

Secrets

written by

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EXT. HIGHWAY 1(1992) - NIGHT

Super: 1972

The Inky blackness of a winter night.

We slip past a crooked green on white sign.

**"Welcome to Cambellton"**

Underscored by a casting fishing rod. Beneath it a slogan.

**"A place of endless opportunities."**

INT./EXT. FORD F-150. HIGHWAY 1(1992) - NIGHT

Cigarette smoke billows from the driver seat. The interior dusty, windscreen covered in condensation.

We stare out the window. Rain sleet down, trees whip past.

KASSIDY (O.S.)

Just let me drive.

TREY(18) Oil stained hair, face pocked with acne, Blue and gold Varsity jacket.

Trey lids begin to droop.

**BANG**

The truck jumps, Trey's eyes shoot open.

TREY

What?

KASSIDY HARRISON(17) Close cropped brown hair, faded overalls and a prominent birthmark over her left eye. Watches him concerned

KASSIDY

I said. Just let me drive.

TREY

I'm fine.

Only the distant jangling of Fleetwood mac fills the air.

Suddenly the flash of BLUE AND WHITE LIGHTS fill the cab.

TREY (CONT'D)

Fuck.

(beat)

Do you have any gum?

Trey clicks his turn signal on, pulling over onto the hard shoulder.

KASSIDY

No. Why didn't you just let me--

TREY

Switch with me.

KASSIDY

No.

TREY

Babe do you want me to go to prison.

KASSIDY

I told you 5 times, you didn't listen.

TREY

Yea but I didn't know we were gonna get--

Kassidy crosses her arms.

TREY (CONT'D)

This was your idea anyways.

KASSIDY

You didn't have to come.

TREY

And have that werido slobbering all over you. No chance.

(beat)

My dad is going to kill me. Fuck

KASSIDY

Fine.

The truck stops. Trey scoots across the bench into the passenger seat. Kassidy hops over him into the hot seat.

She smooths brown hair. Extracting a tube of lipgloss from her purse.

The white beam of a flashlight approaches in the rear view mirror.

There's a tap at the window. Cassidy puts on a big smile as she winds it down.

KASSIDY (CONT'D)  
What seems to be the problem  
officer?

Kassidy shields her eyes from the flashlights beam.

KASSIDY (CONT'D)  
Officer?

**BANG**

**BANG**

Two shots ring out. The insides of Cassidy's head spray across the cab.

Bathing Trey in blood and brain matter. Trey stares at his hands in shock.

**BANG**

**BANG**

The window shatters. Trey screams.

He reaches for the door handle. It pops open with a **clunk** as rounds sing past his head. Trey rolls out onto the hard shoulder. His eyes search desperately for the gunman.

Gravel crunches. Trey scrambles to his feet.

**CLICK**

Straight into the barrel of a gun. A 38. Revolver to be particular.

THE KILLER JOHN DOE(20's) a plaid neck gaiter pulled over the bridge of a prominent nose, wide jaw, thick eyebrows. Angry stitches peek from his right eyebrow vanishing beneath a knitted toque. It's his eyes that really pull us in. One bloodshot and darting all over the place, the other still, iris unchanging.

Trey looks up at John doe.

TREY  
Please.

His breathing is deafening. His mouth twists. Eyes gleam.

**BANG**

A round explodes Trey's leg.

Trey tries to scabble away from the gun, John Doe lets him.

We focus on Trey's face as he drags himself across gravel.

**BANG**

A round screams past his head. Trey cries. Arms collapsing.

A bloody wake of dark crimson forming behind him.

**Click**

**Click**

**Click**

**we don't see his actions but we hear him.. Reloading.**

Trey claws at the ground nails scraping at the stones for purchase.

**BANG**

**BANG**

We hear Trey's last gasp.

INT./EXT. UHAUL VAN. HIGHWAY 1. NORTH 2022 - DAY

The dingy atmosphere of a rented Uhaul, juddering down the highway.

Scuffed plastic, orange informational stickers, two bottles rolling around in the footwell.

DOMINIC (V.O.)

This story begins with something  
most of you are intimately familiar  
with.

Speckled rays swim pensively across our subject. She is:

AVREL (16) light brownish hair streaked with dyed strips of red. There's an implacable uncertainty to her face, big brown eyes. Tired, awkward and probably a nihilist. She's just spent 4 and a half hours driving and looks ready to keel over in front of us.

DOMINIC (V.O.) (CONT'D)

A girl arriving in an unfamiliar  
place.

Headphones in, eyes unfocused, her head leaned against grubby glass.

Ceilings by Lizzy Mcalplin begins slowly.

As we watch the highway pass. A landmark stands out. Something we've seen before.

It's the sign from earlier. **Welcome to Cambellton.**  
 Since 92 the slogan has been graffitied.  
 What was "**A place of endless opportunities.**"  
 Is now "**A place of end**"

DOMINIC (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
 But i'm getting ahead of myself.

EXT. HOSPITAL. WAITING ROOM (2004) - NIGHT

Super: 2004

A fluorescent nightmare. Filled with turquoise chairs, posters and abandoned toys.

A place of hope and misery. A hospital waiting room.

CHARLIE RALEIGH(22) close cropped hair, conventionally attractive, a bad boys bad boy.

Charlie sits in the corner sucking the life out of a juice box. Eyes Fixed on Tony Soprano as he dances across an ancient tv screen.

A FEMALE NURSE(50s) brown pixie cut, strong features. Approaches him. Offering him unheard news.

DOMINIC (V.O.)  
 July 25 2004 I entered the world.  
 Not out of choice. If I could have  
 picked any time, it probably  
 wouldn't have been this one.

INT. HOSPITAL. DELIVERY ROOM 2004 - NIGHT

Baby Dom shovelled into the arms of his mother AMY(19) dirty blonde, hazel eyes, a series of intricate tattoo's peak from under the neck of the hospital gown. Her left cheek is tagged with a gang tattoo.

DOMINIC (V.O.)  
 Too late to explore the world. Too  
 early to explore the galaxy.  
 (MORE)

DOMINIC (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
 Just in time to watch two white  
 guys duke it out on tv about  
 freedom of speech.

INT. TRAILER PARK. DOMINIC'S HOUSE 2004 - DAY

Charlie sits absorbed into a Tucker Carlson monologue. Baby Dom sits on the floor entranced by screen.

DOMINIC (V.O.)  
 I entered this earth at 12:25, 15  
 hours behind schedule. A standard  
 i've been holding myself to since.

INT. CHURCH. 2004 - DAY

DOM(3) sits on Amy's lap trapped between endless rows of artfully stained pews.

An ANCIENT PRIEST(60s) monologues emphatically. The church is crammed full of do-gooders and people in there Sunday bests.

Dom's shirt is moth eaten, Amy's blouse stained with bronzer.

Amy and Dom listen to a priest absently. We pan over to see Charlie asleep.

DOMINIC (V.O.)  
 Raised in small town coastal  
 America on a diet of fox news, god  
 fearing and alcoholism.

INT. TRAILER. KITCHEN 2007 - DAY

Off colour cream upholstery, sludge brown cabinets. A single two burner gas stove. The kitchen window boarded up with cardboard.

Amy pulls off a coffee stained work apron and name tag. Uncorking a bottle of cheap wine. Sloshing most of it into a giant glass. A younger Dominic(3) watches her.

DOMINIC (V.O.)  
 I'm a product of a place that time  
 forgot. Somewhere left behind by  
 society and you know probably for a  
 good reason. The type of place  
 where I won't be able to own a  
 house in my lifetime, a place where  
 you either have 3 D.U.I.'s, sell  
 meth, or own a yacht.

INT. TRAILER PARK. DOMINIC'S ROOM(2011) - NIGHT

10 Year old Dom draws in a magazine. In the background a screaming argument is taking place.

DOMINIC (V.O.)

I wasn't abused or anything. Just an accident. A broken promise, a practical joke that went too far.

INT. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. CLASS ROOM (2012)- DAY

The interior of a prefab classroom. A box on blocks. A way to handle the overflowing requirements of underfunded overbooked public schools. A white board two windows and a desk, currently occupied by an:

ELDERLY TEACHER(60s) funky glasses. Back problems.

Charlie and Amy sit across from her. Dom in the middle.

ELDERLY TEACHER

I believe your son may be retarded.

The parents make eye contact. Dom sits unaware, his eyes fixed on the crooked crucifix above her head.

INT. COUNSELLOR'S OFFICE (2012) - DAY

PLEASANT THERAPIST(30s) nice curls, helpful eyes.

PLEASANT THERAPIST

We prefer the term special needs.

CHARLIE

What do we do?

PLEASANT THERAPIST

Oh we don't do anything he's a perfectly healthy happy kid, he just needs to--

CHARLIE

He doesn't listen. Not to me, my wife his grandmother not nobody, he's off in his own world.

PLEASANT THERAPIST

Well.



DOMINIC (V.O.)  
 Attention Deficit disorder.  
 Generalized Anxiety disorder.  
 Dysgraphia.. Problems with  
 authority. The solution.

INT. PHARMACY (2013) - DAY

Intercut b-roll of pharmaceuticals being manufactured on  
 mass. Pills streaming past us on conveyor belts.

Intercut with footage from big Pharma ads.

BLONDE DRUG REP(20s) fake tan, white lab coat, kinesiology  
 degree.

DRUG REP  
 Ask your doctor about Oxycontin.

Back to the pharmacy.

Charlie picks up a prescription.

DOMINIC (V.O.)  
 Did it help, no.

INT. TRAILER PARK. DOMINIC'S ROOM. BATHROOM(2012) - NIGHT

Charlie opening the bathroom cabinet. Pulling out some of  
 Dom's pills. Sprinkling a few of them into a tiny baggie.

EXT. BUILDING SITE (2014) - DAY

Charlie shakes hands with a SKEEVY COWORKER(30s).

They trade off Dom's Adderall and Xanax for.. Something  
 different.

DOMINIC (V.O.)  
 That's where I come from. So you'll  
 have to excuse me if i'm a little  
 stumped for optimism.

INT. TRAILER PARK. DOMINIC'S ROOM (2013) - DAY

Dom stands in his bedroom watching his parents through the  
 door.

Amy slams the base of an empty corona into a baggie of pills.

Handing it off to Charlie. Charlie pours powder out onto a dusty tray. Working expertly with his credit card.

Amy rolls a dollar bill bending towards the tray. Her hair splays out over the tray. Charlie graciously sweeps it out of her way, holding it back behind Amy's head as she rails lines.

DOMINIC (V.O.)

See I come from a broken home. And  
not like one of those fun white  
collar, mommy cheated on daddy  
dealios, a real blue collar  
generational trauma extravaganza.

INT. TRAILER PARK. DOMINIC'S ROOM (2014-15-18) - DAY

Series of shots.

We see the same scene playing out again and again and again. The sun shifting behind Dom's head. Setting and rising each time he ages.

DOMINIC (V.O.)

That's why i'm sure things won't  
get better.

INT. TRAILER PARK. DOMINIC'S HOUSE (2020) - NIGHT

Charlie lies in a puddle of his own spit. Passed out.

A baggie of blue pills scattered on the floor.

Crushed up powder spread across one of Dom's science textbooks.

Dom walks in. Rushing to his side. Backpack still on.

DOMINIC

Mom! Mom.

Dom rushes down the hallway.

INT. TRAILER PARK. MASTER BEDROOM (2020) - DAY

We play this scene exclusively from Dom's perspective. As he walks in, he stops dead, recognizing immediately this is an extremely bad situation.

DOMINIC

Mom...

After a long beat. We see her. But only for a flash. Amy lies. Eerily still. Her skin blue, cyanotic. This isn't something she's coming back from.

INT. TRAILER PARK. DOMINIC'S ROOM (2020) - DAY

Dom tosses the pills into the garbage wiping powder up with a cloth. Phone to his ear.

DOMINIC  
 (into phone)  
 Yeah somethings happened to by mom.  
 I need help.

Dom splashes water on Charlie's face.

DOMINIC (V.O.)  
 That's my sob story. You asked for  
 it.

EXT. CREMATORIUM. 2021 - DAY

Dom stands next to Charlie as his mother gets loaded into the furnace.

Charlie reaches for Dom's hand. He refuses it. We fade to black.

DOMINIC (V.O.)  
 You'd be amazed the things that go  
 through your head in this moment.

EXT. UHAUL. HIGHWAY 1 (2022) - DAY

Back in the Uhaul.

DOMINIC (V.O.)  
 There, now your all caught up.

I wanna slam my head against the wall: by Glaive plays.

We see through world through Avrel's eyes. She Looks over at her passenger.

DOMINIC  
 Whose this you might ask? Well  
 she's the girl that changed my  
 life.

He is TOM(45) Avril's stepfather as of 3 months ago. He is almost annoyingly chipper at times, though it comes from a good place it certainly grates on the nerves. He has thinning brown hair and a rather nasty coffee stain on his white shirt.

Tom is drumming away on the steering wheel. Occasionally breaking out into fits of dance. To an unheard melody.

Avrel pulls out one of her Airpods pausing the song.

the tinny truck speakers blast: If you like Pina Colada's

TOM  
(singing along)  
If you like Pina colada's or  
getting caught in the rain.

Avrel shakes her head.

TOM (CONT'D)  
You cannot be hating on this. What  
a tune.

Tom shifts in his seat. Singing into his battered and bruised university of Sheffield flask like a microphone.

Avrel watches him unimpressed.

AVREL  
You really have no shame.

Tom laughs.

TOM  
If you LIKE PINA COLADA'S

AVREL  
you know it's not actually about  
the drink right?

Tom just keeps dancing.

AVREL (CONT'D)  
It's about him cheating on his  
wife.

Tom's moves keep getting worse actively taunting Avrel.

AVREL (CONT'D)  
People just don't bother to listen  
to what he's saying.

TOM  
 Once you've had 6 Pina Coladas on a  
 stag do in Marbella you'll  
 understand.

Avrel shakes her head. Popping her airpod back in.

INT. TRAILER PARK. DOMINIC'S ROOM - DAY

Dom twists in his sleep.

We hear sounds of rustling from outside the rooms tiny  
 window.

**KNOCK KNOCK**

MIGUEL (O.S.)  
 Hellllo?

Dom lets out a groan.

DOMINIC  
 For fucks sake.

Dom rolls out of bed.

INT./EXT TRAILER PARK. FRONT DOOR - DAY

Dominic(16) A mop of sandy hair, green eyes, big bags under  
 his eyes. He's handsome in a slightly rakish way. Dom Raleigh  
 is a kid with a lot on his plate and not a lot of faith in  
 anything.

Dom pulls open the door. To reveal:

MIGUEL(28) the tightest skin fade imaginable combined with a  
 laceless skate shoes and a faded broncos hoodie.

MIGUEL  
 Hey lil man.

DOMINIC  
 Sup.

MIGUEL  
 I'm looking for your dad. He  
 around?

INT. TRAILER PARK. DOMINIC'S HOUSE 2022(FLASHBACK) - DAY

Charlie stumbles backwards into the trailer. A man GURJEET SINGH(39) A soft spoken, well dressed... Drug lord.

Dom stands in front of the stove. Mac and cheese bubbling away.

Mr.Singh enters points an impressive looking chromed M1911 pistol at Charlie's head.

DOMINIC (V.O.)  
See this is when things start to  
get a little bit strange.

Dom frozen mid stir.

CHARLIE  
You'll get your money. You'll get  
your money I promise. I promise.

DOMINIC  
Uh.

The barrel spins towards Dom.

CHARLIE  
Don't shoot don't shoot. It's just  
my son. He's not a threat a  
promise.

GURJEET SINGH  
Where is my money?

DOMINIC (V.O.)  
This may seem confusing to those of  
you who don't engage in regular  
drug smuggling. Let me a get a few  
things straight.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

Dom stands in front of a stylized white board. Pointing to images and pictures of faces connected to together with arrows.

DOMINIC (V.O.)  
My dad is a drug dealer. For those  
unaware of what that entails watch  
an episode of the wire. Basically  
he sells locally to all the fuck  
ups in town. How? Well it's  
surprisingly simple.

Series of shots

-A guy on a laptop.

DOMINIC (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
Well some enterprising entrepreneur  
places an order on an website.

-A container ship in china.

DOMINIC (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
Than our friends over at the Triad  
ship it.

-An American dock.

-An underground safe house. Drugs getting processed, cooked,  
cut, mixed, pressed.

DOMINIC (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
It's than passed down the chain  
from big city players, down to  
local rackets, filtered down until  
it reaches.

-MR.Singh inspects product. Before passing it off.

INT. TRAILER PARK. DOMINIC'S HOUSE 2022 (FLASHBACK) - DAY

We return to the scene Mr.Singh holding Charlie at gunpoint.

DOMINIC (V.O.)  
The problem here. Well dearest dad  
is a giant fuck up.

INT. FARM HOUSE - DAY

Charlie sits tied to a chair face bloody. HERMAN LEE(30s) The  
best way to describe Herman Lee, Jesusified John Cho.

Stands above him brass knuckles on.

DOMINIC (V.O.)  
Now I wasn't here for this but the  
best approximation is. In the same  
way that the drugs filter down. The  
money filters up. Dads eyes have  
always been bigger than his  
stomach.

HERMAN LEE

You really thought I wouldn't find  
out?

Charlie moans. Herman picks up Charlie's bag filled with all  
his profits.

INT. TRAILER PARK. DOMINIC'S HOUSE (FLASHBACK) - DAY

Back to the Mr. Singh holding Charlie at gunpoint.

CHARLIE

I'll pay you back every penny.

GURJEET SINGH

Either you pay it  
(pointing to Dom)  
Or he pays.

INT. TRAILER PARK. DOMINIC'S HOUSE (FLASHBACK) - DAY

Charlie throws items into a rucksack. Clothes, toiletries,  
bricks of coke.

Dom watches him from the door.

CHARLIE

I'm going to fix this.

Dom nods.

DOMINIC (V.O.)

He won't.

CHARLIE

You remember the routes and the  
stash?

DOMINIC (V.O.)

He acts like I don't run the  
business already.

DOMINIC

Yeah of course.

Charlie shoulders his pack. Moving towards the corner of the  
room. Charlie stretches onto his tip toes. Popping the cover  
off an air vent. Reaching into the darkness.

Showing Dom a tarnished revolver. Before replacing it back  
into the vent.



CHARLIE

Don't go showing that off. But it's there if something goes to shit.

Dom nods.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

I'm gonna fix this I promise.

Charlie pulls Dom into a hug. Before squeezing past him towards the front door.

INT./EXT. TRAILER PARK. FRONT DOOR - DAY

End flashback. Back to the present.

DOMINIC

Uhhh, he's out. Right now.

MIGUEL

Damn. You know when he's going to be back?

DOMINIC

He's uh visiting relatives so you know a little while.  
I can pass a message along if it's urgent.

MIGUEL

Okay. Well. This is coming from the big guy, I know you guys always done right by us, but we got bills to pay you know, this economy man its tough.

DOMINIC

Uh huh.

MIGUEL

Y'all are two months be-hind on the rent, so if ya'll could you know get me some of it that would be dope. I really don't wanna have to push you guys out but like you know man I got two kids this money keeps them fed right.

DOMINIC

Yeah man I get it. Thanks for letting me know.

Miguel nods his face racked with guilt.

MIGUEL

No problem man. I'm sorry to do this to you. Thanks for being cool about it.

DOMINIC

All good man I understand.

MIGUEL

Dope.

Miguel starts to back away.

DOMINIC

Is there any particular timeline for this.

MIGUEL

2 weeks man.

Dom's eyes widen. Miguel retreats.

INT. TRAILER PARK. FRONT ROOM - DAY

Dom shuts the door.

DOMINIC

Fuck.

EXT. GAS STATION. LOGGERHEAD PLAZA 2022 - DAY

Tom stands at the rear end filling the truck.

Avrel looks up from her phone. She leans idly against the front fender. Eyes fixed on the burned out remnants of what had once been the Above Tide Motel.

TOM

You want something?

AVREL

What?

Tom slips the nozzle back into the pump.

TOM

From inside.

Tom motions towards the station.

AVREL

Oh, i'm okay.

TOM  
You sure?

AVREL  
Uh huh.

TOM  
Speak now or forever hold your  
peace.

Avrel shakes her head. Tom squints at her before turning to head inside.

Avrel slips headphones into her ears.

All Time Low by: Jon Bellion pumps in her ears. As she takes in the outskirts of Cambellton. Two boat mechanics and an expansive RV dealership.

BEEP BOOP BOOO

The dreaded sound. The music stops. Airpods dead.

Avrel extracts them from her ears. Something catches her eye.

A series of notices taped to the side of the pump.

There's a series of them, all of varying ages.

"MISSING - KATYA CROMWELL" Last seen NOV 7th 2022

"MISSING - KASSIDY MITCHUM" Last seen DEC 27th 1992

"MISSING - TREY GREEN" Last seen DEC 27th 1992

We can barely make out any of the information on KASSIDY and Trey's missing posters. But Katya's is fresh. Avrel finds herself drawn to the little image of her.

The ink has started to run. but it hasn't diminished Katya's striking face. Big Green eyes, a crooked front tooth, expressive eyebrows. Cheeks dimpled. Hair wavy and brown.

Avrel pulls out her phone scanning the little QR code on the poster. It brings her to a little Cambellton police landing page.

OFFICER LEE (O.S.)  
Howdy there.

Avrel turns. Taking in OFFICER HERMAN LEE(30s) Well tailored uniform, extremely pleasant.

AVREL

Hello?

DOMINIC (V.O.)

Didn't see that coming did you?

OFFICER LEE

(motioning to the Uhaul)

Are you folks new in town.

AVREL

Yeah sort of.

Officer Lee looks confused.

AVREL (CONT'D)

My mom's from here, I've visited before, when I was very younger.

OFFICER LEE

Golly, you must be Edna's niece.

Avrel smiles.

OFFICER LEE (CONT'D)

Me and your mother go way back you know.

AVREL

Really?

OFFICER LEE

(leaning in like it's a secret)

I took her to prom. Before she moved away.

AVREL

Wow.

OFFICER LEE

How is she?

AVREL

Not great.

OFFICER LEE

Oh no whys that.

AVREL

Cancer mostly.

OFFICER LEE

Oh Jesus. That's terrible.

Tom approaches in the background.

TOM

Hello.

Officer Lee takes in Tom's appearance.

OFFICER LEE

Hows a going. Herman Lee, at your service. I was just introducing myself to your daughter.

TOM

Oh she's not my daughter--

Officer Lee looks confused.

AVREL

Step father.

Officer Lee looks scandalized.

OFFICER LEE

Well I best be on my way. You folks have a good one.

Avrel and Tom watch him stroll off towards his cruiser.

TOM

What was that about.

AVREL

No clue.

Avrel pulls open the door.

TOM

I got you a cookie.

AVREL

Not hungry.

Tom tries to offer it to her. Avrel slams the door in his face.

Admitting defeat Tom walks towards the driver side stuffing the cookie into his pocket.

As we pull back we notice someone skulking in the background.

He walks towards a parked Crown Vic right leg dragging on the pavement.

Yankees hat, fading surgical mask, leather gloves, cheap cargo pants.

It's John Doe. His eyes catch onto Avrel's face.

INT. TIMBERLINE HIGH. THE STAIRS 2022 - DAY

The bell rings.

Dom steps out of english class. Waving goodbye to peers.

He takes the stairs down to the main floor two at a time.

Skipping around groups of teens occupying them.

A couple holding hands blocks his path. Annoyed Dominic searches for a way around them.

DOMINIC (V.O.)

"Oh but you can do anything." -

"This generation is so soft." -

"They don't even know what a woman is anymore."

(beat)

Well firstly Susan. No we have not solved racism, secondly the ocean is acidifying, thirdly the economy is fucked. We are generation-- raised on post truth molded by pre disaster. Excuse us for not having are shit together. At least we're fucking trying.

(beat)

Just make something of yourself. Pull yourself up by your bootstraps. Thanks Susan but i'm fucking good. I've seen what your future looks like and frankly it looks pretty fucking shit. So i've decided to make my own.

But he finds himself hemmed in, by a group of drama kids sitting along both the inside and outside edges.

Checking his phone he frowns annoyed. 3:30 already..

The couple show no signs of impending movement.

Too wrapped up in their own Disney fueled fantasy.

Sharing a pair of earbuds, holding hands, both holding separate conversations on their phones.

DOMINIC (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Thankfully I already have  
everything i'll need for my future.  
3 Aliexpress e-cigs half a bottle  
of sourpuss and a missing who  
allegedly is on a mission for a  
drug lord.

This is what Highschool looks like these days, less Dazed and Confused more Black Mirror and Bemused. Dominic is summarily ignored by the couple.

He turns to head back the way he came. But finds the group of football kids has migrated too the top of the stairs.

DOMINIC (V.O.) (CONT'D)

See that's the one good thing about  
being a nobody from a broken home.  
(beat)  
Expectations start pretty low.

Out of options he walks to the edge of the banisters.  
Checking both ways for a teacher. Coast clear he vaults the  
banister. and almost lands on one of his peers.

The girl stumbles backwards, dropping books and folders in  
stunned surprise.

She is JAMIE (16) Dirty blonde hair, a smattering of  
freckles. Jamie Baker spends her weekends trying to feed the  
homeless, her weekdays studying and Sunday at church. In  
other words every bit Dominic's opposite.

Dominic turns apologetic.

DOMINIC (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Jamie Baker, is the daughter of two  
successful business people in  
Cambellton, the product of a strong  
household with traditional values.  
So you know, not like me.

DOMINIC

Sorry.

SIERRA

Can you not do anything normally?

That is SIERRA WILSON (16) Reddish curls, extra white teeth  
Sierra is fun but like Jamie and most of the rich kids in  
town lives in practically an alternate universe to most of  
the Timberline high faculty and students.

DOMINIC  
I try to avoid it.

Dominic bends down to help Jamie pick up her things.

DOMINIC (CONT'D)  
Sorry.

JAMIE  
It's fine.

DOMINIC (V.O.)  
What's annoying about all of this is despite the fact that both her parents are cunts and she prays really hard every night to some bullshit god. She's... tolerable.

DOMINIC  
Really.

JAMIE  
Yea.

There's an awkward pause as the two just kind of look at each other.

Their eyes meet.

Dominic's faint brown - Jamie's light green.

Beat

SIERRA (O.S.)  
(to Dominic)  
--You coming to the thing this weekend?

Dominic catches himself.

Breaking the eye contact hurriedly.

Jamie's cheeks colour. But Dominic doesn't notice.

DOMINIC  
There's a thing?

Dominic passes Jamie her last book not meeting her eyes.

SIERRA  
Uh huh.

DOMINIC  
Where?



SIERRA  
Henshaw's.

Dominic winces.

DOMINIC  
Uh huh.

JAMIE  
His parents are out of town.

SIERRA  
You should come.

DOMINIC  
Will there be crack?

JAMIE  
No?

SIERRA  
Not unless you bring it.

Dominic doesn't appreciate that comment.

DOMINIC  
HMMMM. Tough.

SIERRA  
Oh come-on.

DOMINIC  
Doesn't sound like my scene.

SIERRA  
Aren't you a drug dealer?

DOMINIC  
Some of us have to work for a  
living.

Sierra laughs. Clearly not bright enough to have caught the slight.

JAMIE  
Are you sure?

SIERRA  
It'll be fun I swear.

DOMINIC  
How fun?

SIERRA

Hard to say.

DOMINIC

Well with testimonials like that.  
Shit.

Jamie smiles.

SIERRA

Think about it.

Dominic skips backwards with a quick wave.

DOMINIC

Maybe I will.

(beat)

Got a date with destiny sorry.

Jamie and Sierra wave back before walking off heads bowed in animated conversation.

INT. TRAILER PARK. DOMINIC'S ROOM 2022 - DAY

Dominic bags pills. Trims weed and shovels coke into a shrink wrap.

Series of shots.

-people knock at the door.

-They slide money through a slot in the door

-Dom tosses drugs through a piece of PVC it snakes its way out of the back window into the hands of customer.

DOMINIC (V.O.)

That's why.. My dreams these days have shrunken... From the lofty heights of prom and college. To fun things like burying the remnants of my family, maybe even in a real cemetery. So far on that front, things aren't looking great.. At this rate i'll be lucky if I can find a place 5 feet off the highway with a wheel barrow. Not that i'm so precious about it. But hey wouldn't that be fun.

EXT. TRAILER PARK. DOMINIC'S HOUSE 2022 - DAY

Dom steps out of the trailer. Pulling out his phone he scrolls through his contacts before raising the phone to his ear.

**Ring. Ring. Ring.**

CHARLIE (V.O)  
(Voicemail)  
Charlie Raleigh here, leave a message or something.

VOICEMAIL VOICE  
After the tone.

**Beep**

DOMINIC  
Hey dad, where are you? People are starting to ask questions. Give me a call.

Dom hangs up. Wheeling his bike out onto the road.

EXT. CAMBELLTON. BACK ALLEYS (2022) - DAY

Dom rides down a gritty alley.

DOMINIC (V.O.)  
And maybe if i'm feeling a little bit wild, you know.. Maybe I stumble into a room full of gold bars, I might even consider the far-flung possibility of actually sitting down in an actual funeral home, with both the time and mental strength to potentially consider putting my dearest loves into the nice box not the toaster.

Dom hops off his bike. Locking it with practiced ease.

DOMINIC (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
The one plus side of my dearest dad being MIA since August. It might end up being someone else's fucking problem.

Checking both ways he heads down the alley.

EXT. CABELLTON. BEHIND MURPHYS DINER (2022) - DAY

Dom saddles up to a rusting 'Service door' offering two knocks.

DOMINIC (V.O.)  
 See that's why I think  
 Happiness is an illusion. Something  
 you can conquer easily enough by  
 following 3 simple steps.

Series of shots.

-Dom shaking hands with A BEEFY LINE COOK(40s) bald, sweaty and grease stained. They shake hands. In the same way that Charlie his father exchanged the drugs for money in a handshake.

DOMINIC (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
 Number 1. Give up. Number 2 give up  
 number 3 give up.  
 (beat)

-We see the same thing playing out with a skinny waitress(20s)

DOMINIC (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
 Embrace the reality that none of us  
 are special, not all dreams come  
 true and some people really are  
 just cogs in the machine. Because  
 there is no god. Only corporo  
 capitalist cronies named Jeff.

-and lastly Logan Baker(15)Jamie's younger brother. A male clone of her. Long blonde hair, tanned skin, trying desperately to look more mature than he is.

DOMINIC (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
 See thats what i've learned in the  
 short time i've been alive. The  
 sweet release, the enlightenment of  
 our generation is in the  
 realization that all of this was  
 out of our control anyway.

EXT. CABELLTON. DOCKS (2022) - DAY

The KAN'AKAN' chugs towards the dock.

CJ(16) Jet black hair swept back behind pierced ears, and a scuffed nose ring.

She has pensive brown eyes which are currently hidden behind a pair of knock off super store Rayban's. A red checkered plaid and well worn blue jeans.

Humphrey(16) Dark skin, big Austin Powers glasses, graphic tees. Humphrey Oluwende better known as H, is probably best described as a character. A bit like if Bill gates watched too much DBZ

DEV PATEL(16) no relation to the actor despite his hopes and dreams, Dev is a vessel of modern bisexual energy. A natural flirt and socialite. He rounds out their strange group of outcasts and weirdo's.

DOM jogs down onto the dock.

CJ

Look who finally showed up

DOMINIC (V.O.)

My friends.

Series of shots.

-Cj working on a fish boat

-H winning a science fair

-Dev slaying looks

DOMINIC (V.O.) (CONT'D)

I met CJ in the 2nd grade.

EXT. PLAYGROUND(FLASHBACK)2008 - DAY

It's recess circa 2012. Rainy day.

YOUNG CASSIA COSCARELLI(8)Caden's sister, we'll meet her later, Designer snow suit and fancy shoes.

Shoves YOUNG DOMINIC(8)Puffy winter jacket and a muddy pair of pants.

To the ground.

YOUNG DOMINIC

What the hell.

YOUNG CASSIA

Screw off fag.

YOUNG CJ(8) She's in a rain mack about 3 sizes to big. She approaches in the background.

Cassia towers over Dom.

  YOUNG CASSIA (CONT'D)  
                  We don't like your kind here.

Cassia's face twists.

Lashing out with her feet.

Dom covers his head from the blows.

But none comes.

Dom lowers his hands and watches YOUNG CJ shove YOUNG CASSIA flat on her back.

**End flashback**

EXT. CAMBELLTON. DOCKS (2022) - DAY

The KAN'AKAN' makes landfall. Or dockfall if we're being real technical.

  DOMINIC (V.O.)  
                  We've been friends ever since.  
                  She's the youngest of 4 brothers  
                  and my neighbour. And most  
                  importantly probably the worst  
                  taste in men you could imagine.

Dom watches her with a smile. Dev turns offering a big wave.

  DOMINIC (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
                  Than theres Dev my second oldest  
                  friend. He came out in the 4th  
                  grade which I mean perfectly  
                  represents how little of a fuck he  
                  gives about what other people  
                  think. Dev is a diagnosed theatre  
                  kid, with hopes and dreams of  
                  making it big in hollywood,  
                  bollywood or really any wood.. He  
                  isn't really that picky to be  
                  honest. Also somehow even worse  
                  taste in men.

Dom tosses his bag down. H offers Dom a pensive nod.

  DOMINIC (O.S.)  
                  H was a late addition to our trio.  
                  His parents moved here in the 8th  
                  grade. He was gangly, nerdy and  
                  shy.

  (MORE)

DOMINIC (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
 Probably the least athletic person  
 you can conceive of. Also one of  
 the sharpest minds I know. Early  
 admission at CAL-TECH for something  
 smart I think. But don't tell him I  
 said that, he's got a big enough  
 ego as it is. Taste in men-- not  
 applicable.

Cj waits patiently at the tip of the dock.

MR.TALLFEATHER(46) CJ's father, tall, bushy bearded almost  
 regal looking stands at the rail.

He tosses a thick set rope towards

CJ who scoops it up jogging with the KAN'AKAN' as it slips  
 slowly into the birth.

Securing it to a hitch with practiced ease.

The gang wave in MR.TALLFEATHER'S general direction he  
 returns the favour heartily.

EXT. CAMBELLTON. DOCKS. GUTTING TABLE (2022) - DAT

Cj in waders and a beat up anorak processing cod.

Her knife work is fast, clean and efficient.

A few scales stuck to her left cheek.

Dom sticks gloved hands into the bucket passing her another  
 victim.

Dev receives the finished product tossing into a cooler.

DOMINIC  
 It's just I don't understand what  
 we get out of this?

DEV  
 We get laid and drunk bitch.

Cj snorts.

DEV (CONT'D)  
 What's funny about that?

Dom shrugs.

DEV (CONT'D)

What's gotten into you lately. We had so much fun last time--

CJ

To be clear it was **you** who had all the fun.

DEV

Honey I swear you are dryer than the Sahara. Let loose.

CJ

Fuck off, not all of us feel the need to suck off everything with legs and a perm.

H inhales his laughter.

H

Third option we find a nice pit and just watch you guys duke it out.

DEV

My my- Anything to get my shirt off.

CJ howls. H blushes.

DOMINIC

Weren't we gonna do movie night?

DEV

You do realize the hunky men on tv aren't real.

CJ

If only.

DOMINIC

I just don't understand why we feel the need to always be so insanely fucking cliché. Like fuck, another house party.

DEV

Honey it's not cliché, that's just what normal kids do in high school.



DOMINIC

I am normal. Excuse me if  
I don't have any particular  
interest in drinking shit beer,  
gyrating for two hours and then  
throwing up on someones lawn.

H

Based.

Thanks?

DOMINIC

DEV

(to H)  
Could you please study how to  
get some bitches?

H

Not all of us feel the same need  
for casual intercourse.

DEV

Why are you both so afraid of the  
opposite sex?

DOMINIC

H

What are you talking about? I am not afraid of women.

DEV

Prove it than. Come.

Silence. He's got them there.

DEV (CONT'D)

I recognize that this is cringe and  
will probably not be fun, but like  
don't we owe ourselves at least a  
chance to be young and stupid.

CJ

Henshaw is objectively a cunt.

H shrugs.

H

he's not measure-ably worse than  
Caden.

CJ

You say that, but considering the  
hot gos I heard in french.

DEV

Spill.

CJ

Two inches rock hard.

DEV

Shut up.

H

Now that, is measurable.

DOMINIC

Do we have to talk about this mans  
sub par meat while i'm double  
fisting dead fish.

The gang turns. Watching the approaching hulk of the Queen of Cowichan. On its return journey.

DEV

Are we done yet?

Cj shakes her head. Dom slips off his gloves.

CJ

Where do you think your going?

DOMINIC

Work.

Cj frowns disapproval clear.

EXT. 2236 HARRISON AVE. AVREL'S HOME (2022) - DAY

The sun's rays blind us as the Uhaul pulls to stop.

The street is bustling. Curtains open. Tv's blaring. Dinner grilling.

It's happy and energetic and hopeful looking.

Avrel examines her new surroundings a look of hopelessness crossing her face.

That's when we really notice the big bags under her eyes and the despondent sadness that seems to radiate from her.

INT. 2236 HARRISON AVE. AVREL'S HOME (2022) - DAY

Avrel hoofs a large box marked Clothes. Into the living room. Taking a moment to admire the threadbare carpet and the cute but glitzy faux 60's decor.

Tom follows her up the stairs whistling

TOM

Isn't this lovely.

AVREL

I imagine you come appreciate the  
yellowed hue of the paint.

TOM

Oh come now it's lovely. Your  
grandmother certainly knows her way  
around a yellow hue.

AVREL

It's mustard at best--

TOM (CONT'D)

I love a good dijon.

OLIVIA (O.S.)

Hellooo?

TOM

We've arrived

OLIVIA

All in one piece.

AVREL

Mostly.

OLIVIA(40) Avrel's mother leans around the corner. Dressed like someone got caught in the act robbing MEC. Plaid shirt, fluffy toque and jeans. Olivia lights up every room she enters, bright, charming and cheeky.

OLIVIA

Did they survive the passage dear.

AVREL

Which?

OLIVIA

Oh you know.

AVREL

Despite Thomas's here's best  
efforts.

OLIVIA

Dear?

As she approaches we notice big bags under Olivia's eyes.

TOM

That is an entirely unto-wards  
accusation. I handled that  
chevrolet like dame Judy Dench.

OLIVIA

You what?

TOM

Some of the poetry in that may have  
been misplaced.

OLIVIA

No please detail how you handled  
"dame Judy Dench"

TOM

Well. She was well packed. Smooth  
ride. Wide at the waist.

OLIVIA

Oh baby.

AVREL

I feel physically ill

OLIVIA

Don't be such a prude.

AVREL

From my own mother--

Avrel heads for the stairs.

She looks back at her mother embracing Tom.

Avrel watches them lean in for a kiss.

She turns away unable to watch.

EXT. BAKER RESIDENCE (2022) - DAY

The same sketchy crown vic we saw earlier is parked out  
front.

The back windows are tinted. With a whirr one of them begins  
to descend. Out pokes the distinctive curve of a telephoto  
lens.

We shift to it's perspective.

Jamie Baker stands in her room. Examining her outfit in the  
mirror. The shutter fires.

INT. BAKER RESIDENCE (2022) - DAY

Jamie stuffs plastic bottles of Smirnoff into her bag.

LOGAN BAKER (O.S.)

Naughty naughty.

Jamie jumps.

JAMIE

Oh my god.

LOGAN BAKER

Lords name in vain, strike one.

JAMIE

Leave me alone.

LOGAN BAKER

You want me to throw in the kitchen sink.

JAMIE

Screw off Logan.

LOGAN BAKER

Tsk Tsk. Confession this week will be blast.

EXT. CAMBELLTON PARK. - DAY

Dom makes an exchange with a COLLEGE STUDENT(20s)  
He shakes hands with the guy before strolling off  
Stuffing rolled 20's into the pocket of his hoody.

INT. IDEAL CAFE. - DAY

Dom waves to a local. Making his way towards the kitchen.

INT. IDEAL CAFE. KITCHEN - DAY

Dom places a package on the aluminum pass. SWEATY CHEF(40s)  
shoves bills in Dom's direction.

INT. IDEAL CAFE. BATHROOM - DAY

Dom counts his profits. Leafing through bills.

40,80,120,220,320,410. Not bad. Dom pulls out his phone.  
Dialling a number.

DOMINIC

Miguel?

MIGUEL (O.S.)  
(filtered)  
Sup.

DOMINIC  
Dad just got back to me. He's  
wondering if it's okay if you  
settle up with me.

MIGUEL (O.S.)  
(filtered)  
Absolutely little man as long as I  
get my money.

DOMINIC  
How much do we owe?

MIGUEL (O.S.)  
(filtered)  
Well, considering the, water,  
electric, and two months of rent.

We hear Miguel scratching away at a pad in the background.

MIGUEL (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
(filtered)  
Total comes to 2597.16.

Dom looks stares at his small pile of cash.

DOMINIC  
Cool. Cool.  
(it's very much no not  
cool.)  
Cool.

MIGUEL (O.S.)  
(filtered)  
Dope man thanks for getting back to  
me.

DOMINIC  
Yea forsure.

MIGUEL (O.S.)  
Yo man is it possible for you to  
get me this by friday.

DOMINIC  
Uh.

MIGUEL (O.S.)  
 (filtered)  
 I'm not tryna fuck with yo shit but  
 like it's my Carlita's birthday  
 sunday and i'm a little short on  
 cash you know how it is. This  
 economy man.

Dom silently curses.

DOMINIC  
 Yea man forsure. I'll do my best.

MIGUEL (O.S.)  
 (filtered)  
 Thanks so much. See you friday.

Miguel hangs up.

DOMINIC (V.O.)  
 Well fuck.

EXT. IDEAL CAFE. FRONT DOOR - DAY

Dom steps out of the cafe. Walking towards his bike.

EXT. CAMBELLTON. BROADWAY (2022) - DAY

Dom rides down Broadway, Hands free.

DOMINIC (V.O.)  
 See that's what gets people in  
 trouble these days. Believing..  
 Just keep scrolling, it's easier  
 that way.

A cop car pulls up right behind him. The light turns red. Dom slows the bike. Taking a right.

EXT. CAMBELLTON. PARK (2022) - DAY

DOMINIC (V.O.)  
 So there I was. Broke. On the verge  
 of eviction/ruining Carlita's  
 birthday. Just a real fucking shit  
 show of a week.

Dom checks over his shoulder. The cop is still following him.

Dom pulls another quick turn. The cop car accelerates in the background trying to catch him.

Dom hangs a quick right. And finds Officer Lee standing in the intersection. Waiting...

OFFICER LEE  
Mr. Raleigh.

Dom squeezes the brakes.

DOMINIC  
Herman.

OFFICER LEE  
You mind coming with me.

DOMINIC  
You got a warrant?

Officer Lee smiles.

EXT. CABELLTON. SIDEWALK - DAY

Pedestrians stream past as Officer Lee, OFFICER CAROL(30s)Undercut and an attitude and OFFICER OLATUNJI(40s) extremely jacked and emotionally unstable. They surround Dom.

OFFICER LEE  
You know we've been watching you for a few weeks.

Dom shrugs.

DOMINIC  
See anything interesting.

OFFICER LEE  
Certainly.

DOMINIC  
Good for you Herman, finally getting those steps in are we.

OFFICER OLATUNJI  
Listen here young man--

Officer Lee holds up a hand. Silencing Olatunji.

OFFICER LEE  
Haven't seen Mr.Raleigh around much.

Dom hesitates before shrugging.



OFFICER LEE (CONT'D)

I was just wondering how he's doing?

DOMINIC

Stellar.

OFFICER LEE

Why are you lying to me?

DOMINIC

I would never. Not to such an honest soul.

OFFICER LEE

Cut the shit.

DOMINIC

Cross my heart and hope to die.  
I've been an extremely good boy.  
Just like you.

Officer Lee laughs. His colleagues join him.

OFFICER LEE

Look friend we can do this one of two ways. Either we have a civilized conversation between adults or.

DOMINIC

Or what you'll shoot me?

Officer Lee smiles.

DOMINIC (CONT'D)

You'd love that wouldn't you. Blow my little juvenile head clean off. Justice served.

OFFICER LEE

Dominic. Can I call you that?

DOMINIC

It's funny last night your mother asked me a similar question.

Officer Lee laughs. It doesn't reach his eyes. He stretches out his arm grasping Dom by the shoulder.

Nails digging in.

DOMINIC (CONT'D)  
Get your fucking hands off me. You  
don't have shit on me.

OFFICER LEE  
Whats in the bag?

DOMINIC  
...Textbooks, a water bottle.

Officer Lee snatches it off the ground.

OFFICER LEE  
Really.

Dom tries to keep his cool.

DOMINIC  
You don't have a warrant.

OFFICER LEE  
Do you smell that Carol?

OFFICER CAROL  
Smells like weed to me boss.

OFFICER OLATUNJI  
Look at his eyes.

DOMINIC  
You know this is all being recorded  
right?

OFFICER LEE  
Officer Carol it appears that my  
body camera has ceased to function  
optimally could you and Officer  
Olatunji fetch me a working one.

Officer Olatunji and Carol smirk.

OFFICER CAROL  
Yessir.

Lee unclips the camera from his shoulder. It tumbles to the  
ground.

Officer Carol scoops it up she and Olatunji head for their  
cruiser down the block.

OFFICER LEE  
That's better.

Dominic fidgets.

OFFICER CAROL

Two ways. Either you tell me where he is or I inspect the contents of this bag.

Officer Lee grin is predatory.

DOMINIC

Lets not get ahead of ourselves.

OFFICER CAROL

Wonderful. Now answer the question.

DOMINIC

I don't know.

Officer Lee reaches for one of the bags zips.

DOMINIC (CONT'D)

(panicking)

I don't track his each and every movement.

OFFICER LEE

You can do better than that.

DOMINIC

(glancing at his phone)

At this exact moment he is either at home preparing me a beautiful braised beef casserole. Preparing his mind body and soul to begin pounding the shit out of your mother.

Officer Lee starts unzipping.

DOMINIC (CONT'D)

Come-on man. I'm only messing.

OFFICER LEE

(whispering)

Do you know how easy it would be for me to make your life unpleasant.

DOMINIC

I've told you **I don't know.**

OFFICER LEE

(whispering)

It's amazing the total and utter lack of self preservation in your family.

Dom's face hardens.

DOMINIC  
Don't you dare--

OFFICER LEE  
I was really so sorry for her loss,  
she truly was a spark.

DOMINIC  
You're a real fucking sicko--

OFFICER LEE  
You know I enjoyed her services  
several times before your arrival.

DOMINIC  
Shut up.

OFFICER LEE  
(whispering)  
We might be more alike than you  
think.

DOMINIC  
You--

DOMINIC (CONT'D)  
Do you get off on intimating kids.  
Does it make you feel big and  
strong.

Officer Lee just smirks.

DOMINIC (CONT'D)  
Search me you little fucking  
parasite. Get it over with.

OFFICER LEE  
Now why would I do something so  
silly.

Dom frowns.

OFFICER LEE (CONT'D)  
You misunderstand me. I need people  
like you.

DOMINIC  
Are you blackmailing me?

OFFICER LEE  
Justice has a price.  
(beat)  
Now..Where is he?

DOMINIC  
I've already told you I don't know.

OFFICER LEE  
Dominic let me make this explicitly  
clear to you. I will get this  
information out of you one way or  
another.

Dom runs his hand through his hair.

OFFICER LEE (CONT'D)  
You may not fear for your own life,  
that we've established. Let me walk  
you through a possibility.

Dom's face falls.

OFFICER LEE (CONT'D)  
Can you imagine how terrible it  
would be if little Cj Tallfeather  
found herself in possession of  
class A narcotics. Taken from all  
she knows into a detention  
facility. How long do you think  
she'd last amongst hardened  
criminals?

The world suddenly comes crashing down around Dom.

DOMINIC  
You'd never get away with it.

OFFICER LEE  
You wanna bet?

Officer Lee hands return to the bags zippers.

OFFICER LEE (CONT'D)  
Where is he?

DOMINIC  
Last I saw he was heading up island  
on a delivery.

OFFICER LEE  
Wasn't that easy.

Lee tosses the bag into Dom's chest. Patting him on the shoulder.

OFFICER LEE (CONT'D)  
Pleasure doing business.

INT. 2236 HARRISON AVE. OUTSIDE AVREL'S ROOM. (2022) - DAY

Avrel looks up at the tiny trap door in the ceiling.

The doorway to her new room.

Well not technically.. Stairway to her new room.

She hesitates. Some part of her worried that going up those stairs might make this all real.

OLIVIA  
Need a hand.

In a moment Avrel flips the switch, her frown replaced with a wide smile. It's not real but man is it tough to tell.

AVREL  
No i'm fine.

OLIVIA  
It has the best view in the house.

AVREL  
Really?

OLIVIA  
Yeah. Many a good summer was spent up there. You'll love it I promise.

Olivia reach's up pulling down the stairs.

Avrel hesitates for a moment before slowly making her way up.

EXT./INT. CAMBELLTON SIDEWALK. HONDA CIVIC - DAY

Dom sits on the curb. The confident kid from earlier gone.

He looks so small.

A beat up Honda civic pulls up in front of him. Dev leans out the window.

DEV  
Hurry up. We've got places to be.

Dom stands lost in thought.

INT./EXT. HONDA CIVIC. DOWNTOWN CABELLTON - DAY

Dom stares out the window.

CJ  
Dom? Hello?

DOMINIC  
Sorry what?

CJ  
Are you okay?

DOMINIC  
Yeah fine.

Cj's eyes shift to the rearview mirror. Meeting with a worried Dev.

INT. 2236 HARRISON AVE. AVRELS ROOM (2022) - DAY

Olivia isn't lying the view really is incredible. Golden glow spreads across the angled walls. Dust hovers in the air.

It's a tiny little space tucked directly against the houses A frame roof.

One window at its centrepiece staring out into forest. Carved into the front of the house.

A tiny single bed tucked in the corner. A simple chest of drawers. A desk.

It's quaint. Avrel looks at it blankly.

OLIVIA  
Beautiful huh.

AVREL  
Yeah.

OLIVIA  
This is going to be so much fun.

AVREL  
Why did you pick this one? I mean there are other rooms in the house.

OLIVIA  
 (gets very quiet for a  
 moment)  
 I thought about it.  
 (beat)  
 But it didn't feel right.

Theres a question on the tip of Avrel's tongue.

AVREL  
 Why--

OLIVIA  
 Don't tell your grandmother but the  
 real reason I loved this room. Is  
 well. It's easier to show you.

Olivia moves to the window.

Pushing it open.

Revealing a ladder attached directly to the roof.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)  
 Lets just say that in my youth I  
 may have smuggled quite a series of  
 men through that window--

AVREL  
 Mum!

OLIVIA  
 What it's true.

AVREL  
 I have to sleep here.

OLIVIA  
 I can assure you there was little  
 sleeping involved--

AVREL  
 Mum!

INT./EXT. HONDA CIVIC. THE OPEN ROAD (2022) - DAY

The gang pass the baker residence.

H  
 Is that who I think it is?

We see Jamie pry open her second floor window.



DEV  
Yes. It is.

Jamie shimmies down the drainpipe.

CJ  
Shouldn't she be in church?

Dropping to the ground with a thump.

DOMINIC H  
Hey relax she's cool. Definitely.

Jamie strides across the yard.

DEV  
God you are down horrendous.

Dom doesn't reply. Lost in thought.

Jamie hops over a few fences disappearing into the forest.

DOMINIC  
Where is she going?

H  
That's the question isn't it.

CJ  
Off to fuck a choir boy.

DOMINIC  
Have some respect.

DEV  
Listen to him, my little ally.

DOMINIC  
Shut up.

DEV  
Sensitive are we.

DOMINIC  
(trying to shift the  
subject)  
Where are we even going?

Dev smirks.

DEV  
You'll see.  
(beat)  
Left here.

EXT. SUMMER HOUSE. (2022) - DAY

They find themselves at the edge of a Cul de sac.

Green grass. Sloped curbs. It's very suburban nouveau rich.

4 Teens scramble out the left hand side of a rusted 80s civic.

It's a bruised and battered thing, three missing hub caps, different coloured doors, one headlight flapping in the breeze.

First out Dom. Followed by Cj clambering over the centre console. H and Dev pile out of the back seat.

Dominic motions towards the apparent target.. A house.

It's a multi-storied cubiular thing. All angles and funny metal bits hanging off windows.

DEV

Tada.

H

It's a house.

DEV

Yes.. But think bigger.

H

It's a big house.

DEV

And what do big houses have?

DOMINIC

Money?

DEV

Think bigger.

CJ

Drugs?

DEV

Bigger.

H

Drug money?

DEV

Smaller.

DOMINIC  
Are we robbing the place?

DEV  
God you guys are hopeless.

EXT. SUMMER HOUSE (2022) - DAY

The gang hop a fence slipping into a perfectly manicured grassy yard.

It's expansive. Filled with comfortable looking lawn furniture.

And the crown jewel. A pool.

DOMINIC  
How the hell did you even find this place?

DEV  
Uncle Patel works in the pool business.

DOMINIC  
No shit?

CJ  
Didn't you clean pools with him?

DEV  
--Serviced pools.

CJ  
Oh excuse me.

H  
Where are the owners?

DEV  
Maine.

H  
And theres no security or anything?

DEV  
You think so little of me.

CJ  
i'm almost impressed.

DEV

You haven't even seen the best  
part.

EXT. SUMMER HOUSE. POOL HOUSE - DAY

The people who own this place pretty clearly have 'money  
money' the standalone pool house is probably bigger than most  
studio apartments.

Covered in glass and chrome.

Little plants ring the front of it. Dev beelines for a tiny  
fern. Lifting it to reveal.. A key.

He brandishes it with a toothy grin.

INT. SUMMER HOUSE. POOL HOUSE - DAY

Dominic pushes open the pool house door flicking on a light  
switch.

Revealing a fully stocked mini bar, two pool tables and a  
massive couch.

CJ

Son of a bitch.

DOM

No fucking way.

H

Wow.

DEV

I'll settle for a you're welcome.

SERIES OF SHOTS

-The gang playing pool.

-Dom tries to use a bottle as a cue

-H getting way to into the game

-Dev discovering a collection of condoms under the couch

-Cj hitting a ball so badly it sails into a wall leaving a  
dent.

-Dev messing around with two shake weights

-H sputtering down half a shot of Hennessy  
End series of shots.

INT. 2236 HARRISON AVE. KITCHEN. - DAY

Avrel makes her way down the mustard yellow staircase.  
Slowing as she hears voices.

EDNA (O.S.)  
Oh my goodness i'm so happy you  
made it.

OLIVIA (O.S.)  
Well I would have preferred to be  
moving back here under better  
circumstances.

EDNA (O.S.)  
He moves in mysterious ways.

Olivia scoffs.

EDNA (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
How is she?

OLIVIA (O.S.)  
She seems to be handling it well  
enough.

Avrel steps around the corner just as Olivia and Edna  
embrace.

It's a surprisingly mechanical affair.

Edna seeming a bit unsure about how to deal with such a  
sudden burst of affection.

Avrel unsure of what to do. Does nothing. Lingerin in the  
door frame. Eventually the embrace ends.

EDNA  
We missed you today.

OLIVIA  
Did you really?

EXT. BAKER RESIDENCE - DAY

The crown Victoria door swings open. Out stepping the man we  
saw at the gas station. We get a closer look at his eyes,  
boring brown. His boots paint splattered.

He strides across the street with purpose.

INT. SUMMER HOUSE. POOL HOUSE - DAY

Dom, H and Dev lie down on the carpet staring up at the ceiling. Drunk as shit.

Cj meanwhile is stone cold sober.

Angrily tries to figure out how to actually hit a pool ball.

DOMINIC

You know what i'll give you this one.

DEV

My genius knows literally no bounds.

H

Physics 11.

Dev shoots him a dirty look.

DEV

Don't cross me, or you will be removed from the Mojo dojo casa house.

CJ

Nerd.

DEV

Do you know what this means?

CJ

Oh god what's the catch.

DEV

No catch I swear. You know how we are all collectively extremely single. This.. Is a game changer.

DOMINIC

You do realize I live alone?

DEV

Party at the trailer park guys, whose in?

H

He has a point.

DEV  
We can host.

CJ  
What like parties?

DEV  
And where do people get laid?

H  
Parties.

CJ  
(to: H)  
Like you know anything about that  
Mclovin.

H  
I chose to be single.

DOMINIC  
Oh totally. Me too.

DEV  
God you straights are so  
impractical.

CJ  
Excuse me two handjob johnny.

DOMINIC  
(pointing to H)  
Mclovin  
(pointing to Dev)  
Seth.

DEV  
Take that back. Right now.

DOMINIC  
(pointing to Cj)  
Micheal Cera.

CJ  
Oh fuck off.

H  
Just because I have glasses  
and a vivacious personality.

DEV  
Jonah HILL. Have you seen my body.  
I AM A TWINK PHENOM. Not that  
there's anything wrong with that.

H  
Not that there's anything wrong  
with that.

CJ  
(moping)  
I mean seriously, Micheal fucking  
Cera, I have higher T than him.

DOMINIC  
Dev I can't believe you of all  
people would suggest this. You know  
considering.. Last time.

Dev gets quiet for a moment.

DEV  
Your telling me you'd be unhappy  
with me inviting Jamie B and a few  
of her friends over for drinks.

H  
Thats not fair we all know he's got  
no self control.

DOMINIC  
Firstly fuck you, secondly fuck  
you.

DEV  
I'm not wrong. Your silence proves  
that i'm not wrong.

Silence.

DOMINIC  
So we invite Jamie and a few of her  
friends. Then what?

DEV  
We throw the craziest fucking party  
ever-- You and all the straights  
get fucking litty and I rise like a  
fucking phoenix on the back of the  
entire cast of Peter Pan to  
Loggerhead high super stardom.

H  
Well when you put it like that.

CJ  
I can't believe you guys are this  
fucking gullible.



DOMINIC  
I am not gullible. Handsome maybe--

CJ  
I mean the thought of one blonde  
valedictorian enters your head and  
you lose all your morals.

DOMINIC  
Hey--

CJ  
(to H)  
And you mr I chose to be single.  
Not exactly Fort Knox are you.

DOMINIC  
Cj come-on you can invite Christian  
rock guy.

CJ  
Firstly his name and is Steve--

DOMINIC  
I don't believe that for one  
second.

CJ  
And secondly he put on 'gotta serve  
somebody' one time in the 9th  
grade.

Cj angrily racks the balls on the table.

DOMINIC  
Officer I swear I was only racist  
one time.

DEV  
Mom dad I swear I tripped and fell  
onto that dick. Gay, me, no sir, I  
salute the flag.

DOMINIC  
I'm actually super pro life.

CJ  
Shut-- UP.

Cj blasts the white ball straight off the table.

It sails in slow motion across the room.

Spinning through the air with a surprising speed.

Dom sits up eyes wide.

As the ball crashes straight into the giant suit of armour in the corner.

**CLANG**

H  
I really don't think you're cut out  
for that.

Theres a brief moment of pause.

Before the suit of armour starts to list slightly to one side.

CJ  
my bad

It gains momentum slowly crashing to the ground.

As it slams into the ground with a colossal racket. The sword which at one point had been grasped in it's metal claw sails straight into a window.

**Crash**

**CRACK**

DOMINIC  
Oh fuck.

Beat

An alarm starts blaring.

DEV  
RUN.

INT. 2236 HARRISON AVE. KITCHEN. - DAY

Edna glances pointedly at Olivia.

EDNA  
How was the trip dear.

AVREL  
Long.

EDNA  
I can imagine.  
(to: Olivia)  
What happened  
(MORE)

EDNA (CONT'D)  
 (pointing generally  
 towards Avrel's dyed  
 hair)

AVREL  
 Grew it myself.

EDNA  
 (to: Olivia)  
 What's next a tramp stamp.

OLIVIA  
 (with a wink)  
 I wasn't sure about the butterfly  
 but you know it's her body.

Edna drops christian gang signs (you know what i'm talking about) - praying to the lord for forgiveness

EDNA  
 This reminds of that terrible phase  
 you went through in college.

OLIVIA  
 What? lesbianism?

Edna frowns.

AVREL  
 Can I do anything?

Edna shakes her head.

EXT. SUMMER HOUSE - DAY

The gang pour haphazardly out of the summer house. Making a break for the front of the house.

Dom in front followed closely by CJ, Dev pants desperately trying to keep up, H trails him by a few steps, struggling valiantly.

Police sirens echo in the distance. Approaching.

DOMINIC  
 What a shot.

CJ  
 I'm sorry.

Dominic crashes into the gate, fumbling for the catch.

With a yank and a twist it slams open.

Funneling CJ, Dev and H through towards the front of the house. The civic is in sight. Not even 10 meters away.

DEV

I just want you to know that I am  
SWEATING in givenchy right now. I  
will be forwarding you the dry  
cleaning--

CJ

I'm sorry.

INT. 2236 HARRISON AVE. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The scraping of chairs against hardwood.

Edna places a casserole dish down in front of Tom, whose smile is way too wide for the occasion.

The chicken look duplicitously unseasoned.

OLIVIA used to this doesn't even bat an eye.

AVREL

(afraid to ask)  
What is it?

Avrel slides into her seat at the carefully set dining table.

EDNA

Chicken ala king.

Avrel's face twists.

TOM

It looks wonderful.

Olivia makes a move for the chicken.

Fork extending.

Edna clears her throat.

Olivia examines Edna quizzically.

OLIVIA

Are we really doing this.

Edna's expression is withering.

As she holds her hands outstretched ready to say grace.

Tom's hands shoot out trying to bridge the gap.  
Trying to connect Edna and Olivia's hands by sheer speed.  
Olivia swims out of his grasp.

EXT. SUMMER HOUSE - DAY

The gang run from the cops ducking and dodging back the way  
they entered.

H  
We are so dead.

Blowing straight through the gate. They find.

Flashing blue and red lights and the front bonnet of a cop  
car pulling up in front of the house.

They skid to a stop.

DEV  
Fuck. What do we do?

They look around for a moment.

Turning backwards to head back to where they came from.

They watch as the garden gate slowly swings close.

DEV (CONT'D)  
No. No. No.

Cj is visibly distraught. Dev on the edge of panicking. H  
leans bent over sucking on his inhaler.

Dominic's head spins looking for a solution.

The sound of the cop car doors slamming.

And radio chatter.

Fuck.

Fuck.

Dominic looks left and right.

On one side a wall, the other a perfectly trimmed hedge.

Dom squints at the offending greenery for a moment.

Eyes darting between impending arrest and the problem at hand.

INT. 2236 HARRISON AVE. KITCHEN. - DAY

Edna squints at Tom. He tries to hide it but Edna really scares him.

OLIVIA

I thought we were past this.

EDNA

You may have forgotten about him,  
but he will never forget you.

Beat

A non verbal battle is being waged.

Olivia on one side.

Edna on the other.

Neither side appears to be winning.

TOM

Could you pass the salt dear.

Avrel reaches for the shaker.

Tom grabs it.

Edna's chair creaks as she shifts.

EDNA (O.S.)

(screaming)

DARRRRRRRRRRRRRRRYLLLLLLLLL.

Tom knocks the salt shaker over surprised.

OLIVIA

Do you really have to shout in my  
ear?

The shrill shout is both surprising and terrifying coming out of this very mellow and quiet grandmother.

EDNA

(screaming)

DarrrrrrrRRRRRYLLLLLLLLL.

Darryl's totally disinterested baritone reaches through the walls.

DARRYL (O.S.)

Yes?

EDNA

(screaming)

Dinner.

The ceiling creaks.

As Darryl manoeuvres himself out of bed.

OLIVIA

(to:Edna)

Making sure the Donaldson's don't  
feel left out.

TOM

Honey.

EXT. SUMMER HOUSE. SIDE ENTRANCE - DAY

Dom glances between his two options. A closed gate and incoming police. Both equally fucked. Dom spins, gears in his brain churning. He eyes the hedge into next door. An idea.

DOMINIC

Give me a boost.

DEV

Give you a what???

DOMINIC

H. Quick.

H pushes forward offering Dom a foothold.

DOMINIC (CONT'D)

On 3. 1 2 3.

Dom scrambles up the hedge. lying belly down on it. Offering a hand down to Dev.

DOMINIC (CONT'D)

Quick.

DEV

Are you crazy.

CJ

Just fucking do it.

Dev steps onto H's hands.

H

1 2 3.

Scrabbling for purchase on the prickly hedge.

DEV

Oh my god.

Dominic dives forward grabbing Dev's hand. Hauling him up.

DOMINIC

Go go go.

H hops up significantly taller than Dev he grabs Dom's hand.

They struggle for a moment. Dom not quite strong enough to take all of H's weight.

DOMINIC (CONT'D)

(to: Dev)

Little help please.

One of Dev's hands snakes down to assist.

Pulling H just over the edge.

DOMINIC (CONT'D)

(to: dev)

Find us a way out of here.

Dev tumbles down off the hedge.

H hesitates for a moment.

DOMINIC (CONT'D)

I've got this.

Cj steps up next.

EXT. SUMMER HOUSE. SIDE ENTRANCE - DAY

Cj hops from foot to foot before making her move. A brief running start.

1

2

3

Up she comes.



Time slows as C.J reaches the apex of her leap. Their hands connect. But Dom's fingers slip.

INT. 2236 HARRISON AVE. KITCHEN. - DAY

Edna ignores her daughter pointedly.

TOM  
Well i'd just like to say thanks  
for cooking Mrs.Henderson.

AVREL  
Thanks grandma.

EDNA  
You're welcome dear.

Darryl(70's) Plods down the stairs behind the table. Mostly bald, mostly grumpy, always in plaid and khaki's nothing else. Darryl is a strange slightly sardonic old man.

DARRYL  
Smells good.

It doesn't.

Darryl pulls out his chair with a screech. Taking his absolute sweet time serving himself.

Olivia makes a break for the chicken. Edna fixes her with a glare.

Darryl doesn't notice still busy spooning.

EDNA  
Dear.

Darryl pauses.

OLIVIA  
Mom come-on.

EDNA  
I don't see the harm in it.

OLIVIA  
Well of course.

TOM  
Honey. Lets just--

OLIVIA

No i've been over this. I thought I was clear. We're not doing this with her.

EDNA

Why don't you let her make up her own mind.

OLIVIA

You're really trying to get your bisexual daughter to say grace.

AVREL

Mom!

OLIVIA

What she was going to find out eventually.

EXT. SUMMER HOUSE. SIDE ENTRANCE - DAY

Back to the action.

DOMINIC

Cj we don't have time for this self sacrificial bullshit

CJ

Please.

DOMINIC

Trust me.

CJ

It's my fault.--

DOMINIC

Yes-- and?

Cj looks torn.

OFFICER OLATUNJI

OFFICER OLATUNJI(O.S.)

Hey.

DOMINIC

You'd look terrible in orange.

Cj's face twists into a scowl.

OFFICER OLATUNJI  
Don't MOVE!

Cj takes a running jump.

Dominic leans for her hand.

OFFICER OLATUNJI (CONT'D)  
STOP RIGHT THERE.

They're hands connect.

Dominic yanks Cj up and over the hedge.

INT. 2236 HARRISON AVE. KITCHEN. - DAY

Edna shrugs.

EDNA  
There are several homosexuals at  
our congregation.

OLIVIA  
How progressive.

EDNA  
Is this really why you won't--.

OLIVIA  
Mom. Your sitting at a table with  
(pointing to herself)  
A heathen.  
(pointing to Avrel)  
An atheist.  
(pointing to Tom)  
And a jew--

Tom coughs

TOM  
Non practicing.

Edna's eyes shift to Tom for a moment.

OLIVIA  
I mean really honestly I genuinely  
do not have enough time left on  
this earth to be arguing with you  
about this.

Olivia pauses catching her breath. Edna unmoved takes a slow  
sip from her water.

Blinking slowly at her daughter.

OLIVIA (CONT'D)

Not everything that goes on between  
you and the big sky slut has to be  
our problem.

Edna slowly returns her glass to the table.

EDNA

Are you quite finished?

OLIVIA

Yes.

EDNA

I just wish you loved me--

Edna's retort is interrupted by the screeching of Darryl's  
chair.

He pushes back to stand.

EDNA (CONT'D)

Where do you think you're going.

DARRYL

I'm getting a beer.

EDNA

We aren't finished with this.

DARRYL

Well hopefully you will be by the  
time i'm back.

Edna stares at his retreating back a stunned look on her  
face.

TOM

Lovely chicken.--

The focus shifts towards Tom all the angry looks converging  
on him.

EXT. NEXT DOOR TO SUMMER HOUSE. BACKYARD. - DAY

Cj's momentum Sends the two teens tumbling over into next  
doors yard.

Dom slams into the ground, head bouncing off the turf.

They land in a heap. Cj on top.

ON DOM'S POV

The world swims.

CJ

Uh, DOm.

Dom doesn't respond.

INT. 2236 HARRISON AVE. KITCHEN. - DAY

Olivia's chair screeches on the floor. As she storms out of the room.

Tom watches Olivia leave, Avrel watches Tom. He wants to say something but he won't. Avrel judges him.

Avrel pushes back her chair.

EXT. NEXT DOOR TO SUMMER HOUSE. BACKYARD. - DAY

Cj peers down at Dom. Face stricken.

Dom's eyes blink back open.

Their eyes meet.

Beat

DOMINIC

Hands off the merchandise.

DEV

The hell are you too doing.

CJ

You fucking asshole.

DOMINIC

Those elbows of yours are like machetes. Jesus.

CJ

Unbelievable.

H

Guys.

Cj stands offering Dom a hand.

They stand.

In the background H and Dev hop the fence into the next backyard.

OFFICER OLATUNJI (O.S.)  
We have you surrounded.

CJ and Dom run to join the others.

More police sirens fills the air.

CJ  
Are those all for us?

DEV  
I am in so much trouble.

H rubs his forehead aggressively.

DOMINIC  
You'd think they'd have other things to do.

DEV  
What do we do.

DOMINIC  
I mean we aren't going anywhere without the car.

H  
It's also evidence.

CJ  
Shit.

H  
it will get dark eventually.

DEV  
How does that help us?

H  
It's harder to see.

DEV  
Way to state the obvious.

OFFICER CAROL

OFFICER CAROL (O.S.)  
Copy.

Dominic holds a finger to his lips.

Motioning to towards the next garden over.

Cj nods, Dev sighs, H offers a double jointed thumbs up.

INT. 2236 HARRISON AVE. OUTSIDE OLIVIA'S ROOM - DAY

Avrel stands in mustard yellow hallway. Examining a teal blue door. Artfully painted across top of the door.

A name: **Kassidy Harrison.**

AVREL

Mum?

No reply.

INT. 2236 HARRISON. OLIVIA'S ROOM - DAY

Avrel pushes open the door. Following the sounds of faint agony.

Avrel steps into the room. Which appears trapped in time. 90's boyband posters cover the walls, a calendar from 1992 on the wall, a dresser covered in painted bows.

A top it a fancy picture.

It's subjects: **Kassidy and Trey.**

Avrel follows the sound of retching towards the rooms ensuite.

INT. 2236 HARRISON AVE. OLIVIA'S ROOM. BATHROOM - DAY

Avrel pushes open the door. Olivia vomits pitifully into a the toilet.

Avrel crouches down beside her, slowly gathering up Olivia's hair. Holding it back for her.

INT. 2236 HARRISON AVE. OLIVIA'S ROOM. BATHROOM - DAY

Olivia sits back against the tub. Head in her hands.

Avrel flushes the toilet. Olivia's was vomiting the chicken ala king, but it's mixed in with an unhealthy amount of blood.

AVREL

You okay?

Olivia nods.

OLIVIA  
Tougher than I look.

Avrel joins her mother on the floor. The two sit shoulder to shoulder.

Avrel leans her head onto Olivia's shoulder.

AVREL  
It's not working the treatment.

OLIVIA  
I love you so much bunny. I just want you to know that. More than the moon, the stars earth and heaven.

AVREL  
Why isn't it working?

Olivia strokes Avrel's hair gently. Reassuring.

OLIVIA  
I'm not going to get any better, bunny.

Avrel sits up.

AVREL  
Why?

OLIVIA  
I'm tired. So tired.

AVREL  
You told me. You'd keep fighting--

OLIVIA  
Some fights aren't fair.

AVREL  
You promised.

OLIVIA  
I'm sorry.

AVREL  
You can't.

OLIVIA  
Shhhhh.



AVREL

You can't. You can't..

OLIVIA

Shhhhhh. Everything's going to be okay little one. There's still some fight in these creaky bones.

AVREL

You can't leave me to.

OLIVIA

Shhh. We all have our time.  
 (leaning down to whisper)  
 Don't worry little one. I'm riding this wagon till the wheels fall off.

Avrel tries to stay strong. It's a fight she doesn't win. She clings to Olivia, tears in her eyes.

INT. 2236 HARRISON AVE. AVREL'S HOME - DAY

Avrel lies on the naked mattress, bloodshot eyes fixed on the ceiling.

Light streams through the curtain-less window.

It's a moment of uncomfortable zen. Broken by the sudden bing bonging of the apple ring tone. Avrel leans onto her side grasping the phone off her pillow.

She squints at the harshness of the screen. The number pops up the astute viewer will note the area code is not American.

London to be exact. Avrel picks up.

AVREL

Hello father.

David(47) Avrel's biological father halfway between Hugh grant and Huge asshole.

DAVID (O.S.)

I take it you've arrived.

AVREL

Yes.

DAVID (O.S.)

All in one piece.

AVREL  
Largely.

DAVID (O.S.)  
How are things.

AVREL  
Good.

DAVID  
We took Marguerite out to that  
place Kelly's. You used to love it.

AVREL  
Fun.

DAVID  
Wasn't half as busy then as it was  
now.

AVREL  
I'll keep that in mind. On the off  
chance i'm looking for children's  
toys in a hurry.

DAVID (O.S.)  
You do that. It's a buyers market.

AVREL  
Uh huh.

DAVID  
How is it?

AVREL  
Very Yellow.

DAVID  
You know when we went to visit, had  
to be about 2007. Financial crisis  
on the horizon. So we were in big  
trouble, I told her we shouldn't go  
but you know how she is once she  
set her mind to things bloody  
incommensurable. So of course I  
scraped some cash together or i'd  
have never heard the end of it and  
we flew in. You were screaming and  
shouting the whole way there.  
Probably the closest i've ever been  
to opening the bloody emergency  
thing and hopping out the damn  
thing. Horrific experience.

(MORE)

DAVID (CONT'D)  
 Anyways there we we're in that  
 little town square thing and I can  
 remember this bit quite vividly and  
 can't have been bigger than the  
 Phoenix park.

Avrel starts to zone out.

DAVID (CONT'D)  
 Do you remember that camp little  
 café?..  
 (silence)  
 Darling.

AVREL  
 Pardon?

DAVID  
 Was I boring you.

AVREL  
 No.

Silence.

AVREL (CONT'D)  
 Do you need something?

DAVID (O.S.)  
 Not really.

AVREL  
 Well.

DAVID  
 Well.

Avrel clears her throat.

DAVID (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
 Seemed the right thing to do you  
 know. Make sure you'd arrived.

AVREL  
 Thanks.

DAVID (O.S.)  
 Look, dear, i'm aware of how  
 strange this might seem. But I want  
 you to know that despite all this  
 faff I still miss you dearly.

AVREL  
 ...uh huh.

DAVID (O.S.)

I love you. So so very much sugar  
plum, please don't be cross with me  
or your mother, we were never much  
use in these matters.

AVREL

Okay...

DAVID (O.S.)

How is she?

AVREL

She's uh  
(beat)  
She's uh  
(beat)  
stopping  
(beat)  
You know.

DAVID (O.S.)

Treatment?

Avrel breath's out her answer.

AVREL

Yea....

There's a pause as David absorbs the information.

We focus on his tinny breathing.

On Avrel's numb expression.

DAVID (O.S.)

Bugger.  
(2 beats)  
I'm sorry dear.

AVREL

It's what she wants.

DAVID (O.S.)

It's a right fucking bastard isn't  
it.

AVREL

Yea.

DAVID

I'm sorry to hear that. Truly.  
That's really put me off.

In David background we hear some bustling.

Avrel doesn't quite know how to answer that.

DAVID (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Well.. I'll let you go. I've to put  
Marguerite to bed.

AVREL  
Okay.

DAVID (O.S.)  
Good night sugar plum. I do love  
you so. Give my best to your  
mother.  
(beat)  
Tata

AVREL  
GoodBye...  
(the line clicks dead)  
Dad--

Avrel lets the phone slide from her fingers.

Eyes fixed on the ceiling.

Her breath slow, soul aching.

INT. 2236 HARRISON AVE. AVREL'S HOME - DAYS

The sky is darkening, the lights off.

Avrel sits in the window seat, face illuminated by LED glow.

Avrel considers her phone in the dark. Navigating through  
menus.

VOICEMAIL VOICE(30s) Ageless vaguely female robotic voice.

VOICEMAIL VOICE  
(bing bong)  
Whose calling please? Please enter  
your access code After the tone.

Avrel types in the digits. Shifting up from the window seat  
and making her way towards her bed.

VOICEMAIL VOICE (CONT'D)  
You have no new messages.

Avrel lies back.

VOICEMAIL VOICE (CONT'D)  
 You have two saved messages.

She selects an option before laying the phone down next to her head.

BEN(16) strong roadman vibes but in a charming way.

BEN (O.S.)  
 (filtered)  
 Hallo love, it's me again, just checking in with yas. We've stopped off at some service station in the middle of god knows. Fucking Peter made a right fucking mess of it halfway into some poor famers field. Thankfully we all survived in most of the bits we started with. Just thought i'd let you know that, I lived bitch. Anyways we're waiting on some fella to change something or mend something before we head on towards stoke. Hope you're absolutely smashing back Gilmore Girls you bellend. I'll let you know when we get there. Tata.

The voicemail ends abruptly. Avrel sits there in silence for a minute. Before turning over and restarting it.

BEN (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
 (filtered)  
 Hello love, it's me again, just checking in with yas.

INT. 2236 HARRISON AVE. AVREL'S ROOM - DAY

Avrel lays in silence for a moment before flipping over and restarting it.

BEN (O.S.)  
 Hallo love, it's me again, just checking in..

The sound begins to fade as we push on Avrel's face.

A single tear tracks down her cheek.

Footsteps echo from the hallway.

TOM  
 Everything okay in here?

Panicked Avrel turns to mute the phone.  
 It CRASHES to the ground in the scuffle.  
 The sound of police sirens fills the air.

AVREL  
 Yea.

TOM  
 Uh huh.

Tom doesn't buy it.

AVREL  
 (voice breaking.)  
 Everything's fine.  
 (Avrel notices)  
 Word crashed I lost a whole bunch  
 of work.

Sirens grow closer and closer. Louder and louder.

TOM  
 I took that as the large crash.

AVREL  
 (wiping tears out of her  
 eyes)  
 It was good work.

Movement out of the corner of her eye.

TOM  
 Must have been.

Tom wants to say more but he isn't sure how.

AVREL  
 (whispered)  
 Oh my god.

Avrel watch's a group of teens scrambling over the fence into  
 their backyard.

TOM  
 Sorry?

AVREL  
 Just talking to myself.

Avrel squints at the faces.

TOM

Don't keep the ghosts up all night.

Police officers hop the neighbours fence.

Avrel's eyebrows shoot up.

AVREL

I won't.

Tom clears his throat on the other side of the door.

But no footsteps echo.

Avrel watches the gang scuttle towards the garden shed.

Watching the cops begin to close in.

AVREL (CONT'D)

Good night.

Theres a brief pause.

Avrel flips the latch on the window.

Eyes darting between the door and the shit the cops that are pretty clearly minutes away from stumbling into her backyard.

A brief pause.

Avrel shoves open the window. Dropping into the roof.

TOM

(muffled)

Good night... Im really sorry about all this truly. I cant even begin to imagine what your going through.

Silence he doesn't know it but the room is empty.

Tom's footsteps patter away.

EXT. 2236 HARRISON AVE. BACKYARD - DAY

Avrel lowers herself off the Vine-y lattice that surrounds the back balcony. Hopping down the stairs into the yard. Whistling slightly.

The lawn is mostly dead. The plants deader still. A hose sits aimlessly coiled against sullen "grass".



EXT. 2236 HARRISON AVE. BEHIND THE GARDEN SHED - DAY

Huddled together halfway into a bush. The gang hides.

The sound of whistling sends everyone into a silent panic.

Dom cranes his neck around the edge of the shed.

Leaning further.

His vision fills slowly.

Panda socks.

A leg.

A pair of paint stained shorts.

...

The back of a Paramore T-Shirt. Dom ducks back into hiding. Motioning to DEV "someones out there"

In the background we watch Dev pass along the signal. Dom edges out slowly.

Inch by inch.

Checking again.

This time hoping to catch a glimpse of whoever the hell just-  
-

EXT. 2236 HARRISON AVE. BACKYARD - DAY

Avrel locks eyes with Dom.

They both don't know quite what to make of each other.

One on the run from the police.

The other, fresh off a mental breakdown.

Dom smiles hopefully.

Avrel just stares.

Unable to take her eyes off him.

DOMINIC (V.O.)

And that right there is the moment  
I met the girl who would change my  
life forever.

(MORE)

DOMINIC (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
 (beat)  
 Told you this was going somewhere.

OFFICER CAROL  
 Check the yard.  
 (beat)  
 Ma'am.

Avrel turns caught off guard.

AVREL  
 Hello?

It's officer Carol from earlier one of Lee's little minions.

OFFICER CAROL  
 Ma'am we are pursuing an active  
 investigation please get back  
 inside your residence.

AVREL  
 Sorry.

OFFICER CAROL  
 Ma'am get back inside your house.

AVREL  
 I'm just watering my plants.

OFFICER CAROL  
 Ma'am.

AVREL  
 Is that like illegal here?

OFFICER CAROL  
 Ma'am.

AVREL  
 Firstly those are not my pronouns.

OFFICER CAROL  
 Sorry. Ma'am. I mean, they.?

Avrel's eyes narrow.

OFFICER CAROL (CONT'D)  
 He?

Avrel picks up the hose off the ground.

AVREL  
 Excuse me?

OFFICER CAROL  
Ma--, they, him. Have you seen any  
suspicious activity.

AVREL  
Yes.  
(pointing at the cop)  
You. Is that even a real uniform.

The female cop moves to hop over the fence into Avrel's yard.

OFFICER CAROL  
I'm asking you--

AVREL  
Who gave you permission. I know my  
rights.

OFFICER CAROL  
I don't need--

AVREL  
Shooo.

Pointing the hose in her general direction.

The female cop moves to put one leg over.

Avrel sprays water in her general direction.

The cop jerks backwards.

OFFICER CAROL  
(drawing her weapon)  
Ma'am put down the hose.

AVREL  
(doesn't give a fuck)  
You really have no respect do you.  
(beat)  
This is private property. Please  
kindly take your business  
elsewhere. Go chase your suspects  
away from my mothers begonia's.  
Please and thank you.

The cop pauses considering the situation. Without cause she  
can't really just hop the fence.

OFFICER CAROL  
How long have you been out here.

AVREL  
Thats none of your business.

OFFICER CAROL

Have you seen  
 (talking into her radio)  
 Whats the 20 on these suspects  
 john.  
 (beat)  
 4 teens of varying ethnicity's

AVREL

I've seen one teen of one  
 ethnicity.

OFFICER CAROL

Where.

AVREL

(pointing to herself)  
 right here.

OFFICER CAROL

(getting annoyed)  
 Are you telling me the truth.

AVREL

First you refuse to give me the  
 common decency, now you're calling  
 me a liar. I'd really like to speak  
 with your supervisor right about  
 now.

The female cop considers Avrel.

Calculating.

Avrel's eyes dart over to the shed.

Beat

The cop reaches for her radio.

OFFICER CAROL

Negative at 2236. Thanks for your  
 time. Sorry for the inconvenience.

AVREL

Thank you.

HACHOOOO

The cop stops.

Searching.

EXT. 2236 HARRISON AVE. BEHIND THE SHED - DAY

Dom winces, CJ covers her head, H rubs his forehead. Dev frozen mid sneeze stares straight down the barrel horrified.

EXT. 2236 HARRISON AVE. BACKYARD - DAY

Avrel turns.

Oh fuck.

The female cop turns trying to locate the sound.

OFFICER CAROL  
Is anyone else with you.

AVREL  
No.

The female moves towards the shed. Avrel's eyes track her.

EXT. 2236 HARRISON AVE. BEHIND THE GARDEN SHED - DAY

Beat

Dom's breathing increases.

He tries desperately to stay still.

Step

Step

Step

...

Shit.

DOMINIC (V.O.)  
This is about the point that  
everything went to shit.

CUT TO BLACK: