

Locked In

By

Noah McCay

nmccay2319@gmail.com

FADE IN:

INT. HIGH SCHOOL CLASSROOM - DAY

Typical high school classroom, the clock ticks and a low hum rumbles from the air conditioner. At the front stands a teacher MRS. ALLEN giving a lecture on the American civil war.

In the back of the classroom is a group of 3 students talking loudly over the teachers lecture.

One of them LANE MATHEWS a senior in a letter jacket decorated with several patches is turned almost all the way around to face his friends, paying absolutely no attention to what is happening in front of him.

MRS. ALLEN
Mr. Mathews!

Lane turns around blows a bubble. POP

LANE
Yeah?

MRS. ALLEN
Would you like to explain to the rest of the class why everyone else here except you and your friends have to learn about the civil war?

LANE
Hey we have a big game tonight me and the boys need to strategize. You do want us to win right?

The two other children around him cheer and high five LANE.

MRS. ALLEN
Win or lose the team will just do have to do without your strategic genius on the field this evening. I'm giving you detention.

Lane sits up in his chair.

LANE
but...

MRS. ALLEN

but nothing Mr. Matthews. I hope you
use the time to think about your peers
and how your behavior effects them.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

A small old four door car in disrepair with tinted windows
and missing patches of paint all over, pulls up to a small
booth in front of the school.

Out of the booth walks a security guard he has kind eyes and
a gentle manner about him, he wears a worn uniform completed
by a hat that says security in faded letters. He taps on the
window of the car.

POV INSIDE THE CAR

The man inside the car rolls down the window.

The security guard recoils shocked by the man he sees staring
back at him

KILLER

Some kind of problem.

SECURITY GUARD

Uh no, no sir

The security guard adjusts his hat.

SECURITY GUARD

I need to ask you what you're doing
here.

KILLER

Business.

SECURITY GUARD

I'm sorry I need you to be just a tad
more descriptive before I can let ya
in.

From out of the car pops the man's hand. He grabs the
security guard and pulls him into the frame of the car.

The guard smacks his head against the hood of the car.
Disoriented he grabs his head with one hand and tries to
reach for a taser on his belt.

The man gets out of the car.

The security guard pulls the taser, tries to fire it and nothing happens.

SECURITY GUARD

Stupid thing.

The security guard smacks the taser like an old electronic desperate for it to work.

The killer walks forward grabs the security guard and throws him against the booth. The guard slides down the length of the booth and lands on the ground unconscious.

The killer pulls a ID badge off of the security guard.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL HALL - DAY

The hallway bustles with students, lockers open and shut, sneakers scream against the linoleum floor.

LANE and his two friends stand in the hall, chatting against the lockers.

LANE

I can't believe she gave me detention.

(beat)

Bitch.

BOY 1

Come on it's just one game.

BOY 2

Yeah I think we can manage without you for once.

LANE

Oh, you guys going to play quarterback tonight?

The two boys look at each other awkwardly. Then an announcement comes in over the PA.

PRINCIPAL (O.S)

Hello students, I just wanted to remind you that tonight is our big game against Westview. Come support

our boys as they continue their run at the state championship.

A few students throughout the hallway cheer.

PRINCIPAL (O.S)
Have a great weekend bulldogs!

The PA clicks off.

The first boy tries to stifle a laugh, the second slaps him lightly trying to get him to stop. Lane glares at him.

BOY 1
Sorry, sorry.

LANE
Whatever man.

Lane slams his locker and walks off.

At another locker stands a pretty girl ALIYAH wearing a thick, dark colored long sleeve sweatshirt and sporting a big smile, a forced smile, attempting to hide a profound sadness. She is talking to a friend CLAIRE.

CLAIRE
Why are you always wearing long sleeves lately?

Aliyah grabs her arm and hesitates for a second before responding.

ALIYAH
It's what's in right now didn't you know?

CLAIRE
I guess not... Do you want a ride to the game a bunch of the girls were going to go altogether?

ALIYAH
Ugh no... I have detention. I got caught hiding in the bathroom instead of going to gym.

CLAIRE
Why were you...

ALIYAH

Look I got to go. I'll talk to you
later.

Aliyah walks away holding her left hand over her right wrist.

Taped to a third locker is a phony looking detention slip. A boy HARRY KORD with a comb over and sweater vest steps up to the locker and pulls down the note.

HARRY

Detention?

Harry begins walking away

HARRY

How on earth did I get detention?

Reveal a hand it is horribly burned and disfigured, overused bandages cover most of it. The figure steps in front of the camera covering it in darkness.

INT. LIBRARY - DAY

Aliyah enters the library. There are four other students sitting at tables across from her. Lane sits in one of them his arms crossed feet up on the table, seat leaning back.

In the other three seats are HARRY KORD, sitting up with near perfect posture hands folded one over the other on top of the desk. He appears almost eager for detention.

Behind Harry sits PENNY CALDWELL shifting in the seat constantly with her leg bouncing up and down under the table.

In the last seat is CURTIS WEST clothed in a leather jacket with a ridiculous spiked up haircut. He is obviously desperate for attention.

Aliyah stops looks around and then is scared by a teacher who comes up behind her, MR. BERNER. He is a middle aged man in a cheap suit with thick rimmed glasses an air of nervousness hangs all around him.

MR. BERNER

Oh Jeez, didn't mean to scare you
there. I'm Mr. Berner.

He holds his hand out to her. She grabs it lightly and shakes it, an awkward look on her face.

MR. BERNER

Please find a seat and I will get you
guys going in a few minutes.

Aliyah walks past the man scanning for an empty seat. She sees one over by Curtis. She stops in front of him.

ALIYAH

Is this one taken?

Curtis pulls a rather realistic looking gun out from under the desk and replies in a stereotypical 30's gangster voice.

CURTIS

You listen here Sweetheart.

He leans back in his chair, lowers the gun, and drops the voice.

CURTIS (CONT'D)

Yeah you can totally sit there.

Everyone in the room looks at him stunned by what they have just seen.

CURTIS

What? It's fake.

Curtis turns the gun and fires it into his mouth water squirts out.

CURTIS (CONT'D)

See?

ALIYAH

I can see how you ended up in
detention.

Curtis looks confused, completely unaware he has done anything wrong.

Aliyah turns away and finds a different empty seat behind
LANE.

MR. BERNER

I'm afraid I'm going to have to
confiscate that from you Mr. West

CURTIS

Come on it was a joke.

He looks around the room and sees everyone starring at him.

CURTIS

Jeez... tough crowd.

Curtis slide the gun across the table. Mr. Berner grabs it
and sets the gun on the front table.

CURTIS

When can I have it back?

Mr. Berner tries to speak but is cut off before he can even
get a word out.

PENNY

You won't be getting it back.

CURTIS

Well why the hell not?

Mr. Berner tries to speak again.

PENNY

School policy says any weapon real or
fake discovered on school grounds is
to be permanently confiscated.

MR. BERNER

Thank you Penny but I assure you I am
capable of correcting Curtis' behavior
without your...

Mr. Berner adjusts his glasses

MR. BERNER (CONT'D)

Assistance.

CURTIS

Man you know how long it took me to
make one that actually looked like the
real thing?

Curtis sinks down in his chair sulking.

MR. BERNER

Well with that all uh... taken care of
let's get going shall we. This is my
first time hosting detention so please
bear with me.

Mr. Berner looks down at a paper reading it softly to himself. The silence eventually gets awkward. Lane cups his hands around his mouth turning them into a makeshift megaphone.

LANE

Today Grandpa!

HARRY

I don't think you're supposed to talk
to teachers like that.

LANE

Yeah, what would you know about it?

Harry babbles for a moment before finding the courage to speak.

HARRY

Uh. More than you I I suppose.

Lane sits up straight and puffs his chest out a little.

LANE

You want to say that again?

CURTIS

Come on give the kid a break.

LANE

I'll break you.

CURTIS

Oh great comeback the epitome of wit.
How will I ever recover from such a
sick burn? Have all those sacks you
have taken this year given you brain
damage or something?

ALIYAH

Oh at least he's on the team. I
remember what happened when you tried
out Sophomore year.

CURTIS

It was a goof I tried out as a goof.

ALIYAH

Then how do you explain ending up in the hospital? How long were you in the there again exactly?

Yelling breaks out as the whole group is having an unintelligible argument. Mr. Berner raises his arm like he is about to say something but then stops. Penny breaks through the noise.

PENNY

(yelling)

Quiet!

Everyone stops and turns to the girl.

PENNY

I believe before you all decided to turn this into a jungle that Mr. Berner was trying to give us directions.

LANE

Oh what are you on about? You ended up in here just like the rest of us so maybe don't act so high and mighty.

Penny gives him the worlds most terrifying glare. Like she is looking straight into his very soul. Lane shuts up and turns around.

MR. BERNER

Uh thank you for that Penny. Yes first thing is I'm supposed to do is confiscate your phones.

ALIYAH

Oh come on.

HARRY

It's detention did you really think they were going to let you keep your phone?

LANE

Well what are we supposed to do in here for two hours then?

MR. BERNER

Im sure we can find something for you to occupy yourself with Lane but first the phones.

Mr. Berner points at a plastic bucket on the table for them to put their phones in.

One at a time. The students walk to the front and hand over their phones. Aliyah hesitates.

ALIYAH

What if something happens and I like really need the phone?

MR. BERNER

It's detention. I assure you nothing dangerous ever happens in detention. Now please find your seat.

Aliyah scoffs and walks back to the table.

ALIYAH

Alright now you may work on class assignments, or read, or sit silently and contemplate the choices that landed you in detention this evening.

LANE

Well I'm sure as hell not going to do any homework and I don't even know where I'd find a book.

CURTIS

Don't know where to find a book? God are you just a complete moron?

MR. BERNER

I think I can handle this one Curtis. Lane if you are looking for a book I think I know where you can find one.

Mr. Berner gestures around the room.

CURTIS

I think you might need to be more specific. I don't think Lane has ever seen a book up close and personal.

LANE

Oh, real funny.

CURTIS

Hey not every jokes a gem. That's why I got to workshop my material. Not that you would know funny if it bit you in the ass.

ALIYAH

Like you would know funny either. You're idea of a good joke was sticking a gun in my face.

CURTIS

A water gun!

Yelling breaks out again.

PENNY

SHUT UP!! SHUT UP!!

Every one stares at Penny wide eyed and terrified.

PENNY (CONT'D)

I can not believe I am in here with you absolute animals.

MR. BERNER

Penny! may I remind you that you are in detention as well.

Penny recedes into herself.

MR. BERNER

Now I must take your phones to the office where you can pick them up after detention.

Aliyah scoffs

MR. BERNER (CONT'D)

Now please try to do something productive. You will be locked inside the library while I'm gone.

Mr. Berner leaves shaking his head. The door shuts behind him.

INT. OFFICE - AFTERNOON

Mr. Berner sets the plastic bucket holding the cellphones on a desk in the office. A janitor is in the room emptying a trash can

MR. BERNER

Ok if I leave these here?

JANITOR

Sure thing. You'll have to get them for the kids later though. I'm out of here early today. Got to go see that big game. You going?

MR. BERNER

I wish I were so lucky. I have to babysit the little jailbirds Have a good weekend!

Mr. Berner waves and leaves the room whistling, not a care in the world.

INT. LIBRARY - LATER

The kids sit in silence.

CURTIS

So a priest and a Rabbi walk into a bar.

ALIYAH

Nope!

CURTIS

Come on you haven't even heard the punchline yet.

ALIYAH

and we never will. Now shut up.

The kids sit in silence, just long enough for things to get awkward.

CURTIS

So... What's everybody in for?

PENNY

It's not a prison Curtis.

The room falls back into silence.

CURTIS

Ok then I'll start. I pulled this great prank. So I went in real early and uploaded a program to all the computers in the lab.

PENNY

I don't think I like where this is going.

CURTIS

Relax, all it did was make them all look they had one of those ransomware viruses. Computer's teacher came in and had a fit. It was hilarious.

Curtis stops for a moment.

CURTIS

Principal didn't think it was very funny though.

PENNY

I'm just so shocked that our principal had a problem with you acting like a complete jackass. I'm frankly surprised they haven't expelled you already.

CURTIS

How bout the rest of youse guys? What got you thrown in the joint.

ALIYAH

I guess it can't hurt to tell you. I was trying to ditch gym class by hiding in the bathroom.

CURTIS

Why would you skip Gym? Aren't you like some extraordinary athlete.

Aliyah looks away. Hiding her face.

CURTIS

Yeah you're like the head cheerleader or something right? Top of the pyramid that whole deal?

LANE

Not anymore.

The kids all look over to Lane.

LANE (CONT'D)

Quit. Out of nowhere wouldn't tell anybody why.

CURTIS

Don't supposed you'd like to share that information with the rest of the class?

ALIYAH

Not even close.

CURTIS

Fair enough. How about you quiet kid? How'd you come to join us in the land of detention?

HARRY

My names Harry, not quiet kid.

CURTIS

Alright then Harry what's your story. You don't strike me as the misbehavin' type.

HARRY

I'm not. I don't know why I'm here actually. I had a note taped to my locker saying I needed to report to detention after school.

CURTIS

And you actually showed up?

Curtis lets out a hearty belly laugh.

CURTIS (CONT'D)

Somebody was probably just pranking you kid. They don't leave detention

notices on lockers. Anyways too late
now you're locked here in the madhouse
just like the rest of us.

Harry ponders this, rubbing a hand against his head.

CURTIS

Alright football boy, you're up.

LANE

Mrs. Allen's a bitch.

PENNY

You take that back!

LANE

Oh looks like we touched a nerve
there. Sorry but that's the truth.

PENNY

No it's not. You're just an arrogant
jerk that thinks the world revolves
around him cause he can throw a
baseball or whatever.

LANE

It's football. I think our class
president would care about school
sports. At least enough to know which
one's we play in the fall.

CURTIS

You're the class president?

PENNY

How do you not know that?

ALIYAH

Yeah she gives one of her big dumb
speeches at every assembly has since
freshman year.

CURTIS

Oh yeah those! I think I've slept
through every single one in my 3 and a
quarter years going to this fine
institution.

HARRY

You didn't really answer the question.

CURTIS

Huh?

HARRY

Lane he never really told the rest of us why he's in here.

LANE

Neither did Madame president over there.

PENNY

Alright if I tell you Lane has to promise to finish his story.

CURTIS

Lane?

LANE

Sure, why not/

Penny takes a deep breath and begins to talk very rapidly.

PENNY

So basically everyone else on the student council is a complete moron who can't do anything by themselves.

Out of breath penny stops to inhale then starts up again speaking even more frantically than before.

PENNY (CONT'D)

even if you give them exact step by step instructions and finally I just got so sick of their shit and I...

Curtis is on the edge of his seat.

CURTIS

Go on

She is talking slower and quieter now obviously ashamed to tell the group the end of the story.

PENNY

started screaming at them and didn't stop until they had to have security pull me out of the room.

CURTIS

Oh, my, god.

PENNY

What?

CURTIS

That is just the most hysterical thing I've heard all week. I love it President Penny giving the whole student council the business.

Curtis laughs really hard and wipes a tear from his eye. Everyone stares at him.

CURTIS

Oh come on. You can't tell me that wasn't hilarious. Oh well to hell with the lot of you.

Penny takes a deep breath and then points at Curtis

PENNY

You sir are rude.

CURTIS

You know I bet by the end of this I get you to like me!

PENNY

I would rather die.

Penny spins around, points at lane.

PENNY

And you owe us a story.

LANE

Alright fine. So I'm sitting there in class chatting with my buddies about the big game and Mrs. Allen feels the need to interrupt me.

ALIYAH

Interrupt you? God you might be literally the most egotistical person on the face of the planet.

LANE

Oh and your just sunshine and fucking rainbows right the perfect human being.

ALIYAH

Better than you.

PENNY

I don't think that's a very high bar.

HARRY

Yeah I'm trying to be sympathetic but you kind of just seem like a jerk.

CURTIS

So we can agree on one thing our football star here is kind of a dick.

LANE

Whatever I'm not even going to remember any of you when I'm in Alabama playing on a full ride scholarship.

Lane puts his head down trying to ignore the group.

INT. HALLWAY - EVENING

Mr. Berner walks down the hallway casually, still whistling. One of the hallway lights turns off.

MR. BERNER

Hello?

No one calls back. Mr. Berner walks forward.

MR. BERNER

Hello?

Another light clicks off.

MR. BERNER

If that's you Curtis you're in a world of trouble.

In the shadows against the linoleum floor footsteps reverberate.

MR. BERNER
You're already on thin ice Curtis.

From out of the shadows steps the bandaged man. Wearing a dark blue jumpsuit bandages cover almost the entirety of his exposed skin.

MR. BERNER
Oh, you're not Mr. West. I'm sorry we have a renowned trouble maker around here who likes to pull stunts like this.

The man starts to walk forward, slowly, each step a carefully planned motion.

MR. BERNER
Are you a parent perhaps?

No response.

MR. BERNER
If you're not here on some school business I'm going to have to ask you to leave.

Silence.

MR. BERNER
(firmly)
Please leave sir!

The man pulls out a hammer, raises it and begins walking more quickly.

Mr. Berner goes wide eyed, turns and begins to run.

INT. LIBRARY - LATER

PENNY
Hey guys?

HARRY
Yeah Penny?

PENNY
Where's Mr. Berner?

CURTIS

Taking our phones to the office he said so.

HARRY

Shouldn't he be back by now?

ALIYAH

No shit, he's been gone for like ever and the office is like 30 seconds away.

CURTIS

Maybe he just didn't want to spend two hours babysitting a shit head like Lane.

LANE

I'm sure he's just chatting up the hot secretary they got up there.

PENNY

Ugh. Mrs. Newman? You're such a pig.

ALIYAH

Truth.

LANE

A. Just being honest B. I'm tired of you giving me shit. You know, why don't we talk about you for a minute?

ALIYAH

What's there to talk about?

LANE

Oh maybe how you just walked out on cheerleading practice one day and never came back.

ALIYAH

I'd rather be a quitter than an asshole.

HARRY

Maybe we should calm down?

LANE

Stay out of this nerd.

CURTIS

Hey who are you to...

Curtis is drowned out by the noise of everyone yelling at each other again. A few moments later a scream cuts through the noise.

ALIYAH

What was that?

PENNY

Somebody screaming?

HARRY

Should we go see what it was?

CURTIS

We're locked in remember, nothing to see. Plus you never go towards a scream. You run away from them. That's like basic facts.

LANE

Only if you're a pussy.

CURTIS

Congratulations Lane you've mastered sexism and basic insults. Come on down and receive your no prize.

HARRY

Shouldn't we focus on the fact that something seems like it's really wrong out there. There has to be something we can do right.

LANE

Maybe take a look through the big ass window that's right on the door.

Everyone looks surprised at the proposition.

LANE (CONT'D)

Right! and I'm supposed to be the dumb one.

PENNY

Maybe we should just wait for Mr. Berner to come back. I'm sure he'll be here any second.

LANE

No way this is the most interesting thing that's happened the whole time we've been in here I'm taking a look.

Lane takes a confident stride up to the door looking out the window into the hallway.

INT. HALLWAY

Mr. Berner runs down the hall, screaming. The bandage covered man chases after him. He catches Mr. Berner and hits him with a hammer knocking him to the ground. Then drags the unconscious Mr. Berner away a trail of blood streaking across the floor.

CUT BACK TO:

INT. LIBRARY - EVENING

Lane rushes away from the window.

ALIYAH

Lane what's wrong?

No response Lane goes to all the doors of the library trying to open them. Aliyah eventually grabs his arm.

ALIYAH

What's going on?

LANE

Some freak in bandages just attacked Mr. Berner.

PENNY

What?

LANE

I know you're a little out there Penny but you aren't stupid. There's blood everywhere out there. You don't believe me go check for yourself.

The group sans Lane walk over to the window outside is Mr. a pile of blood.

HARRY

Oh my god.

ALIYAH

What are we going to do?

Lane walks back towards the group.

LANE

Well we aren't getting out of here at least not easily. Every way out of here is locked.

CURTIS

It's all Mr. Berner's fault if he hadn't locked us in here we'd be fine.

ALIYAH

I don't think blaming the teacher is going to get us anywhere right now. Also it doesn't feel right when he's you know probably dead.

HARRY

Does anyone know what to do? Because I'm kind of freaking out right now. I don't think I'm emotionally prepared for this.

CURTIS

Yeah I know exactly what to do. I have toooons of experience escaping from homicidal maniacs this has happened to me a bunch of times. This is basically my typical Friday night.

ALIYAH

Jeez

LANE

Lay off the kid Curtis

CURTIS

Sorry, I tend to make bad jokes when I'm nervous.

Harry replies in a soft, joking tone.

HARRY

I think you tend to make bad jokes all the time.

CURTIS

I'll let that slide this time kid. Mostly because that was pretty funny. You've got potential.

ALIYAH

Harry's right though we can't just sit here there has to be something we can do right?

LANE

Well, rooms locked, we don't have any cellphones. They don't exactly make schools easy to get in and out of these days.

ALIYAH

Look I'm just trying to be constructive. There's got to be a way out.

LANE

And I'm telling you there's not.

ALIYAH

So what are we supposed to do just die in here.

LANE

Sure why not?!

The group gets eerily quiet.

CURTIS

Anything you need to share with the rest of the class Lane?

Penny calls to the group from over at the window.

PENNY

Guys.

CURTIS

Not now Penny

PENNY
Guys seriously.

CURTIS
Kind of dealing with something serious
over here at the moment Pen.

Penny takes a deep breath, inhales and begins to scream.

PENNY
WILL YOU SHUT UP? THE GUY IS RIGHT
OUTSIDE THE WINDOW!

CURTIS
(whispering)
No need to bite our heads off.

Aliyah hears this and pushes Curtis on the shoulder.

ALIYAH
Shut up Curtis.

PENNY
I think he's trying to give us a
message.

Penny stares intently out the window.

HARRY
What?

CURTIS
Lane you're not getting out of this,
we're coming back to this particular
topic of discussion.

Lane pushes through the others to get to the window the
other's piling in behind him and Penny.

INT. HALLWAY - EVENING

The mysterious man stands at the door. Writing on a notepad.
Through the gaps in his bandages you can see his body is
horribly disfigured, his skin cracked and split open.

He holds a note up to the window. It reads NO WAY OUT. WHY AM
I DOING THIS? WHY TO YOU? 12 HOURS TO FIGURE IT OUT. The
killer moves the notepad and leaves frame leaving the camera
resting on the pool of Mr. Berners blood.

INT. LIBRARY - EVENING

The group walks away from the window. They all look terrified.

CURTIS

At least detentions not boring anymore.

ALIYAH

Shut up Curtis!

CURTIS

Right, bad timing.

HARRY

I can't do this guys. I have anxiety.
I can't I can't

Harry starts taking short exasperated breaths, he is having a panic attack.

LANE

Calm down kid take three deep breaths.

Harry inhales and exhales heavily. Lane pats him on the shoulder.

LANE

That's good that's good man. It'll be alright we're going to figure this out together. We're a team now.

Harry nods.

LANE

Alright now go sit down for a few minutes, keep doing the breathing and we'll be right behind you.

Harry walks off.

ALIYAH

Wow!

LANE

What?

CURTIS

I think she's just surprised at how well you handled that.

LANE

It's something coach makes us do at halftime we all take three deep breaths and sit down for a second. I just figured it might work here.

PENNY

I'm going to go check on him.

LANE

No we all will. Like I said we're a team now and we have to get through this together.

They all walk back to their original seats.

CURTIS

Alright where do we start?

Penny looks at a clock on the wall.

PENNY

It looks like it's 5 o'clock now so we have till 5am basically to figure out what it is that psycho wants from us.

HARRY

So what's the plan?

ALIYAH

Maybe we just wait it out? Someone's got to come looking for us before time runs out right?

CURTIS

Well everyone including the Janitor was leaving early today for the Game except this fine group of people so that rules out staff.

PENNY

What about parents? Someone's parents should realize they didn't come home from school right?

They all look around at each other. No one wants to say anything.

LANE

Alright so nobody's coming. We can get out of here on our own. We just have to solve the riddle or whatever. Can we do try that?

Everyone nods hesitantly.

LANE (CONT'D)

Alright, now does anyone remember the specific questions he asked us to figure out? They're probably key to this whole thing.

Everyone ponders for a moment.

PENNY

Not sure. It all happened so fast.

HARRY

I'm not 100% sure either.

LANE

Come on guys we need those questions.

ALIYAH

Why am I doing this? Why you?

Everyone stares at Aliyah

ALIYAH

What? I have a good memory.

CURTIS

Good to know

Curtis nods approvingly.

LANE

Alright this is good we have the questions now.

Curtis begins to speak in a terrible faux British accent

CURTIS

Yeah and they give us just loads to go off of don't they?

HARRY

I think they might actually.

CURTIS

Alright crack on with it then.

HARRY

It's the why us thing. It means he wanted us specifically the five of us.

ALIYAH

And?

HARRY

And Isn't it weird that five people who never hang out normally all end up in detention on the same day? With no extra students here. I mean I didn't even do anything I just had a note taped to my locker.

ALIYAH

I hate to be rude right now but does any of this have a point.

HARRY

The five of us. We all must be connected to him somehow. Connected to each other even.

CURTIS

But the five of us haven't probably spoken a dozen words to each other between us before today.

(beat)

Unless you count Penny's terrible never ending speeches.

PENNY

I thought you hadn't...

CURTIS

Ok maybe I caught one or two of them but do you get my point?

ALIYAH

Yeah, mostly.

HARRY

Mostly?

ALIYAH

We may not really see each other anymore but me and Lane used to talk all the time.

LANE

Before you quit cheerleading.

HARRY

Ok this is good maybe there's something here. Did something happen at a game or practice? something out of the ordinary?

ALIYAH

If you're asking if I ever saw a wacko in the stands holding up a sign that sign that said death to teenagers or something then no.

LANE

Actually.

CURTIS

What scholarship boy spit it out?

LANE

Don't call me that?

CURTIS

What it's all you've talked about for months and now suddenly you're the one who doesn't want to hear about it?

LANE

I lost the scholarship alright. That was my last chance to go to college and now my whole life is fucked.

ALIYAH

Wait last chance to go to college? Isn't your dad like mega rich?

LANE

He cut me off, won't give me a dime to go to college. Some bullshit about being a self made man like he was.

Lane opens and closes his hands as he speaks, making fists. Anything to channel the anger he is feeling.

LANE (CONT'D)

I think it's pretty common knowledge that my grades aren't getting me anywhere at this point. So I put everything into impressing the scholarship scouts and fucked it up. After high school my life's basically over.

The group looks at him unsure what to say.

LANE

That's what the better off dead thing earlier was about. I was probably being a little dramatic.

CURTIS

It's cool man we all say stupid stuff when we're stressed.

ALIYAH

Lane i'm so sorry I had no idea all of that was going on.

LANE

Maybe if you'd been around more.

ALIYAH

Look Lane I

HARRY

(interrupting)

I hate to be rude but you said you saw something.

LANE

Oh yeah.

Lan takes a moment to collect himself, shakes his head a little and begins to speak again.

LANE (CONT'D)

I had been staying late after practice trying to do anything I could to get that scholarship. One day after everyone else left I set up some dummies to throw to.

CURTIS

What couldn't throw to yourself?

PENNY

Curtis!

CURTIS

Ok probably uncalled for. Please finish Lane.

LANE

I was sure I was the only person there but after a while it felt like someone was watching me. I looked over and saw a pair of eyes looking at me through the gaps in the bleachers. I went over there to see who it was but by the time I got there they were gone.

HARRY

Did you ever tell anyone about this?

LANE

Didn't think I needed to. I figured I was just exhausted because I was practicing like five hours a day. Hadn't thought about it again till now.

CURTIS

Alright cool Lane and Aliyah know each and Lank thinks he saw someone watching him at football practice all of this tells us what exactly?

PENNY

Cut it out Curtis he's just trying to help. You could try doing the same thing instead of constantly antagonizing people.

CURTIS

Antagonizing people? Isn't that what you do literally all of the time. You go around to all these different little clubs and activities and bark orders at people. You probably don't give a second thought to your "constituency"

Curtis does air quotes as he says constituency.

CURTIS (CONT'D)

do you?

Penny looks hurt.

ALIYAH

You don't have to take that from him. I think you're a great student body president.

PENNY

No, He's right.

CURTIS

I am?

PENNY

I don't care about any of those things really. Student Government, French club, Gardening club...

CURTIS

(interrupting)

We have a gardening club?

ALIYAH

Shut up Curtis.

CURTIS

(muttering)

Every time I have something to say it's always shut up Curtis.

ALIYAH

Penny?

PENNY
right, the only reason I do any of
those things is because I needed
somewhere to go after school.

HARRY
What?

PENNY
My dad died when I was young. My mom
basically works 24 hours a day and I
got tired of being alone all the time
so I just joined every club I could
find.

Tears begin to well up in Penny's eyes.

CURTIS
I didn't mean to

ALIYAH
Just give her a minute.

LANE
Can we get back to the task at hand.
There must be something that connects
us all of us and someone watching me
at football practice doesn't really
fit the bill.

ALIYAH
Would it explain more if you weren't
the only one being watched?

CURTIS
Care to elaborate on that statement?

Aliyah rolls up her long sleeves. To reveal cut marks all
along her arms.

PENNY
Oh. god.

ALIYAH
This is why I quit cheerleading. I
couldn't hide the marks anymore.

She pauses finding the strength to continue.

ALIYAH

Sometimes when everything gets I don't know too much I go into the bathroom and I do THIS.

She points to the marks on her arm.

ALIYAH

I usually don't even check if anyone's around. I think I was kind of hoping someone would catch me eventually.

PENNY

Aliyah yo don't have to

ALIYAH

Look if it helps us get out of here I'm fine. So one day I pulled out a razor and started to cut my arm but felt like someone was staring at me.

HARRY

I'm starting to sense a pattern forming.

ALIYAH

I got scared and couldn't keep going so I ran out of the bathroom.

PENNY

Now that you mention it. I stayed late after last weeks student council meeting. I was trying to get some stuff ready for winter formal.

CURTIS

Isn't winter formal still like months away?

PENNY

I like to be prepared ok.

LANE

Is this really what we should be discussing right now?!

ALIYAH

Please finish your story Penny.

PENNY

It was really late everyone had already left but I started to feel like someone was watching me. I thought it might be a janitor or something but when I got up to look around I couldn't find anyone.

CURTIS

Ah shit, I think the same thing happened to me. I was trying to set up one of my big pranks a few months back when like you said I could tell someone was watching me.

LANE

Kind of a given at this point.

CURTIS

I figured it was the principal or a teacher staying her late or something. I dipped pretty quick I wasn't interested in getting caught. A few more pranks and they'll probably get fed up an' just throw me out of there.

ALIYAH

Then why don't you just stop?

CURTIS

If you knew Adam Sandler in high school would you ask him to stop refining his craft.

LANE

Yeah your goin to be the next Adam Sandler. That explains everything. You really expect us to buy this?

CURTIS

Hey man everybody starts somewhere.

Everyone looks at Curtis they obviously aren't buying his shit.

Curtis takes a deep breath before continuing.

CURTIS (CONT'D)

Alright...Alright If I'm being honest with myself maybe, possible I just wanted a little attention. Things aren't great at home right now or ever actually.

LANE

Come on don't do that.

CURTIS

Do what exactly?

LANE

Look the rest of us have all spilled their big emotional secrets. Don't hold out on us now.

CURTIS

My sister she's been sick, for years now. I get why but it kind of monopolizes my parents time. At some level I guess I figured if I started getting into trouble they might notice that.

LANE

Typical

CURTIS

Yep I'm a walking cliché just like every high schooler. You want me to tell you the story or not?

Everyone gives a nod of approval

CURTIS (CONT'D)

Didn't really work. So I just turned myself into a bigger and bigger dumb ass but that's not really the point of all this is it.

ALIYAH

What's the point then?

CURTIS

Look, I appreciate the free therapy session but we only have until morning to figure out what this asshole wants

so maybe we should quit it with all this emotional connection garbage and figure out why we're here.

LANE

It's team building if we want to get out of here we have to trust each other.

HARRY

So someone's watching us. Probably has been for a while. Why?

PENNY

I don't know it's kind of hard to tell when other than Aliyah and Lane none of us really know each other. We don't see each other outside of school. Not a lot of points of connection there.

Penny gives a soft shrug of her shoulders.

ALIYAH

That's real helpful it's like you want us to die.

Aliyah pauses

ALIYAH (CONT'D)

Sorry, Pretty stressful situation.

HARRY

Maybe we're going about this the wrong way. So we can't figure out why us. What about his other question? Who am I? Maybe we can figure out who this guy is and then work backwards.

CURTIS

How do you suppose we do that?

Everyone ponders this for a moment.

PENNY

There was something wrong with his hands.

ALIYAH

Huh?

PENNY

When I was watching him write that note I realized that his hands were disfigured.

LANE

Those were bandages that were all over him weren't they?

HARRY

Yeah. Yeah.

CURTIS

So the dude is fucked up, like big time. Unless someone wants to confess running over someone with their car last summer I don't think that helps us too much. It's not like have access to medical records in a high school library.

PENNY

Look there has to be something. This guy has us in here for a reason. He set this whole thing up and wants us to answer these questions so everything we need has to be in here, somehow.

ALIYAH

What if it's not? What if he's just some wack job who is enjoying the fact that we're all in here scared out of our minds and he doesn't care who we are.

LANE

Well then we're pretty much already dead.

CURTIS

Loving the optimism.

ALIYAH

I'm just saying maybe the focus should be on finding a way out of here. Instead of this weird group therapy session we've been having for like three hours now.

CURTIS

Maybe she's right. What's the harm in taking another look around?

LANE

I already told you that I checked every single door in and out of here. we're trapped. In case you missed the memo they tend to make schools and classrooms pretty hard to get in and out of these days.

CURTIS

Look all I'm saying is that it's possible you missed something. Like an air duct or something maybe I don't know.

LANE

Fine you want to see if there's a way out. Let's see if there's a way out.

Lane gets up and goes around the library violently banging on doors in windows.

LANE

You think one of em's just going to magically open the big dumb jock can't even open a door.

Lane finds a window and starts to slap it really hard repeatedly.

LANE (CONT'D)

You think if I hit it enough it'll break and we can just get out of here.

The intercom system kicks on and we hear the voice of the mystery man for the first time.

KILLER (O.S)

I'd stop doing that if I were you.

The kids jump. Lane backs slowly away from the door.

KILLER (O.S)

This isn't something you can get out of. If you try again one of you dies. You have 10 hours left.

CURTIS
So it looks like getting out of here
is officially off the table

LANE
You think dumbass?

Lane starts moving toward Curtis.

ALIYAH
Lay off lane, he didn't know.

Lane creeps closer to Curtis getting closer with every step.

LANE
No I'm not going to lay off. Kid
thinks I'm a moron. Can't get into
college.

Lane stands over Curtis.

LANE (CONT'D)
Can't tell if a door's unlocked.

Lane clutches a fist.

LANE (CONT'D)
Can't

Curtis raises up his hands.

CURTIS
(interrupting)
Look man I don't want to cause any
problems. I was just trying to help.
I'm...I'm sorry

PENNY
We know Curtis.

Penny looks over to Lane

PENNY
Right Lane?

LANE
You expect me to believe that. Mouthy
bastard has done nothing but make fun
of people and tell stupid jokes the
whole time.

CURTIS

Don't hulk out dude I'm sorry seriously. I just want out of here like everyone else.

ALIYAH

See he's sorry now can you also apologize to Curtis and we can move the hell on.

LANE

Fine, sorry or whatever.

CURTIS

That sounded real sincere.

PENNY

Curtis!

CURTIS

I meant what I said.

ALIYAH

Really dude?

LANE

Look it's fine we both said our piece lets just focus can we do that?

Everyone nods and sits back down.

CURTIS

This dude certainly has a bone to pick I'll give him that

HARRY

Which brings us right back to why us?

ALIYAH

Anyone have any skeletons hiding in the closet they haven't confessed yet?

PENNY

Harry?

HARRY

Yeah?

PENNY

Well it just occurs to me that we've all shared a fair bit about ourselves at this point but not you.

ALIYAH

Yeah Harry you've been very sparse with the personal details. In fact I don't think I even know your last name.

CURTIS

Got anything you want to tell us pal?

HARRY

Umm not anything useful.

ALIYAH

Maybe we should be the judge of that?

LANE

She's got a point man. I don't want to make you have another panic attack but we need all cards on the table.

HARRY

Fine. My name, my full name I guess. Is Harrison Kord.

PENNY

Why does that name sound familiar?

ALIYAH

Wait you're the District Attorneys son?

HARRY

Uh yes.

CURTIS

And you didn't think that might be useful information? This could just be someone trying to get revenge on your dad?

HARRY

I really wouldn't know. I don't talk to my dad much and never about his work. Plus if they just wanted to get

back at my dad why do this to the rest
of you?

CURTIS

He's right.

Curtis lets out a sigh.

CURTIS

Would have been an easy solution
though.

PENNY

Why don't you talk to your dad much?

HARRY

I'd really rather

LANE

All cards on the table Harry.

HARRY

My mom died in child birth. I don't
think he ever really got over that.
Some days I think he totally hates me
for it.

ALIYAH

I'm sure your dad doesn't

HARRY (CONT'D)

You don't know my dad. I work really
hard to try and impress him, always
have. Straight A's joining the debate
team trying out for sports nothing
ever seems to make him care.

PENNY

Harry I'm so.

HARRY

It's alright I promise.

LANE

Got any more for us?

HARRY

Sure, Sure

Harry takes a breath.

HARRY

My aunt came to live with us after my mom died and she basically raised me. My dad can have a bit of a temper though and when I was 12 she finally got sick of it and left. I've basically been on my own ever since.

ALIYAH

Do you ever even really see your dad or?

HARRY

Not much. Too busy working. He pays for anything I need and signs stuff if I need him to but I haven't had a real conversation with him in years.

CURTIS

Pretty heavy origin story man. I'm sorry.

ALIYAH

Do you have anyone Harry? Any friends or.

HARRY

Uhh no. Not really. Not until now.

CURTIS

Kid if we get out of here i'm taking you everywhere I'm your new best friend. I could uh use the company.

PENNY

Me too Harry.

ALIYAH

I'd way rather hang out with you than the girls from the cheer squad.

LANE

I could use a friend who actually knows his way around the school.

HARRY

Thanks guys but finally having friends won't mean much if I'm not alive to enjoy it. So let's try and figure this out.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE - NIGHT

The killer looks at the kids through a security camera monitor. Mr. Berner can be seen in the corner of the room awake but paralyzed by fear.

The killer clenches a fist and hits an intercom button.

INT. LIBRARY - NIGHT

KILLER (O.S)

Do you want to die? You don't have a lot of time. I wouldn't spend it on this stupid little love fest.

Lane shouts.

LANE

It's not like you gave us a lot to go on you son of a bitch. If you want us to figure this out maybe you should give us a little fucking information.

The intercom goes dead.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE - NIGHT (LATER)

The killer lifts his hand off the intercom button and unclenches his fist.

MR. BERNER

You're a monster.

KILLER

I know.

MR. BERNER

Why are you doing this?

KILLER

Just something I have to do.

MR. BERNER

I just don't see why you would want to hurt these kids some of them may be a little troubled but they're good kids.

KILLER
I know that too.

MR. BERNER
Then why?

KILLER
Because they need to know.

The killer turns back toward the monitor.

KILLER
(to himself)
they need to know.

INT. LIBRARY - NIGHT

In the library only moments have passed.

PENNY
Is shouting at the psychopath really
our best course of action?

LANE
Better than anything else. I mean it's
nice that we all understand each other
a little better now but it's not
really helping us get out of here and
we're on a clock here.

CURTIS
Look I hate to be judgmental but one
of you must have done something to
this guy.

ALIYAH
Why does it have to be one of us?
Maybe you hurt somebody with one of
your stupid pranks?

CURTIS
Fine, one of US must have done
something to this guy. You happy?

ALIYAH
Not really.

CURTIS

Look, do I cross the line occasionally maybe but I really think I'd remember if I'd done anything that could turn someone into THAT.

PENNY

What kind of accident even leaves someone like that?

CURTIS

Maybe he fell into a vat of acid at the old ace chemicals plant?

LANE

What?

ALIYAH

It's the Joker's back story. Real funny. Now can you cut it out with the jokes and references for five minutes.

CURTIS

Alright five minutes, but after that no promises I have to cope with this bullshit situation somehow. I was kind of being half serious though.

PENNY

How so?

CURTIS

Chemical burns, the worlds worst car crash and being roasted like a marshmallow are about the only things I can think of that would leave somebody covered in bandages head to toe like that. Well short of mummification but that's probably not relevant.

(beat)

Be cool if it was though.

PENNY

That's not a very long list and this is a pretty small town. I feel like we would have heard if something like that had happened around here.

ALIYAH

Even if it happened before we were born people would probably still be talking about it. Not much to do around here except drink and gossip.

HARRY

That's probably true.

LANE

Unless someone covered it up.

CURTIS

Alright someone tried to kill this guy and covered it up. Why is he taking his revenge on a bunch of teenagers?

ALIYAH

Why not teenagers?

CURTIS

I mean I could be wrong but I don't think any of us really has the means to pull off that kind of a cover up. You'd need like money and connections and stuff. Stuff teenagers don't have.

ALIYAH

You're right it doesn't really make sense.

HARRY

Only needs to make sense to him.

PENNY

Why would someone do it?

LANE

Look I think we've established that revenge is probably the motive here. I don't think moving backwards is going to help us.

PENNY

No you idiot. I mean what did he do to them? I don't think you go after someone like that unless they've done something really really bad.

LANE

I hadn't really thought about it but
yeah this guy must have done something
to bring this on himself.

Penny gets disoriented.

PENNY

Wow!

LANE

Penny are you ok?

PENNY

I need to

LANE

Penny, Penny!

Penny falls to the ground out of her chair and begins having
a seizure.

LANE

Shit what do we do?

CURTIS

Get everything away from her quick.

The group jumps into action pushing tables and chairs out of
the way. Penny spasms on the floor violently and saliva leaks
out of her mouth. Eventually her body calms down. She is
still unconscious.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE - NIGHT (LATER)

The killer and Mr. Berner watch the monitor.

MR. BERNER

She needs medical attention

KILLER

They aren't done yet.

MR. BERNER

I don't understand how a man could be
so heartless.

KILLER

It was just a seizure she's had them
for years she'll be fine.

MR. BERNER

How on earth could you?

KILLER

Shut up!

MR. BERNER

You know them don't you? Personally?

KILLER

Used to, long time ago.

MR. BERNER

Used to?

MR. Berner's eyes go wide as he comes to a realization.

INT. LIBRARY - NIGHT (LATER)

LANE

Is she going to be ok?

CURTIS

For now I think she will be. She
should wake up soon. Ideally we would
remove her from the stressful
situation and let her get some rest
but that's not really an option right
now.

HARRY

There's nothing we can do?

CURTIS

Nope. Situation is the same as it's
always been we need to figure out the
answers to the world's most fucked up
trivia game.

Penny starts slowly sitting up. Aliyah sits next to her
guiding her up

PENNY

Actually there's one thing you can do for me. There's medication in my bag. In the front pocket would you get it for me.

Harry jumps up eager at the opportunity to feel useful in this situation.

ALIYAH

You really seemed like you knew what you were talking about there. Have much experience with seizures?

CURTIS

My sister I told you she's been sick right. She has a brain tumor. Every once in a while he has a seizure because of it so I learned how to deal with them. As best I could at least they aren't something you can do much for.

Harry gives Penny the medication and a bottle of water. She sits up to take it.

HARRY

How long have you been having Seizures Penny?

PENNY

I don't remember really. I used to have them a lot when I was really young but I don't have them much anymore but with everything going I just forgot to take my medication. That and the stress.

ALIYAH

You're sure you're good now though?

PENNY

A little disoriented but good enough. I don't suppose you guys came up with the magic answer while I was out?

CURTIS

No such luck sleeping beauty.

Penny gives Curtis a soft smile.

CURTIS

I think you're starting to like me

PENNY

Don't push your luck. If there's nothing else I'm ready to get back to work.

LANE

We can take a minute if we need to

Penny stands up and becomes slightly disoriented sitting back down.

PENNY

Alright I guess taking a minute isn't the worlds worst idea.

The group sits for a moment.

PENNY

Tell us a joke Curtis.

CURTIS

Really?

PENNY

We need something to do while we take our little break tell us a joke.

CURTIS

Alright, let's see

Curtis puts his hand on his head and rubs it.

CURTIS

I've got it.

ALIYAH

Here we go.

Aliyah rolls her eyes

CURTIS

Have just a little bit of faith ok. So this guy is in bed with a girl.

PENNY

Nothing nasty Curtis.

CURTIS

Oh come on.

Penny gives him the same glare she gave Lane before.

CURTIS

Alright fine, fine just don't judge me
if it's not that funny none of the
best jokes are clean.

Curtis cracks his neck and holds up his hands moving them
around as he tells the joke.

CURTIS

Yesterday a cement mixer and a prison
bus crashed on the highway. Police are
advising citizens to look out for a
group of hardened criminals.

Curtis does Jazz hands.

CURTIS

Huh? Huh?

The group lets out some slight chuckles.

ALIYAH

It's not the worst thing I've ever
heard I guess.

CURTIS

I count that as a win.

PENNY

Well with that out of the way.

Penny stands up confidently and starts arranging the
furniture back into its original shape. Everyone is shocked
by her quick recovery.

PENNY

Is anyone going to help or am I going
to have to do this all myself.

The group begins to help Penny the tables and chairs
eventually ending back in the original position.

CURTIS

Before we get going again...

Everyone looks to Curtis.

CURTIS (CONT'D)

I don't suppose anybody has any food.

PENNY

Sorry no.

ALIYAH

Why would I have food?

LANE

If I had it I would have already eaten it.

HARRY

Uhh I also have to say no.

CURTIS

Great now I just have to wait and see what kills me first hunger or bandage head out there.

ALIYAH

bandage head?

CURTIS

Yeah sure bandage head. We've got to call him something right.

LANE

How about asshole?

ALIYAH

Or psycho?

HARRY

I'm fine with Bandage head.

CURTIS

Why thank you Harry. I feel so supported right now.

PENNY

I don't think the made up name for the man trying to kill us really matters.

CURTIS

When they want to make a movie about our experiences here tonight you're going to regret giving up your creative input Penn.

PENNY

Noted, now please can we try and focus on something a little more productive.

LANE

We've been in here for hours guys and we've learned all of nothing.

ALIYAH

You're not wrong but we tried to get out that didn't work, we have no cell phones not that the service ever works very well in this god forsaken shithole and we have no weapons to try and fight this guy off even if we wanted to.

CURTIS

That's a pretty bleak image you've painted friend.

HARRY

Yeah I wouldn't mind if we at least pretended to be optimistic.

ALIYAH

What exactly do we have to be optimistic about?

LANE

I'm sorry Harry but she's right it's getting a little hard to pretend that there's a scenario where we get out of this.

CURTIS

Yeah I'm starting to run out of confidence mys....

Curtis' words trail off as he looks around his head stopping at the front table.

ALIYAH

Curtis, earth to Curtis.

Aliyah waves a hand in front of him.

ALIYAH

I think we've lost him.

Curtis stands up saying nothing walks to the front table and picks up the water gun.

CURTIS

Guys.

Curtis turns around to face the group and holds up the gun.

CURTIS

I have an idea.

PENNY

Absolutely not.

LANE

You can't possibly think that would really work.

ALIYAH

I know I said we needed to do something but I didn't mean this.

HARRY

Yeah I wanted us to be optimistic not dumb.

LANE

You're going to get us killed.

CURTIS

Come on just hear me out on this. It looks real enough that you guys were fooled right?

PENNY

Yeah but...

CURTIS

And he wasn't here to see that it isn't real.

HARRY

I mean probably not but is it really worth the risk.

LANE

Maybe he's right.

ALIYAH

Oh come on you can't possibly be supporting this?

LANE

If we bang on the door like we're trying to get out he'll probably come down here. He practically said as much. When he walks in Curtis holds him up with the gun when he's distracted I'll tackle him.

HARRY

I guess it's not the worst plan I've ever heard.

PENNY

I still don't support it but if the rest of the group think it's the best way to go then I won't stop you.

CURTIS

Should we put it to a vote then?

Curtis, Lane, Harry all raise their hands, followed a few seconds later by Aliyah.

PENNY

Are we really sure about this?

Everyone tries to look confident poorly hiding how nervous they really are.

PENNY

Ok then let's try it I guess.

CURTIS

Alright I'll stand over here.

Curtis get into position about 10 feet away from the door.

LANE

I'll come in over here from the left.

Lane stands up and gets to his spot.

CURTIS

We just need someone to get him to come in here.

HARRY

I can do it.

PENNY

You don't have to do it Harry me or Aliyah can.

HARRY

It's alright I want to. Now that I have friends I want to be there for them when they need me.

Penny gives him a little hug and her and Aliyah move out of the way.

CURTIS

You're a good kid Harry sorry I didn't really take the time to notice your existence until now.

HARRY

Thank you I think?

Curtis nods.

Harry goes to the main door to the library and begins to bang on it. Smacking the window and pushing the latch on the door. Eventually the killer appears at the door and begins to unlock it

HARRY

He's coming guys.

CURTIS

Alright get out of there. We've got this.

Lane and Curtis look at each other and give a quick nod. The killer opens the door and enters the room. Curtis brandishes the weapon at him, his arms unsteady, his nerves showing.

CURTIS

Stop! Just let us out of here and I won't have to use this.

The killer walks forward.

CURTIS

I mean it.

The killer continues.

CURTIS

I really don't want to have to do this man.

Curtis begins to lose his confidence and Lane looks around the room quickly. Aliyah, Harry, and Penny are all completely terrified. Lane rushes towards the killer.

ALIYAH

Lane don't

Lane grabs the killer attempting to wrestle him to the floor. The killer grabs Lane and shoves him forward Lane falls toward the ground trying to brace the fall with his arms. One arm breaks as he hits the ground. Curtis stands shaking the gun falls to the floor.

KILLER

I'm sorry I didn't mean to...

The killer scans the room and sees the looks of five terrified teenagers. He looks toward Lane's arm.

CLOSE UP

We see Lane's broken arm.

KILLER

I'm sorry

The killer rushes out of the room.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE - NIGHT

The killer opens the doors to the security office. Upon entering he sees that Mr. Berner has disappeared.

KILLER

Shit.

He glances over the security cameras until he finds one that shows Mr. Berner. The Killer leaves the security room.

INT. OFFICE - NIGHT

A frantic Mr. Berner picks up a phone and begins to dial 911 his hands shaking with every press of the keypad. The phone rings.

911 OPERATOR
911 What is is your emergency?

MR. BERNER
We're being held hostage at the high
school! It's Fr...

The line goes dead. Mr. Berner mashes the hook switch several times trying to get the phone to reconnect.

KILLER
I can't let you do that.

Mr. Berner spins around the phone still in his hand to see the killer holding a torn phone line. He drops the phone and it hits the ground.

MR. BERNER
please don't do this.

The killer walks toward Mr. Berner

KILLER
Don't run. It'll be better that way.

Mr. Berner stands trembling, unable to speak.

KILLER
Nobody has to get hurt.

Mr. Berner summons all of his courage and runs off. The killer taking off after him.

Mr. Berner runs out of the office and toward the front door. He pushes and pushes the door not budging. He glances out the window and sees the door blocked from the outside.

He turns around the killer already behind him. T

KILLER
It didn't have to be like this.

he killer strikes him across the face, knocking him out.

INT. LIBRARY - LATER

The group all rushes over to Lane.

CURTIS

I'm sorry. I just I froze.

Lane speaks through pained breaths.

LANE

He called our bluff. Nothing you could have done.

HARRY

We need to do something right we can't just leave you like this.

PENNY

I don't think the bone broke through the skin we could probably see that through his jacket.

CURTIS

Is that good?

PENNY

Uh yes. It means it's not the most serious break in the world. He'll probably be ok if he gets to the hospital sooner rather than later.

ALIYAH

What can we do in the meantime?

PENNY

We need to cut the sleeve off his jacket and look around find something to make a makeshift sling.

LANE

Not my letter jacket.

PENNY

You can get a new one. We need to get this off you. Harry can you go find me something to cut this with. Maybe in the librarians desk?

HARRY

Of course.

PENNY

Aliyah I need your sweater.

Aliyah holds one hand over her forearm where her scars are.

ALIYAH

Are you sure?

PENNY

Yes.

Aliyah removes the sweater she has been wearing the whole time revealing her many scars.

ALIYAH

Here.

Penny looks at her arms shocked seeing the full extent of the scars on her, extending all the way up the length of her arm. Aliyah has her arm stretched out trying to hand over the sweater. She shakes it.

PENNY

Right, sorry.

Harry returns with scissors.

PENNY

Great. Now this might hurt but we really need to get this off.

Lane nods.

Penny cuts through the jacket and Lane winces. The sleeve eventually falls off and she wraps the sweater around him into a makeshift sling.

PENNY

There.

LANE

Thanks.

CURTIS

How you doin'?

LANE

Pretty shitty. Even if we make it out of here I won't be playing any more football this season.

CURTIS

Look at it this way you'll have tons of time to hang out with your new best friend Curtis.

He holds out his hand for a fist bump.

LANE

I don't think we're there yet.

CURTIS

Alright it's cool.

Curtis stands up.

CURTIS (CONT'D)

Well that particular crisis is pretty much solved. What now?

LANE

Someone want to help me up maybe?

Aliyah stands up and then holds out an arm slowly pulling Lane up.

LANE

Thanks. Back to the table?

Everyone walks back to their seats.

CURTIS

I think that little change of scenery did us some good.

No one responds.

CURTIS

Sorry. Just trying to lighten the mood.

INT. SECURITY OFFICE - NIGHT (LATER)

The killer ties Mr. Berners arms and legs preventing another escape.

KILLER

You shouldn't have tried to run

The killer finishes the knot and leans back

KILLER

I'm sorry that this is how things have turned out. I didn't want to have to

hurt anyone if I didn't have to but I had no choice.

MR. BERNER

We always have choices. You could stop this right now and we could all go home. Everyone still thinks you're dead or gone. I'm frankly surprised you'd risk coming back here after what happened.

KILLER

It was a risk I had to take. They have to pay for what they did to me.

The killer places a gag on Mr. Berner.

INT. LIBRARY - NIGHT (LATER)

PENNY

How much time do we have left?

Harry looks over at the clock.

HARRY

About three hours.

ALIYAH

Great.

CURTIS

I guess time flies when you're scared shitless.

Penny chuckles. Everyone looks at her.

PENNY

What that one was kinda funny.

ALIYAH

Right.

CURTIS

Hey, what was with the guy apologizing?

LANE

huh?

CURTIS

Bandage head, after he knocked you down he said he was sorry.

LANE

He's nuts don't worry about it.

CURTIS

Just seems like a weird thing to say. You know if he's planning on killing us anyway.

PENNY

I think Curtis has a...

LANE

Sorry or not the dude's a creep plus he still killed Mr. Berner.

HARRY

Did he?

LANE

What do you mean of course he did I saw it happen.

HARRY

You said you saw him attack Mr. Berner what if that's all he did?

LANE

Either way he's still a wack job holding us hostage. now can we get focused? I'd prefer not sit like this for longer than I have to.

CURTIS

That's fair. Where were we before the shit hit the fan?

LANE

Before I got busted up or before Penny's seizure?

CURTIS

I don't know the last time anyone said anything remotely worth further discussion.

ALIYAH

Penny was asking why anyone would do the kind of things that would turn someone into Bandage head.

CURTIS

See it's catching on!

Everyone looks at him.

CURTIS (CONT'D)

Fine I'll shut up.

Curtis folds his arms.

HARRY

You were right though Penny this guy did something that got him in this situation.

LANE

Ok so?

HARRY

Well how many times has this town ever had someone do something like that?

CURTIS

Probably like 2. I mean nothing ever happens here.

PENNY

Even if they tried to cover it up there's probably something out there about it. I mean if it was that serious there must have been some record of it.

ALIYAH

I guess that makes enough sense but what do we do about it.

CURTIS

Doesn't the librarian keep a huge book of old newspaper clippings from the town paper?

Everyone looks at Curtis again.

CURTIS

What? You end up in after school detention enough times you start to get pretty familiar with the library.

HARRY

How many Detentions have you had?

CURTIS

I lost track it some point.

LANE

Well where does she keep the book?

CURTIS

Unless a student needs it she keeps it in her office.

ALIYAH

Well go get it then

CURTIS

Oh yeah sure.

Curtis hops out of his seat and walks off.

ALIYAH

That kid.

LANE

Right! Where's the damn off button.

HARRY

He can be a little over the top.

PENNY

I kinda like him.

ALIYAH

You're kidding me.

PENNY

He's a little eccentric sure but it's not so bad once you get used to him plus you can't tell me he's not kind of cute?

ALIYAH

If you think insanity is cute then
sure.

INT. LIBRARIANS OFFICE - NIGHT

Curtis rifles through files, papers, and books begging to get
aggravated.

CURTIS

Where is that thing?

Curtis spins around scanning the room not seeing what he's
looking for.

CURTIS

If I was a big ass book of old
newspaper articles where would I be.

He bends down under the desk and sees a small safe

CURTIS

bingo!

He reaches into his pocket and pulls out a small switchblade
like lock picking kit.

CURTIS

I love you.

Curtis smooches the lock pick and sets to work. Eventually
the safe door pops open and Curtis pulls out a large red
tome.

CURTIS

You did it kid.

INT. LIBRARY - NIGHT

Curtis shouts from the librarians office.

CURTIS (O.S)

I've got it!

Curtis runs back into the room carrying a very large old
looking scrapbook.

CURTIS
Special delivery!

Curtis drops the book on the table. Aliyah grabs the book.

ALIYAH
Where are we even supposed to start
this thing goes back decades.

CURTIS
Yeah Mrs. Peterson told me that she
wasn't even the one who started the
book . It's something she just kept
doing after the previous librarian
left and who knows if she was even the
one who started it.

Aliyah slowly looks through the pages.

ALIYAH
God we live in the most boring town on
the planet, these headlines are
ridiculous.

Aliyah shuts the book and pushes it away.

ALIYAH (CONT'D)
It's all just reporting on town
council meetings and that stupid
harvest festival they have every year.
No way I'm going through all of these.

Harry takes the book.

HARRY
Well we should be able to cut it down
pretty easy. How old do we think
bandage head is?

CURTIS
Hard to tell since we can't you know
see his damn face.

LANE
Dude's strong, fit. Has to be like
late 40's at the latest

CURTIS

So if we want only articles that could be about him we need to go back like 50 years if were being safe, from 2021 you have to subtract and then.

ALIYAH

Don't hurt yourself Curtis.

PENNY

1968.

HARRY

Alright see this goes back to the late 40's so we can skip like 20 years and this guy probably wasn't doing anything too bad when he was a baby so we can cut at least another ten years.

LANE

Alright so we start with 78. Split up the work take the pages out and give everyone a stack. If anything stands out say so.

CURTIS

We finally have a real plan. Go team!

The group does not share his enthusiasm.

CURTIS

What now you all are judging me for having a little team spirit?

None of the expressions change.

CURTIS

Whatever let's get this show on the road.

Harry starts taking pages out of the massive binder and handing them out to everyone.

PENNY

Don't let anything slip through the cracks, if it seems important at all everyone should probably know about it.

The kids all nod and begin to shuffle through the pages.

INT. LIBRARY - LATER

The kids have been looking for some time shown by the pages spread out all over the table.

CURTIS

Don't suppose anyone has found the golden ticket yet?

ALIYAH

Unless this dude is really pissed off about zoning laws or losing at Bingo than no.

LANE

Maybe this is pointless. We don't have a lot of time left. Maybe we're wasting it.

PENNY

Yeah you'd think in a few hundred articles something would stand out but nothing.

HARRY

We have to keep going we're on the right track I can feel it.

ALIYAH

Harry you got to be realistic.

HARRY

I don't have to do anything except try to get out of here. I thought that was the whole point of all this.

ALIYAH

I'm just trying to say.

CURTIS

She's trying to say we only have a couple hours left and

HARRY

What so we quit?

ALIYAH

We're not trying to say that just maybe just maybe it's time to try something else.

LANE

What else? You know it's like being down 3 touchdowns in the fourth you could make up the difference but everyone's so beat down it's probably not going to happen.

CURTIS

Hey I was just suggesting we re evaluate. Not quit completely. I don't want Bandage head to turn me into a damn shish kabab

LANE

What's to say he won't anyway. Sure he has a goal something he wants us to figure out but if that's really what's important to him why do all this in the first place. Why not just tell us what he wants us to know so badly.

HARRY

Guys come on we can't do this.

Argument breaks out amongst the group. Everyone shouting, save Penny who the group failed to notice went back to work some time ago.

PENNY

Guys.

The shouting continues.

PENNY

Guys!

No change.

PENNY

Will everyone shut up!

The group looks over to Penny.

CURTIS

Jeez, you're scary when you want to be.

PENNY

Well I found something and I needed
you all to actually pay attention

HARRY

What did you find?

PENNY

It's a headline from when we are all
little kids. Local Pre-School receives
grant for new playground.

CURTIS

And if we get out of here we can go on
the swings together but right now I'm
not seeing the point.

PENNY

Look at the picture you idiot and the
caption under

Penny slides the clipping into the middle of the table.
Everyone leans forward to see it.

INSERT PICTURE

The picture is of the pre school class. The caption under it
lists all the kids names.

LANE

We're all in this picture.

PENNY

Yeah!

ALIYAH

How is that possible I thought none of
us went to school together until high
school.

HARRY

So did I.

LANE

I don't remember any of this.

CURTIS

I remember a little not any of you
guys but this kid.

Curtis points to one of the kids in the picture.

CURTIS

Charlie loomis. He was my best friend
grew up right across from me. He died
when we were really young though.

HARRY

I'm sorry.

CURTIS

Thank's it's alright. I hadn't even
thought about him in a long time.

PENNY

How'd he die?

CURTIS

You know I don't actually remember. My
parents were always really quiet about
it.

Curtis shakes his head side to side puzzled by his own story.

CURTIS (CONT'D)

Whenever I brought it up over the next
couple years they always seemed really
cagey, but I was a kid maybe they just
didn't want me worrying about death
too much.

Curtis takes a moment.

CURTIS (CONT'D)

None of the rest of you remember him?

ALIYAH

No.

LANE

Not me.

PENNY

Me neither.

HARRY

Really I don't remember a single one
of these kids. I didn't even know I
went to pre school. I thought I stayed
home with my aunt.

LANE

Do you remember anything else Curtis?

CURTIS

No just Charlie. I don't even remember going to school with him though. I thought he was just the kid from across the street.

LANE

Why do none of us remember this?

ALIYAH

I mean we were really young.

LANE

Yeah but doesn't this feel suspicious to anybody else?

PENNY

It doesn't feel right for sure.

HARRY

Maybe we should focus on articles from around then. Somethings got to turn up.

The group nods.

HARRY (CONT'D)

Penny you have all of those right.

PENNY

Yeah, Yeah.

Everyone scoots the papers they have been looking at to the side as Penny distributes her stack amongst the group and they start back to work. Quickly something is found.

HARRY

I have something guys.

CURTIS

What do ya' got?

HARRY

Uh Body of 5 year old found... It's about your friend Charlie it says he was murdered.

CURTIS
Give me that.

Curtis rips the paper out of Harry's hands and begins to read aloud.

CURTIS (CONT'D)
Police found the body of Charlie Loomis today... this is the third body found in recent weeks in a series of child murders that police have now stated that they believe to be connected.

LANE
What that can't be true. Let me see that.

Curtis hands the paper to Lane.

LANE (CONT'D)
No I don't believe it.

Lane throws the paper down on the table.

LANE (CONT'D)
No way there was some serial killer in our town killing kids. That would be like the biggest news in the world even now.

ALIYAH
I think it is real guys I found another one. Headline says brutal string of child killings continue.

PENNY
What does the rest of the article say?

ALIYAH
Uh... ok here we go. Public outrage is beginning to spread as a fifth child was found murdered this week. Police still have no major suspects.

CURTIS
and I thought this town was boring.

LANE

Seriously how have none of us heard about this?

HARRY

I don't think anyone wanted us to.

CURTIS

Makes sense. Explains why my parents never wanted to talk about Charlie.

LANE

Did they ever catch the guy?

Penny rifles through the stack until she finds one with a headline matching what they were looking for.

PENNY

Suspect arrested in connection with child murders. Fred Iverson janitor and building support at Sunny-side preschool was apprehended late Monday night. Upon Investigation police discovered he had been living in the schools basement.

CURTIS

What did you just say?

PENNY

The janitor it was the janitor.

ALIYAH

At the preschool we all went to but none of us remembers.

CURTIS

That's not spooky at all.

LANE

Pretty good reason for our parents to never bring it up.

ALIYAH

Town probably wanted to bury the whole thing. Pretend it never happened.

CURTIS

What happened to the guy?

LANE

What do you mean?

CURTIS

Like did he go on trial, did he end up in the loony bin, did they give him the ol' electric razzle-dazzle or what?

PENNY

Uhh not exactly. Listen to this. Fred Iverson was released today following a declared mistrial.

LANE

Mistrial?! How do you drop charges on a child murderer?

PENNY

It says there was something wrong with the investigation. There's something about your dad in here Harry.

HARRY

Read it. I think I need to hear this.

PENNY

"Prosecuting attorney Benjamin Kord called the event a complete miscarriage of justice and stated that the investigation led by detective...

CURTIS

What? What does it say?!

Penny gulps and begins to read from the paper again.

PENNY

Detective Randall Caldwell was completely above board.

ALIYAH

Wait... isn't Caldwell your last name?

PENNY

Yes.

ALIYAH

I hate to ask but would Detective Randall Caldwell be your dad?

PENNY

Again yes.

CURTIS

How did he die exactly Penny?

PENNY

He um he hung himself one night.

LANE

Did he say why?

PENNY

His note said something about not being able to live with himself anymore. That the lies were eating him up inside.

HARRY

Alright so Penny's dad and my dad both have pretty solid connections to this Fred guy but what about everyone else.

CURTIS

My parents loved Charlie I think they wanted him to marry my sister one day.

PENNY

Good enough for me.

HARRY

What about you Aliyah?

ALIYAH

My parents run the local paper. If you want to make sure something didn't get out in this town that's who you'd talk too.

CURTIS

Just leaves Lane. Got any idea how your folks might be wrapped up in all this?

LANE

My dad owns land all over the place.
Perfect for taking someone out where
no one will find them.

CURTIS

Heavy.

The kids take a moment feeling the impact of the realization

LANE

So this guy kills a bunch of kids.
Penny's dad catches the son of a bitch
but he gets off on a technicality so
our parents go out and torch him and
cover it up. Now he's back and he's on
a revenge mission.

PENNY

I don't know if that all fits.

LANE

We all just talked this out for hours.
What could be left to discuss. Our
parents did what they had to but
because they didn't finish the job the
guy is back for revenge.

HARRY

Are you sure?

LANE

What else could it be?

PENNY

Look I found another article about
another child murder that took place
six months after Fred Iverson's trial.
The cops tried to pin it on him but he
was gone. Completely vanished off the
face of the earth.

LANE

What does this have to do with Fred?

PENNY

Somebody had to have done this maybe
they did the rest of the murders too
and plus what Curtis said earlier
makes sense.

CURTIS

It does?

PENNY

why would Fred apologize for breaking your arm if he was just going to kill you in a few hours?

LANE

No I'm done playing Scooby Doo we already know what happened.

HARRY

What happened to being a team?

Lane considers this but seems unfazed.

LANE

Sometimes you have to make the decision that's best for the team. Even if they don't know it.

Lane stands up and begins to shout.

LANE (CONT'D)

You hear us you bastard! We solved your mystery. What now?

ALIYAH

I don't think he can hear us Lane.

LANE

Alright then.

Lane gets up and starts pounding on the door.

LANE

You seeing this? We're done we won your game.

CURTIS

You think that's really the best way to handle this?

LANE

What we're done aren't we I'm just letting him know.

HARRY

We have an hour left maybe we should talk this out make sure we have all the pieces put together.

LANE

No! I'M not sitting here one second longer I'm getting out of here and taking my happy ass to the hospital.

Lane begins to pound on the door again.

LANE

I'm waiting. Do you hear me you sick son of a bitch?

INT. SECURITY OFFICE - NIGHT

Bandage head sits by a monitor watching the kids. He glances at a clock on the wall.

KILLER

They're out of time. One way or another this will all be over soon. Once it's done I'll let you go. Again I'm sorry

Mr. Berner tries to call out despite the gag.

INT. LIBRARY - NIGHT

The killer approaches the window and begins to open the door. He bursts in hammer in one hand a gun now in the other.

KILLER

Time's up.

LANE

We know why you're doing this, FRED.

FRED

Enlighten me.

LANE

You're a child killing freak, you got away with it and our parents torched you for it and now this is some kind of sick revenge.

PENNY

Lane!

LANE

What that is what happened right?
right?

The killer strikes Lane across the head. He falls to the ground and passes out.

INT. HOUSE - NIGHT

BEN KORD a man in his late 40's wearing a high quality dark blue suit and holding a briefcase enters his home. He steps on an envelope that had been pushed through the mail slot.

BEN picks it up and turns it over it is Blank save his name, no address, no postage. He sets down his briefcase and hangs the coat of his suit onto a hook near the door. He slips the envelope open and pulls out a crude looking note

CLOSE UP - NOTE

The note reads COME TO THE PLACE YOU LEFT MY BODY IF YOU WANT TO SEE YOUR SON AGAIN

Ben pulls out his phone and dials a number.

BEN KORD

Jane? Yeah it's Ben I need you to call the others. I think somethings happened.

EXT. FIELD - NIGHT

The kids wake up tied to giant piles of wood, reminiscent of the burnings at the Salem Witch trials. Mr. Berner is bound and gagged on the ground near them.

The killer stands over them holding a can of gasoline pouring it around the base of the wood structures.

ALIYAH

What are you doing?

FRED

Exactly what your parents did to me.

LANE

We played your game and won. You said you'd let us go.

FRED

Did you really? Did you ever consider maybe I didn't do it? Maybe you're entitled, rich parents fingered the wrong guy.

HARRY

Before tonight I'd say you must be wrong the my dad's a good man. I don't know that I can say that anymore.

LANE

Don't listen to him Harry our parents are none of his damn business.

FRED

I made it my business. I spent years recovering from that fire and when I finally did I found the people that did this to me and I started following them. They haven't changed a bit. Still rich and evil as ever. They do whatever they want and use the little guy as a scapegoat to get it.

LANE

Fine maybe our parents aren't the best people but what you did to those kids. What choice did our parents have?

FRED

The kids? They were everything to me I never would have killed those kids, never. If I ever found the man who was really responsible I...I

The killer breaks down tears soaking the bandages that cover his face.

LANE

God, you really didn't do it.

CURTIS

Congrats on getting up to speed pal.

FRED

Of course I didn't do it. I loved you kids. Going to work and seeing all of you was the best thing in my life. Until the murders started.

The bandages begin to slip off from the tears revealing more of Fred's disfigured face.

FRED

One by one watching my kids disappear. I couldn't take it anymore. I got a little too close. Too overprotective. I just made some mistakes but your parents they thought.

BEN KORD

We didn't think anything we knew.

From the darkness emerge Harry's dad BEN, Penny's mother JANE, both of Curtis' parents SHANE and ELENA, Lane's father Jim and finally Aliyahs' mother and father GENE and SANDY.

BEN KORD (CONT'D)

We saw exactly who you were and we did what had to be done. Obviously we didn't do enough.

HARRY

Dad!

BEN KORD

It's alright Harry I'll handle this

HARRY

but Dad

BEN KORD

but nothing this man he ruined this town. It's never been the same not after what he did.

HARRY

Dad listen to me for once Fred didn't do this.

Ben takes a few steps forward.

HARRY

You don't know Harry, you don't know what it was like to watch kid after go missing. We had no choice.

FRED

Stop.

ALIYAH

Fred didn't ruin this town you all did.

SANDY

How dare you talk to us like that?

GENE

You never listen to us and look where it got you.

ALIYAH

Is now really the time for another lecture?

Fred clicks on a lighter.

FRED (CONT'D)

I'll do it.

SHANE

Just like you did to Charlie Loomis?

ELENA

You killed our son's best friend and ruined his life.

CURTIS

No he didn't! I barely even remember Charlie. The only person who ruined my life was me. All the shit I've done I did it myself I was just angry that you two never seemed to care what I was doing. After Lizzie got sick we might as well not have lived in the same house.

ELENA

Curtis we.

FRED

Everybody shut up!

Fred steps closer to the kids.

PENNY

Fred don't. You're not a killer at least not yet you don't have to do this.

Fred's arm waivers.

JANE

How could you say that? How could you have sympathy for this man after what he did to your father?

PENNY

He didn't do anything to dad mom. What dad did, he did it to himself.

Jane gasps.

JIM

What about you Lane? We've heard from everybody but you.

LANE

Dad after tonight after seeing Fred break into tears telling us his story even though he broke my arm! I don't think Fred could have killed anyone.

JIM

I knew you were no man. Bowing down to peer pressure when you know the truth.

LANE

Dad respectfully fuck off. Now please Fred let us go.

Fred points at the parents with his free hand.

FRED

You, You all did this to me ruined any chance I ever had at a normal life, I can't get a job, I can't do anything, but those kids are still my kids and I couldn't hurt them then and I can't do it now.

Fred clicks the lighter closed and drops it to the ground. He falls to his knees and puts his head in his hands.

FRED
What have I done?

BEN KORD
You've committed kidnapping and attempted murder and you're going to pay for it.

HARRY
Dad!

BEN KORD
What? You expect us to let him go after what he's done to you?

HARRY
I get that he can't get off for everything he did tonight but can you at least give him a minute? Look at him dad.

Fred is still on the ground, heartbroken at his own actions.

HARRY (CONT'D)
I don't think he's a danger to anyone anymore.

Ben looks at the other parents shock and disgust cover their faces. They ponder a moment and then nod.

BEN KORD
Fred I don't know how to apologize enough. I wish, I wish things could have been different.

FRED
Me to

CURTIS
Thank god everyone's happy! Now will somebody please be of use and untie us.

The parents begin to step forward. Fred stands up.

FRED

Please I put them up there. At least let me start to atone for my actions by taking them down.

The parents are shocked.

BEN KORD

We never knew a single thing about you not really, did we?

FRED

No I don't think you did.

Fred bends down and takes out Mr. Berners gag and unties him. He then turns and begins to let the kids down one by one.

MR. BERNER

This has certainly been an interesting night, hasn't it.

PENNY

Definitely interesting

ALIYAH

Might be an understatement

CURTIS

So we're through our giant ordeal what now?

LANE

What do you mean what now? Somebody take me to goddamn emergency room!

CURTIS

Oh right!

The group starts to walk away from their parents.

BEN KORD

What do you all think you're doing?

HARRY

Dad you, ALL of you.

Harry gestures to the parents.

HARRY (CONT'D)

You guys got us into this mess in more ways than one.

Harry gulps chocking on his words

PENNY

Keep going Harry!

HARRY

It's not just what you did to Fred
it's what you did to us. Ignoring,
rejecting, berating us it it turned us
into freaking cliches

CURTIS

You tell em' Harry!

HARRY

but were done with that, so I'm going
with my friends to the emergency room
and after that who knows?

CURTIS

And then maybe Breakfast?

PENNY

Sounds great Curtis.

Penny grabs Curtis' hand and the group begins to walk away again.

Music rises as the group walks away.

CURTIS

You know this whole thing kind of
reminds of this 80's movie...

ALIYAH/PENNY/HARRY/LANE

(In unison)

Shut up Curtis!

CURTIS

Alright but it's a really good movie.

FADE OUT:

