me Dr. Willis, here are the x-rays you ordered.

Dr. Willis takes the envelope and opens it, slides out the x-ray. Holding it up to the lights he looks at it.

DR. WILLIS  
Thank you nurse. That will be all.

The nurse nods and goes OUT of SCENE. Dr. Willis surveys the x-rays for a few moments, then turns to the Sheriff.

DR. WILLIS (CONT'D)  
He definitely has a concussion and hairline fracture. No surprise there, considering the beating he took. There's some localized swelling, some bruised ribs, but no permanent damage.

SHERIFF  
When do you think he'll wake up?

DR. WILLIS

That's up to him.

SHERIFF

Well, keep me posted, and let me know when he does.

EXT. JUNKYARD - NIGHT

A large junkyard, made up of mostly old cars and other metal debris. A single light weakly illuminates the area. The place seems deserted.

INT. JUNKYARD - CONTINUOUS

A FIGURE dressed in jeans and a hooded sweatshirt takes the license plate off of a junked car in the near dark. His hood tightly drawn over his face, obscuring it.

The Figure removes the license plate, disappearing into the darkness with it.

EXT. HOSPITAL - NIGHT

The figure, shrouded in the hooded sweatshirt, walks across the darkened parking lot, heading for a side door.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - NIGHT

Alex sleeps in the bed in the darkened room. The monitors BEEP softly around him.

Quietly, the figure comes into the room and over to the bed, and looks down at Alex. From his pocket, he pulls out a syringe and uncaps the needle. He goes over to the IV and injects the contents of the syringe into it.

The figure pulls the syringe out, and placing the cap back on, slips it into his pocket. He goes out the door, leaving Alex stirring in his bed.

INT. HOSPITAL CORRIDOR - NIGHT

Near the nurse's Station. A counter is on one side of the corridor and a small waiting room on the other with the corridor in between.

The nurse is behind the counter, but faces away from the corridor. The figure comes out of Alex's room, and, averting his face, moves quickly and quietly down the corridor and  
OUT OF SCENE.

An ALARM SOUNDS from inside Alex's room, which catches the nurse's attention. She runs to Alex's room.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Alex is in convulsions. The nurse comes in and over to him and holds him down. Dr. Wills runs in followed by an ORDERLY. Dr. Wills looks at the monitors and then turns to the orderly.

DR. WILLIS  
Glucose drip, stat!

The Orderly nods and runs out of the room. Dr. Wills goes over to help the nurse keep Alex down.

INT. HOSPITAL CORRIDOR - MORNING

Dr. Wills is seated on a chair outside of Alex's room, looking exhausted. He drinks from a large coffee cup.

From around the corner and INTO SCENE, comes the Sheriff, looking none too pleased. He comes up to Dr. Wills.

SHERIFF  
How's the John Doe?

DR. WILLIS  
He's stable, but it was a close call.

SHERIFF  
What happened?

DR. WILLIS  
A sudden drop in blood sugar, although I didn't see anything in the tests that would lead me to believe that he was diabetic, and none of the medications we gave him had that as a side effect.

SHERIFF  
Could it have killed him?

DR. WILLIS  
If not gotten to in time. You're getting at something. What?

SHERIFF  
It may be just a coincidence, but my deputy was called out on a breaking and entering last night. The pharmacy down the street was hit.

DR. WILLIS  
Anything taken?



SHERIFF

Two items, a bottle of Insulin and a syringe.

DR. WILLS

And you think...?

SHERIFF

That whoever beat this boy to a pulp out in the desert would try to finish the job before he wakes up? Maybe. Like I said, it could be a coincidence, but it's not hard to put two and two together and come up with attempted murder.

Dr. Wills is dumb-founded.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - LATER

The Nurse checks the monitors and the IV. Alex GROANS and opens his eyes, focusing on the nurse, who smiles.

NURSE

Well hello.

ALEX

(weakly)  
Where am I?

NURSE

You're in the hospital.

ALEX

Hospital? Why? What's the matter with me?

He looks down at his arms, suddenly terrified.

ALEX (CONT'D)

What happened to my arms?

He touches his face, and is surprised at the stubble.

ALEX (CONT'D)

My face. What's wrong with my face?

NURSE

I'll get Dr. Wills.

Alex runs his hand over his hair, getting more and more panicked. The nurse goes over to the door of the room and calls out.

NURSE (CONT'D)

Dr. Wills!

The nurse goes back to the bed. Alex is trying to get out of bed, obviously in pain. The nurse pushes him back down and holds him there. Alex struggles.

ALEX

Let me go!

NURSE

Stay where you are, and stop struggling. You'll tear out your IV.

ALEX

(Panicked)

Where's my mom?

After a few moments, Dr. Wills comes in the room. Rushes over and helps the nurse restrain Alex.

DR. WILLIS

What happened?

NURSE

I don't know. He woke up and started to panic.

DR. WILLIS

(to Alex)

Okay young man, you've got two choices, you either calm down or the nurse gives you something to knock you out. What's it going to be?

Alex stops struggling.

DR. WILLIS (CONT'D)

That's better.

ALEX

What am I doing here? Who are you? Why do my arms look different, why do I have hair on my face? What happened to me?

DR. WILLIS

This is a hospital. You were brought in a couple of days ago. Motorists found you in the desert, on the side of the road.

ALEX

Desert? What was I doing in the desert?

DR. WILLIS

Then you don't remember what happened to you?

Alex shakes his head. Dr. Willis comes over to the head of the bed. From his pocket, he pulls a pen light and checks Alex's eyes.

DR. WILLIS (CONT'D)

Well, you were pretty badly beaten up. You have bruised ribs, a concussion and a skull fracture. As for why you look different, I can't say, other than your memory might be a little hazy from the concussion. You up to answering some questions?

Alex nods.

DR. WILLIS (CONT'D)

Good. Now, can you remember your name?

ALEX

(nods)  
Alex Cooper.

DR. WILLIS

Do you have parents?

Alex nods.

DR. WILLIS (CONT'D)

Can you remember where they live?

ALEX

Fourteen twenty seven Acer Street, in Pasadena.

DR. WILLIS

What's the last day you remember?

ALEX

March fourteenth.

DR. WILLIS

(concerned)  
And the year?

ALEX

Two thousand nine. It's my birthday.

Dr. Wills is surprised at the answer.

SHERIFF (O.S.)  
Are you sure that's what he said?

INT. NURSES STATION - DAY

Dr. Wills is behind the counter talking to the Sheriff.  
Several NURSES and ORDERLIES go about their duties. Dr.  
Wills holds Alex's chart.

DR. WILLIS  
Positive. Two thousand nine.

SHERIFF  
Then he's either crazy or lost the  
last ten years of his life.

DR. WILLIS  
He does have a pretty severe  
concussion. That could account for  
memory loss. Some could be  
psychological. It's too early to  
tell at this point.

SHERIFF  
Saying much?

DR. WILLIS  
He doesn't remember the beating or  
how long he was in the desert or  
even how he got there, if that's  
what you're asking.

Dr. Wills hands the Sheriff a piece of paper from the chart.

DR. WILLIS (CONT'D)  
Here's the name and address he gave  
me. You'll want to check it out.

The Sheriff takes the paper. Looks at it.

SHERIFF  
Alex Cooper, Pasadena. Thanks Doc.  
I'll get right on it.

Dr. Wills nods. Sheriff turns to leave and then turns back.

SHERIFF (CONT'D)  
Oh, and I'm stationing an officer  
outside his room at night.

Dr. Wills starts to protest but the Sheriff motions him to  
stop.

SHERIFF (CONT'D)

Look, I know we're not sure if someone tried to kill this young man, but he was beaten up and left to die in the desert. I'm not taking any chances.

DR. WILLIS

I guess I can't argue your logic. Just let me know when you contact his family. And don't say anything about attempted murder. I don't want to alarm them needlessly.

SHERIFF

Will do.

The Sheriff continues on his way and out.

EXT. COOPER HOUSE - AFTERNOON

The PHONE RINGS O.S.

INT. COOPER HOUSE - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Mrs. Cooper comes into the kitchen from the living room and over to the phone hanging on the wall. It RINGS again, and she picks it up.

MRS. COOPER

Hello? Yes, this is the Cooper residence. Who's calling please?

She listens, becoming more concerned.

MRS. COOPER (CONT'D)

Yes, I have a son named Alex... What? Is he all right?... What kind of accident? Where are you calling from?

She grabs a pen and note pad from the counter. She writes down information on the note pad.

MRS. COOPER (CONT'D)

Yes, I have it. We'll be there as soon as we can.

Hangs up the phone.

MRS. COOPER (CONT'D)

(calls out)

Eric! Eric, get down here!

She moves around the kitchen, grabbing her purse on the counter, opening it and digging around in it.

There are the SOUND of FOOTSTEPS O.S. and a moment afterwards Mr. Cooper comes rushing into the kitchen.

MR. COOPER

What's wrong?

MRS. COOPER

The police just called. Alex's been in an accident. He's in a hospital out near Twenty-Nine Palms and I can't find my damn keys!

Mr. Cooper pulls keys out of his pocket. Holds them up.

MR. COOPER

I'll drive.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - AFTERNOON

Alex, still in his bed, looks a bit better. Dr. Wills is examining Alex's eyes with the pen light. Satisfied, he sits back in the chair next to the bed.

ALEX

Will I live?

DR. WILLIS

Looks like it. How are the ribs?

ALEX

Sore. And my memory?

DR. WILLIS

I'm not sure. When your family gets here, we can decide what treatments will help.

Alex looks apprehensive.

DR. WILLIS (CONT'D)

You all right?

ALEX

What if I hurt or killed someone and I can't remember?

DR. WILLIS

Ah, well the sheriff followed your footprints back to where you were attacked. He found signs of a struggle and tire tracks driving away. Looks like you got the worst of it.

The sheriff enters the room from the hallway. Alex and Dr. Wills look over at him.

SHERIFF

Well Doc, your patient looks a lot better than the last time I saw him. How you feeling kid?

ALEX

Sore.

SHERIFF

I don't doubt. I talked to your parents. They should be here soon. Do you remember anything more?

ALEX

No sir.

SHERIFF

Too bad. I'd sure like to find out more about what happened out there.

ALEX

So would I.

EXT. HOSPITAL - LATE AFTERNOON

A car pulls into the parking lot and stops. Mr. and Mrs. Cooper get out and move quickly to the door of the hospital.

Across the parking lot, the hooded figure watches them enter the building.

INT. HOSPITAL CORRIDOR - MOMENTS LATER

Near the Nurse's station. The Nurse is on duty at the desk. Mr. and Mrs. Cooper come from around the corner and head straight for the Nurse's station. The Nurse looks up at them when they come up.

NURSE

May I help you?

MR. COOPER

Yes, we got a phone call from the sheriff, telling us our son was here.

At that moment, Dr. Wills comes out of Alex's room and hears them talking.

DR. WILLIS

Mr. and Mrs. Cooper?

Mr. and Mrs. Cooper turn towards him.

MRS. COOPER

Yes?

Dr. Wills comes up to them.

DR. WILLIS

I'm Dr. Wills. Thank you for coming so quickly.

MR. COOPER

Where's Alex? Is he all right?

DR. WILLIS

For the most part, he's fine. Could we sit down for a moment before you see him?

Dr. Wills indicates the chairs nearby in the waiting room. They go to waiting room area and Mr. and Mrs. Cooper sit down and Dr. Wills takes a seat across from him. The Coopers are apprehensive.

MR. COOPER

What happened to our son?

DR. WILLIS

He was attacked out in the desert and pretty badly beaten.

MRS. COOPER

Attacked?

Dr. Wills nods.

DR. WILLIS

He has a skull fracture, three bruised ribs and a concussion. He can't remember what happened to him. I'm sorry, but there's no easy way to break this to you, there's been some memory loss.

MR. COOPER

Memory loss? How much?

DR. WILLIS

The last ten years.

The Cooper are shocked.

MRS. COOPER

Ten years?

Dr. Wills nods.



INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - LATER

Alex lays in the bed. Mrs. Cooper sits on the chair at the head of the bed, Mr. Cooper standing behind her. Dr. Wills stands at the foot of the bed. Mrs. Cooper holds Alex's hand.

ALEX

The last thing I remember is waking up here. I'm sorry.

MRS. COOPER

Honey, it's okay. You're going to be all right and that's what counts.

(to Dr. Wills)

Dr. Wills, when can he go home?

DR. WILLIS

I'm waiting for some test results. If the swelling has gone down enough, he could go home in a couple days.

MR. COOPER

And his memory?

DR. WILLIS

There's no way of knowing. It may come back on it's own.

MRS. COOPER

Is there anything we can do?

DR. WILLIS

I have a colleague with an office in LA. She's works with patients suffering from amnesia.

Alex looks apprehensive. Dr. Wills notices.

DR. WILLIS (CONT'D)

Hypnotherapy with counseling. She's had some very good results.

(to Mr. Cooper)

I'll give you her contact information. At this point, that's all we can do. Everything else is up to Alex.

EXT. HOSPITAL - LATER

The hooded figure watches the entrance to the hospital. After a moment, he turns and walks towards Alex's jeep, parked in the distance.

EXT. COOPER HOUSE - DAY

MRS. COOPER (O.S.)

Here you are.

INT. COOPER HOUSE - ALEX'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

The room looks just like Alex left it. The door opens and Alex walks in, Mrs. Cooper following. Alex looks around.

MRS. COOPER

Anything familiar?

Alex looks on the dresser, where some 'matchbox' style cars are. Alex goes over and picks one up. He turns to her.

ALEX

I remember these. You gave them to me last Christmas...

(sadly)

But it wasn't last Christmas, was it?

Mrs. Cooper shakes her head. With a sigh, Alex sits down on the bed. Mrs. Cooper, sympathetic, sits next to him.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Mom. I'm scared. What if I never remember?

MRS. COOPER

Look, if that does happen, and I'm not saying it will, you have a lot of people around that care about you. Besides, Your dad and I have lots of pictures and movies of you growing up. That could help.

ALEX

When can I see them?

MRS. COOPER

Tomorrow, after we see the Therapist. Right now, you need some rest. I'll call you when dinner's ready.

ALEX

Okay mom.

Mrs. Cooper give Alex a kiss on the cheek. She gets up and goes out the door. Alex lays back on the bed, looking up at the ceiling, closes his eyes.

SANDRA (O.S.)  
... Breathe deeply, calming breaths.  
I want you to go back, and tell me  
the last thing you remember.

INT. OFFICE - DAY

The office is dominated by a chair and an armless couch on one side of the room, with a desk on the other side of the room with two chairs in front of it and one behind. Diplomas hang on the wall.

DR. SANDRA DEAKINS (50's) sits in the chair next to the couch, while Alex lays back on the couch, eyes closed.

EXT. STREET - AFTERNOON

A neighborhood street. There is a fuzzy, almost dreamlike quality to the scene. YOUNG ALEX(8) walks down the street, carrying a backpack. In his other hand he holds a piece of paper, reading it.

SANDRA (V.O.)  
What do you see?

ALEX (V.O.)  
I'm walking home from school. I got  
an 'A' on my history test. Mom's  
going to be so happy.

Young Alex looks up and sees MAN IN BLACK (40's) coming towards him, smiling.

ALEX (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
There's a man coming.

He stops next to Alex, and kneels down to his level. They are talking but nothing is heard.

ALEX (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
He wants to know if I know where the  
Rose Bowl is. I tell him that my  
mom told me not to talk to people I  
don't know. He says that mom's right.

Young Alex points down the street. The man straightens up.

ALEX (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
He says thank you.

The man pats him on top of the head.

Everything goes black.

INT. OFFICE - DAY

Alex sits bolt upright on the couch, startled. Sandra looks over at him, concerned.

SANDRA  
Alex, what is it?

ALEX  
(almost panicked)  
Everything went dark... He touched  
my head and everything went dark.

SANDRA  
It's all right, you're safe, just  
relax... Lay back.

Calmer, Alex lays back on the couch.

SANDRA (CONT'D)  
Now, remember what I taught you,  
deep breaths.

Alex begins to relax.

SANDRA (CONT'D)  
That's right. Good.

ALEX  
Dr. Deakins, what did I see?

SANDRA  
No way of knowing. Alex, the human  
brain is a very complex machine.  
There's so much we don't know about  
how it works. What you saw could  
have been a repressed memory, a dream,  
or something else entirely.

ALEX  
How can I tell?

SANDRA  
That's why you're here, so we can  
find that out together.

ALEX  
Doctor, what if my memory doesn't  
come back--

SANDRA  
Then I'll help you deal with the  
loss.

(MORE)

SANDRA (CONT'D)

You'll get through this Alex, and I'll do everything I can to make sure that happens. Besides, you have your friends and your family to help you as well.

ALEX

That's what my mom said.

SANDRA

(smiles)

A wise woman, your mother.

EXT. COOPER HOUSE - DAY

A truck pulls up in front of the Cooper house. Teri and Bobby get out and move hurriedly to the front door.

INT. COOPER HOUSE - FOYER/LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Mrs. Cooper comes down the stairs. The DOORBELL RINGS and she walks down and opens the door, revealing Teri and Bobby.

TERI

I just heard. Alex's home?

MRS. COOPER

Yes. He's out with his dad right now, but he'll be here soon.

TERI

When did he get back?

MRS. COOPER

Yesterday afternoon.

TERI

Why didn't he call me?

BOBBY

Or me. And where's his Jeep?

MRS. COOPER

Teri, Bobby, you better sit down. We have to talk. There is something I need to tell you.

Mrs. Cooper indicates the couch. Teri and Bobby are concerned.

INT. OFFICE - LATER

Sandra sits behind her desk, with Mr. Cooper and Alex seated across from her.

SANDRA

(to Mr. Cooper)

As I've told you, amnesia, is unpredictable. I can't tell you when your son's memory will return, or even how much. I've explained all this to Alex.

MR. COOPER

Dr. Deakins--

SANDRA

Sandra...

MR. COOPER

Sandra, school starts Monday. What should we do? Do we keep him out until his memory comes back? Teach him at home?

SANDRA

My suggestion is to have him go to school. It's only his time memory that's been affected. His learning and emotional levels are normal for someone his age, so he won't be behind. Besides, it's always possible that he could see something there that will trigger past memories.

(to Alex)

I know it will be difficult at first, but the sooner you start to live a normal life--

ALEX

Normal? How do I do that? I've lost ten years of my life.

SANDRA

I know. What I meant to tell you is that you have to live in the present.

(to Mr. Cooper)

Mr. Cooper, I'd like to see Alex once a week for right now, if you're in agreement.

Mr. Cooper nods.

SANDRA (CONT'D)

Good.

(to Alex)

Alex, the one important thing about memories is that we create new ones all the time.

(MORE)

SANDRA (CONT'D)

Don't spend so much time looking  
into the past that you lose sight of  
the memories you can create now.  
Will you do that for me?

Alex nods.

INT. COOPER HOUSE - FOYER/LIVING ROOM - LATER

Teri and Mrs. Cooper sit on the couch. Bobby paces near the front window. He looks out the window at a car pulling into the driveway.

BOBBY

They're here.

EXT. COOPER HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Alex and Mr. Cooper get out of the car and come up the driveway. Alex notices the truck.

ALEX

(to Mr. Cooper)

Who's truck?

MR. COOPER

Bobby, your best friend. Teri's probably with him. They must have heard that you were back.

ALEX

Is Teri, Bobby's girlfriend?

MR. COOPER

No, she's yours.

Alex stops, stunned.

ALEX

Mine?

INT. COOPER HOUSE - FOYER/LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Teri, Bobby and Mrs. Cooper stand, facing the door. The door opens and Mr. Cooper, followed by Alex, come in. Alex faces Teri and Bobby, apprehensive.

Teri rushes over to Alex and throws her arms around him, hugging him. Alex is a bit taken aback and winces in pain.

TERI

Alex, I'm so sorry. It must be awful for you.

ALEX  
Yeah, it's been hard. Thanks...  
Teri.

TERI  
(excited)  
You know who I am! You remember me!

MR. COOPER  
Teri, Teri calm down. I told Alex  
you were probably here.

TERI  
Then he really doesn't...?

She looks over at Alex and he shakes his head.

BOBBY  
(to Alex)  
How 'bout me?

Alex shakes his head, sadly.

BOBBY (CONT'D)  
We've been best friends since the  
sixth grade. You can't have forgotten  
that.

Alex is getting visibly upset. He looks over at Mr. Cooper.

ALEX  
Dad?

MR. COOPER  
It's okay Alex. Why don't you go up  
to your room. We'll talk later.

Alex nods. He looks over at Teri and Bobby.

ALEX  
I'm sorry... I really am.

He goes up the stairs and OUT of SCENE. Teri and Bobby watch  
him go and then turn to the Coopers.

TERI  
He didn't know me.

BOBBY  
Me either.

TERI  
I thought that--



MR. COOPER

When he saw you, his memory would  
come back?

Teri nods.

MR. COOPER (CONT'D)

His doctor said that it was possible,  
but not to expect results right away.

BOBBY

When?

MR. COOPER

I wish I knew.

(to Bobby)

Bobby, I need to ask a favor.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - MORNING

Before the morning bell. Students are going into the school  
on their way to their classes. A large parking lot is getting  
filled with cars.

Mr. Cooper's car pulls up and parks in one of the spaces.

INT. CAR - MOMENTS LATER

A nervous Alex sits in the passenger seat. A concerned Mr.  
Cooper is behind the wheel.

MR. COOPER

You sure you don't want me to come  
in with you?

ALEX

I'll be fine. Besides, how would it  
look if my dad walked me to class?

MR. COOPER

Good point. I talked to the principal  
and the nurse about your amnesia.  
If it gets to be too much, you can  
go to the nurse's office. They'll  
understand why. The nurse wants to  
see you sometime this morning anyway,  
just to check. Of course, you've  
been excused from P.E. for awhile.

ALEX

Okay. Well, I better get going or  
I'll be late.

Mr. Cooper pulls a card out of his pocket and hands it to  
Alex.

ALEX (CONT'D)

What's this?

MR. COOPER

Your locker number, combination and your class schedule. The principal had the lock changed this morning.

Alex smiles.

ALEX

You thought of everything.

MR. COOPER

Of course.

Mr. Cooper looks out the front windshield.

POV

Bobby standing there. He waves.

BACK TO SCENE

MR. COOPER (CONT'D)

There's the last thing.

Alex looks out the windshield.

POV

Bobby starts walking towards the car.

BACK TO SCENE

MR. COOPER (CONT'D)

He's going to make sure you don't get lost.

ALEX

(mock sarcasm)

Gee thanks dad.

MR. COOPER

Glad to help. I'll see you when you get home, and don't overdo it.

Alex nods. He opens the car door.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - CONTINUOUS

Alex gets out of the car and shuts the door. Bobby stands there smiling.

ALEX

Hey Bobby.

BOBBY

Hey Alex.

The two of them head towards the entrance to the school.

ALEX

Thanks for helping.

BOBBY

Well, we can't have you wandering around like some clueless freshman.

ALEX

Think anyone knows what happened to me?

BOBBY

I haven't told anyone, but I'm sure Teri told some of her friends. You know how girls are?

ALEX

Not a clue.

BOBBY

Join the club.

They get to the open front doors of the school and walk inside.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Alex and Bobby come in. A number of STUDENTS are TALKING among themselves. They look up and the conversation dies, and they stare at Alex, who looks very uncomfortable at being stared at. Bobby leans over to him.

BOBBY

I think the word's gotten out.

ALEX

Ya think?

INT. HIGH SCHOOL HALLWAY - LATER

Alex walks down the hallway, heading for his class, reading from the card. From around a corner comes DIANA (17) carrying a large number of books. She's looking around, looking hopelessly lost and collides with Alex, her books falling to the floor, papers scattering.

Alex is surprised. Diana gets down on her knees and begins picking up her books. She looks up at him.

DIANA

I'm so sorry. I wasn't looking where  
I was going.

Alex gets down on his knees starts helping her gather up all her papers and books.

ALEX

No problem.

DIANA

It's my first day and I'm afraid I'm  
a little lost.

ALEX

I know the feeling.

DIANA

Your first day too?

ALEX

No... Well, it's a kinda long story.

She looks at him.

DIANA

You're the one with the amnesia,  
aren't you? Alex... Alex Cooper.

ALEX

How do you know about that?

DIANA

It's all over the school.

ALEX

Tell me about it. Yeah, I'm Alex.  
And you are...?

DIANA

Oh, I'm Diana, Diana Williams.

ALEX

Nice to meet you.

The two of them have gathered up all the books and papers.  
Alex looks around.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Looks like that's everything.

DIANA

I better get to class. Thanks for your help. See you around.

ALEX

Yeah.

Diana goes on down the hall, smiling at Alex as she passes him. He smiles back and walks in the opposite direction from Diana. Up ahead is a classroom with an open door.

INT. PHYSICS CLASSROOM - MOMENTS LATER

A large formula takes up most of the board space at the front. A number of desks face the board, the door to the classroom behind the desks. In front of the blackboard is the teacher's desk.

Alex walks by the door, glances in, and walks on. After a moment, Alex pops his head back in and looks over at the board. Curious, he comes into the room, and walks up to the board. Alex examines the formula on the board and frowns.

He looks down and sees an eraser and marker. He picks up the eraser and erases four sections of the formula, picks up the marker, and replaces three of them with other symbols. When he finishes the third one, he steps back.

MR. HARRIS (O.C.)

(angry)

And just what do you think you're doing!

Startled, Alex turns, to find an angry MR. HARRIS (40's), the physics teacher looking at him, hands on his hips. Alex is speechless.

ALEX

I... I uh...

MR. HARRIS

Well, spit it out!

ALEX

The formula was wrong.

MR. HARRIS

Of course it's wrong. It took me an hour to write it up there for the test this morning....

Mr. Harris looks at Alex curiously for a moment.

MR. HARRIS (CONT'D)

Do I know you?

Alex shakes his head. Mr. Harris comes up to him and takes the marker away from him.

MR. HARRIS (CONT'D)  
You're not in any of my classes.

ALEX  
No sir, at least I don't think so.

MR. HARRIS  
Then what are you doing here?

ALEX  
I told you, I saw this on the board--

MR. HARRIS  
Yeah, yeah, you told me, you knew it was wrong and you had to correct it.

Mr. Harris stares at the formula for a moment and then turns to a nervous Alex.

MR. HARRIS (CONT'D)  
Okay smart guy, complete the last part of the formula.

Mr. Harris hands Alex the marker. In a few seconds, Alex has finished completing the formula and puts down the marker. Mr. Harris stares at the formula in disbelief.

MR. HARRIS (CONT'D)  
How did you do that?

ALEX  
Is it right?

MR. HARRIS  
Yes, but that's not the point. I want to know where you learned it?

ALEX  
I don't know.

MR. HARRIS  
Don't know? Exactly, who are you?

ALEX  
Who are you?

MR. HARRIS  
I'm Mr. Harris, the physics teacher and the one who will send you to detention if I don't get some answers.

ALEX  
I'm Alex Cooper.

MR. HARRIS  
Alex Cooper? Are you the kid that was in the accident, the one with amnesia?

Alex nods. Mr. Harris sits on the edge of the desk.

MR. HARRIS (CONT'D)  
Well Mr. Alex Cooper, you just corrected a problem in advanced thermodynamics that my honor students as well as most college physics majors would have problems with, and in seconds. Care to tell me how you did that?

INT. HIGH SCHOOL LUNCHROOM - DAY

Large room, lots of tables and chairs, filled with students eating their lunches.

Bobby and Alex sit at a table eating.

BOBBY  
I heard Harris is a real tyrant.

ALEX  
He sure scared the hell out of me when he found me changing the formula on the board. Bobby, have I ever taken physics?

BOBBY  
You? No way. Why?

ALEX  
Mr. Harris put up this long formula on the board, with mistakes in it. I corrected them.

BOBBY  
Weird. Maybe the amnesia turned you into a science geek.

ALEX  
Oh, funny.

BOBBY  
I'm serious.  
(MORE)

BOBBY (CONT'D)

I googled amnesia and read about people who get a bump on the head and wake up being able to speak a foreign language or do things they've never done before. So, anything's possible.

Teri comes up to the table.

TERI

Hi.

ALEX

(uncomfortable)

Hi Teri.

TERI

Alex, Principal Owens just stopped me in the hall. Mr. Harris is looking for you. He wants to see you in his classroom right away.

ALEX

Did he say why?

TERI

No, just that he wanted you there ASAP. What happened?

BOBBY

I guess he's still sore about you ruining that test.

(to Teri)

Looks like our Alex is a physics genius.

TERI

How? He's never taken physics.

ALEX

I better see what he wants.

Alex gets up from the table and heads out of the lunchroom.  
Teri sits down.

TERI

How is he?

BOBBY

Okay, I guess. Talked to you much?

Teri shakes her head, sadly.



TERI

I think he's avoiding me.

BOBBY

Probably doesn't know what to say.  
Give him some time, he'll come around.

INT. CLASSROOM - LATER.

Mr. Harris leans on his desk, talking to Mr. and Mrs. Cooper, seated in two of the front desks. There are several shorter formulas on the board.

MR. COOPER

I'm sorry Mr. Harris, but what you're telling us is a bit hard to believe. Alex has never shown any aptitude or even an interest in Physics.

MR. HARRIS

I'll admit I agree with you to a point. I checked his student records and didn't see any physics classes on his schedule, but I know what I saw. I--

Alex comes into the classroom and is surprised to see his parents there. Mr. and Mrs. Cooper turn to him.

ALEX

Mom, Dad, what are you doing here?

MR. HARRIS

That's my doing Alex. I asked them here.

ALEX

Listen, Mr. Harris, I'm sorry about this morning. I don't know why or how I did it--

MR. HARRIS

Alex, Alex, it's okay, really. I'm not angry, but I did want to talk to you, and I wanted your parents here to see for themselves.

ALEX

What happened this morning was a mistake, a one time thing, a lucky guess.

MR. HARRIS

Care to prove it?

ALEX

How?

MR. HARRIS

I've got four incomplete formulas in Quantum mechanics on the board. All you have to do is finish them.

Mr. Harris holds up a marker. Exasperated, Alex comes down and takes the marker from him.

ALEX

Why are you doing this to me?

MR. HARRIS

To prove something.

Alex goes up to the board and looks at all four formulas. He writes endings to all of them in a few moments and sets down the marker. Mr. and Mrs Cooper look at each other, dumb-founded.

Mr. Harris looks up at the formulas and then to Alex, smiling.

MR. HARRIS (CONT'D)

They're correct Alex, all of them.  
Congratulations.

Alex and his parents are stunned.

SANDRA (O.S.)

And how do you feel about this?

INT. OFFICE -DAY

Alex lays on the couch. Sandra sits in the chair nearby. Alex shrugs.

ALEX

I don't know. It kinda scares me.

SANDRA

Why?

ALEX

Because everybody tells me I never took physics, my parents, Bobby, Teri. Now Mr. Harris wants me to come to his after school physics class, and I'm not sure if I want to.

SANDRA

What's stopping you?

Alex shrugs.

ALEX

I guess I'm a little nervous about it. I don't know how I do it. Dr. Deakins, do you think that me being able to understand physics is because of my amnesia?

SANDRA

Why would you think that?

ALEX

Well, Bobby read that people with head injuries sometimes wake up speaking other languages, stuff like that.

SANDRA

Well, there have been cases where that's true, so I can't discount it. With you, it's only one answer out of many. Alex, if you want my opinion, I think you should join this class.

ALEX

You do?

SANDRA

You need to learn about yourself as you are now. This may help.

INT. COOPER HOUSE - FOYER/LIVING ROOM - AFTERNOON

Mrs. Cooper sits on the couch, reading. She hears the SOUND of a CAR DOOR SLAMMING OS and puts the magazine down.

The front door opens and Alex, followed by Bobby come in, arguing.

ALEX

Stop calling me that! I'm not a nerd!

BOBBY

What do you want me to call you, a Geek?!

ALEX

Try Alex. I don't see what the big deal is.

BOBBY

That's the problem, you don't see anything wrong with any of this!

ALEX

What do you expect me to do, just sit around until my memory comes back?!

BOBBY

I don't know!

ALEX

Well, neither do I!!

MRS. COOPER

Boys, that's enough!

The boys stop arguing.

MRS. COOPER (CONT'D)

What's going on here?

ALEX

Bobby's pis...upset because I'm going to take Mr. Harris' class.

MRS. COOPER

(to Bobby)

Why?

BOBBY

Because the Alex I know, the one I've known since I was ten, doesn't know anything about Physics.

MRS. COOPER

I know, but I saw what he could do for myself. I can't explain it, but it happened.

BOBBY

I want the old Alex back!

ALEX

And you think I don't?

BOBBY

I'm not sure anymore. It's been a week since school started and nothing's changed, except now you're some kind of genius.

ALEX

Bobby--

BOBBY

I'm going home.

Bobby goes to the door and opens it.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

I'll see you at school.

Bobby goes out the door and OUT OF SCENE, closing the door behind him. Alex and Mrs. Cooper are stunned. Upset, Alex goes up the stairs and OUT OF SCENE. Mrs. Cooper sits down on the couch.

INT. COOPER HOUSE - KITCHEN - EVENING

Mrs. Cooper is preparing dinner. Two plates are on the counter. OS, the SOUND OF THE FRONT DOOR OPENING and then CLOSING causes her to look up.

MRS. COOPER

Eric, that you?

Eric comes into the kitchen from the living room. Smiles.

MR. COOPER

Dinner ready? I'm starved.

MRS. COOPER

In a few minutes.

He notices that there are two plates.

MR. COOPER

Two plates? Alex out for the evening?

MRS. COOPER

He's up in his room. He says he's not hungry.

MR. COOPER

Something happen?

MRS. COOPER

Well, to say it's been a bad day for him is an understatement.

MR. COOPER

Think it would help if I go up and talk to him?

MRS. COOPER

Would you? I can keep dinner warm.

MR. COOPER

Good, and set another place too.

INT. COOPER HOUSE - ALEX'S BEDROOM - AFTERNOON

Alex lays on the bed, staring up at the ceiling. There is a KNOCK on the DOOR.

ALEX

Come in.

The door opens and Mr. Cooper comes in and closes the door behind him.

MR. COOPER

(softly)

Hey...

ALEX

Hey.

MR. COOPER

Your mom tells me that you've had a rough day. What's up?

ALEX

Oh, Bobby's pissed off at me.

MR. COOPER

Why?

ALEX

He wants the old Alex back. I can't blame him, I do too, and he hates the idea of me joining the physics class, because he thinks it makes me a nerd. Why is this so hard?

With a sigh, Mr. Cooper comes over and sits down on the bed.

MR. COOPER

I'll have to admit, it's not the best situation, especially for you. Have you talked to Sandra about it?

Alex nods.

ALEX

She said to live in the present. Does it mean that I stop trying to remember what happened?

MR. COOPER

No, of course not, but sitting up here by yourself, brooding, won't help you figure it out any faster.

ALEX

I guess you're right about that.

MR. COOPER

Of course I am. Besides, your mother has dinner ready downstairs. Believe me, you'll think much better on a full stomach.

Alex smiles. Mr. Cooper stands up.

MR. COOPER (CONT'D)

Coming?

ALEX

Yeah.

Alex gets off the bed and the two of them head for the door. Mr. Cooper puts his arm over Alex's shoulder as the two of them go out the door.

EXT. HOUSE - EVENING

Outside of Alex's house. Parked across the street is Alex's jeep. Inside the jeep, watching the house is the hooded figure, face hidden in the shadows.

The light in Alex's bedroom goes off.

INT. PHYSICS CLASSROOM - AFTERNOON

Five STUDENTS, including Diana and MARK(17), a kind of a nerdish young man with thick glasses, sit at their desks. The board on the front, has a sheet over it.

The door opens up and Alex sheepishly enters. He sees Diana and slides into the seat next to her. Mark sits on the other side of her.

ALEX

(To Diana)

I didn't know you were in this class.

DIANA

Just started last week. What are you doing here?

ALEX

Long story.

MARK

Hey Alex.

Alex looks up at Mark, with no recognition.

ALEX  
 (noncommittal)  
 Hi.

MARK  
 It's me, Mark. Wow, you must really  
 have amnesia if you don't remember  
 me. We've lived down the street  
 from each other since kindergarten.

Alex looks closer.

ALEX  
 Four-eyed Ballenger?

MARK  
 Yeah. You would have to remember  
 that.

Diana snickers.

ALEX  
 Wow, you've really changed.

MARK  
 I grew up. It happens.

Mr. Harris comes into the classroom. All eyes turn to him.

MR. HARRIS  
 Good afternoon students.

He sits back on his desk, smiles.

MR. HARRIS (CONT'D)  
 Today, we're going to be discussing  
 Gravitational wave equations, but  
 first, I'd like to welcome the newest  
 student to our class, Alex Cooper.

Mr. Harris points to Alex, and the class turns. TONY PARNELL  
 (18) as well as the other students look shocked.

TONY  
 (to Mr. Harris)  
 You're kidding. Since when did we  
 let jocks in this class? Especially  
 ones that can't remember anything  
 he's done in the last ten years.

A MURMUR starts amongst the students. Alex looks embarrassed.  
 Mr. Harris gives a slight smile. Points to Tony.

MR. HARRIS  
 Tony, how did you get into this class?



TONY

I took a test, same as everyone else.

MR. HARRIS

That's right, you did.

Turns to Alex.

MR. HARRIS (CONT'D)

Alex could you come up here please?

Alex looks over at Diana, who smiles and nods encouragement. He looks over at Mark, who nods.

Alex gets up and goes up front. All eyes are on him.

At the back of the room, Bobby and Teri peek into the room through the open door. They duck out of sight as Mr. Harris goes over to the board and removes the covering, revealing several unfinished calculations.

MR. HARRIS (CONT'D)

I have three incomplete problems on thermodynamics up on the board. Could you finish them for me? Think of it as a test.

Alex nods and goes over to the board, picks up the marker and in a few moments, finishes the equations and puts down the marker and turns to the class.

MR. HARRIS (CONT'D)

Thank you Alex, they're all correct. You've passed the test. You can return to your seat.

The rest of the students are stunned into silence. Alex walks back to his seat. He sits down in his seat. Diana smiles at him. Mark and Alex fist bump.

Mr. Harris turns to Tony.

MR. HARRIS (CONT'D)

Are you satisfied Mr. Parnell?

PARNELL

Yes sir.

MR. HARRIS

Good. Now, would you all please open your books to page one forty six.

Mr. Harris looks over at Alex and gives him a wink, then goes over to the board and begins erasing the formulas that

Alex completed. The class opens their books. Teri and Bobby peek in again.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

After a moment of looking into the classroom, Teri and Bobby straighten up and move away from the door. Teri looks upset.

TERI

So, it's true. He's really changed. He's not the same Alex at all. He's forgotten about me, us.

BOBBY

Not fair Teri. It's not like he got beaten up and lost his memory on purpose. Just a little longer, and it'll be okay. You'll see.

TERI

It's like he's a totally different person now, one I don't know. Even if he gets his memory back, he won't be the same.

BOBBY

Teri, just give him time.

TERI

I'm tired of waiting. You saw what he did up there. Could Alex have done that three weeks ago?

BOBBY

No...

TERI

Then how do you explain it?

BOBBY

Well--

TERI

Don't start with that head injury making Alex some kind of math whiz thing you read off the internet again. That doesn't happen.

BOBBY

Sure it d...

Teri fixes him with an angry look.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

...or maybe not.

Teri looks back at the classroom.

TERI

Let's get out of here. Leave Alex  
to his new nerd friends.

BOBBY

Don't be mad Teri. He can't--

TERI

I'm not mad Bobby, I'm furious!

Teri stomps off. Bobby looks back at the classroom for a moment, then follows Teri.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - LATER

Late afternoon. Diana, Alex and mark walk down the steps towards the parking lot, talking amongst themselves.

MARK

(to Alex)

Man, you were amazing up there.

DIANA

I thought Tony's mouth was going to hit the floor. He's such a prima donna most the time anyway. I'm glad you put him in his place.

ALEX

It wasn't a big deal. I just did what Mr. Harris asked me to.

MARK

Yeah, but how'd you do it so fast?

Alex shrugs.

MARK (CONT'D)

Wish I could get hit in the head and be able to do what you do.

ALEX

Trust me, you don't.

The SOUND of a RINGING CELL PHONE is heard. Diana pulls her phone out and answers it.

DIANA

(into phone)

Hello... Hi dad... You are? Okay, I'll be right there.

She hangs up. Turns to Mark and Alex.

DIANA (CONT'D)

Looks like my Dad's waiting for me  
out front. See you tomorrow.

ALEX

Later...

MARK

Bye Diana...

Diana moves off and OUT OF SCENE. Mark and Alex continue walking.

MARK (CONT'D)

Want a ride home?

ALEX

Sure. Thanks.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL PARKING LOT - LATER

Almost empty, just a few cars in the lot. Alex and Mark walk towards Mark's car.

On the other side of the parking lot, a sedan starts up and pulls away from it's parking spot. Behind the wheel is the same hooded figure.

Alex and Mark are at Mark's car. They both turn and see the sedan heading right towards them, picking up speed.

MARK

He's sure in a hurry.

Mark goes back to opening the car. Alex is watching the car, getting concerned.

ALEX

Mark?

MARK

(Without looking)

What?

ALEX

(shouts)

Run!!

Mark looks up as the car is almost on them. The two of them take off. Mark jumps behind his car as the car zooms by, chasing Alex.

Alex ducks behind another car as the car moves past, turns around, and with a screeching of tires, heads back towards Alex.

Alex makes a dash for it, but the car follows, bearing down on him.

Right before the car hits him, Alex rolls away. The car screeches to a halt and backs up, making another run.

Alex gets up in time to dodge the car again, but he slams into a parked car, and is stunned. The car comes around again.

Mark looks over at Alex who is still stunned, trying to stand.

MARK

Alex, Look out!!

Alex looks up and sees the car coming towards him. There is a BLINDING FLASH of LIGHT, and the car careens away as if hit. The car takes off in the other direction and rapidly OUT OF SCENE.

Alex sits back down on the ground, totally spent and bleeding from a cut on his forehead.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL PARKING LOT - LATER

The Cooper's car drives up and stops. Mr. and Mrs. Cooper get out and make their way to a group of PEOPLE, POLICE OFFICERS, and EMT's. Police cars and ambulances are nearby.

In the background, Mark is talking to a police officer and another man, (DETECTIVE DAVIDSON (40s)).

The Coopers push through the crowd towards one of the ambulances. Alex sits in back of the open ambulance with EMT 1 putting a bandage on Alex's forehead. His parents come through the crowd, and rush over to him.

MRS. COOPER

Alex! Are you all right?

(to EMT)

Is he all right?

ALEX

I'm okay Mom.

EMT 1

He's a little shaken, a few scrapes and bruises, but nothing major. Best to get him home. I'll warn you, he's going to be sore tomorrow.

MR. COOPER

Alex, what happened here?

DETECTIVE DAVIDSON (O.C.)

Just the question I was going to ask.

Mr. and Mrs. Cooper turn towards the sound of the voice. Detective Davidson stands behind them. He comes over to Alex.

DETECTIVE DAVIDSON (CONT'D)

I'm Detective Davidson. I was speaking to your friend Mark over there about the incident, but I'd like to get your story, since, according to him, the car was aiming for you specifically. Any idea why?

ALEX

I don't know. The car just came at me. Is Mark okay?

DETECTIVE DAVIDSON

He wasn't hurt. Did you see the driver?

ALEX

No sir, I was too busy running to notice much of anything. It was a dark car, that's all I can tell you.

DETECTIVE DAVIDSON

It's all right, the other witness couldn't identify the driver either, said he was wearing a hoodie, but he did manage to film everything on his Cell phone and get the license number. We'll start there.

Detective Davidson reaches into his shirt pocket and produces a card. He hands it to Alex.

DETECTIVE DAVIDSON (CONT'D)

Well, I think that's about all for now. Alex, if you remember anything else, give me a call.

ALEX

Okay.

MR. COOPER

Detective, I don't know if this has something to do with what happened here, but Alex was severely beaten, and had his jeep stolen while he was out near Twenty-Nine Palms about a month ago...

DETECTIVE DAVIDSON

And you're wondering if there might be a connection. I certainly wouldn't rule it out. Thanks for the heads up.

(to Alex)

Alex, one more thing. Your friend mentioned something about a bright flash of light right before the car took off. Did you see it?

Alex nods.

ALEX

Yeah, like a camera flash, only much brighter.

DETECTIVE DAVIDSON

That's pretty much the same description he gave.

(to Mr. Cooper)

I'll call you if we find out anything more or if we need to talk to Alex again.

MR. COOPER

Thank you.

(to Alex)

Ready to go?

ALEX

More than.

Alex stands and begins to walk towards the Cooper's car, Mr. and Mrs. Cooper on either side of him.

INT. HOUSE, ALEX'S BEDROOM - LATER

Alex lays on the bed, reading a book. He sports a black eye. There is the SOUND of a DOORBELL RINGING OS, which catches his attention, and a few moments later, the SOUND of FOOTSTEPS coming up the stairs.

Alex sits up. There is a KNOCK on the DOOR.

ALEX

Come in.

The door opens and Bobby comes in, concerned.

BOBBY

I just heard... you okay?

ALEX

I'm fine...

Booby notices his eye.

BOBBY  
Wow, some shiner. Does it hurt much?

ALEX  
A little. How'd you find out so fast?

BOBBY  
Are you kidding? It's all over town.

ALEX  
Oh great. As if I didn't feel like a freak already.

Bobby sits on the bed next to Alex.

BOBBY  
What happened?

ALEX  
Hell if I know. One minute I'm walking to Mark's car, next thing I know, someone's trying to run me down in the parking lot.

BOBBY  
Scary. They know who did it?

ALEX  
No. I didn't see the driver. Neither did Mark.

BOBBY  
Mark? Do you mean four eye Ballenger?

ALEX  
Yeah. He was going to give me a ride home, and then all hell broke loose.

BOBBY  
Scary. You going to school tomorrow?

ALEX  
Mom wants to see how I feel in the morning. The EMT said I might be a little sore. So, we'll see.

EXT. POLICE STATION - ESTABLISHING SHOT - MORNING

Front of the building, with OFFICERS and CIVILIANS going in and out.



INT. DAVIDSON'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Small, cramped, a desk, top full of files. Large file cabinets behind the desk and windows looking out into the common area, which is a flurry of activity. Detective Davidson comes into his office from the outside, and over to his desk.

An OFFICER, carrying a file, comes in behind him.

OFFICER

Excuse me Detective Davidson, impound just brought in the car that tried to run down the Cooper kid.

DETECTIVE DAVIDSON

Where did they find it?

OFFICER

About four blocks from the school. It was reported stolen about an hour before the incident. You may want to take a look at it.

DETECTIVE DAVIDSON

Why?

OFFICER

CSI says there's something strange about it.

INT. COOPER HOUSE, ALEX'S BEDROOM - MORNING

Alex sleeps in his bed. There is a KNOCK on the DOOR and it opens. Mr. Cooper comes in.

MR. COOPER

Time to get up sport.

Alex awakes and painfully gets out of bed.

MR. COOPER (CONT'D)

How are you feeling?

ALEX

Sore, all over.

MR. COOPER

Thought you might be. You up to going to school?

ALEX

Honestly, I'd rather stay home, if mom doesn't mind. I can hardly move.

MR. COOPER

Kinda thought that'd be your answer.  
I'll let you mother know. You want  
to go back to bed?

ALEX

Maybe for a little while.

MR. COOPER

Rest up. Your mother will probably  
check on you in a little while to  
see if you're hungry. I'll see you  
when I get home.

ALEX

Okay dad.

Alex, painfully gets back into bed. Mr. Cooper shuts the  
door.

INT. COOPER HOUSE - KITCHEN - MOMENTS LATER

Mrs. Cooper is at the stove, making breakfast. Mr. Cooper  
comes in from the living room and over to her.

MRS. COOPER

You get Alex up?

MR. COOPER

I think he's going to stay home today.

MRS. COOPER

Sore?

Mr. Cooper nods.

MRS. COOPER (CONT'D)

Well, the paramedic did say he'd be  
probably would be. I'll give the  
school a call and let them know.  
Should I take a tray up to him?

MR. COOPER

Maybe later. Right now, I think he  
just wants to sleep. Me, on the  
other hand, am starving.

MRS. COOPER

Well, sit down, and drink your coffee.  
Breakfast will be ready in a second.

Mr. Cooper gives her a peck on the cheek and heads toward  
the table.

INT. IMPOUND YARD - LATER

A lot of cars in rows. Detective Davidson walks towards the car, accompanied by a CSI TECH (30s). Davidson looks at the car. Turns to the CSI Tech.

DETECTIVE DAVIDSON  
I don't see anything unusual.

CSI TECH  
Other side sir.

Both men walk around to the other side of the car.

ANGLE ON

Car. The rear passenger side door is badly burned, the paint peeled, the metal buckled, the window cracked.

BACK TO SCENE

Detective Davidson is totally surprised.

DETECTIVE DAVIDSON  
What in the hell...  
(to CSI Tech)  
Any idea what could have done this?

CSI TECH  
Not sure yet. I've never seen anything like it before. At first we thought it was caused by lightning. The boys did say they saw a flash of light.

DETECTIVE DAVIDSON  
Right...

CSI TECH  
Only problem is, lightning strong enough to do that much damage would have made a tremendous noise. The boys didn't mention anything about that, did they?

DETECTIVE DAVIDSON  
No, they didn't. Whatever hit this car probably scared the driver enough to make him, or her, take off.

CSI TECH  
That's what I thought.

DETECTIVE DAVIDSON  
How far have you gotten?

CSI TECH

We're just getting started on lifting prints, but I wanted to bring this to you attention first, since it's a bit out of the ordinary.

DETECTIVE DAVIDSON

Appreciate it. Let me know if you come up with anything more.

CSI TECH

There's one more thing. Impound brought in another vehicle this morning, supposedly abandoned.

DETECTIVE DAVIDSON

And...?

CSI TECH

The registration papers say it belongs to an Alex Cooper.

DETECTIVE DAVIDSON

The kid the car tried to run over?

The CSI Tech nods.

DETECTIVE DAVIDSON (CONT'D)

Interesting.

CSI TECH

Funny thing is, the licence plates don't match.

DETECTIVE DAVIDSON

Not a surprise. They probably got switched out I want that Jeep gone over with a fine tooth comb.

CSI TECH

Right away.

Detective Davidson goes his way while the CSI tech goes back to work.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL HALLWAY - LATER

Bobby walks down the hallway, on his way to class. Behind him is Diana, moving up fast to catch up. She comes up to him.

DIANA

You're Bobby, Right?

Bobby stops.

BOBBY

Yeah...

DIANA

I'm Diana, I'm a friend of Alex.

BOBBY

Oh yeah, from his physics class.

DIANA

I was wondering if you've seen him.  
He wasn't in first period?

TERI (O.C.)

Why do you want to know?

Teri comes into scene, looking stern.

DIANA

(to Teri)

I heard about what happened and--

TERI

And you thought you'd just check up  
on him. How sweet. Well, for your  
information, he's sore from  
yesterday, so he decided to stay  
home. So you can go and stick your  
nose in someone else's business now.

DIANA

What did I do to you?

TERI

Your kind took Alex away from his  
friends and turned him into some  
kind of super geek, like you.

DIANA

My kind?

BOBBY

(to Teri)

Hey Teri, that's not fair.

TERI

Shut up Bobby.

(to Diana)

You and your other nerd friends  
changed him into someone else. I  
don't recognize my Alex any more.

DIANA

He came to us.

(MORE)

DIANA (CONT'D)

We didn't change him, so don't blame me for it. If you--

(controlled)

I have to get to class.

Diana moves off down the hall, fuming. Bobby turns to Teri.

BOBBY

What was all that for?

TERI

You wouldn't understand.

Teri storms off.

BOBBY

That's for damn sure...

INT. DAVIDSON'S OFFICE - AFTERNOON

Davidson sits at his desk, going over reports. CSI Tech opens the door and comes into the office carrying a file. Davidson looks up.

CSI TECH

We've finished going over the Jeep.

DETECTIVE DAVIDSON

What did you find?

CSI TECH

Nothing inconsistent, except for several empty bottles of aspirin in the glove compartment. Oh, and we found the Jeep's original license plates under one of the seats.

DETECTIVE DAVIDSON

Fingerprints?

The CSI Tech goes through the folder for a moment.

CSI TECH

Alex Cooper's prints on the driver's side and two sets of unknowns that aren't in our database on the passenger side. Should we release the Jeep to the owner?

DETECTIVE DAVIDSON

Hold off on that for awhile. I'm going to talk to Alex and his family again.

(MORE)

DETECTIVE DAVIDSON (CONT'D)  
Maybe I can find out who those unknown  
fingerprints belong to while I'm at  
it.

CSI Tech puts the files on Davidson's desk.

CSI TECH  
Knock yourself out.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL HALLWAY - AFTERNOON

Outside of the Physics classroom. Bobby stands by the door as some of the students go in. Diana comes INTO VIEW. She looks at him curiously as she comes up to the classroom. He smiles weakly.

DIANA  
(guarded)  
What are you doing here?

BOBBY  
I wanted to say I'm sorry.

DIANA  
Why? You didn't do anything.

BOBBY  
I didn't stop Teri from going off on  
you.

DIANA  
I don't think you could have stopped  
her if you wanted to.

BOBBY  
Probably not, but it still wasn't  
fair.

DIANA  
What's her problem with me anyway?

BOBBY  
It's not just you, it's the whole  
amnesia stuff.

DIANA  
Again, how's that my fault?

BOBBY  
Teri's thinks that Alex doesn't want  
to remember, now that he has this  
new life.

DIANA  
I don't think amnesia works that way.

BOBBY  
I've told her that.

DIANA  
And?

BOBBY  
I don't think she's listening. She wants the old Alex back. Heck, so do I. I miss him.

DIANA  
Yeah, must be tough, but I'm sure that he'll get those memories back soon, and everything will be back to normal for him.

BOBBY  
I sure hope so.

DIANA  
Well, thanks for letting me know that it's not just me.

BOBBY  
Sure. Later.

Diana nods. Bobby continues down the hall while Diana goes into the classroom.

EXT. COOPER HOUSE - AFTERNOON

A dark car pulls up in front of the house and stops. Detective Davidson gets out of the car and makes his way to the front door.

INT. COOPER HOUSE - FOYER/LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Alex sits on the couch, studying. The BUZZ of the DOORBELL catches his attention. He puts down his book and is about to get up when Mrs. Cooper comes INTO SCENE from the kitchen and moves to the door.

MRS. COOPER  
You stay put. I'll get it.

Alex leans back onto the couch. Mrs. Cooper gets to the door and opens it, revealing Detective Davidson.

MRS. COOPER (CONT'D)  
Detective Davidson...



DETECTIVE DAVIDSON  
Good afternoon Mrs. Cooper. I was  
wondering if I could talk to Alex?

MRS. COOPER  
Certainly. Please, come in.

Detective Davidson comes in. Alex looks up at him.

DETECTIVE DAVIDSON  
(to Alex)  
I called your school. They said you  
weren't feeling well.

ALEX  
I was pretty sore this morning, so I  
decided to stay home.

DETECTIVE DAVIDSON  
After yesterday, I'm sure you were.

MRS. COOPER  
(to Detective Davidson)  
Won't you sit down, Detective?

DETECTIVE DAVIDSON  
Thank you.

Detective Davidson goes over to the couch and sits down.  
Mrs. Cooper sits in the chair nearby.

DETECTIVE DAVIDSON (CONT'D)  
I have two reasons for being here.  
One, I want to see if you can remember  
anything else that might be helpful.

ALEX  
No, not really. I told you everything  
I remembered.

DETECTIVE DAVIDSON  
This might sound like an odd question,  
but did you hear anything like thunder  
when you saw the bright light?

ALEX  
Thunder? No. I think I would have  
remembered something like that.  
Why?

DETECTIVE DAVIDSON  
We found the car that tried to run  
you over.

(MORE)

DETECTIVE DAVIDSON (CONT'D)

We didn't find much in it, but there was a large scorched area on one side. It looks like it was struck by lightning.

ALEX

Lightning? Did you ask Mark if he heard anything?

DETECTIVE DAVIDSON

Yes, but he didn't either. Well, I had to ask.

The DOORBELL RINGS, catching their attention. Mrs. Cooper gets up.

MRS. COOPER

Excuse me.

Mrs. Cooper goes to the door and opens it. Diana stands there, backpack over her shoulder.

ALEX

(to Detective Davidson)

I'm sorry I can't be of any more help.

MRS. COOPER

Hello...

DIANA

Hi, I'm Diana. Is Alex home? I brought him his homework.

Alex looks over.

ALEX

Diana...? It's okay mom, I asked her over.

MRS. COOPER

Well then, come in.

Diana comes in and sees Detective Davidson.

DIANA

Oh, I'm sorry. I didn't know you had company.

ALEX

This is Detective Davidson. He was just asking me more questions about yesterday.

(MORE)

ALEX (CONT'D)  
(to Detective Davidson)  
Diana was there too. Maybe she saw something.

DETECTIVE DAVIDSON  
(to Diana)  
Did you?

Diana comes over and sits next to Alex.

DIANA  
(to Detective Davidson)  
Not anything that would help. The three of us had just gotten out of our Physics class and were going to the parking lot, then my dad called and told me he was waiting for me out front, so we split up. I didn't see anything until after it was over. Any idea who it was?

DETECTIVE DAVIDSON  
Maybe, but that's the second reason I'm here. It's about your jeep, Alex. We found it.

ALEX  
My jeep?

Detective Davidson nods.

MR. COOPER (O.S.)  
Where did you find it?

EXT. IMPOUND YARD - AFTERNOON

Late afternoon. Mr. Cooper and Detective Davidson walk through a maze of vehicles in a parking lot.

DETECTIVE DAVIDSON  
About six blocks from the school. The car that tried to run down your son was stolen about a block away.  
(beat)  
Mr. Cooper, I can't rule out that the person that tried to kill Alex out in the desert is the same one that tried to kill him yesterday.

MR. COOPER  
I was thinking the same thing.

DETECTIVE DAVIDSON

Good, then you'll understand when I ask you to keep close watch on Alex's movements. Whoever this person is, he, or she, is capable of anything.

The two men come up to the Jeep and stop.

DETECTIVE DAVIDSON (CONT'D)

Here we are.

Mr. Cooper walks around the Jeep, looking it over.

MR. COOPER

Doesn't appear to be damaged. Did you find anything in it?

DETECTIVE DAVIDSON

Three sets of fingerprints, your son's and two others we couldn't identify.

MR. COOPER

They probably belong to his friends Bobby and Teri.

DETECTIVE DAVIDSON

Thought it might be something like that. We also found several empty bottles of aspirin, but they'd been wiped. Other than that, the car was clean. CSI put back the original license plates, so she's all set to go. Registration and keys are in the glove box.

MR. COOPER

Thank you.

DETECTIVE DAVIDSON

You will call me if you see or hear anything suspicious?

Mr. Cooper gets into the car.

MR. COOPER

Definitely.

EXT. COOPER HOUSE - LATER

Late in the afternoon. The jeep drives down the street and into the Cooper driveway. The front door of the house opens up and Alex comes out and over to the Jeep. Mr. Cooper gets out.

ALEX  
Wow, this is cool. Can I drive it?

MR. COOPER  
You don't know how to drive.

ALEX  
I have a license.

MR. COOPER  
That was before the amnesia.

ALEX  
But dad...

MR. COOPER  
Wait a minute, hear me out. Since tomorrow's Saturday, here's what I'll do. I'll download the driver's manual and let you go over it tonight. I'll test you on it tomorrow morning and I'll start giving you driving lessons. Deal?

ALEX  
Deal.

Mrs. Cooper comes out of the house during Mr. Cooper's exchange. Watches, amused.

MRS. COOPER  
If you two are finished planning your Saturday, dinner's ready.

ALEX  
Okay mom.

MR. COOPER  
Be right there.

Mrs. Cooper goes back inside. Mr. Cooper comes over to Alex, but his arm over his shoulder and the two of them go to the front door.

A short ways down the street, half hiding behind a tree, the hooded figure watches as Mr. Cooper and Alex enter the house.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. PARKING LOT - MORNING

The parking lot is empty, except for the jeep.

MR. COOPER (O.C.)  
Okay, this is the gas pedal and this  
is the brake. Parking brake is here.

INT. JEEP - CONTINUOUS

Alex is in the driver's seat, watching his dad go over everything with some amusement. Mr. Cooper concentrates on the gears.

MR. COOPER  
P is for park, N is for neutral, R  
is for reverse, and D is for--

ALEX  
Drive!

With that, Alex starts the engine, puts the car into gear and steps on the gas.

INTERCUT

EXT. PARKING LOT - CONTINUOUS

The Jeep takes off down the parking lot, going fast.

MR. COOPER (O.C.)  
Hey there lead foot, slow it down.

The Jeep slows.

INT. JEEP - CONTINUOUS

Alex looks at his father, a little amused.

ALEX  
How was that?

MR. COOPER  
Very funny Alex. Now, let's try it  
my way.

ALEX  
Spoilsport.

MR. COOPER  
I'm your father, it's my job. Okay,  
lesson one, parking.

INT. COOPER HOUSE - KITCHEN - LATER

Mrs. Cooper sits at the counter, working on her laptop, sipping from a cup of coffee. There is the SOUND of THE FRONT DOOR OPENING. Mrs. Cooper looks up

MR. COOPER (O.S.)

We're back.

MRS. COOPER

In the kitchen.

SOUND of DOOR CLOSING is heard. Alex comes into the kitchen, followed by Mr. Cooper. Alex looks delighted.

MRS. COOPER (CONT'D)

You're back early. How'd it go?

MR. COOPER

Well, whatever other memories Alex lost, how to drive was not one of them. Aced the test, drove like a champ. I think he's all set.

(to Alex)

Okay son you're free to drive.

ALEX

Thanks dad.

MR. COOPER

Don't start thanking me yet. We still need to have a talk. Your mother and I still have concerns.

ALEX

One of them being the person who stole the jeep and tried to kill me.

MR. COOPER

Exactly. The fact that your jeep was found near here means that whoever it was may still be around.

ALEX

I know that.

MR. COOPER

He's tried three times now. He may try again.

ALEX

Yeah, but I can't hide forever either.

MR. COOPER

And we don't want you to, but frankly, your mother and I are worried about your safety, and now with you having the jeep back...

ALEX

Mom, Dad, I understand, I really do. Honestly, I'm more than little scared myself. I don't plan on doing anything reckless.

MRS. COOPER

All we're asking is for the time being, is for you to stay close to home. You father promised Detective Davidson he'd keep an eye on you.

MR. HARRIS

How 'bout this. For now, just use the jeep to drive to and from school, unless your mother or I are with you.

Alex thinks for a few moments.

ALEX

Well, I don't like it, but I guess it makes sense.

MRS. COOPER

And you'll be careful?

ALEX

Mom... I'll be careful, I promise.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL PARKING LOT - MORNING

Monday morning. Alex's jeep pulls into the parking lot. Bobby, meanwhile, gets out of his car, backpack in hand. He looks over just in time to see Alex pull into a parking space a few cars down.

Alex gets out of the jeep with his backpack. Bobby catches sight of him.

BOBBY

(calls out)

Hey Alex!

Alex turns, as Bobby hurries to where the jeep is.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

Your jeep, you got it back. This is so cool. Where'd they find it?

ALEX

A few blocks away from here.



BOBBY  
(surprised)  
Seriously?

Alex nods.

BOBBY (CONT'D)  
I'm not sure that's a good thing.

ALEX  
Same here.

BOBBY  
Could mean that the guy that beat  
you up in the desert might be the  
same one who tried to run you down.

ALEX  
May not be a guy.

BOBBY  
You got beaten up by a girl? Really?

ALEX  
Don't know, but maybe.

BOBBY  
Either way, you're screwed.

ALEX  
Thanks?

BOBBY  
I can't believe your parents are  
letting you out of the house.

ALEX  
Well, I only get to drive to and  
from school. The detective wants my  
dad to keep an eye on me, so I'm  
basically grounded for the time being.

BOBBY  
That sucks.

The RING of the SCHOOL BELL sounds. Both boys look in the  
direction of the school

ALEX  
We better get to class.

The two begin walking towards the entrance of the school.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL HALLWAY - LATER

Outside of the physics class. Alex is on his way towards the class.

TERI (O.C.)

Alex, wait up.

Alex stops and turns to as Teri comes up to him.

TERI (CONT'D)

I need to talk to you.

ALEX

I'm on my way to class.

TERI

This will just take a minute. I want to apologize for the way I've been acting since you got back. It's just that I miss you so much and I hate the idea that you can't remember me.

ALEX

I'm sorry, I've tried to, but...

TERI

It's okay, I know you can't help what happened to you. I'm sorry that it took me so long to figure that out.

(beat)

There's so much more that I want to say, and I know you have to get to class. Could we meet later and just talk, maybe at the lake the way we used to? Please...

ALEX

I can't, I'm sorry. I mean, I'd like to, but I can't.

TERI

The lake's only a mile away. Just for a little while?

ALEX

I'm not allowed to.

TERI

Not allowed? Why not?

ALEX

Well, I'm sorta grounded, at least until the police find the person that tried to kill me. They think it's the same one that attacked me in the desert.

TERI

Are they sure?

ALEX

Yeah, pretty much. Since my jeep was found near the school, they're pretty sure the person that stole it is still around. Mom and Dad are only letting me drive from school to home right now. It really sucks, but I guess the police are right about one thing. If whoever it is has already tried three times, why not four. I really got to get to class. We can talk later, okay?

TERI

(disappointed)  
Sure, no problem.

ALEX

Thanks.

Alex heads to the class. Teri turns and goes down the hallway, still disappointed.

INT. PHYSICS CLASSROOM - MOMENTS LATER

The class has gathered and are in their seats, Tony, Diana and Mark among them. On the board are several formulas. Diana and Mark stare up at them.

MARK

You know what they mean?

DIANA

Not a clue.

MARK

Where's Alex? I bet he'd know.

DIANA

Haven't seen him since lunch.

Alex sneaks in the back and slides into a seat next to Diana.

ALEX

Sorry I'm late. Ran into Teri.

DIANA  
What did she want?

ALEX  
To talk to me, I guess.

DIANA  
What about?

MARK  
Never mind that now, what do the  
formulas on the board mean?

He looks up at the board.

ALEX  
Oh, looks like Celestial Mechanics.

MARK  
How do you do that?

Alex shrugs. Mr. Harris comes into the classroom and moves to the front.

MR. HARRIS  
Good afternoon class. Sorry I'm  
late.

ALEX  
(whispers to Diana)  
I'll fill you in about Teri later.

Diana nods. Mr. Harris looks over at Alex.

MR. HARRIS  
I trust you're feeling better today,  
Mr. Cooper.

ALEX  
Yes sir.

MR. HARRIS  
And are you ready to get back to  
work?

Alex nods.

MR. HARRIS (CONT'D)  
Excellent. In the future, please  
try not to get yourself killed while  
you're part of my class. Is that  
understood?

The class CHUCKLES. Alex is amused.

ALEX  
I'll do my best.

MR. HARRIS  
I appreciate that.  
(to the rest of the  
class)  
All right class, on to the lesson at  
hand. Who can tell me what the  
formulas on the board represent?

Mark's hand goes up. Mr. Harris looks over at him.

MR. HARRIS (CONT'D)  
Mr. Ballenger?

MARK  
Celestial Mechanics?

MR. HARRIS  
Correct. Very good Mr. Ballenger.  
You have been paying attention.

Diana and Alex give Mark a mock withering look. Mark gives them an embarrassed smile.

MR. HARRIS (CONT'D)  
Today we are going to be taking a  
look at examples of Celestial  
Mechanics equations. On the board  
are formulas having to do with  
gravitational fields and planetary  
movements, expanding on theories  
proposed by Issac Newton....

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL PARKING LOT - LATER

Teri walks across the parking lot towards her car. Her  
CELLPHONE BEEPS and she pulls it out and answers it. She  
reads it, and then types an answer, looking none too pleased.

After a moment or two, she puts her phone away, and shakes  
her head, exasperated.

TERI (CONT'D)  
Men...

She continues to her car.

EXT. HALLWAY - LATER

Near Alex's locker. Alex and Diana walk towards it.

DIANA  
Then what did she say?

ALEX

Something about meeting her at the lake, She says we used to talk there.

DIANA

What lake?

ALEX

No idea.

They get to Alex's locker and he opens it.

DIANA

You going to do it?

ALEX

Haven't decided. If I do, she's going to want to talk about things I don't remember. If I don't, she goes back to hating me. Either way, it sucks.

DIANA

Yeah, I guess it does.

ALEX

Besides, things are different now.

DIANA

How?

Impulsively, Alex leans over and kisses Diana and she is surprised and pulls away. Alex is embarrassed.

DIANA (CONT'D)

Oh, that.

ALEX

Sorry... I just wanted... sorry.

DIANA

It's fine... It's fine, really.

ALEX

Diana, I...

DIANA

You know, I better go. My dad will be worried if I don't get home on time.

ALEX

Sure... I'll see you tomorrow.

DIANA

Okay...

With that, Diana turns and walks down the hall, away from Alex. Unseen by Alex, Diana smiles.

Alex watches her go. He slams the locker shut and rests his head against it.

ALEX

Way to go Alex.

EXT. COOPER HOUSE - LATER

Late afternoon. Alex drives up in his jeep and parks in the driveway. He gets out and heads towards the door, backpack over his arm.

INT. COOPER HOUSE - KITCHEN - MOMENTS LATER

Mrs. Cooper cooks in the kitchen. Mr. Cooper sits at the counter, reading through the mail.

There is the OS slam of the front door, which catches Mrs. Cooper's attention.

MRS. COOPER

(calls out)

Alex, is that you?

ALEX (O.S.)

Yeah Mom.

Alex appears at the door to the kitchen, but without his backpack. Mr. Cooper looks up.

MR. COOPER

How was school?

ALEX

Okay.

(to Mrs. Cooper)

When's dinner?

MRS. COOPER

About ten minutes.

ALEX

(to Mr. Cooper)

Dad, can I talk to you?

MR. COOPER

Sure, what's up?

ALEX

Living room....

MRS. COOPER

Oh, I see one of those talks coming on. I'll call you when dinner's ready.

ALEX

Thanks mom.

Alex moves off. Mr. Cooper looks over to Mrs. Cooper. She smiles at Mr. Cooper.

MRS. COOPER

Have fun.

He gives her a playful scowl and continues to the living room.

INT. COOPER HOUSE - FOYER/LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Mr. Cooper comes into the living room. Alex sits on the couch, pensive. Curious, Mr. Cooper goes over and sits on the couch.

MR. COOPER

Okay sport, what's going on?

ALEX

I could use your advice.

MR. COOPER

What seems to be the problem?

ALEX

Teri talked to me today?

MR. COOPER

And...?

ALEX

She said she was sorry about the things she said to me.

MR. COOPER

Isn't that what you want? You two have a lot of history together.

ALEX

That's just it, I don't know anymore. When we talked, it was, I don't know, like she was a stranger.



MR. COOPER

Sandra did say it would be like that.

ALEX

I know, but Teri, it's like she was pushing me. She wanted me to go up to the lake with her, so we could talk. I wouldn't go, It just didn't feel right to me.

MR. COOPER

Because you've changed.

ALEX

Yeah.

MR. COOPER

I don't know what to tell you, except that you have to do what feels right for you, not because it was the way you were before, but right for you now.

ALEX

I hoped you'd say something like that, because there's one more thing.

MR. COOPER

And that is?

ALEX

I kissed Diana...

MR. COOPER

Any particular reason?

ALEX

I wanted to.

MR. COOPER

And what did she say when you kissed her?

ALEX

She said it was nice.

MR. COOPER

Well, that's a step in the right direction. Listen Alex, you can't sit around and hope you'll remember. Sandra said you have to live in the present and I agree with her.

ALEX

Yeah, I know.

MR. COOPER  
Question. Do you like her?

Alex nods.

MR. COOPER (CONT'D)  
Does she like you?

ALEX  
I think so... maybe... I'm not sure.

MR. COOPER  
Then I think the best thing to do is  
to ask her.

MRS. COOPER (O.S.)  
Ask who?

Both Alex and turn at Mrs. Cooper's voice.

MR. COOPER  
Alex is having girl problems.

MRS. COOPER  
Well, just tell Diana that you like  
her.

ALEX  
How'd you know it was Diana?

MRS. COOPER  
Mother's intuition. Besides, I've  
seen the way she looks at you, and  
the way you look at her. C'mon you  
two, dinner's ready.

Mrs. Cooper retreats back to the kitchen. Mr. Cooper turns  
to Alex.

ALEX  
Do you think she's right?

MR. COOPER  
I never argue against a Mother's  
intuition. Alex, one last thing.  
You've changed, you've grown. You're  
not the same person you were when  
you came back from the hospital.  
Even if you were to get all your  
memories back today, you wouldn't be  
like you were before you lost them.  
You have to be who you are now. Do  
you understand what I'm saying?

ALEX

I think so.

MR. COOPER

Good. Let's get some dinner.

They get off the couch and move towards the dining room.

EXT. COOPER HOUSE - NIGHT

Late. All the lights are off in the house. Alex's car is parked in the driveway.

The hooded figure walks up to the front of Alex's jeep. He pulls an envelope out of his pocket and places it underneath the windshield wiper. He walks away from the jeep and into the darkness.

ON ENVELOPE

Alex's name is scrawled on the front.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. COOPER HOUSE - MORNING

ON ENVELOPE

Early morning. Alex's hand comes INTO SCENE and take the envelope from under the wiper.

BACK TO SCENE

Alex looks at the front of the envelope, then opens it and pulls the sheet of paper out. He reads it, a surprised look on his face.

DIANA (V.O.)

If you want to know what happened to you, go to...

INT. HIGH SCHOOL HALLWAY - LATER

At Alex's locker. Diana reads the paper as Alex looks on. Students wander around, on their way to class.

DIANA

Three four point three six zero two seven seven by negative one one six point four six nine eight five one.

She looks up at Alex. Hands him back the note.

DIANA (CONT'D)

What are those?

ALEX

GPS co-ordinates. I checked them out on my phone. They're a place in the desert called Castillo De Luz. It's not far from where I was found. It could be the answer to why I can't remember.

DIANA

It might be a trap. The person who tried to run you over could be trying to lure you out to the middle of nowhere to finish the job. Who else would write this?

ALEX

I don't know, but I have to find out.

DIANA

Tell me you're not seriously thinking of going out there?

Alex doesn't answer. Diana is surprised.

DIANA (CONT'D)

You are, aren't you? Alex, it's too dangerous. You could get hurt or killed. You have to promise me you won't go. Please.

ALEX

What if this is my last chance?

The conversation has started to draw attention from the other students, including Bobby, who works his way to the front.

DIANA

Last chance for what? What do you think will happen when you get there? Is whoever left the note going to give you back your memories? Is that worth dying for?

She looks over and sees Bobby.

DIANA (CONT'D)

(to Bobby)

Bobby, will you tell Alex he's being an idiot. I don't seem to be getting through to him.

Bobby is a bit taken aback. Diana storms out and down the hall, leaving a shocked Alex.

The students begin to snicker amongst themselves. Bobby looks around.

BOBBY  
(to the crowd)  
Nothing left to see here.

The students begin to scatter. Bobby goes over to Alex.

BOBBY (CONT'D)  
Hey man, what was that all about?

Alex hands Bobby the notes. He reads it for a few moments and looks shocked.

BOBBY (CONT'D)  
Holy Shit...

INT. COOPER HOUSE - ALEX'S BEDROOM - EVENING

Alex sits at his desk, writing on a piece of paper. There is a KNOCK on the DOOR.

MR. COOPER (O.S.)  
Alex?

Alex looks up, hurriedly opens the desk drawer and shoves the note into it.

ALEX  
Yeah dad?

MR. COOPER (O.S.)  
Someone here to see you.

ALEX  
Be right down.

Alex gets up from the desk and goes over to the door.

INT. COOPER HOUSE - FOYER/LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Mr Cooper comes down the stairs and into the foyer. Diana stands in the foyer, looking nervous. Mr. Cooper looks at her and smiles.

MR. COOPER  
He'll be right down.

DIANA  
Thank you.

Alex comes to the top of the stairs, and looks down.

ALEX

Hey...

Alex comes down the stairs.

DIANA

Hi. Can I talk to you?

MR. COOPER

I'll leave you two alone.

ALEX

Thanks dad.

Mr. Cooper goes to the kitchen and OUT OF SCENE. Alex watches him go and then turns his attention to Diana.

ALEX (CONT'D)

(whispering)

You here to talk me out of going?

DIANA

(whispering)

No. I wanted to apologize. I know how much you want to know what happened. I shouldn't have jumped on you like that. I still think it's dangerous, and I don't want you to go, but it's your decision, not mine.

ALEX

Thank you.

DIANA

Well, that's all I wanted to say, so I better get home.

Diana walks to the door and opens it. She goes part way out and turns.

DIANA (CONT'D)

Good night Alex. See you Monday.

ALEX

Good night Diana.

Impulsively, Diana comes over and kisses him. She breaks away and goes out the door. Alex closes the door, a self-satisfied look on his face.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. COOPER HOUSE - ALEX'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Late. Alex sits on his bed in the dark. Next to him is a backpack. He picks up the backpack, goes to his desk and pulls out the paper from the drawer and puts it on the desk, then goes to his door quietly, and slowly opens it.

INT. COOPER HOUSE - FOYER/LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

In the dim light, Alex creeps down the stairs and over to the door. He slowly opens it and goes outside, shutting the door behind him.

INT. JEEP - MOMENTS LATER

The door to the jeep opens and Alex slides into his seat, puts the key into the ignition. The passenger door opens, startling Alex, but it's Diana who slips into the passenger seat.

ALEX

Diana?

(whispering)

What are you doing here?

DIANA

(whispering)

Coming with you.

ALEX

No way.

DIANA

Just try and stop me.

ALEX

Get out of the car Diana. I'm doing this by myself.

DIANA

Sorry, you don't have a choice.

ALEX

What's your dad going to say when you don't come home tonight?

DIANA

He's in Toronto. Won't be back until Tuesday. Alex, if you don't take me with you, I'm going march right up to your front door and ring the bell.

ALEX

You would, wouldn't you?

She smiles at him, like she's won.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Okay, you can come. I guess four eyes are better than two in case something goes wrong.

Alex starts the engine.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Anyone ever told you that you're one of the most stubborn people they've ever met?

DIANA

(smiles)

All the time.

EXT. COOPER HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

The car backs out of the driveway and drives away.

EXT. DESERT - MORNING

A little after dawn. Alex's jeep drives along a path. In front of them looms a large mountain (Castillo De Luz), that sits alone in the flatness of the desert.

Alex's jeep comes to a stop near the base of the mountain. The jeep's doors open.

ON JEEP

Alex gets out of the jeep, looking at his phone. Diana gets out of the passenger's side and looks up at the mountain.

DIANA

You sure that this is the place?

ALEX

It matches the co-ordinates, so I guess it is.

DIANA

Know what you're looking for?

ALEX

Not a clue. I figured I'd know when I got here.

Diana comes around to the front of the jeep. Alex joins her.



DIANA  
I guess we should explore while we're here.

ALEX  
Sounds good. Something's got to be around somewhere.

DIANA  
Or someone.

ALEX  
Yeah, that too.

The two of them set out towards the mountain.

EXT. DESERT - LATER

At the side of the mountain. Alex and Diana have been walking awhile and Diana is tired, lagging behind Alex. They come to an outcropping of rock. Diana stops.

DIANA  
Alex, could we stop a minute?

Alex stops and turns.

DIANA (CONT'D)  
I need to catch my breath.

ALEX  
Sure. I've been pushing us pretty hard, haven't I?

DIANA  
Well, maybe a little.

Diana points to a shady area.

DIANA (CONT'D)  
I'm going to stand over in the shade for a few minutes.

ALEX  
Okay. I'll look around a little.

Diana goes over to the shady area and stands there. Alex moves a little ways away and looks around. She looks down at her feet and sees -

ANGLE ON

The sandy ground. There are a lot of footprints in the sand. None of them are Diana's.

BACK TO SCENE

Diana looks at them curiously.

DIANA  
(calls out)  
Alex?

Alex hears her and turns.

ALEX  
Yeah?

DIANA  
I think I found something.

Alex moves over to Diana.

ALEX  
What?

He get to where Diana is standing. Diana points down.

DIANA  
Footprints, and a lot of them. They  
look like they lead over to that  
cliff.

Diana goes over to the cliff and looks up at it.

ALEX  
They might belong to other hikers  
trying to get out of the sun.

DIANA  
Yeah, you're probably right.

He turns to go back to looking around. She leans on the cliff, and a door-shaped opening swings inward next to her right where the footprints end. Startled, she jumps back.

DIANA (CONT'D)  
Alex!

Alex turns around quickly, sees the opening. He looks up at Diana.

ALEX  
What did you do?

DIANA  
I just leaned against the wall and  
it opened.

Alex comes over and examines it, looking inside and running his fingers over the opening.

ALEX  
Looks like a tunnel.  
(to Diana)  
Let's see where it goes.

DIANA  
No. I don't like it Alex. What if it's part of a trap? Let's go home, please.

ALEX  
We've come this far, I'm not gonna chicken out now. I'm going in. You can wait out here if you want.

DIANA  
Alex Cooper, there's no way you're leaving me out here by myself.

Alex smiles.

DIANA (CONT'D)  
I know I'm going to regret this.

Alex goes into the tunnel and Diana follows.

INT. TUNNEL - CONTINUOUS

The tunnel is rough-looking but definitely man-made. There are small lights embedded in the ceiling. Alex and Diana come into the tunnel and walk down. After a few moments, the door closes behind them. They both turn around. Lights in the ceiling begin to glow.

DIANA  
Maybe I should have stayed outside.

ALEX  
Well, no going back now.

Looks around.

ALEX (CONT'D)  
At least we're not in the dark.  
Let's go see what's at the end of the tunnel.

DIANA  
Right behind you...

The pair start walking down the tunnel.

INT. FACILITY HALLWAY - LATER

Brightly lit, white walls, very hospital like. Doors come off the hallway and there is another at the end.

The door at the end opens up and Alex and Diana step into the hallway. Both of them look around in wonder.

ALEX

What the hell is this place?

DIANA

Looks like some kind of hospital.

ALEX

A hospital, in the middle of a mountain? Really?

Diana shrugs.

ALEX (CONT'D)

If it is, there should be doctors, or nurses somewhere around here.

DIANA

Maybe.

Alex is looking around, a puzzled look on his face. Diana notices.

DIANA (CONT'D)

Alex?

His concentration broken, he looks over at Diana.

DIANA (CONT'D)

You okay?

ALEX

Yeah. It's just that...

DIANA

What?

ALEX

I've been here before.

INT. FACILITY HALLWAY OUTSIDE SUBJECT ROOM - LATER

Another hallway, white and sterile. There is a door to another room. A small plaque on it states simply "SUBJECT - ALEX COOPER."

Alex and Diana come around the corner and into the hallway, talking.

Diana is looking around, while Alex is looking straight ahead.

ALEX

Yes, I know it sounds crazy, but  
this place seems familiar.

DIANA

I'll bet it just looks like someplace  
you've been before. You...

She sees the plaque on the door and she stops, staring at  
it, in shock. Alex doesn't notice it, and keeps moving.

DIANA (CONT'D)

Alex...?

Alex stops and turns.

ALEX

What is it?

DIANA

You might want to see this.

Alex comes over. Diana points to the plaque.

ALEX

(shocked)  
What the...

DIANA

I guess you were right. What should  
we do?

ALEX

Well, it has my name on it, so I  
guess we go in.

Alex turns the knob on the door, and the door opens.

INT. SUBJECT ROOM - CONTINUOUS

A large room, divided into section. A bedroom, living room,  
small dining room, all together. Comfortably furnished  
although a little clinical. Fluorescent lighting overhead,  
cameras in the corners, and an intercom speaker.

Alex and Diana come into the room, and look around. Alex  
looks perplexed.

DIANA

You been here before?

ALEX

I don't know, I mean it does look familiar, but I'm not sure.

FIGURE (V.O.)

(over intercom)

You mean you don't recognize your home?

Alex and Diana are startled, and look up to the source of the sound. See that the camera's light is on.

ALEX

What do you mean, home?

FIGURE (V.O.)

(over intercom)

Exactly what I said. That is why you came, isn't it, to find out the truth? You probably have a million questions.

ALEX

Who are you? Show yourself!

FIGURE (V.O.)

(over intercom)

Soon. All you have to do is find me. Oh, and bring your little nerd friend with you. Out the door and to your right. I'll let you know when you're getting close.

DIANA

He's playing with us.

ALEX

I guess at this point we play along.

FIGURE (V.O.)

(over intercom)

I'm waiting...

DIANA

(to Alex, whispers)

I don't like this.

ALEX

(whispers)

I don't see where we have a choice. Stay close to me.

Diana nods. They move to the door and out into the Hallway.

INT. FACILITY HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Diana and Alex move down the hallway. They notice the cameras watching them, moving to follow their movements.

FIGURE (V.O.)  
(over intercom)  
You're cold...

ALEX  
(calls out)  
Not in the mood for stupid games.

FIGURE (V.O.)  
(over intercom)  
My game, my rules, Alex Cooper. By the way, you're getting a little warmer.

Diana is nervous, and grabs Alex's arm.

DIANA  
(whispers)  
Don't make him mad.

ALEX  
He just wants to shake us up.

DIANA  
It's working.

INT. FACILITY HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Another hallway. Alex and Diana move down it. Ahead is an elevator.

FIGURE (V.O.)  
(over intercom)  
You're getting warmer.... warmer...

They stop in front of the elevator.

FIGURE (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
(over intercom)  
Hot!

Alex looks up to the camera.

ALEX  
(to camera)  
I take it we're supposed to get in?

FIGURE (V.O.)  
(over intercom)  
That's the idea.

The elevator doors open up.

ALEX

What if we refuse? What if we just  
decide to walk out of here?

FIGURE (V.O.)

(over intercom)

And miss having all your questions  
finally answered? Besides, I've  
sealed all the exits. You couldn't  
leave even if you wanted to.

Alex turns to Diana.

ALEX

I'm sorry. I shouldn't have gotten  
you mixed up in this.

DIANA

I didn't give you a choice, remember?

She kisses him. After a moment, they break apart.

ALEX

What was that for?

DIANA

Luck.

The go into the elevator. The door closes.

INT. FACILITY SECURITY - MOMENTS LATER

The security area is a two walled niche in a larger storage  
area. The door to the elevator is against one of the walls.

A bank of video screens is attached to the adjacent wall,  
and a monitoring station, like a large desk, is in front of  
the screens, complete with a computer screen and wireless  
keyboard. No one mans them.

The elevator doors open up, Alex and Diana step out, looking  
around. Alex notices the screens.

DIANA

Nobody's here.

ALEX

Looks like he's still jerking us  
around.

FIGURE (V.O.)

(Over intercom)

So glad you could join me, Alex.



ALEX

Not like I had a choice. You promised me answers.

FIGURE (V.O.)

(over intercom)

So I did. And I'll give them to you, for a price.

DIANA

What price?

FIGURE (V.O.)

(over intercom)

Now that's a good question, little nerd. What I want is what Alex stole from me.

ALEX

Stole from you? How could I steal from you? I don't even know who you are.

FIGURE

But I know you, better than you know yourself.

ALEX

Come out and face me!

The figure comes from around the corner, into the security facility and INTO VIEW, his hoodie still covering his face. He pulls back the hoodie to reveal his face, a duplicate of Alex's but pale and tired-looking, his hair dull.

FIGURE

Here I am.

Alex and Diana are in shock.

ALEX

What the hell!

DIANA

Alex, it's you.

The Figure walks in their direction stopping about six feet away from Alex.

FIGURE

(to Diana)

Very good.

(to Alex)

You want to know where the last ten years of your memory are...?

The Figure taps his head.

FIGURE (CONT'D)

They're all right here. While the Watchers were busy teaching you--

ALEX

Watchers?

FIGURE

The ones who built all this. While you lived here and they filled your head with math and physics, I was created to take your place, until it was time to switch us back.

ALEX

You're a robot?

FIGURE

(Dryly)

I'm so much more than that. I played my part for those ten years, but I decided that I didn't want to be switched back, even before they called me to return.

ALEX

So you tried to kill me?

FIGURE

I thought that taking you from this place and leaving you bleeding in the desert would have been enough, but no, you had to survive. I tried two more times, but you still managed to stay alive. You're either hard to kill, or really lucky.

From the pocket of his hoodie, he pulls out a gun. Startled, Alex steps back and pushes Diana behind him.

FIGURE (CONT'D)

But your luck just ran out.

ALEX

Why are you doing this? I haven't done anything to you.

FIGURE

You really don't get it do you? Killing you is the only way that I can go back to my life, the life you took from me.

Figure starts moving forward, Alex backs up, still keeping Diana behind him, until they are up against the desk.

ALEX

I had nothing to do with that.

FIGURE

I know, the watchers played both of us, but if you die, they'll have to put me back where I belong, with my family.

ALEX

(sharp)

They're my family!

FIGURE

(angry)

They're mine! I want them back, I want all of it back!

TERI (O.S.)

Oh, just kill them and get it over with!

All eyes turn as Teri appears from around the corner and walks over to Figure.

Alex and Diana are stunned.

ALEX

Teri?

TERI

Don't look so surprised Alex. Who do you think's been hiding him for the last couple months?

DIANA

You knew all the time?

TERI

For a smart girl, it takes you awhile to catch on. My Alex told me everything before he left. He played his part, so did I.

ALEX

By treating me like crap?

TERI

I thought I played the jilted girlfriend rather well. I sure had Bobby fooled. If you had met me at

(MORE)

TERI (CONT'D)

the lake like I wanted you to, we would have killed you there and wouldn't have needed to leave that note, luring you out here.

(to Figure)

We're running out of time. Do it now.

Diana looks behind her at the desk. She sees a wireless KEYBOARD, and in one movement, picks it up and throws it at the Figure, knocking the gun out of his hand.

FIGURE

(in pain)

Shit!

That's all the opening that Alex needs. He launches himself at the Figure and the fight begins. The two trade blows and grapple with each other, knocking each other down.

Teri looks around and sees the gun. She moves towards it, but Diana is faster. She kicks it away from Teri and it rattles out into the semi-darkness.

TERI

(angry)

You bitch!

Teri grabs Diana by the hair, but Diana counters, knocking Teri down, and they begin their battle, trading blows. Diana uses a few judo holds on Teri, and seems to be getting the upper hand.

The Figure breaks away from Alex after knocking him down and runs out into the storage area. Alex gets up and follows after him.

Teri and Diana circle each other, looking for an opening. Diana notices the Figure and Alex leave. She turns to her fight with Teri.

DIANA

I've had just about enough of you.

Diana goes on the attack, using her judo skills and knocks her against the desk. Teri is furious.

TERI

You'll never win!

DIANA

Just watch me.

Teri rushes Diana, and Diana is a flurry of judo skills. Diana finally grabs Teri's arm and flings her into the wall, knocking Teri unconscious. Diana stands over her, smiles.

DIANA (CONT'D)

Told you.

Diana turns and moves towards the storage area.

In the middle of the storage area, Alex cautiously goes down the rows, looking around cautiously.

ALEX

(calls out)

Come out and fight me coward!

FIGURE (O.S.)

I just want what is mine.

ALEX

There's no way you're going to take my place.

The Figure comes from around the corner of the aisle and INTO VIEW. He has the gun in his hand, points it at Alex and moves towards him, smiling.

FIGURE

I wouldn't be too sure about that.

ALEX

Do you think the Watchers will let you get away with this?

Diana rounds the corner and INTO VIEW. She looks at Alex, who doesn't show any emotion. She quietly sneaks up behind the Figure.

ALEX (CONT'D)

They've got to be pretty smart if they can create all this. What do you think they're going to do when they find out what you've done? They might just kill you.

FIGURE

I'll take that chance... If I do nothing, I'll die anyway.

Diana makes a grab for the gun, but the Figure sees her and hits her in the jaw, and she goes down, unconscious. Alex rushes the figure and tackles him, and the gun is lost. The figure recovers and hits Alex in the face, and knocks him to the floor, stunning him.

The Figure puts his hands around Alex's throat and begins to strangle him. Alex struggles, but is unsuccessful in throwing him off.

FIGURE (CONT'D)

Time for you to die, Alex Cooper.

There is a brilliant FLASH of LIGHT and the Figure lets go of Alex and collapses next to him. Alex falls on his back, choking and coughing. He looks over and sees:

POV

The Man in Black from his childhood memory stands nearby, with what looks like a small weapon in his hand, as everything goes dark.

INT. FACILITY EXAMINATION ROOM - LATER

Alex lays in the examination table, beginning to waken. The room is set up as if it were a hospital room. Around him is Doctor Wills and several other PEOPLE, including Sandra.

DR. WILLIS

(to the others)

I think he's coming around...

Alex slowly opens his eyes, looks at Dr. Wills, who smiles down at him.

DR. WILLIS (CONT'D)

Welcome back.

ALEX

Dr. Wills?

He looks around.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Am I back in the hospital?

DR. WILLIS

Not exactly.

He turns his head and sees Sandra on the other side of the bed from Dr. Wills.

ALEX

Dr. Deakins? What are you doing here?

SANDRA

It's all right Alex. You're safe now.

ALEX

I was having the weirdest dream. I was fighting someone who looked like me, but not like me. He kept saying that I stole his life and he had to kill me to get it back, and Teri was helping him.

SANDRA

Anything else?

ALEX

Something about me being taken and taught, that he was supposed to take my place for ten years, and a lot of other stuff I didn't understand.

Sandra looks over at Dr. Wills, who nods.

SANDRA

(to Alex)

Alex, it wasn't a dream.

ALEX

It wasn't...?

(suddenly anxious)

Diana, where's Diana?

He tries to get up. Sandra pushes him back down.

SANDRA

She's fine. She's resting quietly. You'll see her soon.

ALEX

Then everything he, the--

DR. WILLIS

Duplicate... Clone, if you like.

ALEX

Told me was true? He took my place, lived my life for ten years, while I was...

SANDRA

Here, at Castillo de Luz.

ALEX

I was... That's why I know so much about physics. I learned it here.

SANDRA (CONT'D)

And someday you'll do great things with what you've been taught. Things that will change the future for the better.

Dr. Wills looks at the others in the room.

DR. WILLIS

Could you give us a few moments?

The others file out of the room. Alex watches them leave and then turns to Sandra.

ALEX

Who are you? The other me called you Watchers? Are you aliens?

DR. WILLIS

(smiling)

Actually, no. We're a group of scientists, from all over the world, brought together for one purpose, to give mankind a little push in the right direction, by taking promising young people and educating them to peacefully change the world.

ALEX

Like me?

Dr. Wills nods.

DR. WILLIS

That's right. You're one of many.

ALEX

What happened to the other Alex?

SANDRA

He's gone. He was already dying, even before his fight with you. Duplicates weren't designed to survive as long as he did. He must have thought that if he killed you, we would let him continue to live.

ALEX

That's what he said.

DR. WILLIS

It doesn't work that way. Our German association let that happen once before and the results were disastrous.



ALEX

Then, those ten years, I'll never get them back?

DR. WILLIS

The duplicate had a lot of memory breakdown, but we managed to salvage some. While you were unconscious, we planted them into your mind. They'll come back to you a little at a time.

SANDRA

And I can help you deal with them returning in our sessions.

ALEX

But if know I'm getting them back, will I still need sessions?

Sandra looks over at Dr. Willis.

DR. WILLIS

Alex, in a few minutes, you won't remember what we've told you, the fight, finding the lab, any of it.

ALEX

I won't?

Sandra shakes her head.

ALEX (CONT'D)

What about Diana and Teri?

SANDRA

We've already removed the same memories from both of them, as well as all past memory of the other Alex from Teri.

ALEX

You mean, she'll forget who I am?

DR. WILLIS

Not at all. She'll remember that you dated, but that you broke up right before the trip to the desert. It's better this way for everyone concerned. Teenager's lives are complicated enough as it is.

ALEX

Tell me about it.

Dr. Wills picks up a small, square device from a table next to the bed. Alex sees it.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Now? But there's still so much more  
I want to know.

Dr. Wills places the device on Alex's forehead. Alex begins to get sleepy.

SANDRA

Trust me Alex, this is best for  
everyone.

Alex's eyes close and he falls asleep.

EXT. DESERT - MORNING

Very early. The sun is just coming up. Alex's jeep is parked in an open area with the mountains behind it.

INT. JEEP - CONTINUOUS

Alex and Diana sleep in the front seat, Diana's head on Alex's shoulder. The rising sun hits Alex's face and he wakes up, a little confused as to where he is.

He looks over and sees Diana there on his shoulder. He runs a finger gently over her cheek.

ALEX

(Gently)  
Hey sleepy head.

Diana opens her eyes, smiles over at Alex and sits up.

DIANA

Morning.

Looks around.

DIANA (CONT'D)

Where are we?

Alex looks around as well.

ALEX

By the looks of it, I'd say in the  
middle of nowhere.

Diana reaches next to her and grabs the map, opening it up.

DIANA

Maybe we can use the map to find out where we are. Then we can figure out where we need to be.

Alex smiles and shakes his head.

ALEX

Or maybe we just go home.

DIANA

Home? But I thought...

ALEX

Look around us. There's nothing here. I don't think there ever was.

DIANA

But the note...

He reaches into his pocket and produces the note.

ALEX

I think this was somebody's idea of a practical joke, and I fell for it. All I wanted was to get my memory back, I didn't even stop to think about if this note was real or not.

He crumples up the note and throws it out the window.

ALEX (CONT'D)

I am going to be in so much trouble when I get home.

DIANA

But shouldn't we at least look around some more?

ALEX

Diana, I--

DIANA

I mean we came all this way and--

Alex leans over and kisses her, cutting off the conversation. She responds in kind, breaking apart after a few moments. Diana smiles.

DIANA (CONT'D)

This how you end all your arguments?

ALEX

Only with you...

Alex starts the jeep.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Ready?

DIANA

(nods)

Let's go home...

EXT. DESERT - CONTINUOUS

The Jeep pulls away and starts down the desert.

INT. JEEP - CONTINUOUS

Alex drives, Diana watches him, then turns to look behind her.

POV

The looming bulk of Castillo de Luz disappears in the distance behind them.

BACK TO SCENE

She turns back to face forward, a knowing smile on her face. She places her hand on Alex's knee. He smiles over at her.

FADE OUT:

