

ADVENTURES IN SERIAL KILLING

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"You may never understand
How the stranger is inspired
But he isn't always evil
And he is not always wrong."
-- **The Stranger** (Billy Joel)

EXT. MOTEL 9 - SECOND FLOOR OUTSIDE WALKWAY - DAY

VICKI SMITH (15), and her brother KEVIN (13), are helping to move suitcases to the family's van.

The CLEANING CREW are only two rooms away from them and they are trying to clear out of their room before they get there.

VICKI
Kevin Bacon.

KEVIN
I don't think so.

VICKI
You said "Nightmare on Elm Street"
and I named an actor -- Kevin
Bacon.

They head downstairs to the parking lot.

KEVIN
I don't think he was in that one.

VICKI
It was Bacon's first movie.

KEVIN
I think you're getting him mixed up
with Johnny Depp.

VICKI
No. His first was "Friday the
13th." I know how to play the game
"F-I-L-M", asshole. You name a
movie and then I have to name an
actor who was in that movie --

KEVIN
Then I have to name another movie
with that actor in it --

VICKI
Until one of us gets stuck. No
shit. You're just calling bullshit
on Kevin Bacon because I win all
the time.

EXT. MOTEL 9 - PARKING LOT

The back of the Smith family van is open and some things are already loaded in.

KEVIN
I'm not calling --

VICKI
So, I'm right, then! Kevin Bacon
was in "Friday the 13th."

She throws her suitcase in and they head back upstairs.

KEVIN
Nope. Bacon had sex in "Friday the
13th" and got an arrow through the
neck. Depp got sucked into the bed
in "Elm Street." Then bed vomited
blood all over the --

VICKI
Bullshit.
(beat)
Mom?!

SECOND FLOOR - OUTSIDE WALKWAY

SHARON SMITH (42) looks over the railing as the kids come up
the stairs.

SHARON
Yes?

VICKI
Who was in "Nightmare?" Kevin
Bacon or Johnny Depp.

SHARON
Depp. It was before he was on
"Jump Street."

VICKI
You sure?

DON SMITH (42) walks out of their motel room with the last of
the bags.

DON
Listen to your, Mom, Vicki. We saw
both movies two years ago. Kevin's
eleventh birthday party. Remember?

VICKI
We've seen so many "Nightmare"
movies now. They're all the same at
this point.

DON
Nothing beats the first two.

VICKI
Amen to that.

Don heads downstairs

DON
(to Vicki)
And Kevin Bacon was in "Friday the
13th."

KEVIN
(laughs)
Done and Done! You have F-I-L...
One more letter and you get FILM
and you have to do dishes for a
month.

SHARON
Wow, Vic... you bet heavy.

VICKI
I thought I had this in the bag.
Thirteen year-olds -- They never
remember shit. Half their brain's
waiting for the next screen of
crappy Tik-Tok to pop up.

She takes the last bag from her mother and heads down to the
van.

KEVIN
I'm standing.. Right.. Here.

Vicki passes by a YOUNG GIRL on stairs who is about her age.
The Girl smiles at her and but Vicki doesn't even acknowledge
her existence.

SHARON
(to Kevin)
Don't take it personal honey.
Vicki doesn't like to lose.

KEVIN
It's always personal, Mom. And
she's never wrong.

SHARON
Get's it from, Dad.

PARKING LOT

Don puts a large tackle box on top of the suitcases. It has smiley face with a bullet hole through its head on it.

DON
That's all of it!

He closes the back of the van just as everyone arrives.

DON (CONT'D)
Who get's what from me, now?

They start to get into the car.

SHARON
Your competitive spirit. They both do.
(beat)
And the fact that neither of you are ever wrong.

VICKI
He's not.
DON
She's not.

SHARON
Point made. Vicki does get something from me though.

The van pulls away from the hotel. It has Washington State license plates.

DON
What?

Vicki sees the Young Girl from before. She is waving at the van.

SHARON
Her love of the human spirit.

Vicki flips the girl the bird as the van drives away.

SECOND FLOOR

The Cleaning Crew have just made it to the room which is located right next to the one that the Smith family just vacated. A HOUSEKEEPER takes a key from her utility belt and opens the door. She screams after seeing what's inside.

INT. MOTEL 9 - ROOM 217

The Housekeeper can't stop screaming. Both the doorway, and the wall next to her, are covered with splatters of blood.

REPORTER (V.O.)

Authorities are still bewildered at the recent string of murders which have made their way across the country.

INT. SMITH HOME - DON'S DEN - DAY

Don's Den has three cases filled with one of a kind props from Films. Original movie posters line the walls. Books by Stephen King, Clive Barker, H. Warner Munn, H.P. Lovecraft and many others are crammed onto his bookshelves.

Don sits at his desk and smiles as he watches a news report on his laptop.

EXT. MOTEL 9 - NEWS VIDEO - DAY

A REPORTER stands in front of the same Motel 9 that Don and his family had stayed at. Crime scene tape stretches across a doorway on its second floor.

REPORTER

Why would we see the return of the "Room Service Slayer" after a decade of the killer seemingly going dormant?

DON (O.S.)

Is that a rhetorical question?

REPORTER

As people in the quiet town of Haven, Washington are well aware, the "Slayer's" reign of terror ended right here... Ten years ago.. At this very hotel... In this very room - Room 217.

DON (O.S.)

"Room Service Slayer..." God, that name still sucks.

VICKI (O.S.)

That's loud.

INT. SMITH HOME - DON'S DEN

Don, startled, looks up from his laptop. Vicki is leaning in the doorway looking at him.

DON
How long have you been standing there?

VICKI
A bit. I could hear that shit all the way in the kitchen. What'cha watchin'?

Don slams quickly shuts the lid of his laptop.

DON
One of my documentaries.

VICKI
Ohhhh! Which one? Bundy? Gacy?

DON
Nope. It's newer one.

VICKI
Which one?

Vicki is almost to the desk.

She passes a glass case with an original mask of Michael Meyers in it from "Halloween." It rests on a glass shelf above another with Robert Englund's Freddy Krueger glove from "Nightmare" sitting on it. A mask worn by Kane Hodder in "Friday the 13th" is on the bottom shelf.

DON
The "Room Service Slayer."

VICKI
What's their deal?

DON
Cross country killer. They murder a bunch of people in hotels every ten years and then mysteriously vanish.
(waves his fingers at her)
Ooooooooooh! Scary.

VICKI
Cool. Lemme see!

Don scoops up the laptop and starts to leave the room.

DON
 Nope. Not today. Don't you have a
 paper to finish before the end of
 summer?

Vicki plops into her father's chair.

VICKI
 Done. Finished it before we went
 on our trip.

She puts her feet up on her Dad's desk.

DON
 Hey... Feet down. That's the --

VICKI
 Blotter used in the check-in scene
 in "Psycho." I know, Dad. I just
 wanted to get a rise out of you.

DON
 (smiling)
 That'll be the day.
 (beat)
 Love you.

VICKI
 Gross. Really?

DON
 Really.

He leaves.

VICKI
 (shouting)
 You don't get to say "I love you"
 after thirteen! We talked about
 that!

DON (O.S.)
 Great!

VICKI
 Great!

DON (O.S.)
 Love you!

The SOUND of DOOR SLAMMING can be heard.

Vicki smiles, waits a few moments and pulls out her phone. She types quickly, finds what she is looking for and the SOUND the SAME VIDEO Don was watching can be heard.

REPORTER (V.O.)

Authorities are still bewildered at the recent string of murders --

KEVIN'S ROOM

Young Kevin Smith's room has been decorated by a teenage fan of his namesake - Kevin Smith. It has posters from "Clerks", "Mallrats", "Chasing Amy" and "Jay & Silent Bob's Reboot." Toys and character bobble-heads are enshrined on shelves above his computer.

Vicki is sitting on the edge of Kevin's bed while he watches the video she found on his computer.

REPORTER(O.S.)

Ten years ago... In this very hotel... In this very room - Room 217.

KEVIN

Holy shit...

Vicki jumps up, pauses it and bounces back onto the bed. She is "Christmas Morning" excited.

VICKI

Yeah! And then it gets into all the good stuff! Like the killer likes to take out the eyeballs of their victim and leave them on their pillows just like the mints you get at fancy hotels.

KEVIN

This is why you don't have friends.

VICKI

They even stuff their bodies in dressing bags and hang them in the closets --

KEVIN

Like zero friends.

VICKI

I've got you. I don't need friends.

KEVIN
Um... Thanks?

VICKI
Dude.

KEVIN
Sorry.

VICKI
Can we get back to the eyeball
stuff?

KEVIN
Please.

VICKI
We were right next door.

KEVIN
Sleeping while they killed those
people.

He looks back at the image of the police tape across door.

KEVIN (CONT'D)
That sucks.

VICKI
Yeah.

KEVIN
What did Dad call--

VICKI
The "Room Service Slayer." I gotta
check something, c'mon!

She rushes out of Kevin's room.

VICKI'S ROOM

Vicki grabs her copy of the "Encyclopedia of Death" and
throws "Men Who Murder" to her brother. She plops down on
her bed and starts flipping through pages while Kevin takes
the open bean bag chair.

Her room is filled books on serial killers. A lot of them
are stacked on the floor beside her bed because she has run
out of room on her shelves.

The walls are plastered with posters from "Halloween,"
"Scream," and "Evil Dead."

KEVIN

I'll never understand why you don't have a computer in your room.

VICKI

Have one.

She hold's up her phone.

VICKI (CONT'D)

And I put it face down at night. I don't need a screen spying on me twenty-four/seven.

KEVIN

Paranoid much?

VICKI

If you've read what I've read you would never --

KEVIN

Fucking sleep at night. This shit is --

VICKI

Homework, my friend. Homework. If any of these fuckers ever came into my life I'd --

KEVIN

Go screaming for Mom and Dad.

VICKI

Really? Mom. Maybe. Not Dad.

KEVIN

Why?

VICKI

Mom works for a security firm. Dad is --

KEVIN

A writer. Yeah --

KEVIN (CONT'D)

I get it.

VICKI

Kind'a milk toast --

VICKI (CONT'D)

Not so tough. Really not.

KEVIN

The books, though. You have a metric crap ton of books.

VICKI

So.

KEVIN

Ever heard of the internet? You literally have it on your phone.

VICKI

Do you smell that?

KEVIN

Smell what?

VICKI

Inhale.

He does.

KEVIN

Yeah. It smells like old man Harrison's house -- The abandoned one down the street -- Like death and sad old man.

VICKI

Exactly. I love that smell. Hence the books.

(reading so more)

Oh, I got it! The "Room Service Slayer" --

Kevin runs over to the bed and sits next to Vicki.

VICKI (CONT'D)

"Originated in in June of 2013" with a string of five murders across the U.S." Blah, blah, blah "eyeballs" blah, blah, blah, "garment bags" blah, blah "and then abruptly stopped in September of the same year."

KEVIN

That's it?

VICKI

That's it.

KEVIN

Not even a list of --

VICKI
Nope. No locations.

KEVIN
That's a small entry. Really
small. If I was a serial killer and
that's all they wrote, it would
piss me off.

VICKI
You'd want a book written about
you?

KEVIN
Hell, yeah I'd want a book!

VICKI
So you'd --

KEVIN
Do it, again! Damn right, I'd do
it, again! And again and again!

He waggles his cell phone at Vicki.

KEVIN (CONT'D)
Let's see how many times they did
it this time --

VICKI
And where.

They search for locations on their phones. As they write
them out on a note pad, they begin to discover something half-
way through.

KEVIN
Holy shit.

VICKI
We stayed there.

KEVIN
And there.

VICKI
And there.

They finish the list. One group reads 2023 and the other
reads 2013. They have checked marked the ones from 2023.

KEVIN
Holy shit. Holy shit.

VICKI KEVIN (CONT'D)
 Every hotel -- Holy goddamn shit.

VICKI (CONT'D) KEVIN (CONT'D)
 We were right next door to -- Shiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiiit!

VICKI (CONT'D)
 All five. That's not a
 coincidence.

KEVIN
 We gotta fucking tell --

VICKI
 Mom. See if the ones from 2013 --

KEVIN
 Match!

KITCHEN

Sharon, Vicki and Kevin are crowded into the breakfast nook
 in the kitchen watching the video Vicki found on her phone.

REPORTER (V.O.)
 In this very room - Room 217.

Vicki pauses the video.

VICKI
 Then Dad slammed his laptop shut.

SHARON
 So?

VICKI
 So? Why would he do that?

SHARON
 Didn't want you to get weirded out?

VICKI
 "Not weirded -- ?" Are you shitting
 me?

SHARON
 Language?

Sharon gets up and heads for the refrigerator.

KEVIN
 Really?

SHARON
Yes, really.

She starts to get things out for dinner.

SHARON (CONT'D)
He's just trying to keep that kind
of stuff out of your head, hon.

VICKI
Out of my head? We've been
watching this crap since I was
eight --

KEVIN
Seven for me.

SHARON
Those movies aren't real. That
stuff in that video... Is.

VICKI
I know movies are fake, Mom. I've
seen worse things on YouTube --

SHARON
Like the stuff they did to those
poor people's eyes?

KEVIN
You knew about that?

SHARON
I watch the news, honey. I'm a
functioning adult. I know how TV
works.

KEVIN
C'mon, Mom.

SHARON
I even know what Wi-Fi and --

VICKI
Then why would he hide it? He knew
I could find it.. Watch it.

Sharon has begun to make dinner.

SHARON
Honey, I love you, but where are
you going with this? It sounds
like you might be suspicious of
your Dad. That's not how --

VICKI
This house works.

KEVIN
This house works.

VICKI (CONT'D)
We know, Mom. Our "No bullshit
Policy..." But, I think you're
missing the point.

SHARON
Which is?

VICKI
We were there.

KEVIN
Right next door, Mom!

SHARON
Feels like a bit of reach to me.

VICKI
Confession time. We looked up the
other five hotels... Where the
other murders were.

SHARON
Why would you -- ?

VICKI
Because I --

KEVIN
We --

VICKI
We had to know --

KEVIN
"What if?"

Sharon turns off the range.

SHARON
And?

VICKI
Murders. Every stop.. All seven..
On our way back home from Boston.

KEVIN
And ending at our last stop in
Haven, Washington.

SHARON

Oh, God...

Sharon looks at her children with a mixture of awe and dread.

SHARON (CONT'D)

And we were there. Right there?
Right next -- ?

VICKI

Every.. Single.. Time.

Sharon looks like she's going to pass out. She sits down before she can fall down.

SHARON

You two are really freaking me out
for Christ's sake... Do-Do you
think we should call the police?

VICKI

Mom. Breathe. Like you taught me.

Sharon starts to take in slow, measured breaths. Kevin waits until she is calm.

KEVIN

Mom?

SHARON

What?!

VICKI

Where did we stop? Coming home
from our last big vacation ten
years ago? When we were little? I
was five and Kevin was --

SHARON

Three...

Sharon begins to search her thoughts and they grow increasingly worse.

SHARON (CONT'D)

Ten years ago..? We drove. Cross-
country to.. Disneyworld...

Sharon realizes something and quickly pulls out her cell phone.

KEVIN

What are you doing, Mom?

SHARON
 Checking Facebook. You're Dad
 always posts pictures of everything
 and -- Where was the first murder
 ten years ago?

VICKI
 It's okay, Mom, Kevin and I made a
 list --

Vicki pulls out her phone and places it in front of Sharon.

VICKI (CONT'D)
 The first one is Perry, Georgia...

Sharon finds a picture of her and Don at a Motel Six in
 Perry, Georgia.

SHARON
 Oh, God.

Kevin looks at it.

KEVIN
 Why would he take a picture in
 front of a hotel -- ?

SHARON
 It was his thing. Every time we
 stopped. Now I can see why.
 "Souvenirs."

She continues to cross reference Vicki's list with the photos
 on Facebook. Each stop has a different "Motel Six" picture
 with Sharon and Don in front of it.

SHARON (CONT'D)
 Paris, Illinois.. White Lake, South
 Dakota... They're all here.
 (beat)
 Every stop. Every Motel Six.

VICKI
 Oh, Mom...

Sharon stops at the last picture. It same Motel Six in Haven,
 Washington. But this one was taken ten years ago. She looks
 up at her children in disbelief.

SHARON
 Oh, no... Why? Why would -- ?
 (beat)
Now do you think we should call the
 police?

VICKI

Mom, I --

The SOUND of the FRONT DOOR SLAMMING can be HEARD.

DON (O.S.)

Hey guys! I'm home!

They all look at each other for a brief moment. Sharon "shushes" the kids.

DON (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Where are you? You hiding from me?

The SOUND of FOOTSTEPS can be HEARD. Sharon and the kids scramble up off the floor and run for the breakfast nook. They slam into the seats just as Don enters the room.

DON (CONT'D)

Here you are.

They are all smiling... And sweating a bit, too.

DON (CONT'D)

What's up? You guys okay?

SHARON

Yeah. Why?

DON

You're sweating --

He sets his laptop on top of kitchen's wooden island and leans against the counter.

DON (CONT'D)

Heard a lot of noise before I came in here.

VICKI

We were... Exercising!

Don looks directly at Vicki. Sharon she hides the photo album next to her on the bench.

DON

In here?

VICKI

Yup. I was showing Mom how to twerk.

DON

Twerk?

KEVIN
We were answering a Tik-Tok
Challenge.

DON
Isn't twerking dead now?

KEVIN
That's just it! That's the joke!

VICKI
We thought it would be funny to do
one with Mom --

SHARON
Because why the hell would I want
to twerk?

VICKI
In the kitchen!

KEVIN
In the kitchen!

KEVIN (CONT'D)
With us!

VICKI
She twerks hard for the money!

KEVIN
Nice.

SHARON
Not really.

VICKI
No?

SHARON
No.

VICKI
Rude.

Don is silently judging them.

DON
That Tik-Tok shit is weird.

He takes his laptop and leaves the room, leaving Sharon,
Vicki and Kevin to sit in stunned silence.

KEVIN
Can I ask a quick question, Mom?

SHARON
It better be quick.

KEVIN
When you stayed at the hotels on the cross-country trips.. Did Dad pay with a credit card? We could get the statements and that could be proof and --

SHARON
Cash. He always paid in cash. In advance so he wouldn't have to stop at ATMs.

VICKI
Shit...

KEVIN
Can't trace that.

SHARON
Can we call the police now?

VICKI
No.

No??

SHARON

What?

KEVIN

VICKI
No.
(beat)
I think we need to get into that laptop and see what's on it first.

KEVIN
Maybe he keeps more "souvenirs" -- Pictures on there.

SHARON
That tracks. Serial killers always do that.

KEVIN
Aw, Cool! "Souvenirs!" I wanna see 'em! We can get on there after he's asleep and --

Sharon shakes her head "No" and goes back to the stove.

VICKI
Please, Mom. Just let us know when Dad's asleep, Mom.

Sharon turns to her.

SHARON
You find what we are looking for...
Then you call the police?

VICKI
Then I call the police. Promise.

KEVIN
We're going to need his password.

SHARON
That's easy. It's "Fucking Goofy."
He told me. The "O"s are zeros,
though.

Vicki starts to laugh.

KEVIN
Weird. Random.

VICKI
"Fucking Goofy?" Why?

Sharon doesn't turn around.

SHARON
Because you're Dad sounded like
Goofy when we were --

VICKI
"Fucking Goofy" it is. Is that
with or without a space?

SHARON
With. And don't forget the zeros.

KEVIN
Just text us when he's asleep.

VICKI'S ROOM - NIGHT

Vicki is laying on her bed. She is wide awake with her phone on her chest; waiting. It finally buzzes at 1:07am. She reads the message which reads: "NOW."

UPPER HALLWAY

Vicki leaves her room and meets Kevin just as he is exiting his. They quietly head downstairs.

DON'S DEN

The laptop is sitting on Don's desk. Kevin goes to pick it up and Vicki stops him.

VICKI
Don't move it.

KEVIN
Good call. Dad --

VICKI
Would know.. Exactly. You move a paperclip in here and --

She slowly sits down in her father's chair and opens the laptop. A "lock screen" comes up. It's a "Photo Pass" of them mid-fall at Disney's "Tower of Terror."

Vicki enters the password and the desktop pops up. It reveals a photo of the family playing in the surf.

KEVIN
Stop.

Vicki looks at him.

KEVIN (CONT'D)
This feels weird.

VICKI
Weird? Like "Eyeballs on pillow weird" or worse than that?

KEVIN
I didn't say that. It's just --
(beat)
This is Dad's computer.

VICKI
Annd?

KEVIN
Annd.. It's his private stuff.

VICKI
If his private stuff includes pictures of dead bodies and shit... It shouldn't be private anymore, dumbass.

KEVIN
Harsh.

VICKI
This was partly your idea.

KEVIN
It was?

VICKI
Yes... "It" was.
(beat)
So can we look at this, please,
before Dad wakes up and has to take
a leak -- Maybe waltzes in here?

KEVIN
Okay, okay..

Vicki starts a Windows File Search for JPEGs and a second
password window pops up.

VICKI
Shit.

KEVIN
Another one?!?

VICKI
Just means Dad's got something he
really wants to hide.

KEVIN
It also means I'm done.

VICKI
You are?

KEVIN
Ah-yup!

Kevin starts to leave.

VICKI
So.. The next time we go on
vacation and --

KEVIN
Dude.

VICKI
We're asleep and he's getting busy
next door and --

KEVIN
C'mon!

VICKI
"Room service, anyone?"

KEVIN
Man.. Make me feel guilty.

VICKI
I'm not. That's just your soul
talking to you. Unlike me, you've
got one and it doesn't want to
carry the burden.

KEVIN
Alright, alright, alright.. Fuck.
Alright.

VICKI
Any idea for this password?

KEVIN
"Fucking Goofy," again?

VICKI
You think Dad likes sloppy seconds?

KEVIN
That's gross... Um.
(beat)
Sucking... Goofy?

VICKI
Jesus.

KEVIN
Sounds like a decent "Dad Joke."

VICKI
Not gonna work.

She types it in. It doesn't work and the screen now says
they have two chances left.

VICKI (CONT'D)
Shit on a stick.

KEVIN
Um...
(beat)
Rimming... Goofy?

VICKI
Where the hell did you hear about
that?

KEVIN
What?

VICKI
Rimming?

KEVIN
A friend.

VICKI
A friend?

KEVIN
Yeah. At school.

VICKI
You have as many friends as I do.
Which is approximately none. Where
did you hear about it?

KEVIN
Dad might show up any minute and
this is the hill you wanna die on?

VICKI
Where?

KEVIN
In the toilet. At school. Then I
looked it up and --

VICKI
Jesus.

KEVIN
Anyway. Try it.

VICKI
I'm not trying that --

Kevin quickly reaches over and types it in.

VICKI (CONT'D)
Hey!

It doesn't work and the screen now says they have one chance
left.

VICKI (CONT'D)
Nice nimrod! Don't touch this
again. You almost moved the
computer and --

KEVIN

At least I was trying, because --

Vicki looks up as if she's heard something.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

What is it?

VICKI

Shhhhh.... Wait. Do you hear that?

KEVIN

What?

She smacks Kevin in the back of his head.

VICKI

That! Don't do it, again.

He rubs the back of his head.

VICKI (CONT'D)

Think.

He starts to look around the room. He sees a dedication plaque hanging above the door leading out of the study and points at it.

KEVIN

What about that?

Vicki looks up and sees the words "NOSTROMO" on a dedication plaque from the ship's bridge from "Alien."

VICKI

What if it doesn't work?

KEVIN

Screen locks up, Dad finds out and has to kill us all?

VICKI

Did not need it put that way.

She starts to type in "Nostromo."

KEVIN

Wait! Put in zeros for the "O"s again.

She looks at Kevin for a moment. Backspaces and then retypes "N0str0m0."

The computer starts searching JPEGs.

KEVIN (CONT'D)
It worked! I rule!

VICKI
Calm down, Boy Blunder. You got
lucky.

She reads the new file folder names as they pop up.

VICKI (CONT'D)
God, you're anal, Dad. Folders for
everything. Subfolders in those.
Travel photos. Gaming photos.
Screenplays. Games --

KEVIN
He's still got a "wedding photos"
folder! Awwwww.. I wanna be a
serial killing romantic like Dad
when I grow up.

Vicki stares at Kevin.

KEVIN (CONT'D)
God.. It's a joke! I'm nervous!
It's how I fucking cope! Okay?

The computer stops searching and a slew of photos appear.

VICKI
Oh. Oh, God.

Vicki shuts her eyes tightly. She can't look any longer.
It's horrible.

KEVIN
Shit. Holy fuck... That's --
(beat)
That's a crap-load of porn.

VICKI
A... "Crap-load" is an
understatement.

KEVIN
At least they're all adults.

Vicki shoots him "a look," then quickly shuts her eyes again.

KEVIN (CONT'D)
Geez... Some of these people gotta
be gymnasts or something. I mean --
C'mon. Look, Vic!

She won't.

VICKI

Nope.

Kevin is scrolling through hundreds of images.

KEVIN

The good news is... It's "healthy"
porn.

Vicki finally opens her eyes to look directly at him.

VICKI

"Healthy?"

KEVIN

No kids. No animals. No freaky
shit like that.

A look of horror crosses his face and he slams the laptop closed.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

Oh, God!

VICKI

What?

KEVIN

Oh, God, Oh, God, Oh God...

He runs out of the room quickly. Vicki is right behind him.

KITCHEN

She finally stops Kevin in the kitchen. She holds his shoulders and forces him to look at her.

VICKI

(whispering)

What? What is it?

KEVIN

There were pictures on there...
Of Mom... Naked. GAAAAAAH, MY EYES!

VICKI

Really?

Kevin runs to the sink and turns on the water.

KEVIN

I gotta wash 'em out. GAAAAH!!

He sticks his face under the water and rubs his eyes under the spigot.

VICKI

Was there anything else?

KEVIN

Yup! Some of Mom and Dad, too!

VICKI

Nothing else?

KEVIN (CONT'D)

Nope!

Kevin won't stop trying to scrub the images from his eyes.

VICKI (CONT'D)

You know what this means, right?

He finally turns off the water and looks up.

KEVIN

What? I am not telling Mom I saw her --

VICKI

No... Dumbass. It means we have to ask Mom for the keys to the basement. Dad always keeps it locked. I bet that's where he keeps his "Souvenirs..."

Kevin sits at the breakfast nook.

KEVIN

You think he'd keep more than just pictures?

Vicki takes a Diet Coke out of the fridge.

VICKI

Sure... All of the famous serial killers kept something. Jewelry. Teeth. Skin costumes. We have to find out. I'll try and ask Mom for the key tomorrow.. Before she goes to work.

KEVIN

She leaves at.. Like.. Butt-crack of dawn.

VICKI
Then I'll set my alarm for pre-Butt-
crack.

Kevin smiles at her.

KEVIN
Thank you.

VICKI
We've got this.

VICKI'S ROOM - EARLY MORNING

Her cellphone is lying, silent, on her nightstand. The SOUND of the FRONT DOOR SLAMMING can be heard and Vicki sits bolt upright bed, checks her phone and runs to the window.

Sharon's car is pulling out of the driveway.

VICKI
Jesus wept.

She turns around to see that --

VICKI'S ROOM - LATER

Kevin is sitting on the edge of her bed. He does not look impressed.

VICKI
I set my alarm for PM instead of
AM.

KEVIN
Pathetic.

VICKI
What?? I was tired. I didn't see
you volunteer as back-up.

KEVIN
What now? Do we wait for her to
come home? Or do we wait for Dad
to leave and try and get down there
ourselves?

They hear the SOUND of the FRONT DOOR SLAMMING again and Kevin joins Vicki at the window. Don is headed towards his car with his laptop.

Vicki throws open the window.

VICKI

Dad!

Don turns to look at the front door first and then up to find where his daughter's voice came from.

DON

Yeah, Hon?

VICKI

You leavin'?

DON

Yeah... I sent you both a text. Didn't know you were awake. I've got a meeting with Stowe in about twenty minutes.

KEVIN

When you gonna be back?

Don puts his laptop in the backseat.

DON

Why?

KEVIN

Just wanted to know. See if you wanna watch another "Breaking Bad" with me? We're almost caught up.

DON

I'll probably just be gone for a couple of hours.

KEVIN

'Kay.

DON

Save it for then?

KEVIN

Done and done.

DON

Great. See you both in a bit.

Don gets in his car and drives away.

KEVIN

"Couple of hours..." You wanna try getting in there right now?

VICKI
 I'm game if you are. I'll call Mom
 -- See if she knows where he hides
 his keys.

DOWNSTAIRS HALL - BASEMENT DOOR

Vicki is on the phone. She and Kevin are staring at the
 locked door to the basement. It has a red glass doorknob.

VICKI
 They're where?
 (listens)
 Dad's den?

Kevin heads inside the den.

DAD'S DEN

He looks around the den and has no idea where to start.

VICKI (O.S.)
 Uh-huh.
 (shouting)
 It's inside "Mother's" skull!

Kevin stands transfixed for moment.

VICKI (O.S.) (CONT'D)
 From "Psycho!"

KEVIN
 Spoilers!!! I haven't seen that
 one, yet! Which case is it in?

BASEMENT DOOR

Vicki looks impatiently towards the den.

VICKI
 Closest to the doorway... On the
 right side!
 (listens)
 Second shelf. It looks like a
 mummified apple head... Sort'a.

DAD'S DEN

Kevin opens a case and lifts up a grinning skull with a grey
 wig tacked on top of it. There is a single key resting
 underneath.

KEVIN

Got it!

He puts the head back, closes the case and runs back to Vicki.

BASEMENT DOOR

Kevin enters the hallway and gives the key to Vicki.

VICKI

We got it, Mom! Thank you!

(listens)

I love you, too. Yes, we'll be careful!

KEVIN

Promise!

Vicki hangs up the phone and Kevin unlocks the door to the basement.

BASEMENT STAIRS

The door swings open to reveal a set of stairs disappearing into the darkness below. Neither of them have been down there for years. For all they know its full of bodies.

VICKI

Yup. That's got "stairway to a serial killer's trophy room" written all over it.

KEVIN

That is very specific.

VICKI

How about "Hey, wanna see if there's a murder room down there?" Is that better?

KEVIN

Not much. Come on.

Kevin flips on the light and sees that there are framed posters of horror films lining the walls. "John Carpenter's The Thing," "Memento," "Phantom of the Paradise" and more. The stairwell ends at a carpeted floor about seventeen steps below.

He starts down.

VICKI

Please.. Let me be wrong about all
of this.

She closes the door behind her and heads downstairs.

BASEMENT

This is where the really good stuff is.

A big screen TV - bigger than the one in the family room - fills one wall. There is a full sized "Alien" statue from the Ridley Scott Movie. A mannequin wearing a complete costume from the original "Planet of the Apes" including mask appliances and hair. Plus there is a life-sized Darth Vader from "Star Wars: A New Hope" with full helmet and a light saber.

While there were only three glass cases upstairs in "Dad's Den," the walls down here are lined with them. Each filled with far too many items to catch on your first visit.

In one corner sits a "Twilight Zone" pinball machine and an "Addams Family" one is in the opposite one.

There is a clothes closet on the right side wall of the room. It's sliding doors are slatted and shut. Next to that is a deluxe computer rig with three monitors.

In the middle of the room is a gaming table with a false top covering it. It is circled by chairs. A couch faces the TV and the original horizontal Coca-Cola machine from "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" sits between the it and the table.

Kevin is standing at the bottom of the stairs as Vicki joins him.

KEVIN

Dad's addiction is real.

VICKI

Yeah... And how the hell does he
pay for it?

KEVIN

Hell, if I know. He just writes
comic books and shit.

Kevin heads for the closet.

He slides the double doors open to reveal dozens and dozens of costumes with the original studio ID tags attached to them.

From Bela Lugosi's "Dracula" cape to Hannibal Lecter's jumpsuit and a "Ghostface" costume from "Scream".. They're all here.

VICKI
Serious addiction.

CLOSET

Vicki starts to slide the costumes apart to see what other treasures might be inside. Kevin spots the edge of a panel on the back wall of the closet.

KEVIN
Lookie here!

He parts the costumes and reveals a square panel that blends almost seamlessly with the back wall.

VICKI
Told you. "Murder Room."

Kevin presses the panel and it pops open to reveal a keypad with a number screen above it.

VICKI (CONT'D)
Try our Birthdays.

KEVIN
That crap never works... I mean, seriously. This is not a movie. What if we get locked out?

VICKI
Um.. Hold on.. Lemme think --

KEVIN
What the hell, I'll give it a ...

Kevin starts pressing keys.

VICKI
Hold up!

KEVIN
1-0..

They hear a click.

KEVIN (CONT'D)
3-1...

Another click.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

6-3

A CLUNKING SOUND can be HEARD and a door panel slides to the right. It reveals a hidden room.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

BOOM! First try! That shit never happens.

VICKI

What the fuck day was that?

KEVIN

The day Michael Meyers killed his sister in the first "Halloween."

VICKI

Why would you --

KEVIN

"Halloween" was Mom and Dad's "sort'a" first date! They hung out at Dad's and watched it with a friend of Mom's.

VICKI

You are so Goddamn lucky.

KEVIN

Yup! Annnd - Yoinks and away!

He starts moving forward.

VICKI

Hold up a sec... Maybe we should call --

Kevin doesn't hesitate. He reaches inside, finds a light switch, flips it on and heads in.

KEVIN (O.S.)

Whoaaaaaaa!

VICKI

Fuck me.

Vicki heads inside too.

MURDER ROOM

This space is extremely neat and tidy. There is a long, apothecary case on the wall across from them with dozens and dozens of three by three inch drawers.

On the right side of the room is a framed map of the United States with smiley-face pins tacked into familiar city names.

To the left of the map is an industrial washing machine with several rubber aprons hanging on pegs next to it. A high quality incinerator is to its right. Next to that is a gleaming metal sink with an exhaust hose exiting into the wall above.

In the middle of the room is an immaculately clean autopsy table. There's large tackle box sitting on it with hotel stickers and a smiley face with a bullet hole in its head.

KEVIN

Holy fuck... Dad is --

VICKI

A neat freak?!? He doesn't even keep his side of the bed clean!

Kevin looks at her dumbfounded.

KEVIN

NOW who's trying to cope?!?

Kevin walks over to the sink. Resting inside it is another one of the rubber aprons floating in some sort of solution.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

Vicki?

She joins him and takes a closer look at the apron without touching it. It covered with splotches of blood in places.

VICKI

I'm calling Mom.

KEVIN

Shouldn't we call the cops?

VICKI

We don't know what this room is --

Vicki points to the sink.

VICKI (CONT'D)

We don't even know what that is!

KEVIN

That's blood! And this ain't no rumpus room.

VICKI

What if the blood's fake. What if it's from one of the movies? What if he bought it and it was like --

KEVIN

Why are trying to "logic" this shit away?

(beat)

I think you're afraid that all of this is exactly what we know it is!

Kevin heads for the apothecary drawers against the wall.

VICKI

Don't touch that!

Kevin nods.

KEVIN

Fingerprints.

VICKI

Annnnd anal retentive "gotta have everything in the right place" neat freak --

Vicki begins to punch numbers into her cellphone.

VICKI (CONT'D)

I'm calling Mom.

The connection is fuzzy, but it works.

VICKI (CONT'D)

Wi-Fi in here sucks.

Kevin checks the bars on his phone and sees just one. He walks out of the "murder room" and back to the first one.

VICKI (CONT'D)

Mom? Please pick up...

INT. MOM'S OFFICE - DAY

Sharon is at her office and reaches for her cell phone. She wears a nametag company logo on it. It reads "Sharon Smith - CEO - SECURITY by BLOCH."

SHARON

Twice in one day, Honey? What's --?

VICKI (O.S.)
 Mom! Mom, I'm in a weird room under
 the stairs -- In the basement -- We
 think it might be a "murder room"
 or something and Kevin -- Where's
 Kevin?!

VICKI (O.S.) (CONT'D) SHARON
 KEVIN?!? Hold on, "murder room?"

INT. BASEMENT

Kevin is staring at the mouth of he Xenomorph from "Alien."

KEVIN
 I've got four bars out here!

Vicki enters the room through the closet.

VICKI SHARON (O.S.)
 Found him. What do you mean "Murder
 Room?"

VICKI (CONT'D)
 Have you ever been down here? In
 the basement?

INT. MOM'S OFFICE

Sharon is standing now and moving towards the couch where her
 jacket and things are.

SHARON
 All the time. Your Dad and I watch
 movies down there when you kids go
 to bed. We like it loud --

VICKI (O.S.)
 Gross...

SHARON
 Not that kind of loud... Stick to
 the subject.

INT. BASEMENT

Vicki is pacing and circling the room

VICKI

I think we found the place Dad takes his trophies to and cleans them up. It's got like one of those metal autopsy tables and a bunch of drawers to keep things in --

SHARON (O.S.)

Whoa, whoa, whoa... There is NOTHING like in our house --

VICKI

You don't know! We saw it! We're standing right outside it.

KEVIN

She doesn't believe us?

INT. MOM'S OFFICE

Sharon is heading for the door.

SHARON

I believe you! I believe you! I just didn't know it was there.

VICKI (O.S.)

How could you not -- ?

SHARON

He could have done it on one of our trips!

INT. BASEMENT

Vicki has picked up the pace.

VICKI (O.S.)

What do we do? Do we call the police?

SHARON (O.S.)

Is your father there?

VICKI

No. He's at a story meeting with Stowe.

SHARON (O.S.)

Then put me on "Facetime" and let me see.

Vicki presses a button on her phone and Sharon can be seen on its screen.

KEVIN
We'll show you, Mom... This is
fucking freaky.

SHARON
Language.

KEVIN
Sorry.

Vicki is at the doorway inside the closet with her phone faced away from her and pointed towards the "Murder Room."

INT. MOM'S OFFICE

Sharon stops and looks at the room through the screen of her cell phone.

SHARON
Oh, My God...

VICKI (O.S.)
I told you.

KEVIN (O.S.)
It's a murder room right out
of "Phantasm," Mom!

SHARON
I didn't know.

The SOUND of a DOOR SLAMMING can be heard from upstairs.

VICKI (O.S.)
Shit!

SHARON
I thought your father was gone?

INT. BASEMENT

Kevin slides quickly into panic-mode as so does Vicki.

VICKI
(whispering)
He came back early.

KEVIN
(also whispering)
Fuck! You knew that would happen!
You fucking said that would happen.

VICKI I didn't think that -- KEVIN (CONT'D) Why did we come down here?

VICKI (CONT'D) Excuse me? You -- KEVIN (CONT'D) Dumbass idea to risk our lives for this shit.

SHARON (O.S.)
Kids! Kids! KIDS!

Vicki turns the screen to see her Mom. The SOUND of FOOTSTEPS can be heard upstairs.

SHARON (CONT'D)
Hide. I'm calling the police.

KEVIN Hide?!? Where? VICKI Okay, Mom.

SHARON
Hang up. Hide. I love you!

VICKI
(whispering)
I love you!

Vicki hangs up. She and Kevin scan the room for a place to hide.

DON (O.S.)
Kids?

His voice is close to the basement door.

DON (CONT'D)
You guys home??

Kevin spins around and heads into the closet. Vicki grabs him by his shirt and stops him before he goes back into the "Murder Room."

VICKI
Not in there.

KEVIN
Why?

VICKI
No way out.

She presses a button at the bottom of the panel and the secret door slides shut.

KEVIN

And the closet is better?

VICKI

Don't worry about it. We don't have to hide anywhere. We're safe. I locked the door when I came down and we have the only key.

DOWNSTAIRS HALL

Don approaches the basement door. He walks by it and heads into his den.

DAD'S DEN

He sets his laptop on his desk and sits down. As he does, he sees that "Mother's Head" is not quite where he left it. The name card is not propped up in front either.

DON

Who?

Don quickly gets up and heads for the basement door.

DON (CONT'D)

I'll fucking kill those fucking kids with my bare hands.

BASEMENT

The SOUND of HEAVY FOOTSTEPS make their way to the basement door. They look upward towards the SOUND.

The SOUND of the DOORKNOB RATTLING can be heard and they look at one another.

VICKI

(whispers)

We have the key. It's okay.

DOWNSTAIRS HALL

Don takes out his key ring and unlocks the door with his own key. He sees that the basement light is on and heads downstairs.

BASEMENT

He rounds the corner and sees that the room is undisturbed.

DON

You guys better not be down here.

Don reaches for a box of surgical gloves ABD begins to put A pair as he walks towards the closet.

CLOSET

Vicki and Kevin are sitting in the bottom corners on opposite sides. Shafts of light bleed through the slats in the door and reveal their tense and worried faces.

The SOUND of FOOTSTEPS is coming towards them.

They can see the shape of their father through the thin cracks of light and hope that he cannot see them.

Kevin looks to Vicki as to what to do next. She reveals that she has a coat hanger unspooled and ready to use its sharp end as a weapon. He mouths words at her.

KEVIN

Really?

She nods and does the same.

VICKI

Yes. Really.

Kevin buries his face in his hand.

BASEMENT

Don reaches for the handles to the closet.

JUMP CUT TO:

EXT. FRONT PORCH - DOORBELL - DAY

A finger rings the doorbell.

BASEMENT - CLOSET

Vicki and Kevin look up.

BASEMENT

Don looks up and then heads upstairs.

CLOSET

Kevin breathes a sigh of relief and Vicki puts a finger to her lips to shush him.

DOWNSTAIRS HALL

Don enters the hallway and closes the door to the basement behind him. He locks it.

The SOUND of the DOORBELL can be heard again.

DON
Just a moment!

Don takes off the surgical gloves and stuffs them into the pockets of his jeans. He reaches the front door and opens it.

POLICE OFFICERS KOERGER and CHAMBERS are standing outside. Their weapons are holstered and hey are both smiling.

CHAMBERS
Good afternoon, Sir. Sorry for the disturbance, but is your name Donald Smith?

DON
Yes, sir.

CHAMBERS
Can we see some ID?

Don reaches into his pocket and brings out his money clip. His driver's license is in it.

CHAMBERS (CONT'D)
Thank you, Mr. Smith. Just a formality.

KOERGER
We apologize for the visit, but we got a call that said there was a disturbance happening here. We were in the area and were asked to respond.

DON
Was someone trying to break in?

CHAMBERS
Have you been home all morning, Sir?

DON

No. I just got back from a meeting
with a friend. It went short.

CHAMBERS

Anyone else here this morning?

DON

My kids.

Koerger takes out his notepad.

CHAMBERS

They here now?

DON

I don't think so.

KOERGER

And what are their names, Sir?

DON

Victoria and Kevin.

CHAMBERS

Your son's name is Kevin? So,
Kevin... Smith?

DON

I'm a fan.

CHAMBERS

You be you.

KOERGER

Ages?

DON

Vicki's fifteen and Kevin's
thirteen.

(beat)

May I ask who called?

KOERGER

We need to keep that private, Sir.

CHAMBERS

Would it be okay if we came in and
took a look around?

DON

Don't you need a warrant for that?

CHAMBERS

Only if you feel we do, Mr. Smith.

Don looks from one officer to the next.

DON

Of course you can come in.

Koerger and Chambers enter the main hallway and begin to take a casual look around.

DON (CONT'D)

Would you like a tour?

CHAMBERS

That would be appreciated, Sir.

They walk by the stairway to the upstairs and head down the hall in the direction of the basement door and "Dad's Den."

KOERGER

You said your kids aren't home, Mr. Smith?

DON

Funny thing. I'm not sure now.

CHAMBERS

Not sure?

DON

Like I said. I just got home.

CHAMBERS

Would you look at that!?

Chambers has discovered "Dad's Den" and all of its wonders.

KOERGER

That's quite the collection!

DON

Yeah, I've been collecting for a while. I'm a writer. I like to have inspiration around me.

KOERGER

A writer?

CHAMBERS

Published?

DON
Some comic book stuff... Some
screenplays.

CHAMBERS
What kind of stuff.

DON
Horror... A few thrillers.. A
fantasy trilogy.. Even a western
and love story.

CHAMBERS
Wow.. A little bit of everything.
Jack of all trades --

DON
Master of none.

KOERGER
You said horror stories, Right?
What kind? Boogeymen, serial
killers, killer clowns? That kind
of stuff?

DON
Sort of.

Koerger keeps going down the hall towards the kitchen.
Chambers hesitates for a moment; admiring what he sees. He
soon follows behind his partner.

Don hangs back for a moment. He is in close proximity to
some of the weapons located in the cases and on the walls.

KITCHEN

Koerger enters the kitchen and finds Vicki at the
refrigerator and Kevin sitting at the breakfast nook. Vicki
is standing, frozen, with a carton of orange juice in her
hand and Kevin is playing a game on his phone.

Both of the kids are wearing earbuds.

KOERGER
Hello.

VICKI
Whoa!

Vicki almost drops her orange juice.

KOERGER
You must be Vicki?

VICKI

And you are a.. Cop... In... Our kitchen.

She takes out her earbuds and slaps the table in front of Kevin.

KEVIN

Gah! What? Holy fuck!

Kevin sees Officer Koerger and takes out his own earbuds just as Chambers enters the kitchen.

DON (O.S.)

Language, Kevin.

Their Dad enters the room as well.

KOERGER

Do you mind if we ask your children a few questions, Mr. Smith?

DON

Please do. I may have a few of my own.

(beat)

Have you two been messing around and causing a disturbance while I was gone?

Vicki quickly sits down next to Kevin and forces him to scoot over.

VICKI

No.

KEVIN

No, Sir!

DON

Weird.

CHAMBERS

We got a report that there was some kind of yelling happening in here?

DON

Yelling?

VICKI

I didn't yell.

KEVIN

Was it yelling or was it screaming?

Vicki knuckle punches Kevin in his thigh under the table. He gives her the side-eye.

KEVIN (CONT'D)
'Cuz there's a difference.

Koerger, unimpressed, checks his pad.

KOERGER
Just that someone was yelling.

Don is standing behind both of the officers. He is looking at both Vicki and Kevin with the "Dad Stare of Judgement."

VICKI
No, sir. No yelling.

KEVIN
It could have been the big TV downstairs. Those speakers are huge. Right, Dad?

Don's jaw clenches visibly and both of the kids can see it. They have never seen their father this angry. Ever.

CHAMBERS
Can we take a look downstairs, Mr. Smith?

Kevin smiles crookedly and looks at his father.

KEVIN
Would that be okay, Dad?

DON
Sure... Absolutely. Right this way, Gentlemen.

BASEMENT

Don rounds the corner at the bottom of the stairs. The officers right behind him. Kevin and Vicki are battling for third.

CHAMBERS
Woooooow!

KOERGER
Quite the collection, Sir.. And that's some TV.

DON
I like to see things on the big screen. Put this in when the kiddos were young. Cheaper than going to movies. Especially when there's four of us.

KOERGER

I bet.

DON

Besides... I watch some things down here that I don't think would be appropriate for mt kids to see.

CHAMBERS

Understandable. All this stuff... Wow. Must have cost a pretty penny.

DON

Some did. Yes. You'd be surprised the kind'a things you can find on your travels --

KEVIN

Cross country.

Don looks at Kevin very intently.

DON

Yes. Always remember, Kev.. Careful planning leads to happy hunting.

KOERGER

No doubt.

DON

But my son is right. I must have left the TV on. Thanks for coming down here and taking care of things, Kevin.

KEVIN

That wasn't me. It was Vicki.

Vicki shoots him a hard look. Kevin smiles back painfully.

DON

Thanks, Honey.

Vicki looks like a deer caught in the headlights.

VICKI

Sure thing, Dad.

CHAMBERS

Holy shit, is that the original chainsaw?

Don takes a chainsaw off of its wall mount.

DON
It is. Used in Hopper's '74 film.

CHAMBERS
Does it work?

DON
Wanna see?

He reaches for the rip cord.

KOERGER
I don't think that will be
necessary, Mr. Smith. I think
we've seen enough.

They start to leave.

KEVIN
What about the closet?!!

VICKI
Yeah!! Oh, yeah! You've got to
check out the closet.

The officers turn around and look squarely at the kids.

KOERGER
That's a pretty vocal request from
you two.

CHAMBERS
Everything okay?

Both of the kids look towards their father. Don is still
holding the chainsaw.

VICKI
Sure.

KEVIN
You just -- You really shouldn't
miss what Dad's got in there.

CHAMBERS
Would you mind, Mr. Smith?

Don doesn't move from where he is standing.

DON
By all means.

Koerger and Chambers walk over to the closet. Their backs are to Don and the kids.

Vicki watches her father carefully. Don's hand is tightening around the chainsaw's rip cord.

Chambers slides open the doors and sees all of the costumes.

CHAMBERS

Oh, My God. Can I live here??

KOERGER

Lighten up, Gary.

CHAMBERS

Seriously, Alex. I wanna live here.

DON

I don't think that would be wise.

KOERGER

He's joking.

Chambers begins to slide some of the costumes back and forth.

CHAMBERS

What's this, Alex!?

He reaches into the rack of costumes, towards the location of the panel, and pulls out a very familiar set of clothes.

CHAMBERS (CONT'D)

Is this really -- ?

DON

Yes. Original costume.

(beat)

Worn by Tim Curry when he played Pennywise in the mini-series.

CHAMBERS

Do you have Skarsgard's, too? From the movie?

DON

It's coming. It hasn't arrived, yet.

CHAMBERS

"It's" coming! I saw what you did there.

DON
Happy accident. Didn't mean to.

KOERGER
Come on, Gary. We've seen enough.
Thank you for your time, Mr. Smith.

DON
My pleasure. I'll show you to the
door. Vicki.. Kevin. Why don't
you head up with us. I'll meet you
two in the kitchen. I think we
need to talk.

VICKI
Yes, Dad.

INT. KITCHEN

Vicki and Kevin are sitting at the breakfast nook. The worry on their faces is palpable, but a glance under the table reveals that Vicki is holding a carving knife and Kevin has a steak knife of his own.

DON (O.S.)
Thanks for coming and thank you for
everything you do for us!

KOERGER (O.S.)
Not a problem.

CHAMBERS (O.S.)
Our pleasure. And let me know when
that other clown costume shows up.
I'd love to see it!

DON (O.S.)
Will do. Bye now!

CHAMBERS (O.S.)
Have a good day, sir.

KOERGER (O.S.)
Sorry for the trouble.

The SOUND of a DOOR CLOSING can be heard.

KEVIN
Why didn't you say anything?

VICKI
Me? You were closer!

KEVIN

Did you see Dad had the chainsaw?
He would've covered the room with
all of us!

VICKI

Jesus, Kevin...

KEVIN

What?

VICKI

Just be ready...

DON (O.S.)

Okay, you two.

Don enters the kitchen.

DON (CONT'D)

Start talking.

EXT. SMITH HOME - DRIVEWAY

Sharon pulls up in her company car. There is logo on the
drivers side door which reads "SECURITY by BLOCH."

VICKI (O.S.)

About what?

KEVIN (O.S.)

Sorry, Dad.

INT. SMITH HOME - KITCHEN

Don has moved closer to the children. He cannot see what is
happening under the table, but the kids are gripping their
weapons even tighter.

DON

"About what?" About what just
happened.

He takes a butcher knife out of the holder and begins to
clean his nails with it.

VICKI

Do you think we called the cops?

DON

Looks to me like you did.

KEVIN

We wouldn't do that, Dad.

VICKI

No. We wouldn't. That's not us.

Don slams the knife into the cutting board on the island.

DON

We're supposed to be a "no bullshit policy" family, aren't we?

The SOUND of the FRONT DOOR OPENING can be heard.

SHARON (O.S.)

I'm home!

DON

We're in the kitchen, hon!

He turns back to his kids.

DON (CONT'D)

We tell the truth in this house.

VICKI

Do we?

Kevin knees Vicki under the table. Both of the kids slide their weaponry under their legs.

VICKI (CONT'D)

What about the basement?

DON

Your mother and I told you not to go down there.

VICKI

Now I can see why.

KEVIN

I'm sorry, Dad, we won't go down there, again.

VICKI

Yes, we will!

DON

That is our private getaway. Private. Built a long time ago when you kids were little. We made sure it was a long way from your bedrooms upstairs. In case things got loud down there.

Sharon peeks her head around the corner.

SHARON
We talking about the basement?

DON
Yeah. These two were down there.

Sharon moves to behind Don now. He partially covers what she is holding.

DON (CONT'D)
We put in the two-way speakers at the same time... All over the house. You know, in case you guys got scared when you were little and needed to hear us quicker. Even got the app.

He waggles his phone to show them.

SHARON
You guys shouldn't be down there. That's a breach of trust. We don't break trust in this family. That's our TV Room and --

VICKI
That's a load of crap, Mom! And I'm not talking about the fucking TV. What about -- ?

KEVIN
The room behind the closet!

SHARON
Language!

DON
What room behind the -- ?

VICKI
Don't bullshit me, Dad!

KEVIN
Who's breaking trust now?!

DON
I don't know what you're --

The SOUND of an AIR GUN FIRING can be heard and a small pellet explodes on Vicki's neck.

VICKI
Ow!! The fuck?

Kevin looks at her in both surprise and horror.

KEVIN
Vicki!

A similar pellet bursts open against his neck. Kevin winces and cries out in pain.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

Mom?!?

VICKI

What's happening??! Mom?!

Sharon is holding a veterinary tranquilizer gun fitted with an compressor. It has a small cylinder on it top, filled with red pellets, to feeds multiple rounds into the gun.

SHARON

I'm sorry, kids. That little area downstairs was supposed to be a surprise for your Dad. For our twenty year date-a-versary.

Vicki tries to get up with her knife and so does Kevin. Their legs are wobbly, causing them to stop and hang onto the sides of the table.

Don watches his kids struggle. For some reason, he has not turned his attention to Sharon.

Until now.

DON

Sharon? What's going on?

SHARON

I had a new playroom put in for us while we were on vacation. I wanted to surprise you with it, but our kids ruined it.

DON

Awww... Kids... That sucks.

Kevin collapses onto the floor. Vicki tries to take a step towards her parents, but falls forward onto the linoleum. Her knife skitters across the surface and stops near the Don's feet.

SHARON

You haven't seen the room, yet?

DON

No.

Kevin is out cold and Vicki's eyes are struggling to stay open.

SHARON

Oh.. Then I can still surprise you!

The SOUND of the AIR GUN can be HEARD again as Vicki begins to pass out.

DON (O.S.)

Oh! For fuck sake's, Hon! What the hell -- ?

SHARON (O.S.)

Shhhh... You like a good surprise. Just as much as the kids.

Everything FADES TO BLACK for a few moments and then Vicki starts to slowly wake back up.

VICKI'S ROOM

She is lying on her bed in her room. She looks up groggily and sees the poster of Michael Meyers kissing Jamie Lee Curtis which hangs above her bed.

SHARON (O.S.)

Oh, good. You're awake.

Vicki looks around. Her mother is nowhere in sight.

SHARON (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Two-way microphones. Like your Dad said. Mini-cameras, too.

She sits up on the edge of her bed. Vicki can't see anything that looks like a microphone or camera. She immediately holds her head and winces at the pain.

SHARON (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Sorry about that, Honey. It's the tranquilizer. Gonna have a headache for a bit.

VICKI

Where's the camera in my -- ?

BASEMENT

Sharon and Don are watching their children's room through the tablet propped up on the edge of the gaming table.

SHARON

That's the point, hon. You can't see it. For a reason.

(MORE)

SHARON (CONT'D)
Helps to work for a security
company. Doesn't it, Dad?

DON
Yeah.. Practically stole 'em.

VICKI
(from tablet screen)
Dad?

Don and Vicki watch as Vicki stands up and starts to head for
Kevin's room.

VICKI (CONT'D)
(from tablet screen)
Dad? You're okay?

SHARON DON
Why wouldn't he be? Sure am, Sweetheart.

SHARON (CONT'D)
Careful, baby --

UPPER HALLWAY

Vicki is headed towards Kevin's room. She stumbles a bit and
holds on to the wall for support.

SHARON (O.S.) (CONT'D)
That stuff's got a kick.

VICKI
Why? Why would you -- ?

SHARON (O.S.)
Had to. You spoiled Dad's surprise
and I needed time to show him the
room the way that I wanted to.

DON (O.S.)
Best ten minutes ever..

VICKI
Fucking gross.

KEVIN'S BEDROOM

Vicki grabs onto the doorframe and pulls herself in. Kevin
is still asleep.

SHARON (O.S.)
Could you wake him up, baby? We
have something we want to share
with both of you.

(MORE)

SHARON (O.S.) (CONT'D)

(beat)

Oh... And for the record? Your little "gross" comment? That hurts.

DON (O.S.)

Hurts us both, Victoria.

She tries to wake up Kevin by pushing on his shoulder. He is out like a light.

DON (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Might have to slap him, Hon --

VICKI

What??!

BASEMENT

Don looks concerned. Sharon not so much.

DON

Slap him awake. That stuff's pretty potent.

SHARON

Good call.

VICKI

(from tablet screen)

Slap him?! When did you guys turn into monsters?

SHARON

Monsters?

DON

We're not monsters, Honey. That's a little harsh.

SHARON (CONT'D)

Did she call us... Monsters?

KEVIN'S ROOM

Vicki grabs a half-finished Diet Coke and pours it over Kevin's face. He sputters against it and opens his eyes.

KEVIN

Ahhhhhghhhh! Ahhh!

KEVIN (CONT'D)

My eyes! What the fuck??!?!?

VICKI

I'm sorry, I'm sorry, I'm sorry!

DON (O.S.)

That's gotta hurt.

SHARON (O.S.)
And you thought I was a monster.

KEVIN
The hell, Vicki!?!?

VICKI
I had to wake you up.

KEVIN
Wake me -- ?

SHARON (O.S.)
How you feeling, honey?

DON (O.S.)
Yeah, you okay?

KEVIN
Fuck the both of you! You did this
to me!!

SHARON (O.S.)
We already went over that with your
sister.

DON (O.S.)
Yeah.. Not gonna chew our garbage
twice on that one.

SHARON (O.S.)
The longer we take. The less time
we have for our game.

KEVIN
A game? Like some "Saw" shit?

DON (O.S.)
Oh, no... Just a simple one... The
one you both love. F-I-L-M... But
with a twist.

Kevin gets out of his bed and heads out his door. Vicki
follows him.

UPPER HALLWAY

He stops for a moment and starts checking his pockets.

KEVIN
Where's my phone -- ?

DON (O.S.)
We took them.

SHARON (O.S.)
Should have done that a long time ago, to tell the truth.

KEVIN
Fuck this shit. Fuck it. I'm leaving.

VICKI
Same.

DON (O.S.)
I wouldn't do that.

BASEMENT

Don and Sharon watch the screen as Kevin and Vicki rush down the stairwell. They take the stairs two, three at a time and sprint for the door. They reach it and try to pull on the doorknob.

KEVIN
(from tablet screen)
It's locked.

SHARON
They all are. Metal doors. Metal shutters. All locked up.

DON
Nice and tight.

SHARON
Why do people always say that when they know the door's going to end up locked?

DON
Say what? "It's locked?"

SHARON
Yes --

VICKI
(from tablet screen)
Why would you lock the doors?

SHARON
They always say that, too, don't they?

FRONT DOOR

Kevin kicks the door in anger. Vicki motions for him to calm down.

KEVIN

How much money did you guy sink
into the security here?

SHARON (O.S.)

Worth it.

DON (O.S.)

Have to keep the family safe from
"lookie-loos" and "weirdos."

VICKI

That's on a little on the nose,
isn't it, Dad? Especially coming
from a couple of psychos like you
two?

SHARON (O.S.)

We're not "psychos."

(beat)

We're recreational hobbyists.

VICKI

Excuse me?

KEVIN

Your what??

DON (O.S.)

Recreational.. Hobbyists. In fact,
your mother and I met because of
her hobby.

Kevin heads for the kitchen and all of its windows.

VICKI

You said you met in college.

SHARON (O.S.)

We did.

DON (O.S.)

Yes, we did.

BASEMENT

Don takes Sharon's hand and loving rubs it with his thumb.

DON (CONT'D)

You tried to kill me. Right there
in my dorm room.

SHARON

But you woke up and caught me.

DON

Sure did.

Don checks the screens on the tablet again.

DON (CONT'D)

Hey, kids... Don't bother with the windows in the kitchen... Or anywhere else for that matter.

KITCHEN

Vicki and Kevin reach the kitchen and all of the window shutters are closed tight.

DON (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Told you. Everything's shut tight. Electronically sealed. Didn't think we would need 'em for this reason. But it all worked out.

SHARON (O.S.)

Sure did.

KEVIN

Which one of you is it?

DON (O.S.)

Which one?

VICKI

Who killed all those people?

DON (O.S.)

I don't want to brag, but...

She heads for the hallway with Kevin right behind her.

BASEMENT DOOR

Vicki reaches for the red door knob to the basement.

KEVIN

Locked, isn't it?

It doesn't budge.

VICKI

Fuck.

DON (O.S.)

You done, yet? Because its time to set the record straight.

Kevin heads into "Don's Den."

DON'S DEN

He starts to reach for the "Freddy Gloves" in one of the glass cases.

KEVIN
I don't... I can't --

Kevin starts to place one of the blades on his wrist..

DON (O.S.)
You stop that -- !

BASEMENT

Don slams his hand down in front of the tablet.

DON (CONT'D)
RIGHT NOW!

SHARON
That's enough!

DON'S DEN

Kevin drops the glove. He looks as if he has given up. Vicki looks upwards to where she thinks the camera is.

VICKI
What are you guys? What the fuck,
is going on??! How can you be like
this?

They are both in tears and Vicki is beginning to hyperventilate.

BASEMENT

Sharon and don are looking at the screen with deep concern.

SHARON
Oh, honey... DON
Shhhhh... You two. Shhhhh.

SHARON (CONT'D)
Yeah, it's gonna be okay.

KEVIN
(from tablet screen)
Okay?!?

DON
Just take a breath.

SHARON

Or two.

DON

Or two. And we'll explain.

KEVIN

(from tablet screen)
That you're killers.

VICKI

(from tablet screen)
Murderers.

SHARON (O.S.)

(whispers)
Recreational Hobbyists.

DON (O.S.)

Yes. We do this together. But I
don't do the killing. That just
isn't my kind of thing. It's more
your Mother's --

DAD'S DEN

Kevin is breathing as slowly as he can. Vicki is looking
upward in disbelief.

DON (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Catching folks for her is my kind
of foreplay.

VICKI

WHAT!?!?

GOD!!

KEVIN

SHARON (O.S.)

Yeah... It really gets him hot.

VICKI

I think I'm gonna throw up.

DON (O.S.)

Your Mom wasn't very good at
killing people at first. That's for
sure. Not very subtle.

BASEMENT

Don is looking at Sharon. His eyes are filled with love and
admiration.

DON (CONT'D)

In fact, she was straddling me the night I caught her... With a knife to my throat.

SHARON

He woke up. Grabbed my hand and stopped me. But then I felt --

DON

The kids don't want to hear that, hon.

SHARON

What? They're old enough. We waited. He was rock hard, Kids.

DON

And then she fucked my brains out.

VICKI

(from tablet screen)
God!

SHARON

Right then and there. Fucked his brains out.

KEVIN

(from tablet screen)
Stop!

DON

She never moved the knife. Not once. It was mystical.

DAD'S DEN

Kevin throws up behind the desk and Vicki is barely keeping it together.

VICKI

Wait... Mom. You were helping us try to stop, Dad.

SHARON (O.S.)

Was I really, though? It was fun... But was it really "helping?"

Kevin continues to puke his guts out.

BASEMENT

Sharon smiles a secret smile to Don.

SHARON (CONT'D)
Besides, it was all part of the
foreplay. Your Dad knew what you
and I were doing the whole time.

DON
All of it. Incredible. And the
cops today?

SHARON
Did you like that?

DON
LOVED that!

SHARON
You wanna hump my brains out right
now, don't you?

DON
God, yes!

DON'S DEN

The kids have had enough.

KEVIN VICKI
STOP! For fuck's sake! STOP IT NOW!

VICKI (CONT'D)
For the love of God!

SHARON (O.S.)
Wow. Calm down.

BASEMENT

Sharon is playing the tease now.

SHARON (CONT'D)
I wasn't going to let him. We
gotta play a game with you two
first.

DON
And before you ask. I loved your
Mom for her "hobby." Even when she
tried to kill me after our first
date.

(MORE)

DON (CONT'D)
She thought I was weak, like the others, that's why she chose me.

SHARON
But you weren't.

DON
Nope. I wasn't.

VICKI
(from tablet screen)
Is this "The Villain Confesses" speech?

KEVIN
(from tablet screen)
Before they kill the virgins?

DON'S DEN

Vicki is smiling.

VICKI
'Cuz I'm not one.

SHARON (O.S.)
WHAT?!?!?

VICKI
Darren Grissafi. 9th grade.

SHARON (O.S.)
Oh, God... My baby!

VICKI
For the record. It was in Kevin's bedroom.

KEVIN
GROSS!

DON (O.S.)
And what about you, Kevin? Have you --

KEVIN
Nope. Wanted to. But nope. Doesn't mean you can kill me!

DON (O.S.)
I just wish you would have told us, Vicki. You're mother's really upset.

VICKI
She's upset?

DON'S DEN

Sharon is not "fine" with this. Don is trying to calm her down.

SHARON
 I'll be fine, but we are going to talk about it when this is all over.

DON
 And it will be over soon. Do you two have anymore questions before we begin?

KEVIN
 (from tablet screen)
 How did you do it to them? The tranq gun was a part of it, right?

DON (O.S.)
 Of course. I chose the prey. Only the weak ones... On the internet. Single. Sad people. Set up meetings.. Made sure they took the rooms we arranged to meet them in. I'd reserve the room next to it for us. Easy peasy. Then, I let your Mom be the artist that she truly is.

SHARON (O.S.)
 We'd pick the lock on the connecting doors was. Simple as pie. Then tranq!!

DON'S DEN

Kevin and Vicki are still trying to work through the shock.

SHARON (O.S.) (CONT'D)
 And off to the races!

VICKI
 And us? Right there? How come we never woke --

DON (O.S.)
 Thorazine powder.. In your drinks at dinner. Not much. Just enough to do the trick.

KEVIN

Yup. Gonna throw up again.

He does.

DON (O.S.)

God, Son... How can you have anything left?

VICKI

I - I can't believe you two. I can't. And now you've trapped us in own our house... For a goddamn game?

SHARON (O.S.)

It's gonna be fun. You'll see.

BASEMENT

Sharon is leaning in towards the tablet screen now.

SHARON (CONT'D)

Let's get started, shall we? The game, as I said, is F-I-L-M... but we've added an extra bonus. We've called your Aunt Casi and Uncle Mark to come and get you. They should be here in twenty minutes. If you get done with the game in time, you get go with them. If you don't.

DON'S DEN

Sharon's words echo through the empty house.

SHARON (CONT'D)

Well, that's gonna be an even bigger mess, isn't it?

Vicki looks to Kevin who is just as numb with fear as she is.

DON (O.S.)

We are going to ask you four trivia questions. Horror stuff. You'll get 'em. I know you will.

SHARON (O.S.)

Oh.. I know they will.

BASEMENT

Sharon is consulting a piece of paper with a list on it.

SHARON (CONT'D)
 Because I have hidden four items
 around the house for you to find.
 Each one associated with one of my
 little projects --

VICKI
 (from tablet screen)
 Murders.

DON
 Works of art, Honey.

SHARON
 If you get the question right, it
 will lead you to an object
 associated with the answer.. Along
 with a hidden a piece of evidence.
 And here's the really fun part...

DON'S DEN

Vicki and Kevin are looking upward worriedly. Waiting for
 the other shoe to fall.

SHARON (O.S.) (CONT'D)
 I've connected one of you to each
 piece of evidence.

VICKI
 What the actual fuck!?

KEVIN
 Okay, okay, okay... I get it.. And
 if we don't answer correctly?

SHARON (O.S.)
 I hack off one of your father's
 fingers with a cleaver.

VICKI KEVIN
 You'll WHAT? WHAT??!

DON (O.S.)
 It's okay. It's my left hand. I
 don't use it much.

VICKI KEVIN
 Oh, God, Dad! Mom! Don't!!

DON (O.S.)
 It's okay, guys. We've got a
 cutting board down here...

(MORE)

DON (O.S.) (CONT'D)
 Mom's got my hand numbed up pretty
 good. I won't feel --

BASEMENT

Sharon quickly cuts Don off.

SHARON
 Just remember, you only have enough
 time until your Aunt and Uncle
 arrive, because if you don't...
 I'll have to take even greater
 measures.

VICKI
 (from the tablet)
 Oh, God...

KEVIN
 (from the tablet)
 You'll kill, Dad...

SHARON
 Oh, don't be silly. Not that.
 I'll just have to blow up the house
 and kill us all.

DON'S DEN

A wave of realization smacks both of the kids in the face.

VICKI KEVIN
 You'll -- ? How -- ?

SHARON (O.S.)
 (sing-song like)
 Security firm...

DON (O.S.)
 We rigged every floor of this house
 with explosives a long time ago...

KEVIN
 In case someone found out about...

VICKI
 And we did.

DON (O.S.)
 Yes... Yes, you did. And here we
 are. Oh, one last piece of
 insurance...

BASEMENT

Now Don has leaned in towards the tablet.

DON (CONT'D)

I'm going to call the police after you answer the third question correctly... And if the cops get here before your Aunt and Uncle... And you haven't found the fourth item --

VICKI

(from the tablet)
They'll think it was us.

DON

Sure will. All the stuff looks like one of you did it. Good job with that, Shar.

SHARON

It was fun.

KEVIN

(from the tablet)
And if we get the answers right... In time?

DON

You'll get to go live with your Aunt and Uncle. Who don't know a thing about our "hobby."

SHARON

And we'll make sure the authorities know all about what your father and I did. It will be all over.

DON'S DEN

Vicki and Kevin look like they're not sure.

SHARON (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Everyone finishes in their "Happy Place." Wanna start?

Vicki turns to Kevin and shakes her head "No."

KEVIN

(whispers)
We have to...

SHARON (O.S.)
And... Here we go!

DON (O.S.)
First one's easy!

SHARON (O.S.)
This one's for our resident Kevin
Smith fan. Ready, Kev? "What was
the name of Kevin Smith's first
horror film?"

The "Jeopardy Theme" begins to play in a minor key.

Vicki looks sharply at Kevin.

KEVIN
Technically it's "Kilroy Was
Here..."

SHARON (O.S.)
Final answer?

KEVIN
NO! That ended up as some NFT for
some rich guy. His first horror
movie was... "Red State" in 2011!!!

The music stops.

Kevin starts to run upstairs, but Vicki is way ahead of him.

KEVIN'S ROOM

A framed, and signed, "Red State" poster is among all of the
others hanging in his room.

Vicki runs in, grabs it off the wall, throws it on the bed
and checks the back just as Kevin enters.

A map of the United States is taped on the back. Each of the
towns, where one of the murders took place, is circled in
red. A bloody fingerprint is on one map corner.

Kevin looks down at his hand. His thumb is smeared in
something that looks like blood.

SHARON (O.S.)
Yes. It's your fingerprint.

DON (O.S.)
Good job, Son!!

He rips off the map and starts to fold it up.

KEVIN
What's next?

BASEMENT

Sharon is grinning from ear to ear.

SHARON
Wow. You're really amped up right now, Kev --

KEVIN
(from the tablet)
What the hell did you fucking expect?!?

VICKI
(from the tablet)
Come on, Mom!

SHARON
Alright. Alright. Here we go.
The movie "Halloween" starts in what year?

Sharon presses a button on her cell phone and the "Jeopardy Theme" starts, again.

VICKI
(from the tablet)
1978!

KEVIN
(from the tablet)
No!!

Sharon presses the button again and the music stops.

SHARON
Wrong Answer.

KEVIN'S ROOM

Vicki and Kevin HEAR the SOUND of a METAL CLEAVER CUTTING through a combination of flesh, muscle and bone. It finishes with a THUD! SOUND against the cutting board.

DON (O.S.)
Aggggggggggh!!!!

VICKI
It was '78!

KEVIN
DAD?!?!?

VICKI (CONT'D)
It was 1978, Mom!

Don can be heard struggling against the pain on the two-way speakers.

SHARON (O.S.)
Wanna try again?

VICKI
No! You're cheating!

KEVIN
She's not! You can answer this!

VICKI
Seriously?

DON (O.S.)
(in pain)
You sure she knows it, Son?

KEVIN
She can do this.

Vicki waits for a moment and then nods her head in approval.

Kevin mouths the words:

KEVIN (CONT'D)
Base... ment. Code.

He mimes pressing buttons.

KEVIN (CONT'D)
(silently)
Key.. pad.

VICKI
The movie starts in.. 1963.. When
Michael is only --

Kevin holds up six fingers.

VICKI (CONT'D)
Six years old.

SHARON (O.S.)
That answer is...

BASEMENT

Sharon is beaming with pride.

SHARON (CONT'D)
Correct! Great job, Sweetheart!

She watches as Kevin bolts out the door of room with Vicki right behind him and then as they recklessly fly down the stairs.

SHARON (CONT'D)
Vicki, I'm sorry... You kind of suck at this.

VICKI
(from tablet screen)
Go to Hell, Mom!

SHARON (O.S.)
You kind of do. Suck, I mean.
Kevin's getting all of the right answers. He's even giving you hints. We saw that, Kevin..

VICKI
(from tablet screen)
Maybe I'm, I dunno.. Stressed out by all this crap?

DON'S DEN

Kevin runs to the case with the Michael Meyers mask in it and flings it open. The door shatters against the wall.

SHARON (O.S.)
That's coming out of your allowance...

He grabs the mask. There a small case hidden underneath it.

VICKI
That smells like --

SHARON (O.S.)
Your perfume..? Wake up, Don...
Honey, you're passing out a bit.

DON (O.S.)
Wha - ? Sorry.

Vicki picks up the case and opens it to reveal that there is a small lock-picking set inside.

SHARON (O.S.)
I've had that kit forever.

DON (O.S.)
I got it for you on our one year
date-a-versary, remember?

SHARON (O.S.)
You're such a romantic.

There is a small plaque inside which reads "You unlocked my heart. Love, D."

VICKI
"Unlocked my heart?!" Jesus!
Really?! I really hate you guys
right now.

KEVIN
What's the next question!?!?

BASEMENT

Sharon has leaned back in her chair and folded her arms.

SHARON
Well, if you're going to talk to me
that way... Maybe you won't get
another question and I get to take
another finger.

DON
You two watch your tone... Please?

KEVIN
(sweetly from the tablet)
Can we please have the next
question?

SHARON
After Vicki apologizes.

DON'S DEN

Vicki's glare could cut through a steel beam right now.

Kevin looks at her pleadingly.

SHARON (O.S.) (CONT'D)
Well.. I'm waiting.

Vicki looks at Kevin for a moment. He looks at the clock on their Dad's desk then back at her in a panic.

VICKI
I'm sorry...

SHARON (O.S.)
For...?

VICKI
Really? Mom, that's enough.

DON (O.S.)
Viiiiicki?

VICKI
I'm sorry I said, "I hate you."

SHARON (O.S.)
Good. Hope you mean it.

Vicki mouths "I don't" to Kevin.

BASEMENT

Sharon calls Vicki on her bullshit.

SHARON (CONT'D)
I can see you, remember?

VICKI
(from the tablet)
Fuck.

SHARON
Third question. And, remember, you get this right, your father calls the police.. Then we hit the speed round!

DON
Annd... You've only got about nine minutes until your Aunt and Uncle get here. So...

DON'S DEN

Vicki speaks very evenly through clenched teeth.

VICKI
May we have the third question... Please?

SHARON (O.S.)
Absolutely... Who played Leatherface in --

VICKI
Gunnar Hanson.

SHARON (O.S.)
 Wait for it. You have to wait for
 then entire question before you
 answer.

KEVIN
 You never said that!

SHARON (O.S.)
 Of course I did. It's a basic
 rule.

BASEMENT

Don is trying his best to council Sharon.

DON
 I don't think you did, Hon.

SHARON
 Didn't I?

DON
 I think you forgot, actually.

SHARON
 Well, shit. I must have assumed it
 was a "house rule." That's how we
 always do --

VICKI
 (from the tablet)
 Am I right???

SHARON
 Who played Leatherface in the --

VICKI
 (from the tablet)
 AM I RIGHT, GODDAMMIT!!

SHARON (O.S.)
 Well... if you're going to cheat --

DON'S DEN

Vicki and Kevin hear the SOUND of the CLEAVER HITTING the
 cutting board again and Don screams in agony.

MOM!?!?

KEVIN

VICKI
 I'll wait! I'll wait! I'll
 fucking wait!

SHARON (O.S.)
I certainly hope so.

Don has begun to cry. The SOUND of him SOBBING is coming from every room in the house.

SHARON (O.S.) (CONT'D)
Here we go... Who played
Leatherface in the original 1974
film.. "Texas Chainsaw Massacre?"

The music starts up, again.

VICKI
Gunnar... Hanson.

It stops.

SHARON (O.S.)
Correct. Don... You may now call
the police.

Vicki and Kevin start to run and then stop. She looks at Kevin who points downstairs.

VICKI
The chainsaw is downstairs with
you!!

SHARON (O.S.)
Who said it was the chainsaw?

The SOUND of DON STRUGGLING to gain his composure can be heard.

VICKI
Then what is it?!?

BASEMENT

Don is sitting upright now and Sharon mouths the words "good job" to him as she pats him lovingly on the shoulder.

SHARON
It's his leather apron... And I've
hidden it in the same place you
keep your diary, Vicki. You
know... The same place you keep
alllll your dirty laundry.

Sharon watches the tablet with glee as Vicki sprints down the hall and tears up the stairs.

Kevin is a long way behind her this time. He is worn out from all of running and throwing up.

SHARON (CONT'D)
That's some pretty vivid prose you got in there, Sweetheart. Come to think of it... I never read anything in there about a Darren.

VICKI'S ROOM

Vicki flies into her room and flings open the closet.

SHARON (O.S.) (CONT'D)
Are you sure you're not a virgin?

VICKI
I lied.

Vicki finds the blood-spattered apron and snatches it out of her closet. Kevin finally arrives... He is pale and winded.

KEVIN
That it?

SHARON (O.S.)
That's it.

Don can be HEARD TALKING to the police in the background.

DON (O.S.)
Can you come right away?
(listening)
No... I won't let them out of my sight.

VICKI
Who's blood is this? Was this from your -- ?

SHARON (O.S.)
Ding, ding, ding!

BASEMENT

Sharon is applauding Vicki's answer. Don can be seen behind her as he puts down his phone.

SHARON (CONT'D)
It's from our last stop. In Haven. Yes! You, see? You really are brilliant! I had planned to clean it up and hang it in our brand new trophy room... But you got nosy.

VICKI
(from the tablet)
You are so fucking sick!

VICKI'S ROOM

Vicki looks like she could tear the apron to shreds.

VICKI (CONT'D)
You are so Goddamn alien to me,
mother!

KEVIN
Knock it off.

VICKI
NO! No, I'm - This whole thing is
sick!

She sits down on the edge of her bed.

VICKI (CONT'D)
Let them blow it up. I'd rather
die.

KEVIN
There isn't time for this.

SHARON (O.S.)
You want to stop now? I could just
flip the switch. Save us all from
public disgrace. No problem.

DON (O.S.)
Honey... Please. You two can get
this last one. You can win. You'll
get to leave... Have a better life
with your Aunt and Uncle.

VICKI
I don't want that... I had a good
life with you two, already. Until
all of this.

DON (O.S.)
Well, what do you want?

VICKI
Turn yourself in. Both of you.

The house goes quiet again.

BASEMENT

Don has overcome any signs of showing he is in pain.

DON
That's not going to happen, Honey.
And you know it.

VICKI
(from the tablet)
Then kill us.

DON
Vicki --

Silence.

VICKI'S ROOM

Silence fills every corner of the house, until:

KEVIN
(to Vicki)
Why? Why are you doing this?

VICKI
It's okay...

KEVIN
No. No, it's not. Time is running
out.

Vicki looks up as if she is speaking to heaven.

VICKI
Dad? Mom? I'm calling your bluff.
Blow us up. Kill us all.

DON (O.S.)
Never gonna happen. Never in
million years, Hon.

BASEMENT

Don has tears in his eyes.

DON (CONT'D)
You're mother is the air I breathe.
My night. My day. My reason for
being here. The reason we're all
here. I have done everything for
her. For you kids, too. I am in
awe of her art and her heart.

(MORE)

DON (CONT'D)

I won't kill her any sooner than I would kill you two.

SHARON

Oh, Don... I love you, too.

DON

I'd rather see them take the fall..
Go to jail... than see you dead.

SHARON

It's gonna be all okay, Honey. It really is.

(beat)

All right, my little sweethearts...
You have to make a choice and it has to happen now.

(beat)

Do you try and answer the last question or --

VICKI'S ROOM

Vicki doesn't look like she plans on changing her mind.

SHARON (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Do I flip the switch and let the police, your Aunt, Uncle and everyone else in the neighborhood, try and find us in the rubble?

Kevin looks at his sister with a mixture of newfound calm and understanding.

KEVIN

It's your call, Sis.

Vicki hesitates for a moment.

VICKI

I love you, Kevin. You know that, right?

KEVIN

Most of the time... Yeah. I do.

VICKI

I'm not gonna let you get hurt because of me. Ever.

(beat)

What's the question, Mom?

BASEMENT

Sharon and Don watch as Vicki stands up from where she was sitting and walks into the hall towards the stairs. Kevin is right behind her.

DON
Atta girl, Hon...

SHARON
Okay, then...

SHARON (O.S.) (CONT'D)
Here we go. Last one and it's a two part question. And whoever gets it right, gets to come downstairs with us for a special bonus round.

DOWNSTAIRS HALL

The kids look up in the direction they hope that the cameras are.

VICKI
You didn't say anything about two part questions.

KEVIN
No. You didn't. Or a fucking bonus round!! That's not fair!

SHARON (O.S.)
I didn't say there wouldn't be one, either. And.. You know what? My game. My rules.

KEVIN
For Christ's sake, Mom!

SHARON (O.S.)
Don? Don... Wake up. You keep trying to pass out.

DON (O.S.)
I'm up! I'm awake. What I miss - ?

SHARON (O.S.)
The last question is... How many crew members were on the Nostromo in "Alien..." and in what order did they perish?

The "Final Jeopardy Theme" begins to play.

KEVIN
SPOILERS! I never saw "Alien!"

SHARON (O.S.)
I know. I'm sorry, Kevin. I had a question for the both of you, but your sister had to go and try and get the house blown up. So, to teach her a lesson, she has to answer this one... Alone.

KEVIN
That's not fucking fair!

SHARON (O.S.)
Life's not fair, Honey... Get used to it.

VICKI
Are you kidding me? And will you o me a favor and shut that fucking music off so I can hear myself think!!

The music stops. Vicki looks at Kevin. She is filled with both fear and love.

VICKI (CONT'D)
It's okay... I've seen "Alien" a couple of times.

KEVIN
A couple?

VICKI
Can I use the names of the actors if I don't remember the names of their characters?

The SOUND of a MICROPHONE BEING COVERED can be heard until finally:

DON (O.S.)
We can accept that.

SHARON (O.S.)
And if you might know other movies those actors may have been in, I will allow Kevin to give you a few suggestions to help you figure out their names. See there? I'm not a monster.

The music starts again.

SHARON (O.S.) (CONT'D)
Tick tock, Vicki.

VICKI
Eight. Eight crew members.

The music stops, again. There is a long pause. All of the air feels like it has been sucked out of the house at once.

SHARON (O.S.)
I'm sorry, Vicki... that's not ri --

VICKI
THE CAT! You HAVE to count the fucking cat! Jones! Jonesy! Whatever the fuck-they-say-it-is-at-the-time! They go out of their way to save the fucking thing and it ends up in the sleeping fucking chamber with Ripley in the fucking end! You've got to count the cat!

Vicki's face has broken out in a sweat that looks like to Ripley's at the end of the film.

SHARON (O.S.)
Good point. I will accept the answer "eight."

KEVIN
That was a lot of fucks in one sentence...

VICKI
Okay, okay, okay... Um... the first is the guy that died.. He was in "The Elephant Man..."

KEVIN
Anthony Hopkins?

VICKI
No! The other guy who played the other guy... He was also the wand seller in "Harry Potter--"

KEVIN
John Hurt?

VICKI
Yeah! John Hurt! He was in Doctor Who! He was the "War Doctor!" The first is John Hurt. The chest-burster jumps out of him!

SHARON (O.S.)
That's one! Good job!

DON (O.S.)
Great job!

KEVIN
See? I can help. I don't care if
you "win!" I can help!

SHARON (O.S.)
And the second one to die?

VICKI
Ugh... I can see his face. He was
in.. He was in "Pretty in Pink"

KEVIN
Jon Cryer? James Spader? Dweezil
Zappa?

VICKI
No! Too young! He played Molly
Ringwald's dad!

KEVIN
Harry Dean Stanton?

VICKI
YES! Yes, that's it. Harry Dean
Stanton! He kept bitching about
not getting paid enough and he went
after the cat to try and find it!

SHARON (O.S.)
That's two.

VICKI
The third one is easy. He was the
Captain of the ship. In the book
version he and Ripley had sex.
Dallas! His name is Dallas!

Kevin is shocked that Vicki didn't have to wait for him.

BASEMENT

Sharon is silently clapping for Vicki.

SHARON
Played by Tom Skerritt! You are
correct. I didn't know you read the
book, too. Good girl! You are on a
roll, but you better hurry, Hon.
You've only got about five minutes
before your Aunt and Uncle get
here.

DON
Or the police.

SHARON
OR the police.

VICKI
(from the tablet)
The next one is the robot.

DON
Android.

VICKI
(from the tablet)
Robot. Android. What-the-fuck-
ever!

DOWNSTAIRS HALLWAY

Vicki is holding the sides of her head.

VICKI (CONT'D)
He had a weird name. Ugh!! I can
see his face!!

KEVIN
What other movies was he in?

VICKI
I don't remember him from other
movies!

SHARON (O.S.)
I can give you a hint, but it would
cost your father another finger --

NO!

VICKI

NO!

KEVIN

SHARON (O.S.)
Okay, then.

KEVIN
C'mon, Vic! You've got this!

VICKI
Um.. Um... God! Okay... Um! OH!
He was in "Time Bandits!" He was
Napoleon!

KEVIN
I haven't seen that one!

VICKI

You haven't seen that one?! What's wrong with you?! Never mind! He was - OH! FUCK! He was in "Lord of the Rings!" He was --

KEVIN

Frodo? Elijah Wood!!

VICKI

No, the other one! His Uncle, BILBO!

KEVIN

Bilbo?

VICKI

BILBO!

KEVIN

Ian Holm!

VICKI

You sure?

KEVIN

Positive!

Vicki considers the answer for a moment.

VICKI

Ian... Holm?

The silence is almost deafening.

SHARON (O.S.)

That's two deaths left to identify! I am so proud of you!

DON (O.S.)

Way to go, Hon!

VICKI

Two more. Last two. But... They're in the same room with each other when it gets them. And the fucking cat is there again, I think. I remember her... Her name was... Lambert.

KEVIN

Lambert you remember? But the other ones -- ?

VICKI

Shut up, Fucker! Lambert had the same name as a science teacher I had a crush on in eighth grade. And the other actor in the scene was the bad guy in "Live and Let Die" with James Bond.

KEVIN

Yaphet Kotto?

VICKI

Yeah! Yaphet Kotto! He retired and lived here in Tacoma!

KEVIN

In University Place. He lived next to my history teacher -- Mr. Mahar. No crush on him.

VICKI

Whatever! Which one dies first? The girl or the guy??

SHARON (O.S.)

You've got about two minutes.

VICKI

SHIT!

KEVIN

Slow down, Vicki! You've got this. Breathe.

DON (O.S.)

Your brother is right, Hon... Just breathe.

VICKI

You shut up, Dad!

Vicki breathes. She breathes for as long as she can dare to.

VICKI (CONT'D)

I'm going to walk through the scene... And... Okay... Um... The girl --

KEVIN

Lambert.

VICKI

Lambert. Sees the creature first.
I mean it stands right up in front
of her. She is throwing containers
and sees its shadow -- Then it...

KEVIN

Yeah?

VICKI

Then the guy sees her seeing it.
He grabs his weapon and is yelling
at her to "Get Out!" He starts
running at her and -- Yaphet Kotto!
It's Yaphet Kotto and then
Lambert... The girl... She dies!
And all of this is happening while
Ripley is trying to get to them!

SHARON (O.S.)

You sure?!

VICKI

Yeah! I'm sure!

KEVIN

Really, sure, Sis?

VICKI

I've got this, Kevin... I've got
this. Yaphet Kotto and then
Lambert.

SHARON (O.S.)

Final answer?

VICKI

Final answer!

Vicki listens and unknowingly lightly licks her lips as she
waits.

SHARON (O.S.)

Don... Do you want to answer this
one?

DON (O.S.)

Me? I just need to stay awake.
The tourniquet is kind'a tight and
I'm bleedin' pretty --

KEVIN

For fuck sake, c'mon!!!

BASEMENT

Sharon waits. She loves the suspense of it all.

SHARON
Your answer is correct.

KEVIN
(from the tablet)
Yes! Yes! Fuck, yes!

SHARON (CONT'D)
The character that Kotto
played was called, Parker, by
the way.

SHARON (CONT'D)
Brilliant job.

Sharon presses another button on her phone.

DOWNSTAIRS HALLWAY

The SOUND of PRESSURE LOCKS UNCOUPLING throughout the house
can be HEARD.

SHARON (O.S.) (CONT'D)
You can come downstairs, Vicki, for
the bonus round.. If you want. But
only you. Otherwise you both can
leave.

KEVIN
What will happen to you guys?

DON (O.S.)
Exactly what we promised. We will
let the police deal with whatever
they find when they get here.

SHARON (O.S.)
As promised.

DON (O.S.)
Hopefully, they'll send for an
ambulance, too.

SHARON (O.S.)
That would be a good idea.

VICKI
And if Kevin comes downstairs with
me?

SHARON (O.S.)
I flip the switch and that's that.
We all go together.

Kevin looks at Vicki for a moment and mouths the words, "You okay?" Vicki nods.

KEVIN
I guess I'll be outside.

SHARON (O.S.)
Thank you, Kevin. Your Aunt and Uncle should almost be here.

KEVIN
And the police, right?

DON (O.S.)
Yes. And the police.

Vicki and Kevin walk to the basement door together. They stop and he gives her the kind of hug that looks like he never wants to let go.

KEVIN
You've got this.

VICKI
Thank you.

She hugs him back even harder. Kevin breaks free and starts to walk down the hallway towards the front door. He stops and turns to her.

KEVIN
I love you.

VICKI
(like Han Solo)
I know.

KEVIN
Fucking dork...

He turns, walks to the front door and leaves. Vicki looks at the red door knob to the basement, turns it and heads downstairs.

BASEMENT

She turns the corner and the first thing she sees is that the top of the gaming table has been removed; revealing a recessed, felt-covered surface. Her parents are seated on the other end and are waiting for her. A wooden chopping block is sitting on the lip of the table in front of them. A heavy duty meat-cleaver is buried into a raw chicken.

Don raises his left hand and waves at Vicki. All of his fingers are intact.

DON
Hello, Honey.

VICKI
You... Are.. An asshole.

SHARON
Did you really think I could ever hurt your father, Sweetheart? I could never -- Would never -- Do that. I would never hurt your Dad... Or you kids. Ever.

VICKI
The bomb?

DON
There isn't one.

SHARON
Never was.

VICKI
Then why would you do all of -- ?

SHARON
We had to see. Had to know --

DON
If you were ready.

VICKI
For what?

SHARON
We always knew that you were strong, my love. That you would keep an even temper. Things like that are hard for Kevin... So far. But we had to see if we were right about you. We had to see if you had the grit. The resolve, Honey.

DON
To do what you know needs to be done.

SHARON
Come closer, Sweetheart.

Vicki walks forward a few steps and sees a machine gun resting inside the gaming table.

DON

Yup. It's the "hero" weapon from "Escape From New York." A Mac-10 submachine gun with a cannon suppressor. It was used on screen by Kurt Russell himself when he was playing Snake Plissken.

VICKI

No.

SHARON

It's the right thing, Vicki. It has to be you.

VICKI

I'm not doing this.

SHARON

You said it yourself. We're "monsters."

DON

And we are. In a way.

VICKI

Don't make me do this, please.

Don stands up and starts to move around the table towards Vicki. She backs up.

DON

I know it's hard, honey. It's okay.

SHARON

If you take care of us... The police will understand... That you found out... That you both found out... And that you did what had to be done.

DON

What should be done.

Vicki inches closer to the doorway leading to the bottom of the stairs.

VICKI

All of this was some sort of "Willy Wonka / Golden Ticket" test kind of bullshit?

She points towards the table. Towards the gun.

VICKI (CONT'D)

For this?

Sharon stands up as well, moving to the opposite side of the table from her husband.

SHARON

Yes, Honey... In a way I guess it was.

VICKI

No. Fuck.. No.

DON

Honey --

VICKI

NO! Do it yourself.

Vicki starts to leave.

DON

I can't.

SHARON

I won't.

Vicki stops and turns towards her parents.

DON

I told you what your mother meant to me. That wasn't a lie.

SHARON

And I would never hurt your father. He has been my savior, my protector, my inspiration... My muse. I love him with all that I am... Or want to be. And because of that... Neither of us can pull the trigger.

Sharon takes a handkerchief out of her pocket, wraps it around her hand and picks up the machine gun.

SHARON (CONT'D)
Really. Honey... It has to be you.
Or the murders won't stop.

DON
They won't, sweetheart.

SHARON
Because I don't want them to.

DON
And neither do I.

Sharon holds the machine gun out towards Vicki.

EXT. SMITH HOME - PORCH - EARLY EVENING

Kevin is sitting on the front porch steps. A white 2016 Kia Soul pulls up at the curb in front of him. The window rolls down to reveal Aunt CASI in the passenger's seat and Uncle MARK behind the wheel.

CASI
Hey, Kiddo!

MARK
'Sup, Kevin?

Kevin stands up and starts walking towards their car.

KEVIN
Hey...

CASI
You okay, Kev? Where's your
sister?

KEVIN
She's inside. Talking to Mom and
Dad.

MARK
Everything okay?

He gets into their car.

INT. KIA SOUL

Kevin sits behind his Aunt and starts to buckle up.

KEVIN
No.

Casi turns around to face him.

CASI
Anything you wanna talk about.

KEVIN
No, please.

MARK
Maybe its just grown up stuff that
they wanna talk to your sister
about --

CASI
He's thirteen, Mark.

MARK
Thirteen?

CASI
Yeah... Thirteen. He's old enough
to hear about some things --

INT. SMITH HOME - BASEMENT

Sharon, Don and Vicki are at an impasse.

CASI (O.S.)
And old enough to keep secrets
from... I guess.

Vicki stands in front of her parents. Still uncertain what
to do.

VICKI
I don't know how to fire a gun.

DON
It's easy. Point it. Pull the
trigger.

VICKI
We'll even stand in front of it for
you. You can just close your eyes
and pull the trigger.

DON
And when you're done... Keep your
eyes closed, drop the gun, turn
around and leave.

Sharon sets the machine gun on the edge of the table closest
to Vicki and backs away.

VICKI

I don't understand why you've done
the things you've done. But...

Vicki finally leans forward and takes the machine gun into
her hands.

DON

The safety is just above the
trigger.

Vicki looks up and throws him that look that every parent
dreads from their fifteen year old daughter.

VICKI

Before I do anything... Please..
Tell me why you --

DON

All right, Vicki. All right.

SHARON

We get it.

DON (CONT'D)

We understand.

Don leans with his back against the table and Sharon joins
him.

DON (CONT'D)

Sharon, honey.. This is going to
have to be you. It's your thing...

SHARON

Our thing now.

VICKI

Please... Just tell me.

Vicki is shaking and the gun rattles softly in her hands.

SHARON

It's not easy, Honey. This is not
easy to talk about. Being an
addict never is. And telling you
that is the hardest thing I have
ever done in my life.

DON

Even harder than keeping all of
this from you kids.

SHARON

It's true, Sweetheart. I'm an
addict and my hobby is my
addiction.

(MORE)

SHARON (CONT'D)

It's the same as drinking. As taking drugs. As anything that you just keep doing even if you know what you are doing is fundamentally wrong. That could possibly hurt you forever. That would hurt your family.

DON

Which we never wanted to do.

SHARON

It just turned into a cycle of need. We tried stopping.

DON

And we did. For ten years.

SHARON

Ten years. But then we started talking about our big anniversary one night... And how much we missed it.

DON

Maybe try it again.. Just once.

SHARON

Just once... And what a rush that "one time" turned out to be.

DON

Especially with you kids along for the ride.

Vicki has backed away further now. She is almost up against the paneled wall.

SHARON

So, we decided to take you kids to Disneyworld and on the way back we'd do a little something for ourselves... Again...

DON

But it got out of hand.

SHARON

And now.. We don't want to stop.

DON

Consider what we are asking you to do as... A kind of.. Intervention.

VICKI
An intervention?

SHARON
You would save us from ourselves,
My Love.

DON
And from so many others.

Vicki looks down at the weapon. She turns it in her hands.

VICKI
I think I understand... A little.

SHARON
We knew you would.

DON
You always were smart, Princess.

A tear runs down the side of Vicki's cheek.

VICKI
I love you. I love you both, so
much. Despite all of this. About
all those people you -- I want to
help. I need to help.

DON
I love you, Sweetheart.

SHARON
I will always love you, Vicki... My
Little Angel.

Vicki begins to raise the gun.

SHARON (CONT'D)
I will love you on your best day...

EXT. SMITH HOME

The Kia Soul is still idling out front.

SHARON (O.S.)
And I will love you on your worst
day. Always

The SOUND of a SERIES OF LIGHT POPS can be heard from deep
within the house followed soon by another SOFT BURST of
GUNFIRE.

And then only the simple sounds of a suburban neighborhood can be heard. So soft that it cannot be heard inside the Kia.

After a few moments, Vicki walks out the front door and heads towards the car.

INT. KIA SOUL

Vicki gets inside and starts to buckle up.

MARK
Hey, Vic, How you doin'? Was it rough in there?

CASI
Mark!?!

MARK
What, Cass? I'm worried.

VICKI
It's okay, Aunt Casi. It was hard to get through, but its okay. Can we just go?

CASI
Sure thing, Kiddo.

Mark shifts the Kia into gear and starts to move into the street.

KEVIN
(whispering)
What happened?

VICKI
(whispers back)
Shhhh... Spoilers.

EXT. SMITH HOME

The Kia pulls further and further away from their childhood home until it is gone.

The two-story colonial house looks like any other house on the street. It is immaculate and well kept. It seems to wait, patiently, in the hopes to warmly welcome all of those who visit it. Regardless of what waits inside.

The SOUND of a MUFFLED EXPLOSION can be heard from somewhere inside of the house and suddenly the foundation of the building begins to cave inward.

ANOTHER EXPLOSION rocks the bottom of the house. Sending shards of glass and debris out onto the lawn and into the street.

A THIRD EXPLOSION takes the top of the house. It rockets upward in pieces of wood and shingles.

Until finally, everything that is left, collapses in upon itself.

And.. Just for a moment.. There is silence on the street once more, before the sirens come.

BLACK OUT

END CREDIT MUSIC BEGINS - **Soft Cell's "Tainted Love"** (Cover Version **Broken Peach**)