

00-04: Bright Falls

4 WAKE (V.O.) (CONT'D) 4
 My writer's block got worse. I
 didn't sleep much, anymore. My life
 with Alice seemed like a constant
 fight. I was a wreck.\n\nAlice took
 steps: she booked a vacation in
 Bright Falls, a small town in
 Washington. It was supposed to be a
 chance to break out of the cycle I
 was in.\n\nShe didn't know about
 the darkness in Cauldron Lake.

00-05: The Darkness

5 WAKE (V.O.) (CONT'D) 5
 The darkness rose from the depths
 of Cauldron Lake and took Alice. It
 needed words. It needed me to write
 its way into our world. She was
 leverage, a hostage.\n\nI complied,
 but with a twist -- I put in a
 loophole that gave me a chance to
 fight back. I was hunted by shadowy
 enemies, but I faced the darkness.
 I fought it with light. I drove it
 back. I saved Alice. But it came
 with a cost: I was trapped in the
 Dark Place below Cauldron Lake.

00-06: Lost in the Dark Place

6 WAKE (V.O.) (CONT'D) 6
 After my disappearance, they
 thought I was dead. I might as well
 have been. I know it's been two
 years; I know Alice has moved on. I
 have tried to find a way back to
 her, back to my life, but escaping
 the Dark Place is almost
 impossible.\n\nTime does strange
 things here. But dreams and radio
 signals can pierce the veil between
 the worlds.\n\nI catch glimpses and
 echoes of the world. Sometimes I
 send messages out. I can only pray
 that they hear them.

00-07: The Appearance of Mr. Scratch

7 WAKE (V.O.) (CONT'D) 7
 I'm trapped in the darkness. HE has
 started appearing to me.
 (MORE)

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

Mr. Scratch.\n\nHe can travel back into the world effortlessly, and he loves to rub my face in it. At first, he was just an echo in the darkness, a flicker beyond the edge of my vision. Now he's started showing himself, getting bolder all the time. Telling me what a great time he's having in the world while I'm stuck here. And what he plans to do, especially to Alice.\n\nAll the moves I have left are dangerous and desperate. I have no choice. I have to hunt him.

00-08: Survival in the Dark Place

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

8 The Dark Place is utterly hostile to human life. It eats at your mind, wants you to succumb to madness. Your own thoughts can turn against you. Every shadow conceals a threat that attacks at the slightest sign of weakness. You're under endless assault; every "day" is a struggle for survival.\n\nBut I have learned to take care of myself. I focus on Alice, our life together, my need to be with her. That takes me a long way in the Dark Place... as long as I have my gun and the flashlight. 8

00-09: Equilibrium

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

9 I have changed. I know who I am now. I know that I can write my own fate; Bright Falls taught me that. I know that indulging my weaknesses, giving in to fear and complacency will only drag me down; the Dark Place taught me that.\n\nI'm no zen master. I have not attained enlightenment. But I have learned to let go of the things that I don't need. I know that without that balance within, I become my own worst enemy. Now I strive for equilibrium, and with that, I'm strong enough to get where I want. 9

00-10: The Genesis of Mr. Scratch

WAKE (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 Sooner or later, the odds will catch up with me, and in the meantime, he gets to toy with me...\n\nBut that's why I have a chance. He's caught in this pattern just as much as I am. I know where he'll be, and I'm prepared.

00-13: The Plan

13 WAKE (V.O.) (CONT'D) 13
 I have created the weapon that can put an end to this, a blueprint to a new reality. All I have to do is survive long enough to use it.\n\nMy arrival from the Dark Place will be painful and difficult. These pages may be lost, but one way or another, I'll send the parts I really need to myself. If I make it outside, I have a chance.\n\nMr. Scratch is more powerful than I am, but he can't change the rules in the middle of the game. He's not a creator. I am.

00-99: Hunting Mr. Scratch

Mr. Scratch/"Opening narration recap":

13A WAKE (V.O.) (CONT'D) 13A
 Mr. Scratch is a twisted copy of me, powerful and dangerous, but I know I can fight him. I don't think anybody else can. They don't understand what he is, what he represents, or that all the horrible things he does here are almost insignificant compared to what he will unleash on Earth, given the chance.\n\nBut I have survived the Dark Place, and it has taught me things -- how to cope, how to stay sane when the world goes crazy. He's two steps ahead of me, but I can find him. And I believe I can stop him.

00-14: Alice

Alice Wake:

14 WAKE (V.O.) (CONT'D) 14
 Alice. My wife. The best thing that ever happened to me.
 (MORE)

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

Their lives mostly revolved around a laundry list of ailments and their endless quest for liquor.\n\nBut Barry Wheeler managed them now. And whatever else they might say about Barry, he knew how to make things happen...\n\nAnd honestly, it wasn't like the Andersons were the most difficult clients he ever had.

00-20: Old Gods in the Studio

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

Getting the Andersons into the recording studio was a struggle and a half, but once they actually picked up the instruments, something happened.\n\nThey were two old men, and they weren't; they were doddering bags of bone, and they were barely contained power... And there was music.\n\nBarry rubbed his hands together; he knew how to pick a winner. Now all they needed was some direction on how to make things a little more modern.\n\nBarry had never produced a thing in his life, but he knew what he liked. He knew "Balance Slays the Demon" was going to be a hit.

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00-22: The Nature of Stories

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

Stories come naturally to us. We can't help it. There are many different worlds, many competing realities within our heads, fueled by books, television, even barely remembered childhood tales. There's an endless supply of fictional concepts more familiar to us than anything or anyone real. We have a far greater connection to the fictional characters we know and love than the random people we pass on the street. Our destinies and inspirations are shaped by lies, myths and fables.

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00-23: Cosmological Truths

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

It was something I'd written back in the real world -- something I had a link to, a framework I could build on.\n\nI adapted it into a new story. This story.

00-29: Night Springs, Arizona

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

Now Night Springs is in Arizona, although not for long. It's in Arizona because whatever the town that has become Night Springs is really called is located near one of the thin, worn places in the world -- where dreams and reality flow together and life is always a little strange. A perfect analogy for Night Springs.\n\nI can't return to the real world. I've tried. But I'm operating on dream logic, forcing the door open a crack so I can slip through. I can enter the strange little town of Night Springs.\n\nAll I did was put it in Arizona for one night.

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00-30: The Taken

The Taken:

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

The Taken may well be the tool the darkness favors over any other. At some point, they used to be human, but whatever humanity they once had is long gone. Now they're just shells covered and filled by darkness.\n\nThe Taken Mr. Scratch throws at me are more grotesque and varied than the ones I first encountered in Bright Falls, but I know how to deal with them. I'd be lying if I said they don't frighten me, but I have survived worse. I can't let them stop me.

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00-31: Fighting the Taken

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

I've carried a flashlight and a gun for so long that I feel naked without either. It's all too often that I need them.\n\nThe darkness protects the Taken.

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(MORE)

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

Shadows crawl over their forms like living things, protecting them from harm. Blows that would injure or kill a human outright mean nothing to them as long as the darkness persists. But light makes them vulnerable. Light burns the shadows away. The darkness that drives them is still in them, but now they're vulnerable.\n\nFlashlight and gun. Sometimes, it feels they're all I have left.

00-32: Focusing the Beam

Boosting:

32	WAKE (V.O.) (CONT'D)	32
	<p>There's more to fighting the Taken than just burning away the darkness that protects them. When I'm fighting for my life, I find myself slipping into a state of intense concentration that makes the beam of my flashlight seem more powerful and focused. I used to think it was just my imagination, something brought on by the adrenaline and fear of death, but now I'm not so sure. I have been touched by powers that I can't begin to truly comprehend, and they've left a mark. I'm starting to think this might be a part of it.</p>	

00-33: The Spiders

Spiders:

33	WAKE (V.O.) (CONT'D)	33
	<p>The spiders aren't really the work of the enemy. They're a side effect, a part of the Dark Place's less significant fauna that has managed to slip through the opening I made when I arrived; less an animal than an idea that has assumed the form of an animal.\n\nIt makes them no less dangerous, but at least they're a little easier to deal with: the darkness doesn't protect them like the Taken, and thus they can be destroyed by either light or bullets right away.</p>	

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

A procrastinator and a perfectionist, she often worked when she wouldn't be disturbed.\n\nTonight was especially important: the film festival would open tomorrow, and there was still so much to sort out. It wasn't that the work hadn't been done; she just didn't feel like she had completely mastered everything yet.

00-43: Serena and Mr. Scratch

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

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When the dark man's eyes suddenly locked into Serena's, she flushed hot. They ignited a black fire in her.\n\nHe was talking: he wanted the power turned off. He said something about the projector booth. She hooked a finger under his belt buckle. He grabbed a hold of her throat and twisted until it hurt. Somewhere deep inside, a part of her screamed in paralyzed horror, but the moan that escaped from her throat had no panic in it.\n\n"Pay attention," he said. "Business first." His eyes glittered shamelessly. Hers did, too.

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00-44: The Clothes

90's outfit:

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

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The clothes I wear now I shaped from dreams and memories. It's an old outfit, originally from the 90s; the last time I wore it was when I was still writing, and Alice and I took a vacation in the desert, before our troubles began.\n\nThe night before, we'd been at a party, and I'd dressed to the nines. On that lazy day, I put on these old clothes, worn and comfortable. Alice made a joke about grunge. I felt a little embarrassed, but stuck with them.\n\nWe were very happy. I'm sheathed in good memories, to remind myself of what is at stake.

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00-48: Alice's Film

48 WAKE (V.O.) (CONT'D) 48
 I held the film canister in my hands. I saw her name written across it in big letters, followed by the title.\n\nIt was a time capsule, moments snatched from times gone by, from a past that I hoped could also be our future. It was my salvation -- our salvation, our chance to be together. A tin can with a bit of magic in it that she didn't even know about, something I could put to good use.\n\nThere were only moments left before I had to face him.

00-49: New Reality: The Satellite

Rewriting reality/satellite:

49 WAKE (V.O.) (CONT'D) 49
 At the oil derrick, the wheel had been jammed in place and turned until the oil gurgled and flowed, thick and flammable. The warning lights were blinking in a fast rhythm, bright and steady, powered by the battery. The Kasabian CD was playing in the boom box, all distorted guitars and intense beat.\n\nHigh above, some piece of orbital junk or another collided with the satellite, knocking it radically off course. Trailing debris, it screamed down from the skies at an impossibly steep angle, all that high-tech engineering reduced to nothing more than a bullet that would destroy whatever it hit.

00-50: New Reality: Fragment 1

Rewriting reality/film (in three parts, obviously):

50 WAKE (V.O.) (CONT'D) 50
 The atmosphere in the projection booth at the drive-in was charged, almost unreal. Despite that, the air felt cool and refreshing this late at night. It had been a hot day. The summer was nearing its end, but it wasn't over yet.

