

WELCOME TO NEW AVALON

Written by

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FADE IN:

EXT. ABANDONED GROCERY STORE NEAR ATLANTA - DAY

The windows and doors of the store are all shattered and the store has been abandoned for quite some time.

Out front is a delivery van and several cars and truck.

Approaching on foot are JACK CALLAS (53, Caucasian) and his adopted daughter, FIONA (17, racially ambiguous).

Jack and Fiona are both dirty and disheveled, hair long and unkempt, carrying loaded backpacks.

Jack has a long, shaggy beard. He's carrying a shotgun.

Fiona is wearing a holster with a pistol in it.

FIONA

Is that the store you were telling me about?

JACK

Yeah. I'm surprised I remembered how to get to it! We came in here a lot when I was a kid. That was before we moved to Chattanooga.

FIONA

How old were you?

JACK

Maybe seven or eight. But they had these really chewy chocolate --

He stops and holds up a hand. Fiona stops, too, and they duck behind some abandoned cars.

FIONA

(whispering)
What is it?

JACK

(whispering)
I don't know. I thought I heard something.

FIONA

(whispering)
Dogs?

JACK
 (whispering)
 Maybe. Quiet!

There's a sudden crashing sound from inside the store.

QUINT (O.S.)
 Goddammit! Shit!

RANDALL (O.S.)
 What did you do now?

QUINT
 Cut my goddamned hand. Shit!

HELEN (O.S.)
 That's a lot of blood. You're gonna
 need stitches.

QUINT (O.S.)
 Shit!

The trio step out of the store, walking towards a delivery truck.

They are QUINT STINSON (34, Caucasian), whose left hand is bleeding profusely, RANDALL EPPS (60, Caucasian), and HELEN CHU (38, Chinese American).

The three of them are clean and neat. All three are carrying firearms.

JACK
 (whispering)
 Wait here.

FIONA
 (whispering)
 What are you going to do?

JACK
 (whispering)
 Just wait here and watch.

FIONA
 (whispering)
 Jack? Jack!

Jack gets up and approaches the trio, holding his shotgun ready but not actually pointing it at them.

Helen sees him first.

HELEN
Well, I'll be damned.

RANDALL
What?

She nods at Jack and Randall turns.

RANDALL (CONT'D)
Oh! Hey, there!

JACK
Are you real?

RANDALL
Yeah, we're real. I'm Randall.
That's Quint, and her name's Helen.
And you'd be ... ?

JACK
Jack. My name's Jack. Could you put
the guns down for me? Please?

RANDALL
Sure, Jack. Sure. Nobody's looking
to get shot here.

Randall places his gun on the ground, the other two following
suit.

RANDALL (CONT'D)
Now, it'd be the neighborly thing
for you to do the same.

Jack puts his own gun down.

From her hiding place Fiona continues to point her pistol at
them.

JACK
Where did you come from?

RANDALL
There's a community about fifty
miles away. Around six thousand
people, give or take.

HELEN
Randall, maybe we shouldn't --

RANDALL
Oh, what's he going to do?

HELEN

We don't know how many other people are with him.

RANDALL

I wouldn't say more than one or two, at the most, just judging from the looks of things. Right, Jack?

JACK

Six ... Thousand? People?

RANDALL

Give or take. One of them is a doctor, too, and we need to start making our way back there so she can stitch up dumbass's hand and give him a tetanus shot. You're welcome to come with us, if you want.

Fiona stands up and approaches them.

She's not pointing the pistol at them though she is still holding it.

JACK

This is Fiona. My daughter.

RANDALL

Really?

JACK

My adopted daughter.

RANDALL

Well, that makes more sense, I guess.

JACK

Where are we going?

They all pick up their weapons, casually, not pointing any of them at anybody.

RANDALL

We call it New Avalon.

INT./EXT. DELIVERY VAN - DAY

The van is battery-powered so it's quiet.

Jenny is driving, with Quint sitting in the seat next to her. Randall sits in the back with Jack and Fiona.

On the floor between them are all their weapons along with some items taken from the store.

Quint has wrapped his hand with an old tee shirt. Fiona is sticking close to Jack, anxious.

RANDALL

So, how long has it been?

JACK

How long?

RANDALL

How long have you been on the road?

JACK

Fifteen years.

RANDALL

Damn. Fifteen years?

JACK

Yeah. You're the first people I've seen since I found Fiona.

RANDALL

Jesus Christ. All that time

JACK

Yeah. We thought we were the only people left.

RANDALL

Well, I guess you're glad to know now that you're not.

JACK

Yeah. I guess I am.

RANDALL

You sound worried.

JACK

Well, it's just so strange to me. To her, too, really. She's never been around anybody but me since she I found her. Since she was two years old.

RANDALL

Yeah. Well, anything you want to know you can ask me. Hopefully I can put your mind at ease.

JACK

What's this place like?

RANDALL

We got running water, electricity, lots of the stuff we grew up with. You can take a hot shower, eat a hot meal, whatever.

JACK

What would you expect from us?

RANDALL

Nothing.

JACK

What?

RANDALL

There are some rules but there are only a few and they're basic common sense. Don't bother folks that don't want to be bothered is the main one. Don't get too curious about somebody's past is another one. Oh, and you'll have to turn all your firearms in to the armory. You can check them out if you should need them for something.

JACK

I think I can live with that.

RANDALL

Most people can. Other than that, you should be good. Look, there's enough food, water, shelter, whatever for everybody. We don't use money. You get hungry you eat something. There are folks who'll feed you. Good food, too. That's what they do, they cook for everybody else, all day. They enjoy it.

JACK

And you have a doctor?

RANDALL

Dr. Band. Yeah, you'll like her. You get sick, you get hurt, you go see the doctor and she'll fix you up. If she can. I imagine she'll want to give you and ...

FIONA

Fiona.

RANDALL

Fiona a good going over. You'll get settled in no time.

FIONA

What if we decide we don't want to "get settled?"

RANDALL

Then you can go. Nobody is going to make you stay. We got a few people who come and go all the time. They only show up when they need something.

JACK

And how do the people who live there take that?

RANDALL

Most of them don't care. Plenty for everybody, like I said. We haven't had any ... the sheriff calls them "incidents" ... in a long time. We did have a guy get shot a while back. Doc fixed him up but that's where the "no guns" thing comes from.

JACK

It sounds ideal.

RANDALL

It's good. But we're still talking about people here, Jack. And you know how people are.

JACK

Yeah. I think I remember.

HELEN

Almost there!

Helen picks up a walkie-talkie and keys it.

HELEN (CONT'D)
Hey, Mama Bear, come back? You got
your ears on?

TARA (O.S.)
(filtered)
I'm here. You're back early.

HELEN
We had a little problem. We'll need
the doc.

TARA (O.S.)
(filtered)
What? Everybody okay?

RANDALL
That's our mayor. Tara.

HELEN
Quint cut his hand. He's gonna need
stitches. And we found two more
survivors.

TARA (O.S.)
(filtered)
Say again? Survivors?

HELEN
Yep. Jack and Fiona.

TARA (O.S.)
(filtered)
Well okay! I'm looking forward to
meeting them.

HELEN
We're almost there. About ten more
minutes.

JACK
She sounds pleasant enough.

RANDALL
Oh, she is. She's just surprised we
found you because it's been a while
since we've met any new survivors.

JACK
Really?

RANDALL

Yeah. About five years now, I think. We were beginning to think there weren't any more.

TARA (O.S.)

(filtered)

I'll have the doc meet you.

HELEN

Ten-four Mama Bear. See you shortly.

EXT. GATE TO NEW AVALON - DAY

The gate is closed and locked, but TONY MANOS (30, African American) is occupying the guard shack next to it.

He gets out and unlocks it, sliding it open as the van drives through. He waves at them.

The van drives through and begins navigating up the long driveway towards the town.

INT./EXT. DELIVER VAN

JACK

You need a gate?

RANDALL

Back a few years ago we had some people who caused some problems. Haven't had any other trouble in a long time, but Tara doesn't like to take any chances.

They pass a hand-painted sign that says, "WELCOME TO NEW AVALON".

The population has been updated several times, a line being drawn through the previous number and the new number painted underneath.

It now reads 6,356. The previous number was 6,355.

HELEN

Looks like somebody's had a baby!

QUINT

Who do you think it was?

HELEN

I bet it was Julia Ramirez. She looked like she was about to pop when I saw her yesterday.

RANDALL

There are no unwanted children here. Each one is a precious gift.

JACK

I see.

There are well-tended fields with crops and live-stock, as well as dogs who are obviously pets or working animals.

There are many solar panels and windmills.

Some people are working in the fields or with the animals. Overall the area looks neat, orderly, and well maintained.

JENNY

Here we are!

EXT. ZEKE SQUARE - DAY

There's a cluster of houses and other buildings and some vehicles. People come out of the buildings to meet the van as it drives up.

One of them is Mayor TARA WASHINGTON (50, African American), joined by her husband, NATE (52, African American).

Dr. MICHELLE BAND (50, Caucasian) is also waiting, medical kit in hand.

Jenny pulls up and parks the van. She gets out, as Michelle goes over to the other side to look at Quint's hand.

TARA

So, we got some new people?

JENNY

Sure do!

Randall is getting out of the back, with Jack and Fiona following.

Fiona is still sticking really close to Jack. Randall walks up to Tara.

RANDALL

Mayor Washington, this is Jack and Fiona.

TARA

Pleased to meet you. We had given up any hope of finding any more survivors.

JACK

We had, too, until we found your people.

TARA

Well, I hope you will decide to stay with us, once you've had a chance to look around, Jack. I imagine Dr. Band wants to look you over and then I just know you'll want to have a nice hot shower.

JACK

Oh, my God. That's music to my ears, Madam Mayor.

TARA

Please. We're not conducting business. Just call me Tara.

Nate approaches, eyeing Jack and Fiona.

TARA (CONT'D)

And this is my husband, Nate.

NATE

Pleased to meet you.

JACK

Husband? Were you married ... before?

TARA

No. Oh, no.

NATE

We met here, actually, about thirteen years ago. Look, Jack, I know you've been on your own for a long time ...

JACK

Fifteen years.

NATE

Fifteen years? Jesus Christ. Yeah, I won't keep you, then.

(MORE)

NATE (CONT'D)

I just wanted to tell you and Fiona that my door is open if you should need to talk. About anything. I was a psychotherapist, Before.

JACK

Good to know. Thank you.

Michelle comes over to Jack and Fiona, looking them over with a doctor's eye.

MICHELLE

Hello. I'm Dr. Band. Michelle.

Jack shakes her hand.

JACK

Pleased to meet you.

MICHELLE

I imagine you'll want to get cleaned up as soon as possible, but I'd like to look the two of you over first. Just a quick physical. Would that be okay?

JACK

Sure.

FIONA

A what?

JACK

A physical. A checkup. I'm sorry, Doc, she's never had one. She was two when I found her and we haven't met anyone else until now.

MICHELLE

What? Okay, then it's high time. It's okay, Fiona, I was a gynecologist before I became a specialist in everything.

FIONA

What's a gyne -- what?

JACK

A woman doctor. A doctor who treats women.

FIONA

Oh. I see.

MICHELLE

Why don't you follow me and Quint back to the clinic? I'll stitch up his hand and then give you a quick look. This way.

She leads them to the building that houses her office.

INT. NEW AVALON MEDICAL CLINIC - DAY

It's a large room, clean, with a few chairs and some examination tables, screens to close off area, lockers to store supplies, the sort of things one would find in a clinic.

It's lit with electric lighting.

Jack and Fiona sit in a couple of chairs while, a few feet away, Michelle is looking over Quint's hand.

Behind Quint stands one of Michelle's nurses, MILTON FREEMAN (28, African American), holding a syringe.

MICHELLE

That's a jagged cut.

QUINT

Yeah.

MICHELLE

How did it happen?

QUINT

I was climbing around on top of a shelf and it gave way. I reached out my hand and it got caught on a piece of metal. You're gonna have to give me a shot, right?

MICHELLE

Afraid so. Lucky for you we got some tetanus vaccine that's still good.

Michelle nods at Milton, who comes up closer quietly behind Quint.

MICHELLE (CONT'D)

I know how you feel about needles, but this should be easy.

Milton pulls up Quint's shirt sleeve and rubs Quint's shoulder area with alcohol.

MICHELLE (CONT'D)

When I count to three Milt will give you the shot, quick as a jiffy. All right?

QUINT

Sure.

Michelle nods at Milton, who jabs him with the needle and injects him with the vaccine.

Quint doesn't even notice.

MICHELLE

Okay. One ... Two ... three ...

Milton is putting a band aid on the injection spot. Quint glances around, confused.

QUINT

What? When are you giving me the shot, doc?

MICHELLE

Oh, it's over. Unfortunately, now I need to numb the cut area. Milton, could you give me the lidocaine?

MILTON

Sure, doc.

Milton gets the larger syringe with the lidocaine and hands it to her.

Quint is getting woozy as she takes his wounded hand.

Milton cleans the wound before Michelle jabs the edges of the cut with the needle of the syringe.

QUINT

Shit! Holy shit! That hurts!

MICHELLE

I'm sorry, Quint.

She continues to inject him while Jack and Fiona watch. Fiona's getting nervous, Jack is trying not to laugh.

QUINT

Do we really need to do this?
Goddamn! Ow!

MICHELLE

Afraid so. You don't want me stitching you up without numbing the area. That'd hurt a lot worse.

QUINT

Shit!

FIONA

(whispering)
I'm scared.

JACK

(whispering)
It won't be all that bad.

FIONA

(whispering)
That's not what I mean.

Michelle and Milton start suturing Quint's now numbed hand, while Quint tries not to pass out.

JACK

(whispering)
Then what do you mean?

FIONA

(whispering)
We don't know these people.

JACK

(whispering)
Baby, we don't know anybody. They're the first people we've seen since you were a toddler.

FIONA

(whispering)
But what if they want something from us?

JACK

(whispering)
Like what?

FIONA

(whispering)
I don't know. That's what scares me.

Jack chuckles at that, though Fiona stays really close to him.

MICHELLE

Okay, good to go. Come back in three days so I can take a look at them. Milt will give you some antibiotics.

QUINT

I've never had stitches before.

MICHELLE

Really? Okay, Milt will get you squared away. Next!

As Milton leads Quint, with his now cleanly bandaged hand, away Michelle gestures for Jack to come into the treatment area.

Fiona comes with him.

MICHELLE (CONT'D)

(to Fiona)

You might want to give him some privacy.

FIONA

It's okay. I've seen him naked. Lots of times.

JACK

(to Michelle)

She didn't mean it like that --

MICHELLE

That's quite all right. Okay, then.

Michelle pulls a couple of screens around to create a makeshift wall for privacy, enclosing her, Jack, and Fiona.

MICHELLE (CONT'D)

Take off your shirt, please.

Jack takes off his filthy shirt, and Michelle puts her stethoscope on his chest, listening.

MICHELLE (CONT'D)

Deep breath, please. Let it out. Again? Thank you.

JACK

I forgot how cold those things are.

MICHELLE

Some things never change. Any dizziness? Coughing? Trouble getting your breath? Chest pains?

JACK

No. Nothing like that.

MICHELLE

Urgency to evacuate your bowels? Urinate?

JACK

No.

MICHELLE

How about aches and pains?

JACK

My left shoulder gets really achy sometimes. And my left knee.

MICHELLE

Yeah, probably arthritis. I can give you some pain reliever for it if you think you need it. Just old fashioned aspirin.

JACK

I think I'll be okay for now, doc.

MICHELLE

Okay. Well, come see me if you change your mind. Now, let me check your blood pressure.

Michelle takes out the sphygmomanometer (blood pressure cuff) and drapes it over Jack's arm.

She checks his blood pressure while Fiona watches.

MICHELLE (CONT'D)

Good. Blood pressure is normal for a man of your age.

JACK

That's good to know.

Michelle puts the cuff away.

MICHELLE

So, there's only one more thing and we'll be done.

She turns to a locker and takes out a couple of latex gloves and a tube of lubricant.

JACK
Oh, my God. Seriously?

FIONA
What is it?

JACK
Fiona, you might want to step on the other side of the screen for a minute.

FIONA
What is it? What are you going to do to him?

MICHELLE
It's called a digital prostate exam and it's recommended for men when they get to be his age.

FIONA
What? I don't what that is.

JACK
It's fine, Fi. It's fine. Just step on the other side of the screen for me, okay?

FIONA
Jack, I can't --

JACK
Please? It's only for a minute. Less than a minute. Okay?

FIONA
What is so bad that I ---

Michelle shows Fiona her gloved and lubed fingers.

MICHELLE
I am going to take these two fingers and insert them into Jack's rectum so I can tactilely examine his prostate. It will be extremely uncomfortable for him but it will only last a few seconds. Men his age are at a risk of prostate cancer.

JACK
Is that something you really want
to see?

FIONA
No. You're right. I'll just be over
here.

INT. CLINIC ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE SCREEN

Fiona steps on the other side of the screen where she can hear Michelle and Jack talking, and sits in a chair she finds there.

MICHELLE (O.S.)
Okay, drop your pants. Now, bend
over the table, ankles apart. Take
a deep breath. And ... Exhale.
Hard.

Jack grunts as Fiona listens. Her hands are shaking.

INT. SHOWER ROOM - DAY

It's a shower in a locker room and Jack is in it by himself, giving himself over to the ecstasy of the hot, soapy water washing the caked-on dirt from his body.

INT. LOCKER ROOM

Fiona sits on a bench just outside.

INTERCUT - Conversation between the locker room and the shower

JACK
At least the doc says we're both
okay.

FIONA
That hurt.

JACK
What? The exam?

FIONA
Yeah.

JACK
I'm sorry, but it was necessary.
Don't you want to know if
something's wrong?

FIONA
What could be wrong?

JACK
I don't know. Like, wouldn't you
want to know if you have cancer?

FIONA
No. I wouldn't want to know.

JACK
Why not?

FIONA
What if I did have cancer? What can
we do about it?

JACK
I -- yeah, that's a good point.

FIONA
I still don't know why I can't come
in there with you.

JACK
It would just look weird.

FIONA
Weird? How? I've seen you naked
lots of times. Just like you've
seen me naked lots of times. I'm
probably going to see you naked
again in a few minutes when you
finally come out of there.

JACK
That was different.

FIONA
How is it different?

JACK
Getting dressed in front of you is
different from showering with you.
And before it was just you and me.
There wasn't anybody else around.

FIONA
How does that make a difference?

JACK

It's a community thing.

FIONA

You mean the others wouldn't approve?

JACK

They wouldn't understand.

FIONA

It's not like we'll be making sex. Or like we've ever made sex.

JACK

I know that. You know that. But all these other people, they don't know that.

FIONA

This is so complicated. We should just leave.

JACK

Fi. Really. We can't.

FIONA

Why not?

JACK

Do you really want to go back to living like we were before? Wandering all over the countryside? Hunting for food? Hoping that neither of us gets sick, or hurt?

FIONA

It wasn't so bad.

JACK

I'm not as young as I used to be. It's getting harder and harder for me. I'm going to have to settle down somewhere, sooner or later.

FIONA

I'll take care of you.

JACK

I'm not saying you won't. But here you'll have help.

FIONA

I don't know.

JACK

Baby, trust me. In a few weeks ... maybe even a few days ... you'll decide you want to stay.

FIONA

It sounds like you've already made up your mind even though we just got here and we don't really know these people.

JACK

Fi --

FIONA

Promise me that if I don't like it here we'll leave?

JACK

Sure. As long as you promise to give it a chance. Say, thirty days?

FIONA

Thirty days?

JACK

Right.

FIONA

Fine. Thirty days. After thirty days, if I'm not happy here we'll leave.

JACK

I'd say that's fair.

He continues showering, soaping himself up yet again and reveling in the hot water.

FIONA

You're steaming up the whole room.

JACK

So? It'll clear out.

FIONA

I don't see why you enjoy that so much.

JACK

Oh, I can't tell you how amazing this is. I'll smell good, too, when I'm done. You'll see.

FIONA
You'll smell like a pine tree.

JACK
No. I'll smell like a fresh April
shower.

FIONA
What does a fresh April shower
smell like?

JACK
You'll find out in a few minutes.

INT. NEW AVALON HAIR SALON - DAY

The place is lit with electric lights.

There are a couple of people in chairs getting hair cuts, one
getting a shampoo from a stylist.

Jack and Fiona enter, both of them now clean. DAWN (35,
Caucasian), one of the stylists, comes up to them.

DAWN
Hey! I'm Dawn. I guess you're Jack
and Fiona?

JACK
That's us.

DAWN
Great! Come on over and have a
seat.

She leads them to her station and Jack settles in the chair,
Fiona sitting in the chair next to it.

Fiona's still jumpy.

Dawn puts the cape on Jack and turns him to face the mirror.

DAWN (CONT'D)
So, Jack, what do you want us to do
today?

JACK
Oh, God. I don't know where to
start.

DAWN
Do you want the beard shaved off
completely, or trimmed?

JACK
Shave it off. I'm sick of it.

FIONA
Really?

JACK
I never had a beard. Before.

DAWN
How about your hair?

FIONA
Shave all that off, too.

JACK
Fi! Okay, I guess you can shorten
it up. A lot.

DAWN
Okay.

FIONA
I'm not going to be able to
recognize you.

DAWN
Oh, he'll be a whole new man.
You'll like it.

Dawn gets out a straight razor and hones it using the strop.

FIONA
What's that?

DAWN
It's a straight razor.

FIONA
It looks really sharp.

DAWN
It is really sharp. Don't worry,
honey, I know how to use it. I
shave people all the time.

FIONA
Nobody calls me honey but Jack.

DAWN
I'm sorry.

JACK
Don't worry about it, Dawn. Fi,
what's gotten into you?

FIONA
I'm sorry. Shit.

JACK
Fi! What did I tell you?

FIONA
Tell me about what?

JACK
Language.

FIONA
Oh, sh -- Oh. Okay. Right.

DAWN
It's okay. Now, let's lean you back
a bit

She leans the chair back and starts shaving Jack.

INT. AVALON HAIR SALON, RINSING AREA - DAY

Dawn is leading Fiona, who is wearing a cape now, to the sink
so she can wash her hair.

Jack is there as well, his hair now neatly trimmed and his
beard gone.

Fiona sits in the chair and Dawn gently turns her around and
lowers the back so Fiona's head is over the sink.

Dawn turns on the water.

DAWN
Now, you let me know if this is too
hot for you, okay?

FIONA
Okay. Jack, I don't even recognize
you.

JACK
You'll look different, too, honey.
It'll be a good thing.

FIONA
So, you're saying I'm ugly now?

JACK
No! No. It's just --

FIONA
I was joking, relax.

Dawn starts washing Fiona's hair.

DAWN
How's the temperature? Too hot? Too cold?

FIONA
It's fine.

DAWN
Okay. I'm going to shampoo your hair and rinse it a couple of times. You just relax and lie there and it'll be over in a few minutes.

Dawn starts shampooing Fiona's hair and Fiona sighs.

FIONA
No hurry. That feels good.

DAWN
Yeah, most people like this part.

Michelle has entered and approaches Jack.

MICHELLE
Hi. Wow. I almost didn't recognize you.

JACK
Well, you probably know me better from a different angle.

MICHELLE
Funny.

JACK
Is everything okay?

MICHELLE
Yes. I just wanted to tell you that you'll need to talk with Frank once you're done here. He's the sheriff.

JACK
Yeah, Randall mentioned him. You need a sheriff?

MICHELLE

We don't have a crime problem, if that's what you're implying. But we do need to have someone in charge of security.

JACK

Sure. What does he want to talk to us about?

MICHELLE

There are some things that we need but can't seem to find anywhere. He has a list. He likes to go over it with new people just in case they have seen any of that stuff. You've been wandering around for a long time, you may have run across something that we've been looking for.

JACK

That makes sense.

DAWN

Okay, I'm going to shampoo you again.

FIONA

Okay. Yes, that feels good. It smells good, too.

DAWN

You have gorgeous hair. I'm surprised it's so healthy, but it's going to be so much fun helping you decide what look you want.

FIONA

Really?

DAWN

Yeah. With hair like yours I can do pretty much anything you want me to do with it.

MICHELLE

Plus, I think he just likes to look new people over. Sort of size them up.

JACK

Has he ever decided someone wasn't right for the community?

MICHELLE

He doesn't have that kind of power. It would take a majority vote from the Elders for something like that to happen. Of course, Frank is one of the Elders, as am I, and Tara and Nate. But he couldn't make that kind of decision himself. Not that he would in your case anyway.

JACK

I'm sorry. I'm just feeling like all this is too good to be true.

MICHELLE

Understandable. Don't worry, Jack. Frank will interview you and Fiona, then let you go to your dinner date tonight.

JACK

Dinner date?

MICHELLE

Tara and Nate want to entertain you and Fiona at their house. I'll be there, too. Some of the other Elders wanted to come, but I thought it best that we keep the number of people small just for the time being.

JACK

How many Elders are there?

MICHELLE

There's no hard-and-fast number, but right now there are eight.

JACK

You guys function as a town council?

MICHELLE

Yes. We vote on proposals. Resolve disputes. That sort of thing.

JACK

I don't know. We've had a long day so far, and I know Fi's worn out, and I'm feeling it myself.

MICHELLE

It'll be relaxing. The food will be excellent. Tara's having Chef Roman from the cafe cook. Nobody's going to be pressuring you or anything. Just eat some really good food, have some conversation with new friends, and chill.

JACK

In that case, I think we can handle it.

MICHELLE

Good. Dawn can guide you towards Frank's office. I'll see you tonight.

JACK

Okay.

Michelle leaves. Dawn has finished washing Fiona's hair and she's sitting up now.

FIONA

What was that all about?

JACK

You didn't hear?

FIONA

How could I hear? I had that water rushing in my ears.

JACK

We have a dinner date.

FIONA

Really? With the doctor?

JACK

Well, Doctor Band, and Tara and Nate.

DAWN

Oh, that'll be nice.

Dawn has wrapped a towel around Fiona's head and is helping her get up and guiding her back up to her station.

DAWN (CONT'D)

Okay, let's start working on that beautiful head of hair of yours.

EXT. SHERIFF'S OFFICE - DAY

It's a small building across the street from what used to be a courthouse.

There are a couple of battery-powered cars parked in front.

Jack and Fiona, now clean-shaven and much more stylish, approach the front door.

Jack hesitates a moment, Fiona standing behind him.

There's a sign on the door that says, "FRANK WILSON, SHERIFF."

FIONA
What's wrong?

JACK
It's just ... I don't know. Cops.

FIONA
Do you think he's bad?

JACK
No, probably not. But I've had some experiences that -- oh, what the hell.

Jack opens the door and goes inside, Fiona following.

INT. SHERIFF'S OFFICE LOBBY - DAY

There are a couple of desks, one obviously for a secretary who isn't there.

The room is nicely appointed and neat.

There's a door next to the secretary's desk that's partially open.

JACK
Hello? Sheriff?

Someone stirs behind the partially open door and Sheriff FRANK WILSON (46, Caucasian) opens the door the rest of the way.

He's dressed casually, not wearing a uniform or a badge.

FRANK
Jack? And ... Fiona?

JACK
That's us.

FRANK
Cool. Please, step into my office.

He steps aside and Jack and Fiona go in.

INT. FRANK'S OFFICE - DAY

Frank goes to sit behind his small, cluttered desk as Jack and Fiona settle into the chairs in front of it.

There is a window with a view of the outside.

FRANK
I'm sure Dr. Band told you this is just a formality.

JACK
Yes, she mentioned it.

FRANK
I gather the two of you have been wandering around for a long time.

JACK
Around fifteen years.

FRANK
Jesus Christ. That must have been tough.

FIONA
It wasn't so bad.

FRANK
Yeah, if it's the only life you know I guess you'd get used to it, right? How are you liking our little town so far?

JACK
So far it seems to good to be true.

FRANK
Yeah. Well, let me tell you, sometimes it seems like it is.

JACK
And is it?

FRANK

No. Not really. Don't get me wrong, compared to Before it's Utopia. But it's not perfect. One thing I need to tell both of you. It's not really a law, it's more of a ... well, etiquette, I guess. People here feel like they've been given a second chance, and they're grateful for it. Over the years it's become ... impolite ... to get too curious about somebody's life Before.

JACK

Really?

FRANK

Yeah. Oh, you can ask, and they can answer if they want to, but even if they do you aren't obligated to say anything about your life Before. But it is seriously frowned upon to press the issue.

JACK

I see.

FRANK

I mean, it's not a crime or anything, but it's ... bad form.

JACK

Okay.

FRANK

So, I'm not going to ask you about your past, though you are free to tell me about it if you want. Or not. But I'm going to tell you about mine, just so you know who you're dealing with.

JACK

Sheriff, that's not really necessary. I'm sure --

FRANK

Just call me Frank. And yes, considering my job here, it's necessary for you to know. See, Before, I was a cop. A detective. Just outside of Baltimore. And I had a gambling problem. A bad one.

(MORE)

FRANK (CONT'D)

Got myself in debt to the wrong people, and they started leaning on me for favors. Eventually, because of that, some people died. I got arrested, turned state's evidence, and went to prison. I was in prison when The End happened. The warden let me out, and I found my way here. I was asked, because of my experience, to be in charge of law enforcement, even after I told the Elders what I just told you. So, I'm a sheriff who is an ex-con.

JACK

I appreciate that, Frank.

FRANK

Thank you.

JACK

You get a lot of ... business?

FRANK

Do I lock a lot of people up?. There are some cells in the back. Sometimes somebody will get drunk and get out of hand. Or there will be a fight. I haven't had to hold anybody for more than a week or so, though. Usually it's just until they sober up.

JACK

I see.

FRANK

It's usually pretty quiet. The only reason I'm in the office now is to meet with you. And I do have some paperwork. Not much, but a little bit. Like this.

Frank opens a drawer and takes out a few sheets of paper with handwriting on them, and hands them to Jack. Jack looks them over.

JACK

This is the list?

FRANK

Yeah. Look it over, and if you know where we can find anything on that list please let me know.

(MORE)

FRANK (CONT'D)

It'd be a big help. Let me know if you can't read my writing, too.

JACK

Sure. Can I ask -- do you have judges? Court? That sort of thing?

FRANK

Nothing formal. We did have Judge Firelli. She died about a year ago. She was a Superior Court judge and we usually went to her when we had a dispute or something.

JACK

Died? How?

FRANK

Dr. Band says she had a heart attack. She was almost ninety years old.

JACK

Oh.

FRANK

We haven't found anybody else that everyone will accept yet to take her place.

FIONA

Can't the Elders appoint somebody?

FRANK

Sure. But people still have to accept whoever gets appointed in order for it to be worth anything. As friendly as our little town is, nobody is all that anxious to have a neighbor who has that kind of power over them. You know?

JACK

God. Yes. I remember those days.

FRANK

Exactly. Well, that's about all I got, unless you have some questions or concerns?

JACK

I think I'm good. Fi?

FIONA

Where are we going to live?

FRANK

There are lots of empty houses, all of them fixed up. Just pick one that you like and move in. Vacant houses that have been cleaned out and redone have an "Open" sign on the front lawn. See one you like just pull up the sign and it's yours.

JACK

Really? That's all there is to it?

FRANK

Yep. We've had crews going through and cleaning out the houses in the area for years. Getting the electricity up and running, too. And the plumbing. I know you're going to appreciate that.

JACK

There are no words.

FRANK

Once you get settled in, take a look around, see if there's anything you want to do. I'm sure you can find a place to fit in.

FIONA

What about me?

FRANK

Of course, Fiona. We got a lot of kids your age around. You'll be meeting them soon, I'm sure. Of course, neither of you have to do anything at all if you don't want to. Most people do figure out a way to contribute to the community, but there are a few who don't.

JACK

What happens to them?

FRANK

Nothing. They get food, a place to live, medical care, all that, regardless of how much or how little they may contribute.

(MORE)

FRANK (CONT'D)

No reason not to do it that way.
There's plenty for everybody.

Frank gets up. Jack and Fiona also get up. Frank shakes Jack's hand, and then Fiona's.

FRANK (CONT'D)

It was nice to meet both of you.

JACK

It was good to meet you, too,
Frank.

FRANK

I'm sure I'll be seeing you around.

JACK

Yes, I'm sure you will.

Jack and Fiona leave as Frank settles back into his seat and turns to stare out of the window.

EXT. SHERIFF'S OFFICE - DAY

Jack and Fiona come out of the front door and stand for a moment, looking around.

FIONA

What do we do now?

JACK

I don't know. Looks like we got
some time to kill. Want to look at
houses?

EXT. MAYOR WASHINGTON'S HOUSE - NIGHT

There's a table set up in front of Tara's house, with place settings for everyone.

There are lit candles and some lanterns providing illumination along with the moon. Tara and Nate are there.

Jack and Fiona approach, being lead by Michelle, and Tara and Nate greet them.

TARA

Hello again! I hope you're getting
settled in. Wow. Both of you look
so different. I bet you feel a lot
better now.

JACK
Yeah. This place is great.

FIONA
We've been looking at houses.

NATE
Find anything?

JACK
Maybe. There are a lot to choose from.

NATE
Yep. It can be hard to decide.

TARA
Come on over here and have a seat.
I'm sure you're both ready to eat by now.

JACK
I'm starving.

She leads them to seats in the middle of the long table and gestures for them to sit. They do so and Tara nods at DANNY (40, Caucasian), who is there to work as a server.

Danny goes into the house.

Michelle sits next to Jack.

TARA
Okay, let's eat!

Danny comes out, leading two other servers, all carrying trays.

They start unloading dishes with garden salads. Fiona eyes hers suspiciously.

FIONA
What is this?

JACK
That's a garden salad.

TARA
Fresh vegetables. With ranch dressing. Those vegetables were growing in the garden until a couple of hours ago.

Jack doesn't wait. He starts eating and groans with pleasure.

JACK

Oh my God. Oh my God. Sorry.

TARA

That's quite all right. Does my heart good to see someone enjoying it like that.

MICHELLE

So good for you, too.

NATE

Spoken like a true doctor.

Fiona picks skeptically at hers, finally tastes it and makes a face of disgust.

FIONA

This tastes like dirt.

JACK

Fi! What --

NATE

That's okay. She's not used to it. Fiona, we got some canned goods you'll probably like. What's your favorite?

FIONA

Minelli's Ravioli?

NATE

I'll have them check. Maybe we have some.

Nate nods at Danny.

DANNY

I don't know if we have any of that but I'll see. If we don't have it, would Martin's Ravioli do?

FIONA

That would be good.

DANNY

Okay. Be right back.

Danny exits.

Everyone is eating their salad. Jack has nearly finished his.

MICHELLE

You've probably never had food like this before. It's all about what you grew up on.

JACK

I'm telling you, Fi, once you get used to it you'll wonder how we lived without it. My God.

FIONA

I doubt it.

JACK

(eating)
God. Oh, my God.

TARA

You got to save some room for the main course.

JACK

What's that going to be?

TARA

A surprise. You'll like it. Roman's specialty.

MICHELLE

Yeah. It's something that's really bad for you. So guaranteed that you'll love it.

NATE

Fiona, all this has got to be a bit overwhelming for you, right?

Fiona shrugs, fiddling with her silverware.

JACK

Fi. Answer Nate.

NATE

It's okay, Jack. Really. She'll come around.

FIONA

What if I don't? What if I can't fit in here?

NATE

You will find your place. I promise. Maybe it'll take a little time, but you will.

FIONA
There's no place here for me.

JACK
As long as I'm here there's a place
for you here. I promise.

FIONA
Really?

JACK
Yes. I promise.

He "pinky-swears" her.

JACK (CONT'D)
And you know there's nothing I take
more seriously than a pinky-swear.

Tara takes out her tiny walkie-talkie and keys it.

TARA
Jason? Jason, you there?

Tara makes eye contact with Michelle, who is trying not to
burst out laughing.

After a moment Jason answers.

JASON (O.S.)
(filtered)
I'm here. Who is this? Tara?

TARA
Yeah. You remember that hole in the
sheet rock I was telling you about
before? In the guest bedroom?

JASON (O.S.)
(filtered)
Yes, ma'am.

TARA
Could you come over to fix it now,
please?

JASON (O.S.)
(filtered)
Uh, sure. Be there in a few
minutes.

TARA
Good.

JASON (O.S.)
(filtered)
On my way!

TARA
(to Jack)
Sorry about that. That hole has
been there for months now and it's
been driving me crazy.

Nate is a bit befuddled by his wife's behavior but he
soldiers on.

NATE
Still, it'll just take some time.
She'll find some people here her
age, people she can talk to, and
she'll start getting comfortable.

JACK
I hope so.

FIONA
I don't think that'll happen. I
don't see how.

NATE
Just be patient. You'll discover
there's a whole world out there
that you don't even know about yet.
Just take it slow. There's no
hurry.

Danny leads his team of servers out of the house again, this
time with everyone carrying trays with dishes loaded with the
entrees.

One of the servers removes the empty salad dishes while the
other puts the entrees in front of the diners.

The entree is a steak, with a baked potato on the side. The
potato is loaded with butter and cheese.

JACK
Holy shit. Sorry.

TARA
That's quite alright. Just hold off
a minute before you start to eat.
We got one more thing to bring out.

MICHELLE
I can hear your arteries begging
for mercy already.

Danny sets a can of Minelli's Ravioli on the table in front of Fiona.

She looks up and he winks at her.

DANNY

Found it in the back of the cupboard.

FIONA

Thank you.

DANNY

You're welcome. Enjoy.

Fiona opens the can as a couple of the servers come back out, carrying three pitchers of beer and several frosty mugs.

JACK

Oh, my God. Have I died? Am I in Heaven now?

One pitcher and mug is put on the table in front of him.

TARA

I figured you for a beer drinker. Want to take a taste?

JACK

This mug is so cold. Wow.

Jack pours himself enough to taste into his mug, then takes a sip. Then he drinks the rest and pours himself a mug full of frosty golden goodness.

TARA

I take it the beer meets with your approval?

JACK

Oh, hell yes. This is wonderful.

Jack takes another couple of big gulps.

NATE

We got several brewers in town. When they find out you're a beer drinker there will be a major war over your taste buds.

TARA

Yeah, they're ridiculously competitive.

JACK
Bring it on!

Fiona starts eating her ravioli, forking it straight out of the can.

Jack digs into the steak and potato, savoring every bite.

MICHELLE
Just remember, we're at the age where we need to watch our cholesterol. Okay? So let's not get too carried away.

JACK
I'll be fine, Doc. Just let me make up for lost time here.

A golf cart drives up and JASON (19, Caucasian, tall, lean, and extremely good looking) gets out.

He gets a toolbox off the back with the equipment he'll need to fix the hole and approaches Tara.

JASON
Hey! I'll go ahead and put a patch over the hole now. It'll take about a day to dry and then I'll come back and paint over it tomorrow.

TARA
That'll work. Oh, Jason, this is Jack, and his daughter, Fiona.

JASON
Hi! You're the new people?

JACK
That's us.

JASON
Nice to meet you. Okay, let me get to work.

Fiona is staring at him as Jason nods at everyone and goes into the house. Fiona gets up.

FIONA
Uh, I want to watch -- uh, I want to see this.

She runs off into the house, following Jason, and Michelle finally starts laughing.

TARA

Yeah. Sure. "It'll take some time."

NATE

Baby, sometimes the direct approach is a little bit much.

TARA

Right.

JACK

Oh, shit. Should I be worried?

TARA

About Jason? No. He's a good kid. About the other boys? No comment.

MICHELLE

I happen to know he just broke up with Brooke.

TARA

What? I thought they were such a cute couple!

MICHELLE

You knew all about it. That's why you called him.

TARA

No! It just worked out that way. I swear.

JACK

Excuse me. Are you setting my daughter up to have a boyfriend?

TARA

No. Not at all. She's going to need to meet the others her age and Jason is a great place for her to start. That's all.

MICHELLE

He really is a good kid. If nothing else he'll take her under his wing and look out for her.

JACK

You're sure about that?

MICHELLE

As sure as anybody can be about teenagers.

INT. GUEST BEDROOM AT TARA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Jason has a patch of drywall he's using to plug the hole in the wall. Fiona is sitting on the bed, watching him. He's set up some electric lanterns to light the area.

FIONA

So, what are you doing?

JASON

I have to make the hole the same shape as the patch I have. So, I'm going to put it over the hole and draw around it like this.

He holds the piece of drywall over the hole and outlines it with a pencil onto the wall.

FIONA

Is this what you do?

JASON

Carpentry? Yeah. I'm learning. Mr. Olovsky is a master carpenter and he's teaching me.

FIONA

So, you're a student?

JASON

Yeah. An apprentice, we call it.

FIONA

Like a sorcerer?

JASON

Well, something like that, I guess.

Jason takes out a saw and starts cutting the sheet rock along the line he's drawn.

FIONA

Have you ever made sex before?

JASON

Uh, say what?

FIONA

I'm sorry. Is that inappropriate?

JASON

It's not something we usually talk about. But that's okay.

FIONA
So, have you?

JASON
Well, yeah. A few times.

FIONA
Did you like it?

JASON
It was nice.

FIONA
I'm sorry, that's a good thing?

JASON
I'm not very comfortable talking
about it, really.

FIONA
I'm sorry.

JASON
Don't worry about it. I just broke
up with my girlfriend and she was
the first one I'd ever ... done
that ... with.

FIONA
Girlfriend?

JASON
Yeah.

FIONA
That's like your lover?

JASON
I guess you could say that.

FIONA
I've never made sex before. With
anybody.

JASON
From what I hear there was nobody
else around for you to do it with.
It was just you and your dad.

FIONA
Yeah. And I tried to get him to
make sex with me and that was
really bad. I've never seen him so
angry.

JASON
Sex? With your dad?

FIONA
He's not really my dad. He adopted me.

JASON
Yeah, I figured that.

FIONA
Anyway, he yelled at me like he's never yelled at me before. Then we never talked about it again. It's so weird. We talk about everything, except that.

JASON
It is a bit weird. I'm sure he didn't know how to take it.

FIONA
Take it?

JASON
You don't have sex with your parents.

FIONA
Why not?

JASON
Because they're your parents. Adopted or not, it's not something people do.

FIONA
I see. So, if we didn't find you here then I'd never have a chance to make sex with anybody.

JASON
I guess. When you say "find you," you mean New Avalon, or me in particular?

FIONA
I don't think I want to answer that.

Fiona giggles. Jason goes back to work.

EXT. MAYOR WASHINGTON'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Danny's people are clearing the table. There are bowls of home-made ice cream in front of Michelle and Jack. They're the only ones left at the table.

Danny comes over and leans over to mutter to Jack.

DANNY

I just popped by to check on them.
Jason's working on the wall and
Fiona's watching. They're just
talking.

JACK

Good. Thank you, Danny.

DANNY

You're welcome. Are you still
working on that?

JACK

Yeah. It's wonderful, but I'm
having to take it slow.

DANNY

There's no hurry. How about you,
Doc?

MICHELLE

I'm still working on mine, too.
Thank you, Danny.

DANNY

You're welcome.

Danny exits.

MICHELLE

You're awfully quiet.

JACK

I may be a tad drunk.

MICHELLE

I wouldn't be surprised. You had
most of a pitcher of that beer all
by yourself.

JACK

I used to love beer. God. I'd come home from work, settle in my chair in front of the TV and turn on the game, pop the top on a cold one ...

.

MICHELLE

What game?

JACK

I didn't care. Basketball. Football. Baseball. Ah, I loved baseball.

MICHELLE

With me it was football.

JACK

Really?

MICHELLE

Steelers. I loved Pittsburgh. I grew up there, and my mom and dad used to take me to all the home games. I never much cared for other sports, but if there was a football game on I'd watch it.

JACK

Yeah. Those were the days.

MICHELLE

Are you okay?

JACK

Why wouldn't I be?

MICHELLE

You seem pensive.

JACK

You know, when Fiona and I were roaming around, looking for other people and not finding anybody, it was my biggest nightmare. What if we never found anybody else? What if we were the only two people left on the entire planet? What would happen to Fi if something happened to me?

MICHELLE

That had to be a lot of pressure on you.

JACK

I got so ... hypersensitive. Every tiny little pain I felt in my chest, I'd start to worry. What if it's a heart attack? What if I died and left her all alone?

MICHELLE

Yeah, that would be a terrifying thought.

JACK

And I've been under a lot of pressure for years now. Since she was two. Since I found her, in her parents' house, on the floor next to her mother's body, crying. Ever since then it's been a constant fear, a pressure on me, wondering about her, hoping we would find some other people, a community that she could belong to, in case anything happened to me.

MICHELLE

And now you have.

JACK

Yes, we have. Finally.

MICHELLE

And you're not sure how you feel about that, are you?

JACK

Now I'm actually jealous. I'm jealous of that boy, Jason?

MICHELLE

Yes.

JACK

Jason. And the attention she's giving him now. For all this time I was her whole world, and now I'm going to have to share that world with other people. Other kids. Her friends. Maybe even ... boyfriends. Girlfriends. Whatever.

MICHELLE

That's only natural.

JACK

I had kids ... before. Two boys. From my first marriage. They were both nearly grown. I had a daughter, too, after I remarried. She was four. They all

MICHELLE

There's no need to talk about it.

JACK

I know.

MICHELLE

I had a fiancée, Before. He was a reporter, for one of the cable networks. He was covering a story in Colombia when The End came. I never heard what happened to him. I'm sure he's dead, but I never got any sort of confirmation, you know? Maybe he turned out to be one of the lucky ones. He was so far away when it happened, there would be no way he could make his way back home. He would have stayed where he was, to cover his story. Because that's what he did.

JACK

Has there been anybody else? Or am I being nosy?

MICHELLE

No, that's okay. No. I've done what he always did. Buried myself in my work. All this time has passed and I barely noticed, because I've been so busy, delivering babies, setting broken bones, giving physicals and teaching others who want to be doctors and nurses themselves. For a long time it was enough. I was the only doctor. These people needed me. Now, though, I've got three others who are almost ready to go out on their own, start seeing patients on their own, because they're really good at being doctors.

JACK

That's a reflection on their teacher, I'd say.

MICHELLE

Yeah. Thank you. And I've got a dozen nurses who are trained and ready to work on their own. The first few years here it was intense as we had all kinds of things to deal with. Now, though, things are a lot calmer, and there are other people who can help. Other people who can handle it. They don't need me any more.

JACK

They'll always need you. There's always a need for someone with experience, if only to make the younger people feel like someone's around to catch them if they fall.

MICHELLE

Yeah. Exactly. Just like Fiona will always need you.

Fiona and Jason come out of the house. Jason goes to his golf cart and puts his tool kit on the back while Fiona approaches Jack.

TARA

(to Jason)

Hey! We got plenty of food!

JASON

I'm good, but thank you. I'll be back tomorrow to paint over that spot.

TARA

Good deal.

FIONA

(to Jack)

Hey! Jason says there's some sort of party with a lot of his friends tonight. I was going to go.

JACK

Fi? Shouldn't you clear that with me?

FIONA
I'm sorry? Was I supposed to?

JACK
Before you do something like that
you need to ask me if it's okay.

FIONA
I do?

JACK
Yes. You do.

FIONA
Can I go? Please?

JACK
Okay. Sure. Just be careful, and
don't do anything that makes you
uncomfortable.

FIONA
I won't.

JACK
And don't be gone too long, okay?

FIONA
Okay.

JACK
Promise?

FIONA
I promise! Jesus!

Fiona runs to join Jason, who had been waiting on her, and she's laughing as she climbs into the golf cart with him.

JACK
God. I think I'm going to be sick.

The golf cart drives off.

MICHELLE
She's a big girl now. Maybe it's
time you started letting go, and
spent more time thinking about what
you want for yourself.

JACK
But what does that say about me?
That I feel so ... angry ...

(MORE)

JACK (CONT'D)

That she's got other people in her life right now? Does this make me out to be an ogre?

MICHELLE

Nate would be more appropriate to talk to about something like that.

JACK

But what do you think?

MICHELLE

You said you had two sons. Did you feel that way about them?

JACK

Not really. But they had their mother. We were divorced by the time they were teenagers but we were both there for them.

MICHELLE

And they had each other, right?

JACK

Yeah.

MICHELLE

And they had their friends. Other people in the community. You weren't the final and ultimate authority. If something happened to you, or to their mother, there would still be a world for them. Right?

JACK

Yeah. Or so I thought.

MICHELLE

Nobody could have foreseen what happened. That's not what I'm talking about anyway. What I'm saying is, the relationship with your boys and your relationship with Fiona are completely different things. Fiona needed you to survive, and you took care of her all this time and helped her to grow into who she is today. Without you she would have died.

JACK

Yeah.

EXT. BONFIRE - NIGHT

Jason's golf cart drives up, and he and Fiona get out.

There are several teenagers there, gathered around the fire, hanging out.

Off to one side are some acoustic musical instruments like guitars and drums, carefully laid aside for use later.

The kids wave at Jason and he brings Fiona into the mix, introducing her to them all.

MICHELLE (V.O.)

And now she's got other people in her life. She's going to make friends. She's going to get her heart broken, and it'll be intense when that happens. She's going to need you to be there for her. Because you'll be the only person in the whole Universe who understands. She still needs you.

JACK (V.O.)

I guess I haven't thought about that.

MICHELLE (V.O.)

What does that say about you? It says that you are a good, devoted father.

Some of the kids have picked up the instruments and are playing them now.

The others are dancing, or standing around and talking.

BROOKE (17, Caucasian), stands off a bit from the others, watching Jason teach Fiona how to dance.

Fiona is laughing and obviously enjoying herself.

MICHELLE (V.O.)

It says that you are a devoted father, and you will help her to grow into a valuable member of this community. She'll always need you.

They start a slow dance, Fiona pressing herself up against Jason as they move to the music. Jason glances at Brooke and then looks away, quickly.

Brooke turns and walks away into the darkness outside the light from the bonfire.

MICHELLE (V.O.)

And right now, she needs you to stand behind her and let her reach out and discover who she is. She just needs you to be there. To catch her, when she falls.

FADE OUT