

RO Pictures Ltd. 2023

1 INT. PAULS OFFICE - DAY PAUL sits at his desk, his head in his hands. Slowly breathing in and out, he tries to calm himself. PAUL Center. Balance. Staying in the room. Deep breathes. In. Out. In. Out. PAUL I am Doctor Paul Williams. Doctor Paul Williams. In. Out. In. Out. PAUL Center. Balance. I am here-He grunts in pain, a splitting headache kicks in. PAUL AH! No, no- Center! Paul-Williams. Breathe. His breathing becomes fast, deep and concentrated as if trying to will himself through the pain. His heart rate raises as he breathes through. PAUL I have this. I have, this. Come on. I am centered. I am balanced. His heart settles, his breathing normalises. PAUL There. Finally. A knock on door. PAUL winces, slightly annoyed. He yells through the door. PAUL Who is it? AMANDA (Raised voice through the door) It's Amanda. Doctor can I come in? PAUL I'm a little busy Amanda. Come

I'm a little busy Amanda. Co back later, please.

She's uneasy.

AMANDA Doctor, I need to speak to you.

PAUL Then use the intercom!

AMANDA, (30s) opens the door anyway, quickly coming in and closing it behind her.

PAUL Amanda! I just said-

AMANDA Doctor this is not something you want me blasting out across the surgery or the bloody intercom!

Clearly shaken, she steadies herself.

PAUL What is it? What's the matter?

She sighs, trying to find the words.

AMANDA Nigel Westfield.

PAUL Who...? Oh wait, the farmer?

She frowns at him, confused.

AMANDA What? Yes of course the farmer. Who else would I be-?

PAUL Go on Amanda.

A brief pause, as she gets her thoughts together.

AMANDA

He's dead.

PAUL What? When?

up on the heights.

AMANDA The police have said they estimate about 2 days ago. One of his boys found him in his fields

PAUL I'm sorry to hear that. Cause?

She steps closer to him.

#### AMANDA

Y'know, he came in, the day they said he passed, still complaining of headaches. But you weren't here **again**, and everyone else was booked full, so he... just went home.

PAUL

I'm trying to think when I last-

AMANDA

He was here only a few weeks back. He saw you about it. It's in his records, don't you remember?

PAUL thinks for a moment.

PAUL

Yes. Yes of course. I told him it was-

She interrupts, her temper starting to show.

AMANDA

Stress. You told him it was **stress**. That was the only note you added to his file for that day.

PAUL Well if it's-

AMANDA He had a brain tumour. Cause of death was an advanced Astrocytoma.

Taken aback, PAUL stutters.

PAUL

I- I see.

#### AMANDA

He'd been coming in for weeks with the same complaints and each time you told him it wasn't anything to worry about.

PAUL I didn't believe it was anything to be concerned about.

AMANDA It's a total lack of procedure! And it's not just him; you've

(MORE)

AMANDA (cont'd) been sending people away for weeks now, all without proper notes on their records.

He tries to settle her.

PAUL .

I can sense you're angry with me somehow but-

It doesn't work. She escalates.

AMANDA

What the hell is going on with you??

PAUL Excuse me?

# AMANDA

I have been your assistant for nearly 6 years, and I have never seen you acting like this, the way you have been for the past month.

PAUL What do you mean, acting like wha-

#### AMANDA

Handing patients to the other doctors, last minute.

Sending patients away without proper investigation and notation.

Not turning up at all and going silent for days on end, the list goes on!

You think the others haven't noticed? I could only cover for you for so long!

PAUL I've been distracted, I admit but-

# AMANDA

This goes beyond bloody distraction! A man died because you fobbed him off on **multiple** occasions. Who else have you missed? Let pass by because of your... neglect! 4.

#### PAUL

Amanda I-

She leans in, hard.

AMANDA

I want an explanation. What is going on with you?? Where do you keep going?

PAUL I've been working with the police-

AMANDA Julie Hobbs?

PAUL That's right.

# AMANDA

Julie Hobbs left here 5 minutes ago with official notice that you've been removed from a case because of a conflict of interest. The Hargreaves girl.

He starts sweating.

# PAUL

What has she told you?

#### AMANDA

She didn't need to tell me anything. I **knew** as soon as she mentioned that girls name.

Out of all the patients we have on file, you've accessed hers by far the most, like you've been looking at her records hourly.

#### PAUL

Amanda, look this is all a misunderstanding. Emily- the girl, is missing and I'm trying to help find her.

#### AMANDA

You're involved with this woman aren't you? Is that what Hobbs meant by conflict of interest?

He's once more to steady to conversation.

PAUL I'm just trying to help, that's all.

And again fails.

AMANDA

Then start by actually seeing your patients DOCTOR. I'm not covering for you any more.

PAUL Wait I need-

Too late. She walks out slamming the door behind her,

After a brief moment, PAUL slumps back in his chair.

PAUL This is getting out of hand.

Another brief pause. A sudden spark of anger - he slams his fist down on his table in frustration.

PAUL (Under his breath) Fuck

His phone vibrates - a phone call.

PAUL Here we go. Focus.

He quickly sorts himself into character, his fake police officer persona, clearing his throat.

The phone beeps as he answers.

PAUL

Mr. Priest.

JASON is clearly pissed off.

JASON (VO) I'm ten minutes out from the police station, calling as you requested.

PAUL thinks on his feet, fast.

PAUL There's... been a development. Mr. Priest, I need you to meet me at the Davidstown medical surgery, instead.

BEAT

JASON (VO) What the hell for? PAUL's lack of preparation becomes apparent. PAUL Because there's information here... about Emily Hargreaves that is... making you look... suspect. JASON doesn't buy it.

> JASON (VO) Is this a joke? You know what, I think I'll just make my way to the police station as planned.

PAUL No! I said I need you to come here- to come to the surgery. Otherwise...

JASON (VO) Otherwise?

A hail mary.

PAUL I'll release the information online.

A brief moment of silence.

JASON starts to laugh under his breath.

JASON (VO) Ah, so there we have it. I knew there was something off about this.

Just who the fuck are you then, really? You're no copper that's for certain.

PAUL doubles down. It's all or nothing to control the situation.

PAUL Davidstown surgery. Call me again when you're here. Don't make me do something you'll regret.

JASON (VO) Listen you little cun-

PAUL hangs up on him.

He sits panting for a moment, before re-steadying himself.

PAUL Alright. Alright... No turning back now.

INT. EMILY'S CELL - DAY

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The dripping of the water still apparent as each splash echoes out.

EMILY sits, reading a book, gently turning a page.

A light knock on the metal door rings out.

EMILY looks up, unphased.

EMILY Who's there?

> MEI LING (outside) It's me. May I come in?)

EMILY I'm the one locked in here. I don't think that's my choice.

MEI LING Fair enough.

The door unbolts and with a rusty squeak, opens.

MEI LING enters, standing just across from EMILY.

MEI LING You're reading. Good. How are you feeling?

EMILY seethes just enough for MEI to notice.

EMILY

Other than being held against my will, you mean? Oh, just fucking great.

MEI takes a small moment to acknowledge her upset.

MEI LING I have explained to you, it's for your own safety.

EMILY And I *still* don't believe you.

Let's deep dive into this then.

MEI LING Alright, why?

EMILY How can I? Siding with Sera-psychopath upstairs?

Caught off guard, MEI LING giggles slightly.

MEI LING I'll have to remember that one. You should know though, she can listen to every word we say down here.

EMILY jumps to her feet and yells at the ceiling.

EMILY Good! I hope you hear every bit, you crazy bitch!

MEI stares at her.

EMILY breathes off her anger and sits back on her bed.

MEI LING

Better?

EMILY Not really. (sighs, defeated) What do you want Mei?

MEI walks over, sitting on the bed next to EMILY.

MEI LING The diary I gave you, before. How much of it did you read?

EMILY Not much. Mainly looked at the images. I only got a few words translated online before- well before the last full moon.

MEI LING So, you understand what has happened to you? The moons power?

EMILY's frustration starts to boil over again.

EMILY I don't understand anything Mei! That's my point!

I don't know why I'm here or even how- Where these clothes came from?

(MORE)

#### EMILY (cont'd)

So no, I don't understand what's happening to me and I don't understand what the deal is with you and her!

MEI leans in gently.

MEI LING Do you trust me?

EMILY You can't be serious.

MEI LING

I am.

BEAT as EMILY's hurt manifests.

EMILY

I thought I did. Until, this. Who even are you? Are you like her? That thing she did to me-

MEI LING I am no Witch, that I can promise you.

EMILY

Witch?

MEI LING Is it so hard to believe? Given your recent experiences?

EMILY

I don't know what to believe anymore.

# MEI LING

You have to understand a very simple truth; this world, this town... There are hidden things in it that are not widely known of. Curses and spell-craft are just two of the many.

# EMILY

This is... this is insane. It's like I know nothing. What's real, what's not. Like you. I thought I knew you, but...

MEI LING

I am your friend, Emily. And I need you hear me out, for your own sake.

#### EMILY

Like I have a choice.

MEI ignores the snark, laying the cards on the table.

# MEI LING

You're here because you are dangerous. You're a danger to the people living here, the farms, the animals. But most of all, your behavior, your reasoningyou are a danger to yourself.

EMILY only half registers MEI's meaning.

EMILY

Don't sugar coat it or anything will you?

#### MEI LING

Emily I need you to understand how serious this is. What will happen to you if you're caught.

EMILY

What do you mean, caught? I'm sitting in a cell.

# MEI LING

You are in this *room* because I asked Seraphina to keep you here. To keep you safe.

EMILY You're joking, right-? Safe??

# MEI LING

If you expose yourself, your other side, there are people out there who will hunt you down and kill you. Or worse.

A cold silence comes over the room, EMILY's breath quivering.

# MEI LING

You did not choose this, I know. But the moment you stepped into my store, I could see you had no idea what you were doing.

EMILY

So, you knew?

MEI LING I had my suspicions, yes. EMILY And you didn't say anything?

MEI LING (laughing) What? And add to my already colourful reputation? (serious) Would you really have taken me seriously, if I'd simply told you?

#### EMILY

No, I suppose not.

MEI LING

If there is one thing life has taught me, it is that some lessons can only be learned through self-realisation. Do you understand?

#### EMILY

And what about Jess? Am I supposed to just accept that I killed my best friend and it's all just a fucking lesson!? I don't even remember what happened. If Seraphina hadn't told me I'd still-

MEI stands suddenly.

#### MEI LING

Listen to me. There will always be those who will tell you you're a monster, that you should be destroyed. I'm telling you, you do not have to just accept this. You can fight.

EMILY's energy, her resolve, fades.

EMILY

I'm tired of fighting. And you're wrong.

MEI LING Wrong? About what?

EMILY I *am* a monster.

Gently, MEI LING smiles.

#### MEI LING

Not yet. I can see you have a good heart Emily. That is worth something. Perhaps in time you'll realise that.

12.

EMILY My heart? I don't think I have much left.

MEI LING You have plenty. It will heal, in time. Just like your arm has.

EMILY

My arm?

MEI LING Take off the bandages.

EMILY

Why?

MEI LING Trust me. Take it off.

Slowly EMILY starts to unravel the cloth around her arm.

Lightly, she gasps.

EMILY It's- already healed.

MEI LING Like the rest of your wounds.

EMILY

How?

# MEI LING

Because there's more to you now, than meets the eye. I'm also a pretty good nurse, wouldn't you agree?

EMILY There's one thing I still can't get my head around.

MEI LING

Which is?

EMILY How I got here? Seraphina said a friend brought me. Who?

MEI LING You have many who care about your well-being Emily. For now, leave it at that. The answers will come in time.

Smiling, MEI turns to leave.

EMILY

Mei.

She pauses.

EMILY Thank you for the book.

MEI LING Rest, Emily. You will need your strength for the ritual tonight.

MEI starts to move away, through the corridor.

EMILY You're not closing the door?

MEI LING I told you, you're not a prisoner. I know you will do the right thing... and stay with us

MEI leaves.

3 INT. SERAPHINA'S LIVINGROOM - MOMENTS LATER

MEI LING comes up the old wooden staircase.

SERAPHINA stands by her fireplace.

SERAPHINA I trust you know what you're doing, letting her loose like that.

MEI LING I know her better than most. She'll stay.

SERAPHINA More risks? Is that how we're to play this?

MEI LING Life is risk.

SERAPHINA Oh please, spare me your nonsense, and let's look at the facts shall we?

MEI LING By all means. 14.

SERAPHINA We have at least two Werewolves in Davidstown, suddenly, after not seeing any for over a century.

# MEI LING

Your point?

## SERAPHINA

My point, dear Mei Ling, is that this is going to get messy. Very messy. Eric already knows as much - it's only a matter of time before he works out that we've been hiding the girl from the group.

# MEI LING

This doesn't need to involve Nexus, as we discussed.

# SERAPHINA

NEED to involve me. And It didn't yet here I am!

MEI LING Let's not forget, you still owe me, Seraphina.

SERAPHINA Yes, unfortunately I do. But mark my words, once the ritual is complete, you can consider my debt to you very much fulfilled.

# MEI LING

And then? What? You will let her go?

SERAPHINA After that, she's your problem. I want nothing more to do with the girl.

# MEI LING You know exactly what I mean.

Will you let the girl live?

BEAT

SERAPHINA We shall see.

MEI LING

Meaning?

#### SERAPHINA

Meaning I promise *nothing*! Despite considerable danger to myself and the rest of this town, I am doing more than any sane person would do! But mark my words, when the Blue Moon rises, if it comes to a choice between her and me, then I choose ME.

MEI walks in closer to her.

MEI LING Answer me something

SERAPHINA

What?

MEI LING Why do you hate their kind so?

SERAPHINA collects herself.

SERAPHINA You have until after the ritual Then I want you gone. Both of you.

MEI LING Why tell her that she killed her friend? Knowing full well she's alive and, how do they say, kicking?

SERAPHINA Let's just call it, a test of character.

MEI LING You expected her to not care didn't you?

SERAPHINA

What I expect is that you to keep to your word. You stay to your side of things and I will to mine.

Now, if you'll excuse me, I have other matters to take care of.

SERAPHINA begins to walk away.

MEI calls after her.

# MEI LING She's not what you think.

Without pause or stop, SERAPHINA barks back.

SERAPHINA She is **exactly** what I think! And stay out of my damn head!

4 JULIE HOBBS CAR - DAY

JULIE drives along, whilst taking a call.

JULIE HOBBS I'm heading back from the surgery. Paul Williams is not be let anywhere near the Hargreaves investigation.

VOICE ON PHONE Right you are ma'am.

JULIE HOBBS And remember what I told you, keep tight on this one. I don't want any of this getting leaked to the press. Especially not to Jess Wilder.

VOICE ON PHONE Well now, that's some interesting timing.

JULIE HOBBS

Meaning?

VOICE ON PHONE We've just another call in someone fitting her description causing problems over at the records office, demanding to see documents on Carrista Company. The clerk is going mental.

JULIE HOBBS Certainly sounds like her. Right, leave that with me, I'm heading there now.

VOICE ON PHONE You want me to send a Special in? I've got some in the area.

JULIE HOBBS No, leave it. I can handle this myself. I'll be there in five.

Her car speeds away, the siren calling out.

CUT TO:

5 EXT. THE RECORDS OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

JULIE's police car pulls up sharply, coming to an abrupt halt.

Quickly JULIE steps out of the vehicle and marches up a small flight of concrete stairs.

6 INT. THE RECORDS OFFICE - DAY

She pushes the door open just in time to hear the CLERK yelling.

CLERK You have no right to be looking at those files!

JESS, already doing so, barks back of the CLERK.

JESS These are supposed to be public records!

CLERK I've told you already, those files are kept in the other room.

They notice JULIE.

CLERK Who..? Look I'm sorry you'll have a wait a moment.

JULIE HOBBS I'm DS HOBBS, Davidstown constabulary.

#### CLERK

Oh, finally! This woman here-I've explained that we carry private records here as well as public, but she's forced her way in and refuses to leave.

#### JESS

I walked in and you let me. Drop the drama classes yeah?

#### CLERK

I absolutely did not just **let** her in. I would never just let anyone look at Carrista records withoutJULIE HOBBS Ms. Wilder - you mind explaining just what the hell you're doing?

CLERK Get her out of there!

JULIE HOBBS You can leave now.

CLERK I beg your pardon?

JULIE HOBBS I said, leave. I'll deal with this.

CLERK Fine. But it's on you if she steals anything.

The CLERK leaves.

JESS I'm not stealing *anything*.

JULIE HOBBS And yet you are rifling through private documents.

JESS

That's just it though - these shouldn't be private. They're land registry files, ownership documents. Why are these being denied public access?

JULIE HOBBS I'm going to need you to step away from the cabinet Ms. Wilder.

JESS continues pulling pages and files out.

JESS

Look! Why are these buildings special? Why does their ownership need keeping private?

JULIE HOBBS Ms. Wilder-

JESS The Priory, Rosehill, Talbot's, The Kings Head, Tullridge... Tullridge House? Where the hell is that?

JULIE HOBBS

Now!!

## BEAT

JESS huffs and closes the cabinet, stepping away.

JULIE HOBBS I'm going to need you to come with me.

JESS Come with you? Why?

JULIE HOBBS Why? Because you seem to think yourself above the law. Because you seemingly assume that given your celebrity, you can just go around entering what ever private areas you see fit and taking what ever you like.

JESS Hang on- you're talking about the Priory aren't you?

JULIE HOBBS We received a complaint from them last night, yes. You mind explaining that?

JESS

Are you aware the Carrista owns The Priory as well?

JULIE HOBBS

What of it?

JESS And did you know they had security footage of the night Emily was attacked? Actual footage?

JULIE HOBBS You need to tread carefully here. Are you suggesting they deliberately withheld information? And you can prove this?

JESS Sergeant, just think about it for a minute. The attack at The Priory, Emily's car, her house the invoice. 20.

JULIE HOBBS You're saying they have video evidence of the creature that attacked Miss Hargreaves?

JESS

What did you say?

# JULIE HOBBS

I'm asking if you're implying that the video they have of her attack exists? And that you've seen it?

#### JESS

No, that's not what you said. You just said "creature". How did you know it was a creature?

# JULIE HOBBS

That- that was the suggestion by a witness-

JESS The police have been saying you've been searching for a man. That the animal attacks had nothing to do with Emily.

JULIE HOBBS Yes the animal attacks are likely linked to-

JESS Oh my god. You've been lying haven't you?

JULIE HOBBS Alright that's enough.

JESS No, not enough! You're lying to me. To the public!

JULIE HOBBS I said enough!

JESS

You're not going to get away with this. I'll make sure-

JULIE HOBBS Right that's it. You're coming in.

HOBBS grabs and cuffs her.

JESS Get off of me!

JULIE HOBBS Jessica Wilder I am arresting you on suspicion of breaking and entering and disturbing the peace. You do not have to-

JESS You know the manager at The Priory don't you??

JULIE HOBBS You do not have to say anything. But it may harm your defense if you do not mention when questioned-

JESS pulls and tussles as JULIE marches her out of the door.

7 EXT. THE RECORDS OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

JESS What are you hiding?? Get off of me!

JULIE HOBBS

-if you do not mention something which you may later rely on in court. Anything you do say may be given in evidence.

JESS Did you take Emily??

JULIE snaps.

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JULIE HOBBS Shut up!!

JULIE throws JESS into the back of her car, slamming the door behind her.

Taking a short breather, HOBBS recomposes herself and get in the car as well.

# EXT. DAVIDSTOWN SURGERY - DAY

Footsteps. JASON makes his way across an open yard.

JASON

Where are you, you little prick?

A few meters away, PAUL calls to him.

PAUL

Priest!

JASON approaches him and stops.

JASON Well? I'm here. Now what?

PAUL Where's Emily?

JASON

What?

PAUL You heard me. Where is she?

JASON frowns at him.

JASON

How should I know? I haven't seen her since she ran away from me. From her life.

PAUL You're lying. Tell me where she is.

JASON Just who the fuck do you think you are? Dragging me out here, pretending to be a fucking copper?

PAUL I won't ask again.

JASON laughs.

JASON And then what? What's a little prick like you going to do? Or are those glasses of yours stopping you from seeing that I can beat the shit out of you.

PAUL steps in.

PAUL

Well, see, that's the thing. I don't really need them.

PAUL launches at him with a fist. The blow, devastating, sends JASON flying back, hitting several bins in the process. He stirs for a moment, straining.

He gasps and then becomes motionless, laying unconscious.

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PAUL You're coming with me.

INT. JULIE'S POLICE CAR - DAY

The car, quietly making it's way to the station, JESS in the back.

JESS stares intensely at JULIE through the mirror.

JESS This whole time.

JULIE HOBBS I've warned you already. Be quiet.

JESS How long has Carrista had you in their pocket?

JULIE ignores her.

JESS How long has our police force had a corrupt officer at the top?

JULIE HOBBS You don't know what you're talking about.

JESS

Oh I know plenty. And just as soon as I get out of this, I'm going to blow the lid wide open on all of it. You. Carrista. Nexus-

JULIE HOBBS What? What did you say??

JESS

You heard me. You think I don't know what's going on?

JULIE drives. The car increases speed, turning suddenly. JESS is thrown to one side.

> JESS What the hell are you doing? The station's that way! I thought you were taking me in?

The car drives on, faster, jolting JESS.

JESS Slow down! You're going to get us killed!

JULIE HOBBS No, you're going to get *yourself* killed.

JESS By who? You?

JULIE HOBBS I am a Police officer.

JESS Maybe. Once. And now?

JULIE HOBBS Tell me everything you know about Nexus.

JESS AH well now, that's interesting. Why would you even know about Nexus?

JULIE HOBBS This isn't a damn game, Wilder.

#### JESS

Let me make this simple for you Sergent Hobbs. You tell me where my friend is and I'll tell you everything I know.

JULIE HOBBS I don't where she is any more than you do.

#### JESS

Bull shit! You cover up for Carrista, you know there's a creature out there, killing animals. And you sit there, all high and mighty, while people's lives are at risk! And now, surprise surprise, you've got a connection to Nexus. Who are they? The Mafia? A parent-

CRASH - something lands on the car's hood.

JESS Jesus christ!

#### JULIE HOBBS

Hang on!

The car skids around the road at full speed as HOBBS desperately tries to regain control.

JESS

What the hell is that thing !?

The beast attacks, pounding the windscreen.

JESS

It's trying to break through the glass!

JULIE HOBBS Brace yourself!

HOBBS slams on the breaks.

The car screeches to an abrupt halt, as the beast is thrown away.

JESS, panting stares at HOBBS in disbelief.

JESS You- you saw that right?

JULIE HOBBS No. It can't be.

JESS Can't be what?? A monster three-head dog just attacked us!

> JULIE HOBBS (under her breath) It shouldn't be out in the open...

There's a strange growl outside the car.

JESS was that?

JULIE HOBBS Shhhh. Quiet.

JESS

JULIE interrupts JESS with an angry under-breath reply.

JULIE HOBBS I said quiet!

The growling again.

What

I-

JULIE HOBBS It's over there, behind that building.

JESS whispers.

JESS

What is..?

HOBBS leans into JESS.

JULIE HOBBS Listen to me very carefully. What ever happens, do NOT leave this car. Under any circumstances. Do you understand?

JESS

What? No!?

JULIE HOBBS I mean it! If you go out there, it'll rip you apart. Here.

HOBBS tosses her a set of keys.

JULIE HOBBS

For the cuffs.

HOBBS slowly pops the driver side door open and slowly exits the vehicle.

JESS Wait, where are you going?!

JULIE HOBBS To deal with it.

Gently, HOBBS shuts the door and moves away.

Slightly shaken, JESS turns to watch HOBBS, the car's engine still running.

JESS (under her breath) Hobbs! Hobbs!! Where are you going? Don't go where I can't see you! Shit!

She sits for a moment, thinking.

JESS

Fuck this.

Unlocking the cuffs and then un-clipping her belt, JESS gets out of her seat and maneuvers herself into the drivers side.

JESS I'm not hanging around be mince meat, Hobbs.

Distantly, there's a huge clatter. HOBBS yells out, her call abruptly cut off.

JULIE HOBBS (in the distance) Wilder-!

JESS freezes in her seat, panting.

She pauses for a moment, suddenly sighing.

JESS For fucks sake, Hobbs.

She turns the keys and the engine clatters to a halt.

JESS pops the door open and steps out. Pulling her phone out of her jacket, she opens the camera and begins to record.

> JESS If anyone ever sees this video, and I'm not around any more, at least I died trying to save someone. Hmmm. Might as well leave this recording.

Slowly she makes her way towards the source of the commotion, her breath quivering.

Quietly, JESS calls out

JESS Hobbs? Hobbs!

Another clatter. Bins knocked over. JESS jumps.

JESS Hobbs? Is that you?

A slow, growl grows, padded footsteps getting louder and louder until-

JESS

Oh shit.

The beast approaches as JESS fumbles with her phone.

JESS Um, if- if you're seeing this, it- it's about 4 feet high with-Jesus, it's like a three-headed Pit Bull. What the hell are you?

It growls deeply before barking.

JESS

Okay, Jess, take it easy. It won't attack if I don't run.

She slowly backs away. The dog continues to approach, gnashing and snarling.

JESS This was a really bad idea.

The dog charges.

# JESS

Oh fuck!

Leaping, the dog sails through the air. JESS screams as it lands on her.

Whimpering and straining she desperately tries to keep the beasts biting faces away from her own.

Losing control, she holds her arm in the way - one of the heads bites down, hard.

JESS wails in pain.

JESS Someone, help me! Please!

A few more seconds pass, JESS's strength waning fast.

Running foot fall echoes out, louder and louder.

HOBBS races at the tussle, yelling out like a war cry.

Gunshots, the beast YELPS as blood sprays out from behind one of it's heads, the splatter covering JESS.

Knocking the beast away with a grunt, HOBBS yells one final time, firing her weapon into it's body.

The creatures yells out one last time, then with a few last breaths, dies.

HOBBS, panting fires her weapon one final time into it's corpse.

JULIE HOBBS I told you stay in the fucking car.

JESS, trying sit up, cradles her wound.

JESS Shhhh... My arm.

JULIE HOBBS Are you hurt? JESS It bit into me. I- I think my jacket stopped most of it. I'll be okay. JULIE HOBBS What were you thinking?? It could have ripped you to bits. JESS I was trying to help you! You yelled my name and then there was this, crash-JULIE HOBBS I was calling to you to drive the hell out of here! JESS Oh. Well... Ι. JULIE HOBBS What? JESS Nothing. At least you had a gun. JESS turns to the dead creature. JESS What the hell is that thing? HOBBS takes a look at JESS and sighs. JULIE HOBBS It's a Cerberus. JESS Cerberus..? JULIE HOBBS Though it's probably too late to convince you it's a mutant dog. JESS Definitely not the weirdest thing I've seen. HOBBS crouches, examining the body. JULIE HOBBS

And too small to be the creature attacking the farms. Or what attacked your friend.

JESS goes into sleuth mode.

JESS So you HAVE seen the tape?

HOBBS considers her options for a moment.

JULIE HOBBS Yes. I've seen the tape.

JESS I knew it! I fucking knew it. Why? Why lie about it? Why hide the thing?

JULIE HOBBS Because those were my orders.

JESS Who? Who would order something like that??

JULIE HOBBS The people in charge. That's normally how "orders" work.

JESS thinks for a moment.

JESS Nexus. You're talking about Nexus aren't you?

JULIE HOBBS You need to drop this-

JESS You have to be. Why else would you have gotten so riled up when I said the name?

JULIE HOBBS Wilder, listen to me-

JESS

Why?? Money?

JULIE HOBBS You wouldn't understand.

JESS

We just fought off a three-headed dog, not to mention I watched my friend mauled by a giant wolf. I think you can assume that my mind is very much **open**.

JULIE HOBBS Why would you say "wolf". JESS considers her words. JESS Well, that is- It looked like a giant wolf. JULIE HOBBS You know something you're not telling me, aren't you? JESS (Lying) I don't know what you're talking about. JULIE HOBBS Now who's the one lying? What else have you seen? Running out of options, JESS tries a different approach. JESS I can't trust you. Not until you explain to me what the hell is qoing on. HOBBS gauges the situation. After a moment she walks back to the corpse. JESS What are you doing? JULIE HOBBS Disposal HOBBS reloads her gun, pulls back on it and fires a single round, making JESS jump. JESS I think you already got it!

JULIE HOBBS Don't want anyone finding this do

we? With that the air is filled with the sound of sizzling.

JESS smells the air and wretches.

JESS What did you do?? That thing is melting! JULIE HOBBS You want answers, right? So do I. Come with me.

JESS And go where?

HOBBS starts walking away.

JULIE HOBBS To see the person in charge.

JESS huffs.

JESS Fuck it, why not. Not like anything is going to top all of this, right?

She moves off after HOBBS.

10 INT. A DARK WOODEN ROOM - NIGHT

JASON, stirring from his unconscious state wakes.

Realising he is bound, sitting in a chair, he shakes and strains.

JASON Whu..? What the fuck is this??

He pulls and strains some more, the ropes binding him creaking.

JASON Where am I??

In the shadows a figure lurks.

JASON You! In the shadows! I can see you! Who are you??

The figure steps out - it's PAUL.

PAUL Welcome back, Jason.

JASON You again? Untie me now you fucking prick.

PAUL I'm going to, refuse the request, Jason. At least until you tell me what you've done to Emily. JASON What? I've told you, I haven't seen her. I don't know where she is.

PAUL You know. I can feel you lying about something. Holding it back.

JASON I don't know what you're talking about!

PAUL Here's the thing, being a doctor? Comes with all sorts of perks. Steady job, decent wages, and access to a whole range of very sharp tools.

The fuck are you talking about?? PAUL Here's how this is going to work, Jason. This scalpel here is going

JASON

to cut you. Cut into you. Cut little pieces out of you. And I'll keep cutting... and cutting... and cutting, until you tell me, where, is, Emily, Hargreaves.

JASON begins to panic.

JASON You fucking psycho. I don't know!

PAUL You know something. And you'll tell me. So how about we begin, hmm? Where shall we start?

JASON Get away from me!

PAUL

Arms? Legs?

JASON Help! Help! Someone help!

PAUL

No-one is going to hear you out here Jason. That's the beauty of this place. Nice and remote. 34.

JASON

HELP!!

PAUL How about we start with... ah yes. Fingernails.

JASON

No! NO!

PAUL Hold still. This is really going to hurt.

# JASON

No! NO!!!

JASON thrashes as much as his bindings will allow, but it's no use. PAUL takes the scalpel to his thumb and digs in with the blade, prying the nail away, all the while JASON screams out.

> JASON AHHHHH!!!

PAUL steps back.

JASON You bastard! You fucking bastard.

Half sobbing, he calms for a moment.

PAUL You know, she told me, what you did to her? The black eyes? The broken ribs?

JASON I didn't do anything to her! Please, please! I didn't touch her.

PAUL Dragging her off the bed, down the stairs.

PAUL moves in for another nail and cuts in.

JASON Nooooo!!! AHHHHH.

It's comes away.

PAUL

I suppose you have a point. Only eight nails left. Maybe we just skip to the flesh?

JASON Listen! Just, FUCKING listen!

PAUL

I'm all ears.

JASON I... alright. Alright! I... I didn't mean to... It's just I get angry, when I've had a drink.

PAUL slashes. JASON Screams.

JASON AHH No!! I didn't want to hurt her. I just lost control. I'm sorry!

PAUL slashes again.

JASON AHHH.... I don't know where-

SLASH

JASON

AAHHHH I don't know where she is.

He begins to sobs.

Suddenly PAUL arches over, clutching his head.

PAUL UHHH!!!! NOOOO!!! STOP!

He writhes for a moment, grunting in pain.

JASON What the fuck is going on!!

A few more moments pass, PAUL wrestling with the pain, trying to breathe through it.

PAUL Center. Balance. CENTER. PAUL WILLIAMS.

JASON trembles, watching PAUL stagger about the room.

JASON

Please...

Finally PAUL comes to a rest. Taking one long inhale and exhale, he turns back to JASON.

PAUL You know I've seen people like you all my life. They have everything. A nice house, a great car, a beautiful, gentle partner by their side.

JASON Please, let me go! I won't tell anyone. I swear!

PAUL And yet with all that joy in their lives, all people like you can do, is lie and cheat and injure and cause suffering. And yet, I'm the one called a monster.

JASON whimpers.

PAUL Maybe you're telling the truth. But maybe, it's time you found out what suffering actually is.

SLASH

SLASH

SLASH

JASON continues to scream out as PAUL continues.

JASON AHHHHH!!!!

The screaming fades and fades until we:

CUT TO SILENCE

THE END