

Lincoln County

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LINCOLN COUNTY

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FADE IN:

INT. SMALL TOWN, OKLAHOMA - DINER - DAY - 2002

Packed. Vintage-style booths line a wall of floor-to-ceiling windows. Breakfast counter stretches across the room. MEREDITH MILLER (31, short hair and dark red lipstick) stands at the counter, tapping a pencil on a weathered notebook.

MEREDITH
He needs a refill.

BETTY MCKAY (26, unkempt waitress with long hair in a ponytail) walks behind the counter carrying a coffee pot.

BETTY
What're you always working on,
ma'am?

Betty leans up against the counter. Meredith closes her notebook, slides the pencil behind her ear, and approaches a man at the bar.

MEREDITH
Refill?

Meredith taps her nails on the coffee pot in Betty's hand.

MEREDITH (CONT'D)
Keep the hem short.

Meredith yanks on the hem of Betty's dress.

INT. DINER - MEREDITH'S OFFICE

Tiny. Maybe a converted closet. A desk with a computer and camera system in the corner. A safe takes up one side of the wall. Meredith takes money from the safe. Places a small stack in her purse and a bigger stack into a money bag.

INT. DINER - LOBBY

Meredith walks through, waving a money bag at Betty.

MEREDITH
Gonna take this to the bank. I'll
be back to help close after dinner.

BETTY
Oh, you don't have to. I can handle
it.

MEREDITH

I said I'll be back after dinner.

INT. POWER PLANT - TOMMY'S OFFICE - DAY

Massive. TOMMY REYEZ (40, flattop haircut) sits at a well-crafted desk. LEON MILLER (35, long, slicked hair) rests on the window sill, blowing smoke from a cigarette out an open window. ISAAC YOUNG (35, buzz cut) leans back in a chair.

TOMMY

Either one of you hear from Nelson?

LEON

Not a word.

Tommy opens a desk drawer. Pulls out a glass and bottle of whiskey.

ISAAC

Want me to call him?

TOMMY

Yeah.

Tommy pours a drink. Isaac pulls the landline phone off Tommy's desk and dials. Tommy presses the speaker button. It RINGS without an answer. Tommy pushes his knuckle down on the hook.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

Again.

Isaac redials off speaker this time.

ISAAC

Nelson? Yeah.

Tommy leans forward, burying his elbows into a blank desk calendar.

ISAAC (CONT'D)

You know, we were just sitting around wondering where you were.

Silence fills the room. Leon pulls up a chair next to Isaac. Isaac hangs up and slides the phone back onto Tommy's desk.

ISAAC (CONT'D)

Two a.m.

Tommy opens a different desk drawer and pulls out two small duffel bags. Tosses one to Isaac and the other to Leon.

INT. MILLER'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Meredith stands at the stove, flipping over pork-chops. The pan SIZZLES and POPS. She hops back. Leon lifts a duffle bag onto the counter with a THUD. He wraps his arms around her waist. Kisses the back of her neck.

MEREDITH

That's heavy.

LEON

Boy in Fayetteville ain't pullin' his weight.

MEREDITH

Falls on me then?

LEON

Everyone, baby.

MEREDITH

Says who?

LEON

Tommy isn't fuckin' with you.

DALE MILLER (10, short hair and wears a V-neck) runs into the kitchen with a sheet of paper.

DALE

You forgot to sign my field trip slip.

LEON

Hey, bud. Let me see it.

DALE

It's tomorrow.

MEREDITH

I know I signed that slip two weeks ago.

Leon moves to the other side of the counter near the fridge. Opens a junk drawer and digs around for a pen.

LEON

Where you goin'?

DALE

Some museum.

Dale grabs a fried potato off a grease drenched paper-towel covering a plate.

MEREDITH
You lost it, didn't you?

Meredith points her pork-chop flipping fork at him. Dale pops the potato in his mouth and runs away.

LEON
Go wash up for dinner!

Leon signs the slip and zips it up into a child's backpack that hangs off the back of a kitchen chair.

MEREDITH
You're gonna have to put some lunch money in there, too.

LEON
Want any help?

MEREDITH
Cut up the squash and get it in a pan?

Leon pulls a cutting board out of a cabinet below. He slices and seasons the squash.

LEON
How's the diner?

MEREDITH
Moving.

Leon flips on a burner and pours oil in a pan.

LEON
Beyond that.

MEREDITH
Good.

Leon drops the squash in. SIZZLE.

MEREDITH (CONT'D)
Dale!

Dale runs into the kitchen, sliding in his socks past Meredith and Leon.

LEON
I have to go back in tonight.

MEREDITH

Lisa and Isaac are coming for
dinner.

LEON

Isaac does, too.

INT. YOUNG'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM

Wrap-around couch takes up most of the room. Collectibles sit in China cabinets. EARL YOUNG (10, curly hair) hangs upside down off the couch, playing a handheld gaming system as Isaac walks through the door.

EARL

Hey, Dad.

ISAAC

Where's your mom, big guy?

EARL

Tub.

Earl flips off the couch and lands on his feet.

INT. HALLWAY

Earl follows Isaac until he stops at a closed door.

ISAAC

What're you doing?

EARL

I'm hungry.

ISAAC

Babe?

LISA (O.S.)

Yeah!?

ISAAC

What are we doing for dinner?

LISA

Going to Meredith's.

EARL

Hell yeah!

ISAAC

Boy!

EARL

Sorry!

Runs back down the hall.

INT. BATHROOM

Pink. Gaudy shower curtains and decorations. Isaac sits on the toilet while LISA YOUNG (38, short hair and fat) lies in the tub.

ISAAC

Nelson is coming up tonight.

LISA

Okay?

ISAAC

And you have to move more this week.

Lisa sits up, sloshing water out onto the tile.

LISA

There's no fucking way! I can barely handle what I got now.

ISAAC

I'm sorry.

LISA

I need you to go away.

ISAAC

When are we going?

LISA

When I get out. Just go.

Isaac puts down a decorative towel. Wipes up the water.

LISA (CONT'D)

Leave!

Isaac pulls the door closed behind him. Lisa sinks deeper into the water.

INT. MILLER'S HOUSE - DINING ROOM

Small yet cozy. China cabinets on each wall. Meredith, Leon, Dale, Earl, Isaac, and Lisa sit around a big table.

Pork-chops, squash, mashed potatoes, gravy, and rolls fill the table. Dale squeezes ketchup onto a plate.

DALE
Can I stay the night at Earl's?

MEREDITH
It's a school night.

DALE
It's just a field trip.

EARL
Pleaseeee.

LEON
Why not?

MEREDITH
Up to Lisa.

EARL
She already said it was fine!

LISA
It's fine.

Earl and Dale high-five each other.

EARL
We can stay up all night. I got a new game.

MEREDITH
Uh, no you're not.

ISAAC
Pull that stick out of your ass.
You ain't mom of the year.

INT. LEON AND MEREDITH'S BEDROOM - LATER

Cluttered. Messy. Old wallpaper. Meredith sits on an unmade bed, painting her nails. Leon changes into warmer clothes.

MEREDITH
Why do you let him talk to me like that?

LEON
You're a big girl.

MEREDITH
You're my husband.

LEON
He don't mean anything by it.

MEREDITH
Whatever.

Leon kneels in front of Meredith.

MEREDITH (CONT'D)
I don't want to.

LEON
You don't have to do nothin'.

He kisses down her neckline. Pulls out her breasts, kissing them. He slips his hand under her skirt, followed by his face. She holds her nails above his head, wiping polish off her fingers.

INT. YOUNG'S HOUSE - EARL'S BEDROOM

Space decorations. Faded glow-in-the-dark stars on the ceiling. Lit up by a small television. Dale and Earl play a video game with the volume off. A car door SHUTS. Dale pauses the game. Earl crawls to the blinds and peeks through.

EARL
It's my dad.

DALE
Where's he going?

EARL
I'll be right back.

Earl tiptoes out of the room and Dale turns the game console off. Dale pops his head into the hallway. Backs up and sits on Earl's bed as Earl steps through the door.

EARL (CONT'D)
Mom's here.

DALE
Where's he going? Another girl?

EARL
I'll kill him.

DALE
With what, your stupid game?

EARL
Shut up. Let's follow him.

DALE
Yeah, right.

EARL
Come on.

DALE
If we get caught, we'll miss the field trip.

EARL
We won't. Mom's gotta take a sleeping pill.

EXT. POWER PLANT - RIVER DOCK

Foggy. Shines bright. Tommy sits on the edge of a wooden post. Leon stands next to Tommy. PISTOL in Leon's hand. Isaac tosses a fishing line into the water.

EXT. GRAVEL ROAD - CONTINUOUS

Dale and Earl ride on bikes. They stand up on the pedals to push harder.

BEGIN INTERCUT

EXT. POWER PLANT - RIVER DOCK

Broken planks showing water underneath. An ice chest full of beer. Isaac POPS one open.

TOMMY
Oh, Nelson. Why?

NELSON (45, clean-cut and in overalls) kneels on the dock, facing Tommy and Leon. Nelson shivers.

TOMMY (CONT'D)
Go ahead, Leon.

Earl slides to a full stop at the bridge overlooking a wide, muddy river, shooting gravel that BINGS off the metal. Dale flies past him and hits his brakes.

DALE
You alright?

He turns around. Walks his bike to where Earl stands on part of the railing. Earl rests his stomach on it, dangling his head over.

EARL

Fuck it.

He hops down, picks up a rock and throws it as hard as he can. PLOP below. Dale sits down, swinging his legs over to dangle off.

DALE

Wanna go swimming?

Leon presses the muzzle into Nelson's head. GUNSHOT. Nelson's corpse crumples over.

END INTERCUT

Dale and Earl's bikes and clothes scattered on sand. Dale stands in waist deep water. GUNSHOT ECHOES. They don't flinch. Earl hits the water with a SPLASH. LAUGHTER and SCREAMING ECHO around them. Dale runs out.

EARL

Where you going?

DALE

Gotta pee!

Dale pees on the side of a tree. Earl follows.

DALE (CONT'D)

Don't look!

EARL

What? It's no big deal.

A red-faced Dale covers himself.

EARL (CONT'D)

You don't ever, you know?

DALE

Shut up!

EARL

I caught my dad doing it once so I tried it.

DALE

Ew, what?

EARL
Jerking off. You really don't do
it?

DALE
Go away!

INT. DINER - CONTINUOUS

Secluded. Dim lighting. Closed sign BUZZES. JAZZ plays. Betty stacks mugs while a young man mops the floor. Meredith takes out the register till.

BETTY
Ma'am?

Meredith stops.

BETTY (CONT'D)
At my other job, I always did that.
I can do it if you want. You know,
if you're busy, I'm capable and
all.

Meredith walks around the other side of the counter, till still in hand. She pulls out a stool, SCRAPING the tile.

MEREDITH
Where was that?

BETTY
Cale's old place.

Betty refills ketchup bottles.

BETTY (CONT'D)
My boyfriend got a job at the
plant. Moved here.

Meredith counts the money. She gathers all the quarters in the palm of her hand and shakes. They CLINK together and she drops them back into the till.

MEREDITH
You're keen to help. Want to be
liked?

BETTY
I don't mean offense.

Meredith slides the till off the counter.

INT. BETTY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM

Small. Dark. Only light comes from a television. TED (27, looks like he needs a shower) plays a video game. Crushed soda cans cover a coffee table. Betty places a to-go box beside a full ashtray and plops into a worn recliner.

TED
How was work?

GUN SHOTS from the game. Ted throws down the controller.

TED (CONT'D)
Goddammit.

BETTY
I brought you an omelette.

Ted opens the box. Tosses a mushroom into his mouth.

TED
Any better today?

BETTY
She hates me.

TED
She's supposed to.

Ted takes big bites of the omelette. Betty spreads out on the couch and pulls a metal tea tin from underneath.

BETTY
She's not supposed to know she's supposed to.

TED
Rivera said you're the best at it.

BETTY
Women are harder.

TED
That's for sure.

BETTY
Like you'd know.

Ted hits the power button on the console. He crawls to Betty, propping his elbows on her knees.

BETTY (CONT'D)
You really think this is gonna happen?

She shoos away his hand.

TED
Don't you get lonely?

BETTY
No.

He falls back on his ass. Crawls to the futon mattress. Betty rolls a joint.

BETTY (CONT'D)
Better go to sleep.

No answer.

BETTY (CONT'D)
Don't fuck it up on day one.

Betty flicks a lighter. Holds the joint to her mouth.

INT. POWER PLANT - ENTRANCE

LOUD. Machinery everywhere. Many people in blue suits and white hard hats scatter about. A foreman hands Ted a suit and hard hat. Directs Ted where to go.

INT. DINER

Crowded and NOISY. Dale and Earl sit at the breakfast bar, shoving pancakes into their mouths. Meredith brings each of them a carton of chocolate milk.

MEREDITH
Don't be late.

EARL
Never seen her before.

MEREDITH
She's Betty.

Earl gulps down his chocolate milk as Meredith leans over the counter to kiss them both on the forehead.

MEREDITH (CONT'D)
I mean it, don't be late.

DALE
It's just a field trip, Mom.

MEREDITH
Don't be late.

EXT. DINER - ENTRANCE

A bench sits against red brick. Senior men sit, drinking their coffee and reading a newspaper. Dale picks up his bike.

EARL
Wanna skip?

DALE
Not really.

EARL
Come on, forget that stupid museum.
We'll do something else.

DALE
I guess.

They hop on their bikes and race each other on the sidewalk, passing cars and a school bus.

DALE (CONT'D)
Where we going?

EARL
I wanna show you something.

INT. YOUNG'S HOUSE - EARL'S BEDROOM

MESSY. Dale and Earl sit on the floor in front of a small television. MOANS and SLAPS come from the television.

DALE
Oh my god.

EARL
I know.

DALE
This is what he watches?

EARL
You don't like it?

DALE
You do?

EARL
Yeah, she's hot.

DALE

I guess.

EARL

You guess? Look at her tits!

Silence. Dale shoots up off the floor.

EARL (CONT'D)

Hey! You don't have to like it yet.
It's probably not a big deal or
whatever.

DALE

Leave me alone.

INT. BETTY'S APARTMENT - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Small. Stark white. Old wood cabinets. Betty stands in front of the microwave as Ted sits on the counter, clipping his toenails into the sink. He holds a flip phone between his shoulder and ear.

TED

Talk soon.

The microwave BEEPS and Betty pulls it open. She grabs a microwave dinner and drops it on the counter.

BETTY

Hot. Fuck.

Ted flips the phone shut.

BETTY (CONT'D)

What'd he say?

TED

Tonight.

BETTY

There's no fucking way.

She peels plastic off the dinner container.

TED

Wanna talk to him?

Ted holds the phone out to her. She turns her back to him and digs a plastic fork out of a plastic sack.

BETTY

This is fucked.

TED

Well.

BETTY

Well, what? We're not ready and he knows that.

Ted sets an alarm clock. He hops off the counter and moves over to the futon mattress where he falls.

BETTY (CONT'D)

So unlike him.

EXT. WAREHOUSE - ENTRANCE - LATER

Ted walks around the perimeter of the building, stopping at a door that faces the back toward a tree-line. Pulls supplies from his pocket and picks the lock. The doorknob loosens, but doesn't budge.

TED

Fuck.

INT./EXT. WAREHOUSE - DRIVEWAY - TED'S VAN (PARKED)

Betty's leg bounces as she keeps watch. Ted hops in.

TED

Fucking dead-bolted from inside.

BETTY

Is there another way in?

TED

None that I could find.

Gravel crunches and headlights pull up behind them.

TED (CONT'D)

Fuck!

Ted starts the engine. GUNSHOT. The back window SHATTERS. Ted's face plants into the steering wheel, blood pouring down his face. Betty freaks out. Car doors SHUT. Throws open hers and sprints away. Leon tackles her to the ground.

INT. DEER PROCESSING BUILDING - MAIN AREA - LATER

Machines against pale walls. Concrete floor. Betty, bloody with dark circles under her eyes, sits up.

Leon sits next to her in a swivel chair. Holds a GUN to her head. Spits sunflower seeds into a cup in his other hand.

LEON

Oh, look at that. Hey, Tommy, she's awake.

TOMMY

Good morning, princess.

INT. FREEZER

WHIRS. Plastic flaps in a doorway show a line of deer hanging on hooks. Isaac and Tommy toss Ted's body on a steel countertop with a BANG.

ISAAC

Goddamn, he feels like a buck.

TOMMY

(stretches)

Damn near 250. Gonna have to take a muscle relaxer, goddamn.

INT. MAIN AREA

Betty flinches. Leon kicks her in the thigh.

LEON

No one told you to move.

Tommy walks through. Flips a switch and a grinder starts to HUM. Betty falls on her side, her wet face smashing into the concrete. Leon grabs Betty by the waist. Lifts her up.

LEON (CONT'D)

Come on.

Leon shoves the GUN into her cheek.

LEON (CONT'D)

Let's go.

EXT. WAREHOUSE - ENTANCE

Tommy opens the warehouse door from inside and leaves it wide open. Long, metal tables, filled with bags and bags of cocaine. Fluorescent lights illuminate a wall lined with safes. Tommy grabs Betty by the elbow and drags her along.

TOMMY

Where's your phone?

He pushes her by the vagina until she backs up onto a table. Isaac shoves his hand in her pocket, pulling out a flip phone. Tosses it onto the table.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

Call.

Betty doesn't move. Tommy grabs her by the chin, digging his fingers into her skin.

BETTY

Who?

Tommy releases her chin, pushes her backwards. Lunges toward her, pounds his hands on the table around each of her legs.

TOMMY

I will fucking slaughter you!

He strokes his fingers down her naked legs.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

Grind this pretty little thigh right up.

Tommy opens the flip phone. Presses buttons.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

Fucking bitch.

INT. POWER PLANT - TOMMY'S OFFICE - LATER

Tommy sits at his desk, Leon and Isaac both in chairs across from him. Betty sits on the floor by the door, hugging her knees to her chest. Meredith enters. Betty tries to stand up, but crumples back to the floor.

TOMMY

Stay the fuck down.

MEREDITH

No, no, no.

Walks away.

TOMMY

Do not leave.

She walks over to the desk, standing between Leon and Isaac.

MEREDITH
I just hired her, okay?

TOMMY
I want you to take her home.

MEREDITH
What?

TOMMY
Clean her up. Keep an eye on her.

MEREDITH
You're fucking joking.

LEON
Babe.

Leon grabs Meredith's elbow. She pulls away. Tommy hits the speaker button on the desk phone. DIAL TONE. Tommy shoos away Meredith. She STORMS out, Betty scrambles and stumbles after her.

INT. MILLER'S HOUSE - BATHROOM

Clean. Pale colors. Big bathtub. Betty sits in the tub. Tinted pink water with chunks of dirt floating around. She pulls the drain. Turns the faucet on. The door CREAKS open and Meredith pulls the shower curtain open.

MEREDITH
Making sure you're still alive.

Meredith places leggings and a sweatshirt down on a counter. She sits on the toilet. Betty ducks her head underwater, emerging right after.

BETTY
What're they waiting on?

MEREDITH
Gotta figure out what to do with you. They always got some sort a plan cooking.

Meredith stands. Pulls the shower curtain closed again.

MEREDITH (CONT'D)
They did a number on you. You hungry?

INT. POWER PLANT - TOMMY'S OFFICE

Tommy, Leon, and Isaac sit around Tommy's desk. Tommy goes through Betty's phone.

TOMMY
Nothing.

LEON
Burner.

ISAAC
Who you think she's with?

LEON
Could just be a one man show and
the man's dead.

ISAAC
You think so?

LEON
What's she been here for? Not a
month. Rivera wouldn't have pulled
the trigger already.

TOMMY
No. Too sloppy. And he wouldn't
send a girl to do his dirty work.

Tommy tosses the phone on the ground and stomps it.

LEON
Up to you, Tommy.

INT. MILLER'S HOUSE - BATHROOM

Betty dries her naked body and gets dressed. She assesses the damage on her face in the mirror. Towel-dries her hair. Tommy barges in. Betty jumps back, covering her naked torso with a towel.

TOMMY
Well, aren't you pretty.

Closes the door behind him. Locks it.

TOMMY (CONT'D)
You're mine now.

Betty sits down on the toilet. Drops the towel.

INT. DINER - LOBBY - NIGHT - 2009

Looks the same, save for a flat screen television above the breakfast counter. Betty slices a piece of pie and places it front of SAMSON (47, wears a camouflage jacket and a ball-cap).

BETTY

Never seen you around before.

SAMSON

I just started this route.

BETTY

You look like you belong.

SAMSON

From Ohio.

BETTY

Makes sense.

SAMSON

You'll probably see me around. I'll be through here often.

BETTY

Coffee and pie is always on the house for our regulars.

INT. CONVENIENCE STORE - REGISTER COUNTER

Empty. COUNTRY plays. Dale (17, in a flannel and beanie) stands behind a counter. English textbook open. Writes in a notebook. Door opens and a bell RINGS, interrupting his studying. Earl (17, in college apparel) saunters in.

DALE

The fuck you smiling about?

EARL

Boss man here?

DALE

Not all night.

EARL

When will Jonsey be in?

DALE

Fifteen.

EARL

Sweet.

INT. CONVENIENCE STORE - COOLERS

Earl grabs a case of beer.

INT. CONVENIENCE STORE - REGISTER COUNTER

Earl PLOPS the beer on the counter. Dale keeps lookout, then Dale rings it up.

EARL

I'll meet you at your place.

INT./EXT. MILLER'S HOUSE - DRIVEWAY - EARL'S CAR (PARKED)

Headlights shine on an open field. CLASSIC COUNTRY MUSIC plays. Earl hangs out the window. Dale pulls up. Rolls down his window.

DALE

The fuck are you doing?

EARL

One's missing.

DALE

She's fine. She just had a calf.

EARL

Come on, I'll drive tonight.

INT./EXT. GRAVEL ROAD - EARL'S CAR (MOVING)

Dale crunches up a beer can and tosses it on the floorboard.

DALE

You better pick it up or you're gonna get stuck.

Dale opens another can. Gravel POPS under the car. The car intensifies. As the vehicle clears the top of the hill -- THUD.

DALE (CONT'D)

Fuck!

Earl throws the car into park and Dale jumps out.

INT./EXT. EARL'S CAR (PARKED)

A MAN lies on the ground in front of the headlights. A wagon flipped over with cans and bottles scattered about.

EARL
Oh my god. I didn't fucking see
him. Did you see him? Oh my god.
Fuck!

Dale rests his hand on the body. No rise or fall. He feels for a pulse on his neck, then wrist. Earl freezes at pooled blood on the gravel from the back of the guy's head.

EARL (CONT'D)
Dale?

A pale Dale runs to a ditch and vomits. Earl kills the car. Turns off the headlights. Dale hyperventilates. Earl pulls his phone from his pocket and strikes keys. Holds the phone to his ear.

EARL (CONT'D)
Come on.

Takes the phone down. Strikes keys again. Holds the phone to his ear. Takes the phone down. Strikes keys. Holds the phone to his ear. Takes the phone down.

EARL (CONT'D)
Fuck!

Dale dry-heaves. Earl strikes keys. Holds the phone to his ear.

INT. YOUNG'S HOUSE - KITCHEN

Dark. Dirty dishes in a sink. A lamp shines. Isaac props his elbows on the counter. He holds a flip phone to his ear.

ISAAC
What are you doing calling me on
this phone?

INTERCUT AS NEEDED

EARL
I got a problem.

ISAAC
What is it?

EARL
I need you to come out by Dale's.

ISAAC
The fuck is it now?

EARL
About a mile south of the bridge.

Silence.

EARL (CONT'D)
Dad?

END INTERCUT

ISAAC
Let me get situated.

EXT. GRAVEL ROAD - EARL'S CAR (PARKED)

Earl holds the corpse's ankles.

EARL
Help me.

DALE
What the fuck?

EARL
Please, man. Come on.

DALE
Fuck that. I'm not touching his
head.

Earl drops the legs. Moves to the head and lifts it up, blood smearing onto his hands and arms.

EARL
Hurry up!

They waddle with the body. Dale WRETCHES. Earl SHUSHES him. Dale begins to WAIL. They throw the body in the ditch with a muffled THUD.

EARL (CONT'D)
Quiet.

DALE
Oh my god.

EARL
Shut the fuck up.

INT. DINER - LOBBY

JAZZ plays. Betty wipes down tables. Turns the closed sign on.

SAMSON
I'm sorry, ma'am. I'll be right out.

BETTY
Oh, you're fine. Finish your coffee.

SAMSON
Say, what do you guys do around here?

BETTY
Work until we die.

SAMSON
You been here long?

BETTY
Long time.

SAMSON
You don't think you'll ever wanna hop out. Check out that city life.

BETTY
Not a chance.

SAMSON
Why?

BETTY
You know how it is in a small town. Sucks you in like a black hole.

Silence.

BETTY (CONT'D)
Refill?

SAMSON
I'll be up all night if I do. Thank you, ma'am.

BETTY
Betty.

SAMSON
Samson.

BETTY
See you around.

SAMSON
You will.

He SLAPS a twenty-dollar bill on the counter and leaves.

INT./EXT. GRAVEL ROAD - EARL'S CAR (PARKED)

Dale sits in the passenger seat. Feet dangling out of the open door, SOBBING. Earl paces. Tires CRUNCH on gravel as headlights come into view.

INT./EXT. GRAVEL ROAD - LEON'S TRUCK (PARKED)

Leon flips his lights off. Sticks his head out the window.

LEON
What is it?

Dale rushes out of the car.

DALE
What are you doing here?

Leon steps out of the truck.

LEON
I'm closer.

LEON (CONT'D)
Your daddy's on his way, Earl. What the hell did you boys do?

EARL
It's dark out here. I was coming up the hill. I didn't see him.

Leon walks to the ditch.

LEON
You boys been drinkin'?

EARL
Just a few beers.

LEON
Don't matter.

Leon pulls out his flip phone and walks out of earshot.

INT./EXT. GRAVEL ROAD - LEON'S TRUCK (PARKED) - LATER

Leon lets down the tailgate as Isaac pulls up.

LEON
We got some time before the sun's
up.

ISAAC
Who is that?

LEON
That homeless guy. Walks around
collecting trash.

ISAAC
Oh, it'll be alright.

LEON
Load 'em up.

Dale freezes as Earl heads toward the body.

EARL
Come on, Dale.

DALE
What the fuck are you doing?

LEON
Get your ass over there.

Dale and Earl carry the body to Leon's truck. The body makes a loud THUMP as they dump him. Earl climbs up and drags the corpse toward the back.

ISAAC
I got a shovel and a bucket in the
back of my truck.

EARL
What?

ISAAC
Go get the damn shovel. Goddamn.

Earl retrieves them.

LEON

Grab my thermos from the cab, Dale.
Your momma's gonna be pissed when
she wakes up and I'm not there.

Dale gets Leon's thermos. Earl carries a shovel and bucket.

LEON (CONT'D)

Maybe she'll see the coffee pot on
and think I'm out at the warehouse
or something.

ISAAC

You act like she's gonna even care.

LEON

The fuck that supposed to mean?

EARL

What do you want me to do with
this, Dad?

ISAAC

Get all the bloody grass and
gravel.

EARL

And Dale's puke.

LEON

Yeah, shovel all that shit up.

Leon pulls out a cigarette pack from his front pocket. He
pulls one out, lights it, and offers Isaac one. Leon leans
back on the hood of his truck.

ISAAC

Saw where a storm is coming
through. You always were a lucky
son of a bitch.

Shovel SCRAPES against gravel.

LEON

How's Lisa?

ISAAC

Lisa's Lisa. Ain't shit gonna
change.

Earl stops shoveling.

ISAAC (CONT'D)

Mind your damn business, boy.

Earl continues dumping rocks into a bucket.

LEON
She listening at least?

ISAAC
She's doing what she's told. She
ain't a fool.

Earl drops the shovel on the ground with a CLANK.

EARL
Or what?

Dale closes the gap between Isaac and Earl.

ISAAC
I said mind your damn business.
Pick up that shovel and get back to
it.

DALE
Come on.

He pushes Earl backwards until he turns his back to Isaac.

LEON
Y'all need to come on over for
dinner soon.

ISAAC
We'll do that.

EXT. GRAVEL ROAD - ISAAC'S TRUCK (PARKED) - LATER

Earl squats next to a bucket full of gravel and grass. Dale
inspects with a flashlight.

LEON
Alright, you boys should be good.

Dale clicks the flashlight off. Earl loads the shovel and
bucket into the back of Isaac's truck.

LEON (CONT'D)
We'll follow y'all to the
warehouse. Drive slow.

Dale doesn't budge.

LEON (CONT'D)
Do as I say, boy.

INT. DEER PROCESSING BUILDING - MAIN AREA

Dale and Earl stand behind Tommy and Isaac. Dale and Earl survey their surroundings. Leon lets down the tailgate to his truck parked inside the building.

TOMMY
Cameras are off.

Isaac and Leon undress the homeless man's corpse.

TOMMY (CONT'D)
Wonder if he was a bit horny or if that's just death doing weird shit.

LEON
He didn't have half a brain to get horny.

Tommy turns on the meat grinder. WHIRS and HUMS.

TOMMY
Just know it all gets done.

Dale runs out.

EXT. DEER PROCESSING BUILDING - ENTRANCE

Dale vomits onto dewy grass. Stumbles away from the building, wiping his face. An ELECTRIC SAW begins.

EXT. NEAR PIG PEN

Muddy. Pigs SNORT and GRUNT. Fight over slop. Dale sits on a tree stump. Door SLAMS. Earl walks toward Dale. Dale jumps up.

DALE
This is fucked!

Earl stops in his tracks.

EARL
Hey, hey. Calm down.

DALE
Calm down? Calm down. Fuck off.

EARL
You knew! You knew just as much as I knew.

DALE

I knew they were fucking sketchy,
but not throw a dead body into a
grinder fucking sketchy.

EARL

What the fuck were we supposed to
do?

DALE

I don't know!

EARL

It's gonna be fine. I promise.

DALE

Look at this. They're gonna feed
him to the pigs. Who else?

EARL

Don't think like that. Just get it
the fuck together, okay?

DALE

How the fuck is it so easy for you?

EARL

I didn't fucking say it was, but it
was either this or time.

DALE

I wasn't the one driving.

EARL

(walking away)
Fuck you, man.

Earl walks back to the deer processing building. Dale picks
up a rock and throws it toward a field with a SCREAM.

INT./EXT. MILLER'S HOUSE - DRIVEWAY - LEON'S TRUCK (PARKED) -
SUNRISE

Quiet. Still. Leon kills the truck. Hops out. Dale doesn't
move. Leon walks over to the passenger side. TAPS his
knuckles on the window. Dale doesn't acknowledge him. Leon
yanks open the door.

LEON

Come on, boy.

Silence.

LEON (CONT'D)
We got shit to do.

No answer.

LEON (CONT'D)
Let's fucking go.

Leon BANGS a hand on the truck. He grabs Dale and pulls him out of the truck.

EXT. FRONT YARD - LEON'S TRUCK (PARKED)

LEON
When I tell you to do something,
you better fucking listen. Do you
understand?

DALE
Don't fucking touch me.

Dale tries to pull away. Leon pushes him forward.

LEON
Strip down. Throw all your clothes
in the bin.

EXT. SIDE OF HOUSE

Leon strips down naked and tosses his clothes into a rusty trash barrel. Dale stands fully clothed.

LEON
Off.

DALE
Fuck you.

Leon grabs Dale by the chin and pulls him in.

LEON
Don't be a goddamn fool.

Leon yanks at Dale's shirt. Dale pushes him away and steps back. He strips down and throws his clothes at Leon. Leon tosses them in the barrel and squirts kerosene in. Lights it on fire.

LEON (CONT'D)
You actin' like your momma is
really starting to piss me the fuck
off.

A few embers pop out of the barrel and land on Dale's pubes.

DALE
Fuck! Goddammit.

He pats his pelvis and backs off.

LEON
Go get some clothes on.

Dale walks off.

LEON (CONT'D)
And come back!

INT. LIVING ROOM

A naked Dale walks through.

INT. DINING ROOM

Meredith drops her paperwork.

MEREDITH
Dale?

INT. HALLWAY

Dale storms down the hall and into his room.

MEREDITH
Dale! What the fuck?

INT. FRONT DOOR ENTRANCE

Meredith pushes through the screen door.

MEREDITH
What's going on?

INT./EXT. FRONT YARD - DRIVEWAY - LEON'S TRUCK (PARKED)

A bare-assed Leon stands by the open driver's side door of his truck. Pulls a t-shirt over his head. Meredith rushes toward Leon as he pulls on jeans.

MEREDITH
What the fuck!?

LEON
Don't worry about it, babe.

MEREDITH
Fuck that, I am.

EXT. FRONT PORCH

A fully-dressed Dale steps out of the house.

EXT. DRIVEWAY - LEON'S TRUCK (PARKED)

Meredith stands in front of Leon. Leon slides a belt through his jeans.

LEON
He's gotta learn how to be a man.

MEREDITH
Dick out and all, huh?

Leon moves past her.

LEON
Follow me, boy.

EXT. BACKYARD - LATER

Leon digs a hole by a line of trees. Dale holds a shotgun. Dead calf lies on the ground. Leon dumps ashes and gravel and grass that hold both blood and vomit into the hole. Rolls the calf on top.

LEON
You're up.

Leon tosses the shovel at Dale's feet.

LEON (CONT'D)
Close it up.

Dale shovels dirt back into the hole.

INT. KITCHEN - EVENING

Leon places plates on the table and slides eggs onto each of them. Meredith sits fresh biscuits down.

MEREDITH
Come eat!

Silence. Meredith gets up to pour more coffee into her mug.

LEON
Get in here, boy!

No response.

INT. HALLWAY

Meredith stands near a door. SHOWER runs from the bathroom. She KNOCKS.

MEREDITH
Dinner's ready, babe.

No answer.

INT. DINING ROOM - LATER

Dale sits on the edge of his seat at the table. His hair wet and his eyes bloodshot. Leon slathers red plum jelly onto a biscuit.

MEREDITH
What happened last night?

LEON
Nothin'.

He shoves a biscuit into his mouth.

LEON (CONT'D)
Don't look at me like that.

MEREDITH
What's wrong, baby?

Meredith runs her fingers over the side of Dale's hair, straightening it behind his ear.

MEREDITH (CONT'D)
You okay?

LEON
You know how he gets.

Dale leaves the table, leaving untouched food.

MEREDITH
What did you do, Leon?

LEON

Woman!

Meredith pushes his coffee mug onto to floor. Coffee spills everywhere as it SHATTERS.

MEREDITH

Fuck you!

EXT. YOUNG'S HOUSE - FRONT PORCH - NIGHT

Worn and chipped front porch paint. Tattered mesh wire porch swing sways in the wind. Dale sits on steps. Light shines on. Lisa opens the front door and leans against the doorframe.

LISA

You'll wait all night.

DALE

His car's here.

LISA

He's with his daddy.

DALE

Where?

Lisa shuts the door.

INT. DINER - LOBBY - DAY

Few people scattered around. Betty reads a book. The entrance door RINGS as it opens. Samson enters. Sits down at the bar in front of Betty.

BETTY

Back already?

She slides a mug in front of him and pours coffee.

SAMSON

Had to pass through just for the pie.

BETTY

It's my momma's recipe.

SAMSON

I'd like to meet her.

BETTY

I wish you could. She passed when I was a kid.

SAMSON

I'm sorry to hear that.

BETTY

Special or the patty melt?

Samson checks on the white board above Betty.

SAMSON

Let's go with the chicken.

BETTY

Neither, huh?

INT. WAREHOUSE - MAIN AREA

A bell RINGS three times. Tommy steps over to a desk filled with monitors.

MONITOR SCREEN

Dale's car drives through the gate.

RESUME ACTION: Tommy steps back to the tables.

TOMMY

Your boy, Leon.

Leon re-holsters his GUN. Isaac supervises Earl as he transfers cocaine from a big bag into baggies.

ISAAC

Good.

EARL

Dale's here?

Tommy leans back in his chair. Checks the monitor.

TOMMY

Leaving now.

LEON

Probably lookin' for you.

Leon scoops up the filled baggies and places them into a duffle bag full of money.

EXT. MILLER'S HOUSE - FRONT PORCH - SUNSET

Dale and Meredith sit on the steps amidst SOUNDS OF NATURE.
Meredith lights a blunt.

DALE

What does Dad really do?

Meredith drops the blunt on her lap.

MEREDITH

Goddammit.

Puts it out on a wooden plank.

DALE

Earl knows. He's there. He didn't
even tell me.

MEREDITH

I don't know what you're on about
right now.

DALE

Don't. I was fucking there!

MEREDITH

You were where? Why won't you just
fucking tell me what happened!?

No answer.

INT./EXT. FRONT YARD - DRIVEWAY - LISA'S CAR (MOVING)

Lisa slams on the brakes. Swings open the car door.

EXT. FRONT PORCH

Dale hops up off the steps and toward the front door.

MEREDITH

Hey, no. We're not done.

Screen door SLAMS.

EXT. FRONT PORCH - LATER

Meredith and Lisa sit on the steps. Lisa CRIES.

MEREDITH

What about rehab?

LISA
Isaac wouldn't let me. Won't let me
go to therapy either.

MEREDITH
What can I do?

LISA
Nothing. I'm just tired.

Lisa SOBS.

LISA (CONT'D)
I'm a bad mother.

MEREDITH
Shhh. No. It's okay.

LISA
You know I am.

Meredith wraps an arm around her and pulls her close. Rests
her head on Meredith's shoulder.

LISA (CONT'D)
You are too, I'm just worse.

EXT. FRONT PORCH - NIGHT

Meredith sits cross-legged, stuffing ground cannabis into a
purple stained-glass pipe. She holds it to her mouth, her
lipstick smudged. CLICKS the lighter. Headlights approach.

INT. DINER - MEREDITH'S OFFICE - DAY

Meredith and Betty squat above a duffle bag in front of the
open safe.

BETTY
Holy shit.

Meredith zips up the bag and throws it in the safe.

MEREDITH
Run the front.

Meredith shuts and locks the safe.

INT./EXT. POWER PLANT - PARKING LOT - MEREDITH'S CAR (PARKED)

Meredith sits, facing the river. Leon opens the door and gets into the passenger seat.

LEON
What's up?

MEREDITH
I don't know, the cocaine maybe?

LEON
Tommy wants Betty in on it.

He pulls a cigarette out of the front pocket to his flannel.

MEREDITH
That's my place.

LEON
Can you just shut the fuck up and listen to yourself?

He points the lit cigarette at her face. Ashes fall between them.

LEON (CONT'D)
It's done. It's Betty's. It's in the diner. That's it.

He gets out of the car.

LEON (CONT'D)
Don't come here for shit like this again.

Slams the car door.

INT. DINER - MEREDITH'S OFFICE - DAY

Meredith and Betty both sit cross-legged on the floor.

BETTY
How am I supposed to do this?

MEREDITH
I have no fucking idea.

BETTY
He wants me to fuck up.

MEREDITH
Stop.

BETTY
I don't understand.

MEREDITH
You know we wash money here. And at
Lisa's.

BETTY
But that's money. How am I supposed
to ask someone if they want a side
of cocaine with their pancakes?

MEREDITH
I don't fucking know.

BETTY
See!

MEREDITH
Just go back to work. Let me figure
this out.

INT. DINER - LOBBY - NIGHT

Betty waits tables. Samson enters.

BETTY
Hey, stranger.

Samson pulls a chair out at the counter. Takes a seat. He
surveys the room. Betty jogs behind the counter to face him.

BETTY (CONT'D)
What'll it be?

She pulls her pen and tab out.

SAMSON
Just coffee and pie. Don't worry,
you know I'll tip good.

BETTY
Cherry or apple?

SAMSON
What's your favorite?

BETTY
Both.

SAMSON
Both it is. What was your mom's
favorite.

BETTY

Peach. She made the best peach. I can't get it right.

SAMSON

That's a shame. I'd love to try it.

BETTY

I'll keep working on it.

She slides a plate of two generous slices in front of him and fills a coffee mug.

BETTY (CONT'D)

Where you headed now?

She props her elbows on the counter.

SAMSON

Here, actually.

BETTY

Nothing for you here in this dump.

SAMSON

Where's the boss lady?

BETTY

Her office. What's up?

SAMSON

We gotta talk.

BETTY

Is everything okay?

SAMSON

We'll talk.

Betty backs up.

SAMSON (CONT'D)

Don't put me on her radar.

INT. MILLER'S HOUSE - DALE'S BEDROOM

Plates of untouched food sit on a nightstand. Dale sleeps. Meredith places her hand on his forehead.

MEREDITH

You gotta get up, baby.

Dale rolls over the other way.

MEREDITH (CONT'D)
You gotta talk to me.

Dale pulls the blanket over his head. Meredith pulls the blankets off the bed.

MEREDITH (CONT'D)
You're not doing this.

Meredith sits on the edge of his bed. BAWLS.

MEREDITH (CONT'D)
Baby, please. You're scaring me.

Dale taps his pillow and Meredith lays her head down. BAWLING reduced to SOBBING.

INT./EXT. DIRT ROAD - SAMSON'S CAR (PARKED)

Nice. New. Clean. Tinted windows. Samson and Betty sit overlooking a dam. Betty rests her head on a fogged up window.

BETTY
I'm such a fucking idiot.

SAMSON
Tommy's been on our radar for a decade. Rivera, too.

BETTY
Of fucking course.

SAMSON
You're the tie between them. It's what we've been waiting for.

BETTY
And if I decline?

SAMSON
Don't.

BETTY
What's this mean for me?

SAMSON
Witness protection.

BETTY
I won't make it that far and you fucking know it.

INT. MILER'S HOUSE - DINING ROOM

Meredith sits at the table when Leon walks through the door.

MEREDITH
What the fuck did you do to him?

LEON
Go to bed, woman.

Tries to pass.

MEREDITH
No!

LEON
Don't blame me. That head shit is
in your genes.

INT. HALLWAY

Leon BANGS on Dale's door.

LEON
Get your ass out here!

MEREDITH
No!

Meredith rushes to Leon. He pushes her to the ground.

LEON
Stop actin' a damn fool.

Dale steps into the hallway.

MEREDITH
Shut the door, baby.

LEON
I'm talking to my son!

MEREDITH
You are not. Absolutely fucking
not.

Meredith steps between them.

MEREDITH (CONT'D)
Go to Earl's, please.

Leon snatches her by the shoulders and pins her against the wall.

DALE

Let her go!

Leon clutches her neck and moves in inches from her face.

MEREDITH

I'm not fucking around.

Leon backhands Meredith across the face. Stands over her.

LEON

Who the fuck are you?

Dale steps in-between them.

DALE

Don't fucking touch her.

INT. LIVING ROOM - ENTRANCE WAY

Meredith pushes Dale through the living room. Blood trickles from her nose and mouth. Leon guffaws behind them. Meredith pushes Dale to the door and out of the house.

INT./EXT. DRIVEWAY - DALE'S CAR (PARKED)

Meredith opens Dale's car door. Meredith drags Dale by the arm.

MEREDITH

Go to Earl's.

DALE

I'm not leaving you here.

MEREDITH

I won't be here.

DALE

Where -- ?

MEREDITH

Go!

EXT. BETTY'S APARTMENT - FRONT PORCH DECK - LATER

Christmas lights string around the porch. Flower pots with different kinds of plants spread out. Meredith KNOCKS.

INT. LIVING ROOM

Organized and clean. Minimalistic decor. Plants everywhere. Dim lighting from more Christmas lights. Betty checks through the blinds.

BETTY

Fuck.

INT. KITCHEN

Betty opens a drawer revealing a wire. She grabs it. Puts it back. Shuts the drawer. Opens it. Hesitates. BANGS on the front door.

BETTY

Fuck.

EXT. FRONT PORCH

Meredith snakes her head toward the window, trying to peek through. Betty opens the door.

BETTY

Meredith?

Betty opens the door wider.

BETTY (CONT'D)

Here, come in.

INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER

Betty and Meredith sit on the couch. Empty wine bottle sits on a coffee table. Mugs in hands. Betty touches Meredith's neck.

BETTY

Did he hit you?

Meredith finishes her wine.

BETTY (CONT'D)

I'm sorry.

MEREDITH

When I was pregnant, I didn't think we'd be in it this long.

BETTY

It's never temporary.

MEREDITH

We were so young, though. I didn't know. I don't think Leon really knew either. I wish I would have ... you know?

BETTY

What?

MEREDITH

I was this close.

Silence.

MEREDITH (CONT'D)

I didn't want my baby going through this.

BETTY

I used to wish momma had one, too. It's all I've known. Momma couldn't leave Daddy.

MEREDITH

I can't either.

BETTY

I know.

Silence.

BETTY (CONT'D)

More wine?

MEREDITH

Why not?

INT. KITCHEN

Betty opens the fridge, pulls out a bottle.

BETTY

Is he still at home?

INTERCUT AS NEEDED

Meredith kicks her shoes off and props her feet on the coffee table.

MEREDITH

Who knows?

Betty digs around in a drawer with one hand. Rips off the wire with the other. Turns it off and shoves it in the drawer.

BETTY
I can never find my damn bottle
opener.

MEREDITH
It's in here.

She grabs it off the coffee table and holds it up.

BETTY
I'm an idiot.

END INTERCUT

Betty pours wine into the mugs and sits next to her.

BETTY (CONT'D)
Dale?

MEREDITH
Earl's.

Betty rubs the back of her hand across a red mark on her cheek. Meredith flinches.

BETTY
You need ice?

MEREDITH
It's fine.

BETTY
You deserve so much better.

MEREDITH
I'm fine.

Betty grabs her hand. Meredith puts hers over Betty's. Betty moves in and kisses her cheek, then kisses Meredith on the lips. Meredith grabs Betty's face with both hands. Betty moves to her lap. Straddles her. Betty kisses down her neck.

INT. YOUNG'S HOUSE - BATHROOM

Dale sits on the bathtub's edge beside Earl, who sits on the toilet. They pass a joint back and forth.

EARL
Got my first delivery on Friday.

DALE
What's it like?

EARL
It's okay.

DALE
Man, don't.

EARL
Dad's been dealing with these guys
for a while now. He's not worried.

DALE
You're not either?

EARL
I'm just helping out.

DALE
So, you're not worried about the
bum we hit either?

Silence.

DALE (CONT'D)
It fucks with me.

EARL
It's done.

No response.

EARL (CONT'D)
Come with me.

DALE
Fuck that.

EARL
I miss you.

INT. MILLER'S HOUSE - DALE'S BEDROOM - DAY

Messy. Empty water bottles and clothes all over the floor.
Dale sits on the bed's edge, playing a video game. The door
opens and Meredith walks in with graduation regalia.

DALE
I'm not going.

MEREDITH
Yeah, you are. Get ready.

Places it on the bed behind him.

DALE
I have plans.

MEREDITH
Yes, graduating.

Dale tosses the controller down.

MEREDITH (CONT'D)
Get ready.

INT./EXT. RIVERA'S AUTO SHOP - DRIVEWAY - EARL'S CAR (PARKED)
- NIGHT

Run-down, metal building. No windows. A GROUP OF THUGS unload bags of cocaine from Earl's trunk. DAILEY (40, long hair and tattoos covering his body) SLAMS the trunk shut when it's empty.

DAILEY
See ya.

EARL
The money?

DAILEY
No, no, no. I'm not giving it to a couple of kids.

EARL
We're with them, though.

Dailey turns and walks toward the building. Earl goes to the driver's side of his car and grabs a HANDGUN from the door's console. Earl points the weapon at Dailey.

DALE
(from the passenger's
seat)
Earl?

EARL
The money.

Dailey walks back toward Earl.

BEGIN INTERCUT

DALE
Earl!

CHATTER and COMMOTION rev up behind Dailey. Dale slides over to the driver's side and turns the ignition.

DALE (CONT'D)

Come on!

Earl puts the HANDGUN in his pocket. Turns back to Dale.

EARL

Either the money or the drugs.

Dailey draws a PISTOL from his waist. Shoots Earl right in the head. Earl's lifeless body falls on the hood of his car. Dale peels out.

INT./EXT. GRAVEL ROAD - EARL'S CAR (MOVING)

Dale punches the steering wheel multiple times. HONKS.

DALE

Earl!

INT./EXT. WAREHOUSE - DRIVEWAY - EARL'S CAR (PARKED)

Dale explodes out of the car. Stumbles, but pops right up.

DALE

Dad!

Runs to the warehouse door, BANGING on it as he falls to his knees. Isaac emerges.

ISAAC

The fuck's going on?

ISAAC (CONT'D)

Where's Earl?

Hysterical, Dale hangs onto Isaac.

ISAAC (CONT'D)

Dale, look at me. I need you to calm --

DALE

They shot him!

Isaac taken aback. Leon hurries out.

ISAAC

Earl? Dale, they shot Earl!?

Dale SOBS.

ISAAC (CONT'D)
What the fuck!?

DALE
He pulled a gun!

LEON
I told you not to give it to him!

Leon rushes to his truck. Tommy joins them outside.

ISAAC
He wasn't ready, Tommy! I fucking
told you.

Tommy takes the tongue lashing.

TOMMY
Isaac.

He grabs his shoulder.

LEON
(with two SHOTGUNS)
Let's go.

Hands one to Isaac. They barrel into Isaac's truck. Peel out.
Tommy approaches Dale.

TOMMY
Alright, kid.

DALE
What?

TOMMY
I'm on a deadline and it's just you
and me.

Dale backs up away from Tommy.

DALE
Don't you care?

TOMMY
Your daddy will take care of it.

DALE
He's dead.

TOMMY

I know. We're gonna take care of it.

DALE

He's dead!

TOMMY

Go tell your mom to bring me Betty.

DALE

Earl! Dead!

TOMMY

Betty.

Tommy walks into the warehouse.

EXT. MILLER'S HOUSE - FRONT PORCH

Meredith sits on the steps. Dressed up. Hair and makeup done.

INT./EXT. FRONT YARD - DRIVEWAY - EARL'S CAR (MOVING)

Dale slams to a stop.

EXT. DRIVEWAY - EARL'S CAR (PARKED)

Meredith storms toward Dale. Dale runs to Meredith, leaving the running car.

MEREDITH

Are you fucking kidding me? You made me look like a fool.

Dale falls. WAILS.

MEREDITH (CONT'D)

What is it? What happened, baby?

She kneels next to him, holding his head in her hands.

DALE

Earl's dead.

MEREDITH

Hold on. Hey! Hey! Look at me.

Dale hops up. Runs back to his car. Meredith chases him. She grabs him by the shirt collar and pulls him to the ground.

INT./EXT. GRAVEL ROAD - MEREDITH'S CAR (MOVING)

Meredith drives. Dale hunches over, his head between his knees. Hyperventilating.

DALE
I'm gonna puke.

MEREDITH
Why does Tommy want Betty?

DALE
Oh my god.

MEREDITH
Dale.

DALE
I don't know. I'm gonna puke.

MEREDITH
You have to tell me everything he said.

DALE
I did!

Dale vomits all over the dashboard.

MEREDITH
Goddammit! Okay, baby. It's okay.

Meredith yanks off her coat.

MEREDITH (CONT'D)
Wipe it up. Clean yourself.

Meredith rolls down all the windows.

INT. BETTY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM

Dale lies on the couch with a trashcan in his hands. GAGS. Spits into the trashcan. Betty places a wet washcloth on Dale's forehead. Sits down on the ground next to him.

MEREDITH
I'm going to Tommy's.

BETTY
If you show up without me --

MEREDITH

You're not coming. If I call, take Dale and leave.

Meredith kisses the top of Dale's head. She slips out.

INT. BATHROOM

Small. Bare. Betty sits on the toilet. Sink faucet runs. Betty holds a phone to her ear.

BETTY

You need to get here now.

Silence.

BETTY (CONT'D)

Dale.

Quiet.

BETTY (CONT'D)

I'll meet you out front.

INT./EXT. APARTMENT COMPLEX - PARKING LOT - SAMSON'S CAR (PARKED)

Radio on. Samson and Betty face each other. The heater blasts.

BETTY

He's not involved.

SAMSON

It will fuck everything up.

BETTY

He's going to stay with me.

SAMSON

That's fine. But he can't know.

BETTY

What am I supposed to do?

SAMSON

Keep tabs. Stay involved. Don't involve him.

BETTY

I can't do this to her.

INT. WAREHOUSE - MAIN AREA - NIGHT

Meredith steps inside. Tommy packs cocaine.

TOMMY
Where's she at?

MEREDITH
It's just me.

TOMMY
Now why would you go and do a thing
like that?

MEREDITH
What do you want her for?

TOMMY
Not your business.

Meredith sits down next to him. She begins packing cocaine.

MEREDITH
If they don't come back. I'm all
you have.

TOMMY
No faith in your husband?

MEREDITH
I'm stating what you already know.

Tommy scoots a scale in her direction. She places the bag on it.

TOMMY
I need Betty.

MEREDITH
Why?

TOMMY
Because I have a hunch she's
Rivera's girl.

MEREDITH
That's a bold hunch.

Tommy leans in close to Meredith's face.

TOMMY
I'm a bold man, honey.

MEREDITH

Leave her be, Tommy. She's been
loyal to you. For a long time now.

INT./EXT. GRAVEL ROAD - MEREDITH'S CAR (MOVING)

Meredith peels out of the drive way. Phone to her ear.

MEREDITH

Tommy's on his way. Leave!

Speeds down a gravel road. Tommy in front of her.

MEREDITH (CONT'D)

He's knows about Rivera. Get the
fuck out!

Meredith looks down at her phone and tosses it into the
passenger seat. She speeds up. Loses control.

INT./EXT. APARTMENT COMPLEX - PARKING LOT - SAMSON'S CAR
(PARKED)

Samson holds Betty's closed phone. She grabs the door handle
and he stops her.

SAMSON

You could let him take you.

BETTY

Fuck no!

SAMSON

It would end this. Right here,
right now. Let him take you.

BETTY

He will kill me. Then Meredith.

SAMSON

Rivera and Tommy both need you at
this very moment.

INT. BETTY'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM

Betty yanks the trashcan away from Dale.

BETTY

Get up. You gotta go.

DALE
What?

BETTY
Come on. Get the fuck up. Here.

Betty hands Dale her car keys.

BETTY (CONT'D)
Take my car and go far away.

DALE
Where's my mom? What's going on?

BETTY
You have to go! Now!

Dale doesn't move.

DALE
Betty.

Betty starts to hyperventilate.

BETTY
I can't do anything for anyone but
you now.

Silence.

BETTY (CONT'D)
Tommy's on his way. Please.

Dale takes the keys and leaves.

INT./EXT. ROAD - BETTY'S CAR (MOVING)

Dale flips open his phone to call Meredith. No answer.

DALE
Fuck.

Tommy drives into an oncoming lane of traffic. Dale turns down a different road to avoid him. Dale calls Betty.

EXT. BETTY'S APARTMENT - FRONT PORCH DECK

Tommy kicks in the front door. Betty's phone RINGS in the background.

INT. LIVING ROOM

Betty sits on the couch, smoking a joint.

BETTY

Hey, Tommy.

TOMMY

Not gonna answer that?

Tommy walks behind the couch and grabs Betty by her hair. He yanks up. She WINCES. He pushes her forward and she lands, hitting her head on the coffee table with a loud THUD.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

You're a fucking rat you know that?
Scum. Filth.

He walks around the couch to stand above her. Blood trickles down the side of her face. Betty tries to hide a WHIMPER.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

Answer me.

BETTY

I don't know what you're talking
about.

TOMMY

Cut the shit. I know you're
Rivera's. Don't even deny it or I
will kill you. Won't even think
twice.

Silence.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

I should have killed you when I met
you instead of fucking you.

No response.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

Get the fuck up.

Betty scrambles to her feet. Tommy shoves her down on the couch.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

It's time we have a heart to heart.
Yes?

BETTY

Okay.

TOMMY
I want to hear it from you.

BETTY
Yes.

TOMMY
Yes, what?

BETTY
Yes. I was Rivera's.

TOMMY
Was?

BETTY
How long have I been here, Tommy? I haven't even had contact with him since Ted.

Tommy backhands her across the face.

TOMMY
Don't fucking lie to me.

Betty holds her cheek. Tears stream down her face.

BETTY
I'm not.

TOMMY
Thought you were a tough bitch?

No answer.

TOMMY (CONT'D)
How long were you with him?

BETTY
Since I was a kid.

TOMMY
Where's your parents?

BETTY
Dead.

TOMMY
On the way over here I was thinking how I was gonna treat this situation. Was I gonna bring you to the warehouse and give you the Ted Special?

Tommy runs his finger across the cheek he hit.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

You know I can and you know I will.

Betty doesn't move as he runs his hands down her body. He pulls away.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

Lucky for you, I had a better idea.
I only have half this territory and
you're gonna help me get it all.
Ask me how.

BETTY

How?

TOMMY

Do you want to make it out of this
little fuck up alive?

Silence.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

I can just take you back to the
warehouse. You know the rest.
You're a smart girl, though.

Tommy leans his head down. Eye-to-eye with Betty.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

Are you gonna work with me for real
now?

BETTY

Okay.

TOMMY

Good girl.

Tommy stands up.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

Go clean up, you're a fucking mess.

Betty stands up. Tommy checks out the blood on his shirt.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

Ruined my favorite shirt.

INT. BATHROOM

Betty cleans the blood off her face. She starts to panic. She vomits in the sink. She turns the faucet on and takes big gulps before splashing water all over her face.

INT. LIVING ROOM

Tommy picks up her phone. Checks it out. Tosses it on the floor and stomps it to pieces.

INT. KITCHEN

Tommy sits on a bar stool at the counter. Betty enters. Tommy grabs a coffee pot that sits on the counter.

BETTY

That coffee's old. I can make more.

TOMMY

Earl's dead. Fuckers that did it don't stand a chance. Never saw Isaac with that look before.

Betty tries opening the drawer where the audio wire sits. Can't find the right opportunity.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

Come sit down.

Betty takes a seat next to him as coffee brews.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

You're gonna get back in with Rivera.

BETTY

I never came back. That's betrayal.

TOMMY

You really think he's done with you? Why else would he kill that boy? You know Rivera loves a slow burn.

Silence.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

I want his coordinates for the next shipment. I wanna know where he keeps his money.

BETTY

How?

TOMMY

I don't care if you have to play Twister and give him a reach around. Do whatever you gotta do, but if you say one word to Rivera's men, it's a bullet in your brain.

Tommy stands up, grabs a mug from a towel by the sink. Pours a cup of coffee.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

Meredith seems to have gotten chummy with you.

No answer.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

If I so much smell it on you, I'll put a bullet in her brain and make you watch.

Tommy pours the coffee out down the sink.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

Leon will give you the where and when.

Tommy leaves, slamming the door. Betty folds her arms on the table, lays her head on them, and SOBS.

INT./EXT. APARTMENT COMPLEX - PARKING LOT - SAMSON'S CAR (PARKED)

SAMSON records Tommy leaving Betty's apartment.

INT./EXT. SIDE OF THE ROAD - BETTY'S CAR (PARKED)

Dale's phone RINGS. He flips it open.

DALE

Mom. Tommy's got Betty.

Silence.

DALE (CONT'D)

I'll be there in a few.

INT. BETTY'S APARTMENT - KITCHEN

Betty still sits at the counter. Red-faced and snotty. Samson pulls open the kitchen drawer. Pulls out the wire.

SAMSON

What fucking good is it if you
don't use it? Goddammit!

BETTY

What the fuck was I supposed to do?
"Hold on Tommy, hold up right quick
so I can gain evidence that will
lock you up."

SAMSON

Yeah, yeah.

BETTY

Actually, why don't you just go
ahead and shoot me right now.

SAMSON

What the fuck happened?

BETTY

Nothing.

SAMSON

Talk.

BETTY

He said I needed to do my job
better.

SAMSON

You and I both know that's a lie,
Betty.

INT./EXT. GRAVEL ROAD - MEREDITH'S CAR (CRASHED)

Smoke comes up from the beat up car. Meredith climbs out of the driver's side window, blood covering her face. Betty's car drives by and comes to a hard stop.

INT./EXT. GRAVEL ROAD - BETTY'S CAR (MOVING)

Meredith strikes keys.

DALE

She's not answering.

MEREDITH

Go there.

Flips her phone closed.

DALE

I saw Tommy. He was on his way to her place. She was upset about it and told me to leave. What the fuck is going on, Mom?

MEREDITH

I don't know, baby.

DALE

Yes, you do.

Meredith begins to CRY.

MEREDITH

He killed her, didn't he? She's dead.

DALE

Mom. Stop. You don't know that.

MEREDITH

Then he's gonna take her to the people who killed Earl.

DALE

Why?

SOBS.

MEREDITH

I don't want this for you.

DALE

It's too late for that.

MEREDITH

You gotta go home. I gotta drop you off at home.

DALE

No!

EXT. BETTY'S APARTMENT - FRONT PORCH

Meredith assesses the kicked in door. She peeks her head inside. Steps over the wood.

INT. LIVING ROOM

Betty lies on the couch. Meredith falls to her knees. WEEPS.
Betty sits up. Meredith scrambles to her.

MEREDITH

Oh my god, I thought you were
fucking dead.

They embrace. Meredith BAWLS. Meredith reaches out towards
her cut up face. Betty stops her and grabs her hand.

BETTY

It's okay.

MEREDITH

I tried to stop him, Betty.

BETTY

Don't. Trust me. I know if you
could've stopped him you would've.

MEREDITH

What happened?

BETTY

We'll talk later.

MEREDITH

I need to know. My son is in this.
He's out in the car. First Earl.
Now this. I don't know what's next.

BETTY

I'm on my way to Rivera.

MEREDITH

No!

BETTY

Shhh.

MEREDITH

Why?

BETTY

To find out drop off points,
coordinates, where he keeps his
money. He wants to shut him down
for good.

MEREDITH

When?

BETTY

I don't know. Whenever your husband shows up.

MEREDITH

Rivera will kill you.

BETTY

If I don't, Tommy will kill you.

They kiss, wrapping their hands in each other's hair. They hold each other as close as they can. Betty pulls away.

BETTY (CONT'D)

You gotta go.

MEREDITH

No.

Meredith WHIMPERS. Betty starts to CRY.

BETTY

Please. Go to Lisa's. She needs somebody right now.

Meredith's phone rings.

MEREDITH

(checking caller ID)

Leon.

BETTY

Go.

MEREDITH

I miss you.

BETTY

I miss you, too.

MEREDITH

I don't wanna lose you.

Meredith CHOKES. Betty buries her face in Meredith's neck.

BETTY

I don't wanna lose you.

INT. POWER PLANT - TOMMY'S OFFICE

Tommy sits at his desk. Leon and Isaac walk in.

TOMMY
Take care of them?

LEON
Couldn't even get close. They have
the place surrounded.

TOMMY
Go home, Isaac. Take a shower.

Tommy opens a drawer and throws a pill bottle at Isaac.

TOMMY (CONT'D)
Be with Lisa.

Isaac walks out, leaving the pills.

TOMMY (CONT'D)
Tell him not to come in for a few
weeks.

LEON
I already tried.

TOMMY
What about the boy?

LEON
Back of my truck, wrapped in a
sheet. He was tied to an electric
post down by the stop sign.

TOMMY
My fucking god.

LEON
Fucking brutal. I was sure Isaac
was gonna go in guns blazing.

TOMMY
I wish we could give the boy a
proper burial.

No reply.

TOMMY (CONT'D)
He'll understand, though.

LEON
Lisa won't.

TOMMY
She'll get over it.

Silence.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

Well, let's get him loaded in my truck. I'll take him to the pigs.

LEON

I can drive him.

TOMMY

Got another job for you.

LEON

Tommy.

TOMMY

What?

LEON

Earl just died. Earl. Isaac's boy. Let's fucking take a second here. Is Dale next?

TOMMY

Hell, Dale's fine. You know that. I need you to take Betty to Rivera.

LEON

What?

INT./EXT. HIGHWAY - LEON'S TRUCK (MOVING)

Trees and cars blur by. Starts to rain.

LEON

Fucking Oklahoma weather.

He flips his windshield wipers on full blast. Leon pulls down a dirt road.

LEON (CONT'D)

I'm gonna drop you off before we get to the gate. You're gonna walk yourself in. Chum it up. Crawl back to him.

Silence.

LEON (CONT'D)

Can't be more than 6 drops this time of year.

BETTY
By when?

LEON
Tomorrow.

BETTY
Fucking impossible.

LEON
Watch it.

INT./EXT. GRAVEL ROAD - LEON'S TRUCK (PARKED)

Leon opens the middle console and pulls out a phone. Hands it to Betty.

LEON
Us only. Tommy wants to know the moment you're back in. The moment you find the coordinates. The moment you find the money.

Silence.

LEON (CONT'D)
You'll do fine. Now, out you go.

EXT. LEON'S TRUCK (PARKED)

Betty places the phone in her underwear and begins walking.

EXT. RIVERA'S AUTO SHOP - FRONT GATE

A MECHANIC (30, in greasy clothes) walks toward Betty.

BETTY
Is Dailey around?

MECHANIC
Who's asking?

BETTY
Betty. He'll know.

He turns around, showing a REVOLVER in the back of his pants. Dailey walks down the drive.

DAILEY
Betty?

BETTY
Can we talk?

Dailey turns to the mechanic.

DAILEY
I got it.

Mechanic leaves. Dailey PRESSES buttons on a keypad box. Gate opens.

DAILEY (CONT'D)
It might not be the best idea for you coming around here. Rivera ain't too fond of your leaving. The way you did it, that is.

BETTY
I know, I just need work again. Don't you think he'll give me a second chance? I know I botched the last job.

DAILEY
I'd say.

BETTY
I can clean money real good. You know that. He knows that.

INT. YOUNG'S HOUSE - ISAAC AND LISA'S BEDROOM

Isaac stands in the doorway. Closet door wide open, showing Lisa's body hanging from inside. A chair lies on the ground. Isaac punches the wall. YELLS.

INT./EXT. MILLER'S HOUSE - DRIVEWAY - LEON'S TRUCK (PARKED) - NIGHT

Leon HONKS. Meredith opens the front door. Leon leans out the window.

LEON
Come here!

Meredith steps onto the porch.

LEON (CONT'D)
Dale, too!

INT. POWER PLANT - TOMMY'S OFFICE

Isaac loads multiple SHOTGUNS and HANDGUNS. He places them into big duffle bags.

INT. RIVERA'S AUTO SHOP - RIVERA'S OFFICE

Small. Monitors line a wall behind him. Betty sits cross-legged in a chair across from RIVERA (50, well-dressed in a suit jacket).

RIVERA
Long time no see, baby.

BETTY
I'm sorry.

Rivera crosses one leg over the other and shifts forward. Leaning over his desk.

RIVERA
You left me for trash.

BETTY
I didn't.

RIVERA
Oh? Do tell, then, sweetheart.

BETTY
You didn't come for me. I couldn't leave.

RIVERA
Why's that?

BETTY
I tried. They were going to kill me.

RIVERA
Should've let them. Now I'm going to.

BETTY
I'll do anything.

RIVERA
My question is, darling, why are you here now?

BETTY
I escaped.

RIVERA
Then they know where you're at?

Silence.

RIVERA (CONT'D)
Will they come for you?

BETTY
I don't know.

RIVERA
What did you tell them?

BETTY
Nothing. I swear.

RIVERA
What did they tell you?

BETTY
What do you mean?

RIVERA
Seven years and you don't know how
anything works?

BETTY
I do.

RIVERA
Let's hear it.

BETTY
Don't kill me. Let me come back.

RIVERA
You don't call the shots, babe.

BETTY
I'm asking you.

She walks around the desk.

BETTY (CONT'D)
Please.

RIVERA
Ask away, darling.

Drops to her knees. She slides his belt off. Unbuttons his pants.

INT. TOMMY'S OFFICE

Tommy props his feet on his desk. Phone in hand. Leon sits on the window sill. Isaac unpacks the duffle bags. Unloads the GUNS. Reloads the GUNS.

LEON

Isaac, what the fuck are you doing?

No answer.

TOMMY

Leave him be.

LEON

Anything yet?

TOMMY

No.

LEON

Think she's dead?

TOMMY

Probably so.

Meredith WHIMPERS.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

If so, you're next.

Dale grabs her arm.

LEON

What?

TOMMY

That's why you brought them here.

LEON

You didn't tell me that.

TOMMY

She didn't tell you about their
love affair?

LEON

Meredith?

TOMMY

Should we just assume Betty's dead?

Tommy swirls his PISTOL with a finger.

DALE

No!

Dale jumps up, standing in front of Meredith.

TOMMY

Sit the fuck down, boy. I'll kill you, too.

LEON

Tommy.

TOMMY

Leon.

LEON

My family.

TOMMY

They're in my way.

Meredith wraps Dale up in her arms. He tries to hold in a CRY.

EXT. BEHIND RIVERA'S AUTO SHOP

Rivera and Betty walk between the Auto Shop and another building. They enter through a side door.

INT. RIVERA'S WAREHOUSE - MAIN AREA

Resembles Tommy's. Cocaine, GUNS, safes, fluorescent lights, tables. They stop at a desk full of monitors, he pushes her down into the chair.

RIVERA

Watch.

Rivera moves toward a safe where he begins placing SHOTGUNS, REVOLVERS, and other weapons on a table. He walks to the desk and presses a button on a speaker mic.

RIVERA (CONT'D)

All hands on deck.

His voice ECHOES above on a speaker system. Rivera goes back to the safes, unlocking each one. Five men enter.

INT./EXT. DRIVEWAY - RIVERA'S TRUCK (PARKED)

Men load GUNS into truck beds. Betty sits in the passenger seat. She digs into her pants, pulling out her phone. She checks around, strikes keys. Checks her surroundings.

INT. POWER PLANT - TOMMY'S OFFICE

Tommy's phone BUZZES.

TOMMY
(flips the phone open)
She's in.

INTERCUT AS NEEDED

Betty strikes keys again. Slides the phone back in her underwear.

Meredith's phone BUZZES. She shifts to cover the sound.

MEREDITH
Tommy, I gotta use the bathroom.

Tommy pours a drink. Motions toward a skinny door in the corner.

TOMMY
I don't think we're gonna get
anywhere tonight, boys.

INT. TOMMY'S BATHROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Small. Dirty. Porn magazines sit on the back of the toilet. Empty toilet paper rolls scatter the floor. Pee sits in the toilet water. Meredith opens her phone.

TEXT MESSAGE FROM BETTY

"If you're at the plant leave now. Don't respond."

RESUME ACTION: Meredith uses her foot to flush the toilet.

Rivera hops into the truck. Yanks the gearshift into drive.

MOVING

Rivera drives. A line of trucks follow.

END INTERCUT

Meredith steps out of the bathroom.

MEREDITH
Hey, are you guys hungry? I'm
starving.

TOMMY
Nope.

LEON
I could eat.

MEREDITH
Isaac could, too.

TOMMY
Fine.

MEREDITH
Dale, why don't you go to the diner
and get us some food? Tommy, what
do you want.

Dale stands.

TOMMY
Burger.

MEREDITH
Isaac?

Silence.

TOMMY
Get him a burger.

MEREDITH
Babe?

LEON
Burger sounds good.

MEREDITH
Okay, I'm gonna walk him down.

LEON
He's a big boy.

MEREDITH
My diner keys are somewhere in my
purse. I gotta find them.

Leon reaches into his pocket. Tosses truck keys at her. She catches them.

MEREDITH (CONT'D)

Come on, babe.

She leads Dale out the door.

INT./EXT. PARKING LOT - LEON'S TRUCK (PARKED)

Dale sits in the driver's seat. Meredith pretends to dig around in her purse.

MEREDITH

You're not going to the diner.
You're gonna dump this truck at the
house and take Betty's car to the
city.

DALE

What?

MEREDITH

Don't fucking ask questions. No
time. Go to the city. Dump her car
at a Walmart and hop on a bus.

DALE

To where?

MEREDITH

Wherever the fuck you want.

DALE

Mom?

MEREDITH

Don't call me. I love you. I can't
kiss you or hug you because he
might be watching.

DALE

Mom.

Dale tears up.

MEREDITH

I love you. Go.

DALE

Estes.

MEREDITH

What?

DALE

I'll go to Estes. I'll be waiting there.

Meredith SLAMS the door. Dale starts the truck.

INT. TOMMY'S OFFICE - LATER

Isaac sits on the floor, back against the wall. Leon rests his head on the window. Tommy tosses the phone on his desk. Meredith sits on the couch. Bounces her leg.

TOMMY

Where the fuck is Dale? It can't take this long for some goddamn burgers.

MEREDITH

Diner's closed with Betty gone. He has to make it all himself.

TOMMY

Nobody asked you, woman.

LEON

He should have been back by now.

TOMMY

Where is he?

MEREDITH

At the diner. Making your burger.

LEON

Watch your mouth.

MEREDITH

I'm answering.

Leon hops off the window sill and closes the gap between them. He grabs her by the chin.

LEON

What do you know?

He shoves his hand in her back pocket and rips the phone out. Checks it. Throws it.

LEON (CONT'D)

Why'd you delete all your messages?

MEREDITH

I always delete them. Because we are criminals?

TOMMY

She went to the bathroom earlier. She walked Dale down.

Leon backhands her. Isaac walks toward the window.

TOMMY (CONT'D)

That's it.

He pulls a GUN.

LEON

Tommy!

ISAAC

Fucking bitch!

Tommy and Leon join Isaac at the window. They run for the GUNS and barrel out of the room. Meredith goes to the window.

INT./EXT. PARKING LOT - RIVERA'S TRUCK (PARKED)

Rivera's men pull in behind him, forming a line.

INT./EXT. PARKING LOT - RIVERA'S TRUCK (PARKED)

Betty assesses the top of the building. She holds a hand to her mouth.

BETTY

(covers her mouth)

No, Meredith.

Rivera hops out. Moves to the truck bed. Pulls out many GUNS. Squats down behind the truck. His men do the same.

RIVERA

You might wanna lie down.

Betty lies down in the floorboard. She pulls her phone out of her underwear. Strikes keys. Shoves it back down. Braces herself.

BETTY

Please, please, please. Fuck!

She opens the truck door. Jumps out. Hides behind a tire near Rivera.

EXT. APARTMENT COMPLEX - PARKING LOT - SAMSON'S CAR (PARKED)

Samson watches a basketball game on his phone when it BUZZES. He reads a message. Strikes keys. Holds phone to ear.

SAMSON
Power plant, now.

INT. TOMMY'S OFFICE

Meredith steps away from the window. She grabs her phone from the ground. Her fingers hover over buttons. She flips it closed. She sits down on the couch.

INT. LOBBY

Dark. Empty. Steal machinery reflects headlights.

Tommy, Isaac, and Leon creep toward the windows.

EXT. PARKING LOT

Rivera and his men squat behind the trucks, resting SHOTGUNS on the ground, and aiming at the entrance.

INTERCUT AS NEEDED

RIVERA

takes the first SHOT at a window. Glass SHATTERS.

TOMMY, ISAAC, AND LEON

post up underneath windows. Bullets WHIZ through. BURSTING glass. Ricocheting off machinery.

TOMMY

jumps up. FIRES. Bullets THUNDER into the trucks' metal.

BETTY

hits the deck, huddling her legs to her chest.

RIVERA

pulls trigger.

LEON

bullet hits him in the shoulder. Blood spurts out of him.
Falls to the ground.

LEON

Fuck!

TOMMY

squats down. Crawls to a different window. FIRES.

TOMMY

All we're getting is fucking
trucks!

RIVERA

stands. Aims.

ISAAC

walks out the front door. Blasting round after round.

TOMMY

Isaac!

END INTERCUT

EXT. ENTRANCE

Bullets fly through Isaac. Blood splatters. Isaac's corpse
crumples to the ground.

INT. LOBBY

Tommy grabs Leon's hand. Pulls him up. They run upstairs.
Silence.

EXT. PARKING LOT

Rivera walks over to Betty. Nudges her foot with his boot.
Three dead men on the ground nearby.

RIVERA
You alive?

Betty doesn't move.

BETTY
Yeah.

Rivera motions for his last two men to follow.

RIVERA
Let's finish it.

EXT. FRONT ENTRANCE

Rivera, HENCHMAN #1 (40), and HENCHMAN #2 (30) walk by Isaac's dead body. Rivera bends down. Grabs his GUN. Kicks what's left of his head. Walks through the entrance door.

INT. UPSTAIRS

Tommy and Leon stand against the wall. Blood pouring out of Leon's arm. MOANS.

TOMMY
Shut the fuck up, you're gonna be fine.

LEON
Still fucking hurts.

TOMMY
Fucking bitch.

Door SLAMS open. Tommy aims his GUN. Leon quiets. SIRENS.

EXT. PARKING LOT

SQUAD CARS surround the building. DEA agents hop out of cars. GUNS already drawn. Samson wears a bulletproof vest. Aims a GUN at Rivera's truck. Betty stands with her hands up. Samson signals for her to join the cops. She does.

INT. LOBBY - METAL STAIRCASE

A blood trail leads up. Rivera motions for his men to follow. Rivera steps onto the first step.

HENCHMAN #1
Rivera. Cops are out there.

HENCHMEN #2

DEA, too. Fuck!

RIVERA

Would you two shut the fuck up?

INT. TOMMY'S OFFICE

Leon sits on the floor, leaning against the couch.

LEON

I'm bleeding a lot, Tommy.

Tommy rips a piece of his shirt with his teeth and wraps it around Leon's wound.

TOMMY

Where the fuck is Meredith?

LEON

I don't know, shit happened so fast.

Tommy sits down with him.

TOMMY

We're done, aren't we?

LEON

Earl, Isaac. Fuck, I don't know where my kid is. Meredith?

TOMMY

The van still down in the garage?

LEON

Yeah.

Tommy leans forward.

TOMMY

We can make it out.

LEON

You know they can bust in here any second.

TOMMY

They ain't shooting shit. The moment they do, DEA's busting in. If I rig one of the stacks to blow, cause a meltdown --

LEON

How much time does that give?

TOMMY

I'd say three minutes. Go out the back door, rush down the stairs. It'll be Vietnam, but we can make it.

LEON

What about Meredith?

TOMMY

What about her?

LEON

Okay.

Tommy starts running to the control panel wall.

LEON (CONT'D)

You need the key to change the temp.

Tommy hurries to his desk, grabs the key, runs back. The control panel lights up as he shoves the key into it. Moves his fingers over buttons.

INT. LOBBY

RIVERA

Fuck it, let's go.

Rivera and his men follow the blood trail and head up stairs.

INT. TOMMY'S OFFICE

TOMMY

It's done, let's get the fuck out of here.

ALARMS.

COMPUTERIZED VOICE

Danger. Danger. Danger.

SIRENS.

Leon and Tommy run out the back exit. Rivera and his men enter.

RIVERA
What the fuck's going on!?

BOOM!

EXT. ENTRANCE

The DEA and cops fall back. A smokestack begins to crumble to the ground. Flames and smoke fill the air.

SAMSON
Get back! Fall back!

Samson runs to his car.

EXT. BACK OF POWER PLANT

Tommy and Leon run toward another building.

INT. GARAGE - ENTRANCE

Leon has an arm around Tommy as they enter.

LEON
Where the fuck is the van?

Leon falls down on his ass.

LEON (CONT'D)
That fucking bitch!

INT./EXT. HIGHWAY - VAN (MOVING)

White van. Dirty. Cracked windshield. Meredith drives.

INT./EXT. POWER PLANT - PARKING LOT - SAMSON'S CAR (MOVING)

Samson drives through smoke around the building.

EXT. GARAGE - ENTRANCE

Samson grabs his speaker phone.

SAMSON
DEA! Come out with your hands up!

INT. GARAGE - ENTRANCE

Tommy reaches for his GUN. FIRES at the door.

EXT. GARAGE

Samson ducks back into his car. Grabs a walkie.

SAMSON

Shots fired! Shots fired! Southside
of the plant!

Samson runs behind his car for cover. Cops and DEA pull up. Flames move closer to the garage. The door flies open. Samson FIRES multiple times.

EXT. ESTES PARK, COLORADO - FARM - FRONT YARD - DAY

Snow-topped mountains in the background. Big cabin sits near a lake. Dale chops wood and stacks logs onto a trailer.

INT. MAIN STREET - CANDY SHOP - REGISTER COUNTER

Packed with children and parents. Rows of a variety of candies line the walls. Betty sits behind the counter while salt-water taffy spins and pulls on a machine in the window. A LITTLE GIRL RINGS the bell on the counter.

LITTLE GIRL

Got any caramel apples?

BETTY

We sure do. We even have a caramel
apple pie.

LITTLE GIRL

(runs away)

Ooh. Mommy can I try that?

EXT. FARM - PASTURE - LATER

Dale carries hay-bales. Cuts the string off. Shoves them in his coat pocket. Clouds move in. Flurries of snow.

INT. MAIN STREET - CANDY SHOP - ENTRANCE

Betty turns the closed sign on. She locks the door. Cleans up. She grabs a plastic bag and tosses a few pieces of taffy and fudge into it.

EXT. FARM - HORSE PEN - LATER

Dale wheels bags of feed in a wheel-barrow. WHISTLES at the horses. Dumps the feed into a trough.

EXT. MAIN STREET - CANDY SHOP

Crowds of people pass. CHATTER. Dog BARKS. Cars HONK. MUSIC plays. Bells RING. Betty wraps a scarf around her neck. Snow drops harder.

EXT. FARM - FRONT PORCH - EVENING

Fresh paint. Dale stands in front of the door. An OLD MAN hands him a wad of cash.

DALE

Your front step is about to cave in, sir.

OLD MAN

I reckon you'll get to it tomorrow then?

DALE

Yes, sir. See you tomorrow.

OLD MAN

You be careful heading home. Watch for deer.

EXT. BETTY AND DALE'S HOUSE - FRONT PORCH - NIGHT

Small. A bit run down. Dead grass. Bare trees. Leftover brown leaves scatter the yard. Betty sits on a porch swing. Dale sits next to her.

DALE

I'm sick of looking at these leaves.

BETTY

Rake them up, then.

DALE

You're the one just selling candy all day.

BETTY

And bringing you the goods.

She holds up a plastic bag. He digs his hand into it, pulling out taffy. Betty loads a purple stain-glassed pipe. Takes a hit. Dale pops a taffy into his mouth.

DALE

Our first snow here.

BETTY

An Elk camped out in front of the coffee shop all day.

Betty holds the pipe to her lips and lights it again.

EXT. ROAD IN FRONT OF BETTY AND DALE'S HOUSE

A white, dirty van pulls into the driveway.

FADE OUT.

THE END