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FRESH BLOOD EDITION



BLACK MOURNING CEMETERY

Written by

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TEASER

INT. LORI'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

The sound of loud, aggressive, unsettling chewing.

Spotless marble floors. Granite countertops with a basket of fruit neatly displayed. Wide, glass, sliding doors showcase the award-winning lawn beyond the patio.

This home belongs to a wealthy couple. The kitchen would match that wealth if their daughter wasn't hunched over in front of the fridge devouring raw meat.

SMASH CUT TO:

LORI (15, WHITE) kneels in front of an open fridge with her back to us. Her bones cling to her skin. Broken jars, empty wrappers and scattered food surround her.

She crunches on something. *Madly.*

She munches on something. *Hungrily.*

Her boney hand reaches back into the fridge. She snatches something out and cries as she consumes it.

JANET (O.S.)

Lori...

She doesn't stop. Her cry becomes louder. A gentle hand reaches into the frame and touches her shoulder--

--Lori stiffens, but doesn't turn around.

The hand belongs to Lori's mom, JANET (40s, White) who is visibly disturbed.

We HOLD on her face for the remainder of the scene.

Lori whispers something. Janet leans in.

JANET (CONT'D)

What was that, sweetie?

LORI (O.S.)

I'm so...hungry. I-I--

JANET

It's okay. Let's get you to bed.

LORI (O.S.)

I...need food. It hurts.

JANET

I know honey. Let's just--

Lori SCREAMS in agony!

INT. LORI'S HALLWAY - NIGHT

Lori's Dad, STEVEN (40s, White) carries her up the stairs. We still haven't seen her face. Janet follows behind teary-eyed.

JANET

The pills aren't working.

STEVEN

You're very observant, aren't you?

They reach the top. Continue down the hall into:

INT. LORI'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

A room for a beautiful rich girl. Pink walls, fur rugs, a mounted TV, too many shoes and a walk-in closet.

Steven lays Lori on the bed.

STEVEN

We're taking you back to the doctor first thing in the morning, okay?

LORI (O.S.)

Mhm...

(beat)

Mom...

Janet avoids eye contact.

JANET

Yes?

LORI (O.S.)

Can you stay with me tonight?

JANET

...of course.

LATER

Janet watches Lori sleep from across the room. She quietly gets up and leaves. We hear Janet lock the door from the outside.

CUT TO BLACK.

INT. LORI'S ROOM - DAY

Lori's on the floor next to the door covered in vomit.

We finally see her face...

Sunken eyes. Cracked lips. There's glass shards stuck in her gums making her mouth a bloody mess.

She's terribly thin.

And the drinking glass she tried to eat sits tightly in her hand.

We hear the door creak open -- her mother SCREAMS.

FADE TO BLACK.

BLACK MOURNING CEMETERY

INT. MACEY'S MANOR, LIVING ROOM - DAY

SUPER: FIVE DAYS EARLIER

CHRISSEY (15, White) barges through the front door.

CHRISSEY
(yelling)
I'm home!

She throws her backpack on the floor and collapses onto the couch. Pulls out her cell and cyber stalks some boy's social media page.

MACEY SULLIVAN (60s, Black, sweet and southern) enters.

MACEY
What's all that yellin' for?

CHRISSEY
Sorry.

MACEY
Why you back so early?

CHRISSEY
I told you it was a half-day today.

MACEY
You know I can't remember nothin'
before two hours ago.

Chrissy's focused on the boy. Tunes Macey out.

MACEY (CONT'D)
Excuse me, ma'am. Gon' and get
upstairs and do your research.

CHRISSEY
Can I please just have ten minutes?

MACEY
After you check the news you can
have as much time as you want, Miss
Half-Day.

Chrissy discretely rolls her eyes and goes upstairs.

INT. MACEY'S MANOR, STUDY - DAY

An antique shop and a library had a baby.

There's framed photos hung of Black people from different generations. A bookcase stretches wall-to-wall.

The furniture is outdated, but comfortable. A chaise lounge, arm chairs with footrests, sofas. It's huge.

There's candles scattered about and newspapers here and there. Mysterious boxes with locks on them rest in a corner.

The only thing that gives this place a modern feel is the massive work desk with the widescreen computer and printer.

On the desk is a framed photo.

INSERT FRAMED PHOTO:

A picture of Macey, Chrissy, a young Black man in his 30s, a Black girl in her 20s, and a little Black girl age 7.

Chrissy enters the room and takes a seat at the desk. Clicks to a search engine and types in the keywords:

Black, Murdered, Unsolved, Dead, Suspect

Hits ENTER. The search results come up and something catches her attention.

Headline:

Body of Girl Missing Since April Found in Sanga Forest.

Chrissy scribbles something down on a notepad.

INT. RAYNA'S TENT - DAY

A pile of clothes sit in one corner of the tent. Hygienic necessities in the other. A single pair of dirty old shoes sit by the entrance next to a backpack and a change jar.

RAYNA MORGAN (15, Black) sits up on a sleeping bag in dirty clothes. She stares into space. Been like that for awhile.

Someone unzips her tent and peeks inside. It's an old HOMELESS WOMAN. Her missing two front teeth give her a lisp.

HOMELESS WOMAN

You gonna be late for school. I think. I think it's after eight. I ain't sure. Never mind.

She walks away. Rayna grabs her backpack and steps out.

EXT. TENT COMMUNITY - CONTINUOUS

We see the World she's living in. A tent community underneath the bridge of a busy city.

Several tents cover a large area of grass. Homeless people hang out drinking, talking, laughing.

Rayna waves to bystanders. They smile as she passes. They're her guardians.

INT. RAYNA'S CLASSROOM - DAY

Rayna sits in class distracted by her thoughts. Her peers giggle and converse amongst themselves.

TWO STUDENTS catch a glimpse of the holes in Rayna's old clothes. They laugh to themselves about it. Rayna knows but she ignores it.

The teacher, MRS. BLAIR, rushes in and sets her things down.

MRS. BLAIR

Sorry I'm late again. Once you have kids, you'll understand.

The class laughs.

MRS. BLAIR (CONT'D)

So I figured since this is the last day of school we could play a little game. How about Heads--

A SCHOOL ASSISTANT enters the classroom and whispers something to the teacher. Hands her a note and leaves.

Mrs. Blair reads it. Frowns. Turns to the class.

MRS. BLAIR (CONT'D)

Um...it is with a heavy heart that I inform you all...our beloved Kelsey Miller has passed away.

The room goes quiet.

MRS. BLAIR (CONT'D)

Her body was discovered in a forest a few miles away. That's all the information I have right now.

Rayna doesn't react.

Lori, whose been sitting in the back of class, exchanges a nervous glance with another classmate, JEREMY (15, Black).

INT. CAFETERIA - DAY

Jeremy watches Lori devour a cheeseburger.

JEREMY
Damn, slow down.

She doesn't.

ASHLEY (15, Black) rushes past them, avoiding eye contact.

JEREMY (CONT'D)
Yo, Ash! You not sittin' with us?

Ashley lowers her head and keeps moving.

JEREMY (CONT'D)
She makin' me nervous.

LORI
You think she might say something?

JEREMY
I don't know...

She grabs some of his fries. Stuffs them in her mouth.

EXT. BRIDGE - DAY

Rayna's bike is parked against a wall covered in graffiti. She shakes a can of paint and sprays R.I.P. KELSEY.

INT. JEREMY'S ROOM - DAY

Jeremy's enters and tosses his backpack on the ground. He grabs a controller and fires up his gaming system.

He YELPS and drops his controller.

JEREMY
Fuck!

He looks down at his finger. It's bleeding.

INT. JEREMY'S BATHROOM - DAY

Jeremy opens the sink cabinet. Pulls out some Band-aids and runs his finger under the water.

WOMAN (O.S.)

Help...

It's coming from behind the shower curtain.

Jeremy looks towards the sound as he wraps his finger. He walks slowly towards the tub...

Pulls back the shower curtain...

Nothing.

INT. MACEY'S MANOR, FOYER - NIGHT

The doorbell RINGS violently.

Macey angrily goes to answer it. She opens the door.

AJA (19, Black, uptight) stands in the doorway with a duffel bag. She reeks of entitlement.

AJA

Missed me?

MACEY

Not when you're ringin' my damn doorbell like that. Causin' a fuss!

They embrace each other.

SUE (30s, Black, housekeeper) emerges from inside.

SUE

Aja! How was the rest of your semester?

AJA

Eh, it was okay.
(re: the duffel)
The rest is in the car. I left it unlocked.

Sue nods and heads outside. Rolls her eyes once she passes.

MACEY

What you doin' back so soon? How long you stayin'?

AJA

Just needed to get out of there. And I don't know yet. Where's everybody?

MACEY

Phil's at work, Leann's playing in her room, and Chrissy's in the study. I need to go check on her. Glad to have you home.

Aja smiles. Macey goes upstairs.

AJA

(sarcastically; sotto)
Glad to be back.

INT. MACEY'S MANOR, STUDY - NIGHT

Chrissy's still at the computer, heavily invested. Macey peeks in the room.

MACEY

Any updates?

CHRISSEY

Remember the girl who went missing two months ago? In Greendale?

MACEY

What about her?

CHRISSEY

They found her body in a forest. Not a lot of details yet. I'm still digging.

MACEY

Let me know what you find.

CHRISSEY

Who was that at the door?

MACEY

Aja.

CHRISSEY

Ugh. I thought she wasn't coming back until the Fourth?

Macey shrugs.

INT. LEANN'S ROOM - NIGHT

Aja enters and watches as LEANN (7, Black, shy) plays with her dolls. She takes an ugly looking OLD MAN DOLL and places him in the corner of her doll house.

Leann takes a LITTLE GIRL DOLL and places her in a bed near the old man.

Aja knocks on the door to get her attention. Leann looks up.

LEANN

Aja!

She runs and jumps into her arms.

AJA

Hey cutie. I missed you.

LEANN

I missed you too.

Aja points to the dolls.

AJA

Why's that man in the corner?

Leann doesn't wanna answer.

AJA (CONT'D)

Mr. Gregory?

She nods.

AJA (CONT'D)

How long has he been back?

LEANN

He came this morning. He was in my closet when I woke up.

AJA

I'll let Macey know, okay?

Aja kisses her on the forehead.

INT. LORI'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Lori watches reality TV in bed with a meal meant for a linebacker. She scarfs it down. Her phone BEEPS.

JEREMY (TEXT)

Heard from Ash?

LORI (TEXT)

She hasn't responded to any of my texts.

JEREMY (TEXT)

Same...
(typing)
Should we be worried?

LORI (TEXT)

Idk. I'll check on her tomorrow.

Lori groans and holds her stomach. She gets up and stands in front of her floor-length mirror. She lifts her shirt up. She can see her rib cage.

LORI (CONT'D)

What the fuck.

Looking in the mirror, she notices something behind her under the bed. A figure. And it's staring at her. She turns around.

Bones crack from underneath the bed. A hand reaches out.

Lori lets out a piercing scream and Janet rushes in.

JANET

What's wrong?

LORI

(catching her breath)
I...saw a spider.

Janet notices the empty plates.

JANET

You finished your dinner already?

LORI

Yeah. Can you take me to the doctor tomorrow? I'm having stomach problems.

JANET

(re: the food)
I bet.

INT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE - DAY

A PEDIATRICIAN checks Lori's eyes with a flashlight. Her parents observe in the back.

PEDIATRICIAN

Are you in any pain?

LORI

No, but like...I can't stop eating. I feel hungry. But it's like when I eat, I'm not getting full.

PEDIATRICIAN

So you're in a constant state of hunger?

Lori nods.

PEDIATRICIAN (CONT'D)

When did you first notice this?

LORI

Yesterday. And I'm losing weight.

PEDIATRICIAN

Did anything significant happen? A change in your diet? Stress?

LORI

No.

JANET

One of her classmates died. Well, was found dead. She'd been miss--

LORI

Mom!

Steven shakes his head, annoyed by Janet, but keeps quiet.

PEDIATRICIAN

Were you close with this classmate?

LORI

No. I wasn't. We didn't talk at all really--

JANET

But it's still horrific to think about! Whether or not you talked to her, you saw her everyday. I think her absence is enough to bring you stress. No? A sense of worry--

LORI

Mom! Just--

She wipes away tears.

LORI (CONT'D)

I don't wanna talk about it.

PEDIATRICIAN

We don't have to. I'll prescribe
you a medication that might help.
And I'll refer you to a therapist.
If things get worse just come back
and see me.

EXT. SUBURBAN STREET - DAY

Rayna parks her bike in front of a house. Knocks on the door.

She's greeted by MS. MILLER (40s, Black). She has dark
circles around her puffy eyes. She hasn't slept since God
knows when.

MS. MILLER

Rayna...come in.

RAYNA

That's okay. I was just, uh,
checking to see how you were doing?

MS. MILLER

Not good as you can imagine.

RAYNA

I know.

(beat)

Have the police said anything else?

MS. MILLER

They suspect homicide. Haven't told
the media yet. They're talking to
forensics or something. So...

RAYNA

I'm so sorry, Ms. Miller.

MS. MILLER

Would you like to come to the
funeral tomorrow? It'll just be me
and her grandmother. Very private.
But I figured since you found--

RAYNA

Thank you, but I don't think I can.
Bye, Ms. Miller.

Rayna runs down the steps and gets on her bike. Ms. Miller
watches her ride off.

She turns, goes back inside--

INT. KELSEY'S HOUSE, DOORWAY - CONTINUOUS

--and shuts the door.

She slides to the floor accompanied by the pain and agony of a grieving mother.

INT. KELSEY'S HOUSE, DOORWAY - NIGHT

Ms. Miller's asleep in fetal position on the floor. She wakes up to someone frantically ringing the DOORBELL. She opens the door.

Lori stands there distraught.

LORI
Ms. Miller...

MS. MILLER
You look familiar. Are you one of Kelsey's classmates?

LORI
Yeah...Lori. Can I come in?

MS. MILLER
Of course.

INT. KELSEY'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The couch is covered in used tissues and photos of Kelsey.

LORI
I caught you at a bad time.

MS. MILLER
I'm not sure when you would've caught me at a good one.

Lori grips her stomach.

MS. MILLER (CONT'D)
You alright?

LORI
No...
(lowering her head)
Please don't kick me out after I say this...I just think you need to know. You might be the only one who can help me.

MS. MILLER
Is it about my daughter?

Lori nods.

LORI
(hesitant; then)
I've been seeing her lately.

MS. MILLER
I have too. It's common when you
mourn people that you think you're
catching a glimpse of them. Might
see them in your dreams from--

LORI
No! I've been seeing her.

Lori snuffles.

LORI (CONT'D)
I s-see her right now.

Lori keeps her head down. Ms. Miller scans the room.

MS. MILLER
Is this a joke?

LORI
Sh-she's behind you. Under the
chair.

Ms. Miller looks back. Nothing's there.

MS. MILLER
You need to leave.

LORI
I think she's been haunting me.

MS. MILLER
Did you do something to her?

LORI
No!

MS. MILLER
Get out! Get the hell out!

LORI
Something's wrong. You have to
believe me!

Ms. Miller drags Lori towards the front door by the arm.

Lori looks up at Ms. Miller as a final plea, but sees an UNDEAD KELSEY standing behind her.

She's dirty. Skin clinging to her bones. Hair matted. Bloody.

Lori SCREAMS, pulls away from Ms. Miller's grip and runs out the front door.

Ms. Miller slams the door shut. Kelsey's gone.

CUT TO BLACK.

NEWS REPORTER (V.O.)

The body discovered in the Sanga Forest was that of 15-year-old Kelsey Miller. She was a student at Ridgemont High.

FADE IN:

EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

A busy street with even busier people.

NEWS REPORTER (V.O.)

An autopsy has been released confirming that her death was a homicide. Detectives are working diligently to find the person, or people, responsible. We will keep you updated.

A BODY CRASHES onto the ground. It's mangled, skull cracked open, bones protruding. On-lookers gasp. Others run. Some SCREAM. We zoom into the face of the deceased. It's Ashley.

INT. LORI'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

Lori watches the news about Kelsey. She's horrified.

JANET (O.S.)

Lunch is ready, Lori!

Lori turns the TV off and gets up sluggishly. She looks different. Thinner.

INT. LORI'S DINING ROOM - DAY

Food is set at the table. Lori digs in. Fast.

Steven notices how skinny she's gotten.

STEVEN

You're not...throwing your food up
after you eat it are you?

Lori shoots him a sharp look.

JANET

Steven!

LORI

No. I'm not.

Then stuffs her mouth.

Lori's fork falls on the ground. She bends down to pick it
up...

...Undead Kelsey is under the table watching her.

Lori SCREAMS and bangs her head on the way up. She yelps.

STEVEN

You alright?

LORI

I'm gonna eat in my room.

Lori scoops seconds onto her plate and leaves.

INT. JEREMY'S BEDROOM - DAY

Jeremy's playing his video game. His phone BEEPS.

LORI (TEXT)

Did u see the news?

JEREMY (TEXT)

You know I don't watch that shit.

LORI (TEXT)

They're saying Kelsey's death is a
homicide.

One of Jeremy's fingers start to blister.

JEREMY

AH! Fuck!

LORI (TEXT)

Have you been seeing her?

He types with his other hand.

JEREMY (TEXT)

Who?

LORI (TEXT)

Kelsey.

JEREMY (TEXT)

Huh? Whatchu mean?

The rest of them blister one-by-one. Jeremy drops his phone. Looks at his fingers. They're changing right before his eyes.

JEREMY (CONT'D)

What the hell.

INT. JEREMY'S BATHROOM - DAY

He opens his sink cabinet. Pulls the Band-aids out. He tries frantically to open them but drops the box.

WOMAN (O.S.)

Help...me...

It's coming from the tub again. Jeremy looks up. Frightened.

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

Somebody...please.

Jeremy approaches the tub. Pulls back the shower curtain.

Undead Kelsey lays in the tub. Dirty. Hair matted. Fingers bloody. She's holding her stomach.

JEREMY

Wh-wh-what the--

His fingers snap backwards.

Jeremy tries to scream but his voice is gone. He runs out of the bathroom and into:

INT. JEREMY'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

But Undead Kelsey's at the door waiting for him. He falls back onto the floor.

JEREMY

(croaky)

MOM!!!!

With his fingers still broken, he digs into the carpet like an animal. He can't control it.

On his phone, he has three missed calls from Lori. A new text comes in.

LORI (TEXT)
Call me back! It's about Ash!!!

INT. MACEY'S MANOR, STUDY - NIGHT

Chrissy's eyes grow wide as she reads something on the computer.

CHRISSEY
Holy fucking shit.

She prints the webpage. Macey enters.

MACEY
Dinner's ready.

CHRISSEY
I was just about to come get you. I found something. Kelsey's death is now a homicide.

MACEY
I'm guessing they haven't found any suspects yet?

CHRISSEY
Nope! But one of her classmates killed herself earlier today. Right after the news was announced. Jumped off a building in broad daylight.

Chrissy hands Macey the article. She scans it over.

CHRISSEY (CONT'D)
I stalked some Facebook pages. Found out two more students aren't doing good. A lot of "get well" posts for a boy and girl.

MACEY
Interesting...

CHRISSEY
Suspicious!

INT. MACEY'S MANOR, DINING ROOM - NIGHT

The family sits at the table. Sue serves them.

SUE

Should I wait for Phil to get home?

AJA

I'm literally starving. He knows how to use a microwave.

Sue disregards Aja's response and looks to Macey.

MACEY

No, I think he'll be okay if we start without him.

PHIL SULLIVAN (30s, Black, handsome) rushes in dressed in business attire holding a briefcase.

PHIL

Hey y'all, my bad. Oooh it smells good in here!

He sets his things down and sits at the table. Feeds himself a spoonful.

AJA

Tell me again why we were waiting on him?

MACEY

How was work?

PHIL

Crazy as hell. Damn, Sue, you outdid yourself as always!

Sue blushes.

MACEY

I need you to call the boys. Tell 'em we need a grave dug tonight for an urn. You feel like drivin' me to Greendale?

Chrissy panics.

CHRISSEY

Wait, Sam's coming over?

PHIL

Greendale? Long as it's not tonight. I'm exhausted, ma.

MACEY

Yes, tonight! You don't know what evil could be happening at this very moment. It's only seven. If we leave right after dinner we can get there by ten and find a hotel.

PHIL

Fine. Can we stop talking and eat?

MACEY

Yeah, alright. Chrissy, I'll need you to check and see which cemetery Kelsey's at after dinner.

CHRISSEY

I already got it. Her funeral was this morning.

EXT. MACEY'S MANOR - NIGHT

Phil's in the car. Macey talks with Chrissy on the front steps.

MACEY

The boys should be here in a few hours to do the grave so make sure one of you stays up. And we'll be back in the morning.

CHRISSEY

See ya.

Macey gets in the car and they pull off.

EXT. TENT COMMUNITY - NIGHT

Rayna rides her bike towards her tent.

A car, Phil's car, passes Rayna. The back window rolls down and Undead Kelsey begins to climb out. Rayna sees her--

RAYNA

Oh my God...

--and decides to follow the car.

EXT. GRAVEYARD - NIGHT

Macey and Phil stand in front of Kelsey's headstone.

MACEY

Let's begin.

Rayna's watches from behind trees.

Macey and Phil close their eyes and lift their heads up to the sky. They begin a chant.

A foggy shield surrounds them, including Rayna.

INT. GRAVEYARD OFFICE - SAME TIME

A GRAVEYARD WORKER observes the grounds from his desk window. All appears to be normal on his end with no one in sight.

EXT. GRAVEYARD - NIGHT

The ground beneath their feet start to shake. Rayna falls down and watches in horror.

The grass and dirt from Kelsey's gravesite lifts up. Her casket rises from the ground and lands on a surface of grass.

The casket BURSTS open.

Undead Kelsey jumps out and runs towards Rayna! She screams, but Phil and Macey don't hear her.

Rayna notices that Kelsey doesn't look harmful, but afraid.

Undead Kelsey SCREECHES as her body catches fire and slowly turns to ash. Phil opens an urn and Kelsey's remains float effortlessly into it.

Rayna tries to catch her breath.

Phil and Macey break their trance. Whatever ritual they performed is now over.

Macey finally notices Rayna. Shit.

RAYNA

Wh-wh-wh--

MACEY

What did you see?

RAYNA

What was that? Huh? What the fuck was that?!

MACEY

Tell me what you saw.

RAYNA

Everything! Th-the fog. Then --
then Kelsey came --

Rayna hyperventilates.

RAYNA (CONT'D)

She came out at me -- then the
fire.

MACEY

What you mean she came out at you?

RAYNA

Ran towards me.

MACEY

Phil, can you return the casket
while I handle this?

PHIL

In front of her?

Macey nods. Kneels next to Rayna.

MACEY

What's your last name?

RAYNA

Morgan. W-why?

MACEY

Where you live? I'll drive you home
and explain.

RAYNA

I'm not going anywhere with you!

Rayna gets up, but Macey grabs her arm and whispers something
under her breath. Rayna falls back down unconscious.

In the back, Phil uses magic to set the casket back into the
grave. He returns the grass and dirt into the gravesite.

It looks as if it was never disturbed.

MACEY

Phil, carry her to the car.

INT. PHIL'S CAR - NIGHT

Phil parks outside of a fast food restaurant. Rayna's in the backseat still unconscious.

PHIL
You not gonna wake her up?

MACEY
I'd rather her do it naturally.
(beat)
You see what happened back there?

Phil nods.

MACEY (CONT'D)
There's only one way she could've --

PHIL
You really think she would've
reacted the way she did if she was?

MACEY
Maybe she doesn't know.

PHIL
Just ask her if she's a witch when
she wakes up. Real casual.

Rayna screams.

PHIL (CONT'D)
Aw shit.

She tugs on the door handles and bangs on the windows.

RAYNA
Help! Get me outta here! HELP!!!

Macey reaches back and puts her hand on Rayna's shoulder.

MACEY
Hey! Hey, it's okay. We ain't gonna
hurt --

RAYNA
What'd you do to me? Huh?

MACEY
Nothin'. You passed out in the
graveyard --

RAYNA
Let me out! I wanna go home!

MACEY

-- and we brought you to the car.
It's okay. Tell us where you live,
we'll take you there.

Rayna's breathing slows down.

RAYNA

The graveyard.
(thinking)
What were you doing there? To
Kelsey?

Macey looks to Phil for help. He shakes his head.

MACEY

How do you know her?

RAYNA

I went to school with her.

MACEY

You believe in ghosts? Spirits?

RAYNA

Before a few days ago I didn't.

PHIL

What happened a few days ago?

RAYNA

I found Kelsey's body.

MACEY

You found her? Were you with
someone?

RAYNA

No.

MACEY

How is that possible? You couldn't
have been strong enough to --

RAYNA

I don't know! And I don't like to
talk about it. Before I found her,
I heard her voice...she was talking
to me. I thought she was alive...

MACEY

But when you got to her, she was
dead wasn't she?

Rayna nods.

RAYNA

For a while. And I keep seeing her everywhere. Can we not talk about it? Can you just tell me who -- or what -- you are?

MACEY

I'm Macey. That's my son, Phil. We...

PHIL

We heal the dead.

RAYNA

Huh? You a witch or somethin'?

Phil and Macey exchange awkward glances.

MACEY

Yes, I am. And...

Macey hesitates.

PHIL

She thinks you might be one too.

Rayna's draw drops. Then she laughs.

RAYNA

Y'all are crazy. I'm starting to think I'm hallucinating this entire day. I need to get home.

PHIL

Let us take you. You shouldn't be in this area alone at night.

RAYNA

Yeah, I'd hate for another stranger to put me in the back of their car. Where's my bike?

PHIL

Trunk. I'll get it.

Macey hears Rayna's stomach grumble.

MACEY

Wait. How's this sound: We'll go in there and get you some food. And me and Phil will explain everything you just saw.

PHIL

And if you start freaking out again
we'll wipe your memory. And that
ain't a threat, that's a promise.

MACEY

Calm down tough guy.

Rayna giggles. She's at ease.

RAYNA

Fine. But only 'cause I'm hungry.

INT. MACEY'S MANOR, LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Aja, Leann, and Chrissy watch a movie on the couch. There's a
KNOCK on the door.

AJA

I'll get it.

Aja walks off.

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

Hey Ronald. HEY SAM!

CHRISSEY

(perks up)

Sam? Again?

Chrissy fixes her hair.

CHRISSEY (CONT'D)

Leann, do I look okay?

LEANN

Mmmm...I think so.

Leann watches as something (or someone) slithers from behind
the TV and up the stairs.

She keeps it to herself. This is normal for her.

RONALD (30s, White) enters the living room. His brother, SAM
(16, White) follows. He's the one Chrissy was stalking on her
phone. Both are in worker uniforms.

CHRISSEY

I thought you finished already.

RONALD

Sam left his phone in the shed.

AJA
(teasing)
Chrissy can let him back in.

Sam smiles shyly at her.

CHRISSEY
I'll grab the keys.

Chrissy exits. Ronald peeks around. Aja notices.

AJA
Sue left already.

Ronald scoffs. Chrissy returns with the keys.

CHRISSEY
Ready.

EXT. MANOR, BACKYARD - NIGHT

Beautiful bushes and flowers surround a large water fountain.

Chrissy and Sam continue through a wall of trees at the end of the backyard.

EXT. WOODS - CONTINUOUS

It's quiet and a little awkward.

SAM
How come you never talk to me in school?

CHRISSEY
How come you never talk to me here?

SAM
Good point. I don't know. You keep to yourself a lot. I always thought you never wanted to be bothered. You got a super mysterious vibe about you. It's kind of intimidating but I like it.

CHRISSEY
I like you too.

SAM
Huh?

CHRISSY

Oh God. Oh God no. That's not what you said.

She trips over a rock.

CHRISSY (CONT'D)

You know what, I'm just gonna turn back around --

SAM

It's okay. I like you too.

Sam laughs playfully. Chrissy blushes.

He takes her hand and they continue towards the edge of the woods where the trees end.

A huge sign says **BLACK MOURNING CEMETERY.**

Chrissy stops in her tracks.

SAM (CONT'D)

What's wrong?

CHRISSY

I can't go back there.

SAM

You scared?

CHRISSY

(lying)

Uh...yeah. Cemeteries freak me out.

SAM

I could've came by myself.

(softly)

But I don't think you wanted that.

CHRISSY

I was just being nice.

He smiles at her.

SAM

Be right back, then.

Sam disappears to the other side. Chrissy fans herself.

CHRISSY

Whew! He is so hot. Thank you, Lord.

INT. PHIL'S CAR - NIGHT

Phil looks at a GPS as he drives. Rayna finishes the last of some fries in the backseat.

RAYNA

So basically y'all are a bunch of witches who save people from being killed by dead people? Except for Chrissy?

PHIL

Right, Chrissy is not a witch.

MACEY

But she finds the cases. She's a very important part of the process.

RAYNA

And you think I'm a witch cause the spell didn't work on me?

Phil nods.

PHIL

And a spirit is communicating with you.

MACEY

You said your last name is Morgan. I don't know any families with a Morgan surname. Do you, Phil?

He shakes his head. He's exhausted.

MACEY (CONT'D)

Did you ever feel like you had powers? Ever try to see if you were a witch?

RAYNA

No. It's not like I spend my time on the internet tryna cast love spells with flower petals and blood.

Macey laughs.

RAYNA (CONT'D)

But how would I find out if I was one?

MACEY

Well, there's some tests we could do. I don't have all of my items with me but --

Macey hands Rayna a card.

-- here's my number. Call me and we can set up a time for me to come back and visit you.

Phil pulls up in front of what he thinks is Rayna's home. It's Mrs. Miller's.

PHIL

This it?

RAYNA

Yeah.

PHIL

We'll stay here until you make it inside.

MACEY

And you can't tell anyone what you saw tonight. Okay?

Rayna notices that all of the lights are out in Ms. Miller's house and her car is gone.

Rayna opens the car door, but then...

Kelsey's bedroom window opens. Undead Kelsey climbs out onto the roof.

Rayna closes the car door again.

RAYNA

(hyperventilating)

Can I stay with you guys tonight?

MACEY

Are you okay?

Rayna shakes her head.

MACEY (CONT'D)

Do you see her right now?

RAYNA

Yeah.

PHIL

What's she doing?

Undead Kelsey scales down the wall on all fours and jumps onto the grass.

RAYNA

Pull off! Pull off!

She runs towards Phil's car.

RAYNA (CONT'D)

Goooooo!!!!!!

Phil starts the car and slams on the gas. Rayna tries to catch her breath.

MACEY

Are you over 18?

RAYNA

(lying)

Yes.

MACEY

Good. Here's what we're gonna do. You stayin' at this hotel with us tonight. We gon' drive back to our place in the morning and figure out what the hell's going on.

PHIL

Chrissy probably has some clothes she can fit too.

MACEY

And we can go to the store in the morning for other things.

RAYNA

(relieved)

Thank you.

INT. MACEY'S MANOR, LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Sam and Chrissy return. Leann's asleep on Aja's lap. Ronald gets up.

AJA

Took you two long enough.

CHRISSEY

Shut up, Aja!

RONALD

Ready?

SAM

Yup.

Ronald heads towards the front door.

RONALD

Kiss her goodnight so we can go.

CHRISSEY

Oh, God.

SAM

(to Aja and Ronald)

You two are really pushing it today. I'm gonna remember this next time I see Sue.

RONALD

Ha! Bye, everybody.

Ronald leaves.

SAM

Anyways. I forgot to ask you to put your number in my phone. I mean, if you want to.

She smiles and types it in.

SAM (CONT'D)

Goodnight, Christine.

CHRISSEY

(flirty)

Goodnight, Samuel.

Awkward silence as they figure out if a kiss will happen. Sam settles on her cheek. Aja gags.

Chrissy closes the door.

CHRISSEY (CONT'D)

I fucking hate you.

AJA

Leann's seeing that man again and didn't tell anybody. We gotta remember to tell Macey.

INT. MACEY'S MANOR, AJA'S ROOM - DAY

Aja stares out her window. A rolled blunt floats in the air and makes its way to her lips. She inhales. Coughs a bit.

She sees Phil's car driving up. Quickly grabs the blunt and puts it out. Sprays air freshener.

EXT. MACEY'S MANOR - DAY

Chrissy comes outside as Phil pulls up.

Aja joins her just as everyone gets out of the car, including Rayna.

CHRISSEY

Who's that?

AJA

She picked up another stray. Great.

Phil drives away. Macey approaches the girls and Rayna follows behind nervously.

MACEY

How was everything while we were gone?

CHRISSEY

(thinking about Sam)
Amazing.

AJA

I need to talk to you about Leann.

MACEY

You can tell me later. Right now I want you to meet Rayna. She'll be staying with us until tomorrow.

AJA

Why?

CHRISSEY

I'm Chrissy, that's Aja.

Aja smirks at Rayna.

MACEY

Give her a tour and show her to one of the guest rooms. I got some things I need to take care of.

Jealousy overpowers Aja's ability to be interested.

AJA

I'm actually busy too, so I'll catch up later. Nice meeting you, Reena.

RAYNA

It's Ray --

Aja rudely walks away.

Chrissy gives Rayna an apologetic look.

INT. MACEY'S MANOR, GUESTROOM - DAY

Chrissy brings Rayna into a room filled with old furniture. Cobwebs and dust everywhere.

CHRISSEY

Unfortunately all of the guestrooms look like this.

(beat)

You can stay in my room if you want!

RAYNA

No, this is good.

Rayna peeks out the window. It overlooks the backyard.

RAYNA (CONT'D)

It's beautiful out there.

CHRISSEY

I know right. Until all hell breaks loose.

RAYNA

What?

CHRISSEY

Nothing. So...you still haven't told me why Miss Macey brought you. Is it a private thing or something? Are you related to Kelsey Miller?

RAYNA

She was a classmate. I'm glad you found her story by the way.

CHRISSEY

She told you what we do?

RAYNA

Heal spirits who were unjustly
killed?

CHRISSEY

Specifically Black people, but
there's some exceptions. Why did
she tell you that? Are you a --

RAYNA

Witch? I don't know. Some weird
shit's been happening and Macey
thinks I might be one.

Chrissy's eyes grow wide.

CHRISSEY

Holy shit.

RAYNA

So everyone's a witch except you.
And Phil is a...warlock?

CHRISSEY

An asshole. But essentially, yes.
He doesn't like to be called that
though.

RAYNA

What's he like to be called?

CHRISSEY

A lawyer. C'mon I'll show you her
study. Coolest room in the house.

Rayna sets her bag down.

INT. MACEY'S MANOR, STUDY - DAY

Rayna roams around the room in admiration.

RAYNA

Wow.

CHRISSEY

Right?!

Rayna sits on the couch.

RAYNA

So...Macey told me she adopted you.
What's the story behind --

Chrissy becomes physically uncomfortable. Rayna notices.

RAYNA (CONT'D)

Oh my God, that was extremely rude.
I'm sorry, you don't have to talk
about it.

CHRISSEY

Yeah...um. I...uh --

Macey enters. Chrissy quickly collects herself.

MACEY

There you are. Finish the tour?

CHRISSEY

We did!

RAYNA

You have a nice home.

MACEY

Thanks, dear. Have a seat. If you
feel up to it I'd like to get
started.

CHRISSEY

Started with what?

MACEY

Rayna will tell me what she knows
about Kelsey's murder.

CHRISSEY

Can I stay and listen?

RAYNA

I don't mind.

SUPER: TWO MONTHS AGO

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Mrs. Blair stands in front of the class. Amongst the students
are Rayna, Lori, Jeremy, and Ash.

The bell RINGS.

MRS. BLAIR

Everyone have a good weekend. Don't
forget we have a quiz on Monday.

Use that time to study.

KELSEY MILLER (15, Black, tall and lanky) stands up and clumsily rushes out the classroom. Students laugh.

LORI
What a weirdo.

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Kelsey's gets things out of her locker. Rayna walks up to her own -- right next to Kelsey's.

They don't talk. Don't look at each other. It's awkward. Kelsey's books fall to the ground.

KELSEY
Damn it. It's always somethin'

Rayna bends down to help her.

KELSEY (CONT'D)
Thank you.

RAYNA
All good.

Rayna picks up a mystery book. Maybe by James Patterson.

RAYNA (CONT'D)
I've always wanted to read this.

KELSEY
It's my favorite. You can borrow it if you want.

RAYNA
Thanks.

Lori and Ash exit the classroom. Rayna hands Kelsey the last of her books and returns to her locker.

ASHLEY
Hey, Kelsey. You busy tonight?

KELSEY
No, why?

Rayna eavesdrops.

ASHLEY

A few of us are going camping tonight and a certain someone wanted to know if you'd come. He's too shy to ask.

Rayna rolls her eyes. Kelsey's falling for it.

KELSEY

Who is it?

LORI

Jeremy. He's really into you. So, you wanna come?

Kelsey tries to contain her excitement.

KELSEY

Sure.

ASHLEY

Put your number in my phone. I'll pass it to Jer.

INT. RAYNA'S TENT - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Rayna gets in her tent and gets as cozy as she can in her sleeping bag. She tunes out the noise from outside.

RAYNA (V.O.)

I fell asleep reading. It was the first night I started having the dreams -- nightmares. Thought maybe it was cause of the book.

INT. RAYNA'S TENT - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Rayna tosses.

INSERT: TREES

She turns.

INSERT: ROCKS

She tosses.

INSERT: A piercing SCREAM over black.

Rayna wakes up in the middle of the night in a sweat.

EXT. STREET - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Rayna rides her bike through the street. She stops at a tree with Kelsey's photo on it.

RAYNA (V.O.)

The next day, Kelsey's face was plastered everywhere.

MACEY (V.O.)

And you didn't tell Ms. Miller what you knew?

RAYNA (V.O.)

I figured she didn't tell her mom she was going out. I didn't wanna get Kelsey in trouble. Or worry Ms. Miller. Just in case she had fun or something, cause ya know, she never had fun. I didn't think about it until she didn't show up for school on Monday.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Rayna notices Kelsey's empty seat. She looks at Lori, then Ash, then Jeremy. They all seem anxious.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Rayna follows Jeremy to his locker. He looks uneasy.

RAYNA

Where's Kelsey?

JEREMY

What?

RAYNA

Don't play fuckin' stupid. I heard Ash and Lori invite her camping Friday night. So where the fuck is she?

JEREMY

Chill! She never showed up!

RAYNA

Did she tell her mom she was meeting you?

JEREMY

How the fuck would I know? You a detective now or somethin'?

RAYNA

What if something happened to her on the way to meet you? You need to tell her mom.

JEREMY

Why you care so much? You wasn't even friends with her.

RAYNA

Wasn't?

Lori approaches them. Stares Rayna up and down.

LORI

Do we have a problem, Jeremy?

JEREMY

Nope.

LORI

Then let's go.

INT. RAYNA'S TENT - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Rayna's in her sleeping bag reading. She drifts off.

INSERT: TREES

She tosses.

INSERT: ROCKS

She turns.

INSERT: KELSEY'S FACE!!!

Rayna wakes up again in a sweat.

RAYNA (V.O.)

She didn't look right. S-she.
(heavy breathing;
sniffles)

I didn't have any more dreams like that for awhile.

MACEY (V.O.)

What changed?

RAYNA (V.O.)
I don't know. I got busy with --

EXT. STREET - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Rayna panhandles on a busy street.

RAYNA (V.O.)
Projects. Final exams.

SUPER: FIVE DAYS AGO

INT. RAYNA'S TENT - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Rayna waves to neighbors as she climbs into her tent. She zips it and pulls out the change she earned for the night.

She gets comfortable and opens the book.

RAYNA (V.O.)
After finals I finally had time to get back to reading. That's when things got worst.

Rayna finishes the last page. Closes her eyes.

RAYNA (V.O.)
I had another dream.

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT (DREAM SEQUENCE)

Rayna walks through a forest. It's foggy. Empty. Eerily silent. A SCREAM echoes all around her.

RAYNA (V.O.)
It's like I knew where to go.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Rayna rides her bike fast down the road. She's on a mission. There's inaudible WHISPERING in her ear. A woman's voice.

EXT. FOREST - DAWN (FLASHBACK)

Rayna rides across branches and rocks. It's bumpy. She's got a spray can bottle with her marking a trail.

The woman's voice gets louder. Rayna's getting closer.

The trail leads to a decline near rocks. In front of a cave-like structure.

A gigantic boulder is wedged into the cave's entrance.

WOMAN'S VOICE (O.S.)
HEEEELLLLLLLLLLP!

The woman's voice is louder this time. It's Kelsey. Rayna inches closer to the boulder. Holds her nose.

RAYNA (V.O.)
The smell was horrible.

Rayna pulls on the boulder. It doesn't budge.

KELSEY (O.S.)
Rayna...is that you?

RAYNA
Kelsey? It's me, Kelsey! It's me! I got you!

Rayna goes at another angle.

It's moving, just not fast enough.

KELSEY (O.S.)
(faint)
Please help me...

Rayna has to do this. She has to move it. She focuses. *Channels an energy.*

She pulls again. And again! AND AGAIN! It's moving!!!

Just enough for her to squeeze through.

INT. CAVE - CONTINUOUS (FLASHBACK)

The cave is dark...

And quiet...

Too quiet.

RAYNA
Kelsey?

She flashes her light around. She can barely see anything.

RAYNA (CONT'D)
Where are you?

KELSEY (O.S.)

Over here.

Rayna follows the sound of the voice. She hesitates.

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

Closer.

The voice is to the left of Rayna. She whips her flashlight towards the sound.

We don't see it. We just hear Rayna's gut-wrenching scream.

INT. MACEY'S MANOR, STUDY - DAY

MACEY

Jesus...

RAYNA

I promise I'm fine.

MACEY

It's okay if you ain't.

(beat)

Let me ask you this. When those dreams stopped, were you reading the book she gave you?

Rayna shakes her head.

MACEY (CONT'D)

But you read it the night you found her? And every night you had those dreams?

Rayna thinks for a moment.

RAYNA

I guess I did. Yeah. What's that got to do with anything?

MACEY

I think your spirit formed a bond with hers. Usually, trained witches who have the power to connect with the dead on such an intimate level, don't need a sentimental item of the deceased to initiate that connection. They just use their magic. But you -- you didn't know you were a witch. You didn't know magic.

(MORE)

MACEY (CONT'D)

So I think nature took it upon
itself to create that bond through
the book...because you were her
only hope.

RAYNA

So what's that mean?

MACEY

I believe you're one of us.

Rayna takes that in.

MACEY (CONT'D)

If I haven't overwhelmed you, would
you mind tellin' me what happened
after you found the body?

EXT. FOREST - DAWN (FLASHBACK)

RAYNA (V.O.)

I left...

Rayna speeds through the forest on her bike, following the
trail she left.

EXT. FOREST - MORNING (FLASHBACK)

Rayna reaches the edge of the forest. Sees goes to a payphone
across the street and dials 9-1-1.

INT. RAYNA'S TENT - MORNING (FLASHBACK)

Rayna climbs into her tent, still in a state of shock. She
sits up on her sleeping bag. Stares into space until the
Homeless Woman unzips her tent.

INT. MACEY'S MANOR, STUDY - DAY

MACEY

I'm sorry you had to witness that.

CHRISSEY

Yeah. And sorry about Kelsey.

Rayna wipes away tears.

MACEY

Will you be okay to perform the
ritual tonight?

(MORE)

MACEY (CONT'D)

So Kelsey's spirit can rest? If not, I understand. I'm sure this has been a very upsetting few weeks for you.

RAYNA

I can do it. I wanna help.

MACEY

If I'm right about your powers, Kelsey will use you as a vessel to show you her pain and suffering. You won't feel it. But what you experience might frighten you. Ain't no goin' back once we start. You will see how she died. You understand?

Rayna nods.

A KNOCK on the door.

SUE (O.S.)

Dinner's ready.

MACEY

We'll eat now, then I'll show you the grounds.

INT. MACEY'S MANOR, DINING ROOM - NIGHT

The family sits at the table. Macey, Phil, Rayna, Chrissy, Leann, and Aja. Sue serves them.

MACEY

Why don't you have dinner with us, Sue? Get to know Rayna?

AJA

Is she gonna be staying with us or something?

MACEY

I'll probably have her come around a few weekends during the summer. If she wants.

Rayna smiles at that.

MACEY (CONT'D)

Sue?

SUE
I can't tonight, but thanks for the
offer, Macey.

Sue gathers her things.

SUE (CONT'D)
Y'all have a good rest of your
night.
(smiling)
Bye, Phil.

Phil throws a hand up to her as she leaves.

CHRISSY
(whispering)
You know she likes you right?

PHIL
Yup. Too close to home.

MACEY
But you're fond of her?

PHIL
Hadn't really thought about it to
be honest. She is beau --

AJA
So, Rayna. What's your story?

Phil glares at Aja. Rayna shifts in her seat.

RAYNA
Just here to help Macey with a --

AJA
It's Miss Macey.

RAYNA
(to Macey)
Sorry.

Macey brushes it off.

AJA
So you're a witch then, like me?

MACEY
I don't know what your
interrogation's about, but yes, I
think Rayna's a witch. And no, not
like you.

(MORE)

MACEY (CONT'D)

She might possess a unique skill
that could help me find a permanent
healing for spirits.

AJA

Wow. Impressive.

PHIL

(ignoring the sarcasm)
It really is.

RAYNA

What do you mean by permanent
healing?

PHIL

Right now, we have to monitor the
spirits. We can tell when they're
getting angry again --

CHRISSEY

Preparing to wreak havoc.

PHIL

So my mom has to perform rituals
again to bring them peace --

MACEY

Temporary peace.

PHIL

So they don't go batshit crazy and
start haunting --

CHRISSEY

-- or possessing --

PHIL

People.

Aja continues to eat her food.

CHRISSEY

What family do you think she's
from?

MACEY

That brings me to my next question.
Rayna, would you mind doing a DNA
test before you leave?

PHIL

Damn, that's invasive.

RAYNA

Sure.

LEANN

Can we be witch sisters?

Aja grunts. Rayna smiles at Leann.

RAYNA

Of course we can.

AJA

I think I'm gonna eat the rest of my dinner upstairs.

Aja dismisses herself.

MACEY

Rayna, I apologize for her behavior. College seems to be stressing her out these days.

INT. CHRISSY'S ROOM - NIGHT

Leann, Chrissy, and Rayna are chilling on the floor.

CHRISSY

You're not dating anyone back home?

RAYNA

No. Haven't really been focused too much on that. You?

CHRISSY

I don't know. I've got a crush on this guy, Sam. Him and his brother work out back.

LEANN

And he goes to her school.

RAYNA

You got pictures?

Chrissy pulls out her phone.

LEANN

Chrissy thinks he's sooo cute.

CHRISSY

Shut up!

Hands the phone to Rayna.

RAYNA

He is cute!

CHRISSEY

I know right. I just gave him my number last night, so hopefully he asks me out soon.

A KNOCK.

CHRISSEY (CONT'D)

Come in.

Macey enters with a wagon full of mysterious items.

MACEY

Ready?

RAYNA

Yes, ma'am. You comin', Chrissy?

CHRISSEY

I'm not allowed to.

RAYNA

Why not?

MACEY

We'll talk about it another time.

EXT. MACEY'S MANOR, WOODS - NIGHT

Macey and Rayna walk through the trees.

RAYNA

This is so creepy.

MACEY

(laughing)

You might get used to it.

RAYNA

Can I ask you some questions? You don't have to answer them.

MACEY

Don't be shy.

RAYNA

What made you adopt the girls? Did you just want more kids or...

MACEY

Not necessarily. Aja's mom, my sister, died when she was in high school, so I took her in. Leann is a different story. She came from another family of witches who died in a fire.

RAYNA

Jesus. What about Chrissy.

MACEY

She'll have to tell you her story on her own. She don't like to talk about it. And I don't share people's business if they don't want it shared.

They reach the edge of the woods. Black Mourning Cemetery comes into view.

Multiple rows of headstones line acres of grass.

RAYNA

This is beautiful.

They pass a few above-ground tombs that freak Rayna out. Macey catches her staring at them.

MACEY

I would say don't worry about those, but they're some of my worst cases. But you're safe right now.

They make their way through the rows of headstones. Rayna catches the names and dates of a few. Some go as far back as the 1600s.

RAYNA

Can you tell me why Chrissy can't come here?

MACEY

Since she's not a witch, she's defenseless to the spirits that could harm her.

Macey stops in front of a small, empty grave. It's lined with steel. She pulls Kelsey's urn from the wagon, which is now engraved with:

Kelsey Miller 2004-2019

Macey pours Kelsey's ashes into the gravesite.

RAYNA

What are you doing?

MACEY

I need complete access to the remains. They have to be exposed. The spirit must be vulnerable to the spell.

Macey takes a chest from her wagon. Pulls out a jar of purple dust. She takes a pinch and sprinkles it into the grave.

MACEY (CONT'D)

This helps unite my spirit with theirs in the moments right before death. I'd like to see how Kelsey handles your spirit.

Macey reaches her hand in the grave and mixes Kelsey's ashes with the purple dust. She uses a tool to extract a very small amount of the mixture. She hands it to Rayna.

MACEY (CONT'D)

Place this on your tongue.

RAYNA

What? No. That's disgusting.

MACEY

It's part of the spell.

RAYNA

And what if it doesn't work? What if I'm not a witch? I'll be eating dead body dust for no reason?

Macey holds the tool out to Rayna.

MACEY

It won't taste like anything. It's smaller than a sprinkle.

Rayna takes the dust and places it on her tongue.

MACEY (CONT'D)

Kneel down in front of the grave. Hover your hands over the ashes. Close your eyes and relax.

Rayna does as she's told.

MACEY (CONT'D)

Make sure your breathing is slow and easy. You need to have a calm mind and a calm spirit.

RAYNA

Am I supposed to say something?

MACEY

No. Let everything happen to you.

SUPER: KELSEY MILLER'S DEATH

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

Rayna eavesdrops by her locker while Kelsey talks to Lori and Ashley.

ASHLEY

Put your number in my phone. I'll pass it to Jer.

KELSEY

Thanks!

INT. KELSEY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Kelsey checks herself in her bedroom mirror. A packed duffel bag is on her bed. Ms. Miller comes in.

MS. MILLER

You look cute. Where you off to?

KELSEY

The movies with a friend.

MS. MILLER

What friend?

KELSEY

Wow.

MS. MILLER

I didn't mean it like that. It's just -- you never go out.

KELSEY

Her name's Rayna. From my history class.

Ms. Miller notices the duffel.

KELSEY (CONT'D)
I'm spending the night too.

MS. MILLER
Well what's Rayna's number?

KELSEY
Mom! I'm 15, please don't embarrass
me by texting her.

MS. MILLER
Fine.

Ms. Miller leaves. Kelsey's phone BEEPS.

JEREMY (TEXT)
Hey. I'm outside.

Kelsey looks out her window. Sees the car.

KELSEY (TEXT)
Can you drive to the end of the
street? Don't want my mom to see.

She watches out the window as the car pulls off.

INT. KELSEY'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Kelsey runs down the steps, past her mom.

KELSEY
Leaving!

MS. MILLER
Is Rayna outside?

KELSEY
No, I'm taking the bus.

MS. MILLER
You don't want me to drive you?

KELSEY
No. See you in the morning!

Kelsey doubles back and kisses her mom on the cheek.

KELSEY (CONT'D)
I love you.

MS. MILLER
I love you too. See you in the
morning.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Kelsey runs to the end of the street and hops in the car.

INT. JEREMY'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Jeremy smiles at her.

JEREMY
You look good.

KELSEY
Thanks.

He pulls off.

KELSEY (CONT'D)
So. Why'd you invite me?

JEREMY
I've always had a crush on you.
Guess I was nervous to tell you.

Kelsey smiles to herself.

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

Kelsey and Jeremy walk towards a bonfire. Lori, Ashley, and JOCK GUY (15) sit around it drinking. Kelsey sighs.

JEREMY
What's the matter?

KELSEY
Lori and Ash don't really like me.

JEREMY
They can be bitches sometimes, but
they cool. Don't worry, I won't let
'em mess with you.

He puts his arm around her. They take a seat at the fire.

LORI
Kelseeeyyy!

ASHLEY
Hey, girl!

Jock Guy raises his beer to her. He's already wasted.

KELSEY
(shyly)
Hi.

Jeremy hands Kelsey a beer from the cooler.

KELSEY (CONT'D)
I don't drink.

ASHLEY
Have you tried it?

KELSEY
No.

LORI
Then how do you know?

JEREMY
C'mon, it'll be chill.

Kelsey takes the beer. Cracks it open and it fizzes everywhere. The group laughs.

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

Kelsey's relaxed and very drunk.

JOCK GUY
Ash, I dare you to run to that tree
over there. Topless.

LORI
You're such a perve.

Ash takes her top off. Jock Guy pulls his phone out and records. She takes off towards the tree. Comes back.

JOCK GUY
Very sexy, Ash.

Ash looks around.

ASHLEY
Where the fuck did you put my
shirt!

She tackles him.

LORI
Alright, Kelsey. Truth or dare.

KELSEY

Truth.

LORI

Oooh, don't be a pussy.

KELSEY

Fine. Dare.

LORI

I dare you to hide in the cave for ten minutes.

Ashley puts her shirt back on.

KELSEY

What cave?

ASHLEY

You've never heard of the cave. Oh my God. We'll show you.

Jock Guy pukes near the fire.

JOCK GUY

I'm gonna chill here.

LORI

(whispering)
We need you!

JOCK GUY

I can't.

He gags.

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

The gang stops in front of a cave. A boulder covers it so that just a crack shows.

ASHLEY

You're gonna squeeze through that crack. We'll push the boulder so you can't get out.

JEREMY

Don't worry. The ghosts won't get you.

Everyone laughs.

KELSEY
I'm not scared.

LORI
Wait, give us your phone.

KELSEY
Why?

LORI
Because we know you'll cheat and
use it as a flashlight. Hand it
over.

Drunk Kelsey hands Lori her cell. Squeezes through the crack.

INT. CAVE - CONTINUOUS

Kelsey watches as the boulder moves, covering the entrance or
exit to the cave. It fits snug into the enclosure.

Kelsey stumbles around the cave. Trying to see her
surroundings, but it's pitch black.

LORI (O.S.)
I'll start the timer!

Kelsey hears GIGGLING and the sound of grass and footsteps.
They're running away.

KELSEY
Guys?

Nothing.

KELSEY (CONT'D)
HELLO!!! GUYS???

INT. CAVE - MORNING

Kelsey wakes up. Still groggy. A slither of light shows her
surroundings. The cave is mostly empty, save for a few rocks
on the ground. *And the puke on the side of her.*

She holds her head.

KELSEY
This is definitely what a hangover
feels like.

Kelsey sits up. Looks around. Comes to the realization...

KELSEY (CONT'D)
What the fuck.

And runs towards the exit of the cave.

KELSEY (CONT'D)
CAN ANYONE HEAR ME??? HELP!!!

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. CAVE - NIGHT

Kelsey's fingers are torn and dirty. Blood is on the boulder where she tried to push it. Her eyes are red and puffy. She SCREAMS to get anyone's attention.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. CAVE - DAY

She hasn't slept. Her fingers are jagged and peeled. New blood on the surface. And the boulder. Days have gone by. She looks hot, dirty, tired. Thin.

She tries to scream, but her voice is nearly gone. She's dehydrated.

KELSEY
(croaky)
Help. Please...

There's a pile of rocks on the ground in a corner. She gathered these herself.

She takes a rock from it. The smallest one. Swallows it whole.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. CAVE - NIGHT

Kelsey vomits in a corner. Her pile of rocks are gone. She crawls to the cave's exit and pushes on the boulder with little to no strength. We now see that one of her fingers are broken. The bones on the others are exposed.

Her lips are severely cracked. She slides down the boulder onto the ground. Her breathing slows. Her eyes close.

She's gone.

EXT. BLACK MOURNING CEMETERY - NIGHT

Macey watches as Rayna is entranced in the spell. She's crying uncontrollably.

MACEY

Jesus. What is she showing you...

Rayna comes out of the trance. SCREAMS out in distress.

RAYNA

THEY KILLED HER!!!

(through sobs)

They fucking killed her.

Rayna collapses into Macey's arms.

MACEY

Let's get you back to your room.

EXT. MACEY'S MANOR, UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - NIGHT

Macey closes the door to the guest room as Phil walks by.

PHIL

Y'all finished?

Macey shakes her head.

MACEY

I'm going back out to do it now.

PHIL

Why? What happened?

MACEY

I'll tell y'all in the morning.

EXT. BLACK MOURNING CEMETERY - NIGHT

Macey kneels in front of Kelsey's grave. Puts the purple dust on her tongue. Closes her eyes...

INT. CAVE - NIGHT

Kelsey slides down the boulder onto the ground. Her breathing slows. Her eyes begin to close...she's dying...

Then the boulder moves. Kelsey finds the strength to open her eyes again. Sees a figure standing there. Macey.

She comes in and sits next to Kelsey's broken body. Macey's on the verge of tears.

KELSEY
(weakly)
Who are you?

MACEY
You have to stop torturing those kids, Kelsey.

KELSEY
Look what they did to me.

MACEY
I know and I'm so sorry. We found out who it was. Let us bring you justice.

KELSEY
(a sinister laugh)
You're too late.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. MENTAL INSTITUTION - NIGHT

Jeremy's on his knees still digging into the floor.

There's nothing but nubs on his hands as all of his fingers are now gone. A small pool of blood forms.

INT. LORI'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Lori's asleep in bed. Her mom sits in a chair watching her. Then slowly gets up and leaves. We hear the door lock.

Lori JOLTS up and vomits on herself. With her sunken eyes and cracked lips, she gets out of bed, holding her stomach.

She rushes to the bedroom door and tries to open it. It's locked. She pulls on the door. BANGS on it!

LORI
HELP!!! Help me...please!!!

Lori sobs. Keeps holding her stomach. She looks around frantically for something to eat. Anything.

She notices the glass sitting on her nightstand. She picks it up. Puts it in her mouth. And bites down.

A disturbing CRACK or SHATTER.

She chews on it and her mouth bleeds violently. She swallows it as she cries.

Lori collapses onto the floor with the glass in her hand. Still chewing.

INT. CAVE - NIGHT

Kelsey cracks up as Macey watches in horror.

MACEY
What did you do, Kelsey?

KELSEY
Brought myself justice. You took
too --

Macey quickly puts her hands on Kelsey's head. Stares into her eyes. Time moves backwards. Night. Day. Night. Day...

Kelsey changes as times rewinds, becoming healthier, healed, back to her normal appearance. Macey stays the same.

CUT TO BLACK.

FADE IN:

INT. CAVE - DAY

Kelsey wakes up. Puke on the side of her. She holds her head.

KELSEY
This is definitely what a hangover
feels like.

Kelsey sits up. Looks around. Comes to the realization...

KELSEY (CONT'D)
What the fuck.

And runs towards the exit of the cave.

KELSEY (CONT'D)
CAN ANYONE HEAR ME??? HELP!!!

The boulder in front of the cave begins to move. Macey stands at the entrance.

KELSEY (CONT'D)
(relieved)
Thank you so much.

Macey enters the cave. Hands her a bottle of water.

MACEY
Drink this.

Kelsey chugs the water. Finishes, then hangs her head.

MACEY (CONT'D)
What's the matter?

KELSEY
I don't wanna talk about it.

Tears fall down Kelsey's face.

KELSEY (CONT'D)
I just wanna get home.

Kelsey cries harder. Macey embraces her and Kelsey lets go completely. Years worth of pain.

KELSEY (CONT'D)
Some assholes left me here last
night. As a joke. Don't know why I
trusted them...
(through sobs)
What's wrong with me?

MACEY
Sometimes people don't need a
reason to do evil things.

KELSEY
I spent my whole life tryna fit in.
I don't even fuckin, -- sorry. I
don't even know why I cared. I
tried to finally go out.
Do somethin'. Get out the house and
just be a normal person. Ya know?
Still this happens. I can't figure
this -- teen shit out. I just, I
just don't understand. I heard
stuff gets better in college. Guess
I'll just wait for that day to come
and crawl back into my fuckin',--
sorry. Back in my shell.
(beat)
I didn't deserve this.

MACEY

You didn't deserve that. You really didn't. And I know --

KELSEY

I don't need a pep talk, trust me. I was fine before this happened. I just wanna get home to my mom. Can you take me? I don't know my way outta here.

EXT. CAVE - DAY

The trees are tall and full of life. The grass is green and the flowers are colorful. Birds chirp and butterflies flutter. The sky is the bluest blue and the clouds are white.

Everything's beautiful. This is peace.

Macey exits the cave holding Kelsey's hand. She takes in the scenery.

KELSEY

I couldn't see how beautiful this place was last night.

Kelsey looks around. One area of the forest has a bright light. Not intimidating, but welcoming.

KELSEY (CONT'D)

What's that?

They head in that direction. Kelsey continues to look around in awe. They reach the light. It's blinding.

Macey pulls something from behind her that wasn't there before. Hands it to Kelsey. It's her book.

KELSEY (CONT'D)

How'd you get this?

MACEY

May you find eternal peace, Kelsey.

Kelsey and Macey walk into the light. Kelsey disappears with it, leaving Macey behind.

INT. MACEY'S MANOR, UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - NIGHT

Aja walks past Rayna's room. Hears crying and opens the door.

AJA
Can you quiet down a bit?

RAYNA
Sorry.

Rayna turns away from Aja. She steps in and closes the door.
Sits on the edge of Rayna's bed. Pulls out a joint.

AJA
(lighting it)
You smoke?

Rayna sits up, nods. Aja takes a hit. Passes it to her.

AJA (CONT'D)
I don't wanna hear about your
problems.

Rayna takes a hit. Passes it back to Aja.

RAYNA
Wasn't gonna tell you. Why'd you
come in here?

AJA
Cause shit's fucked up sometimes.
This helps.

EXT. BLACK MOURNING CEMETERY - NIGHT

Macey wipes away tears as she opens Kelsey's urn.

Her ashes rise from the ground, swim around the air and right
back into it. The lid closes.

Macey places it in the gravesite.

INT. MACEY'S MANOR, STUDY - DAY

Macey's at her desk. Phil, Leann, Chrissy, and Aja come in.

CHRISSY
Where's Rayna?

MACEY
Asleep.

AJA
Still?

MACEY

We had a long night, which is why I called this house meeting.

They all take a seat.

PHIL

Everything okay?

MACEY

When Rayna did the spell, the deceased showed her everything. More than I've ever seen.

CHRISSEY

So, it's settled? Rayna's a witch? Is she a permanent healer too?

MACEY

She is a witch, yes. And she'll still need some training, but it appears she might be a permanent healer.

AJA

Okay, Rayna's a witch, whatever. But how do you know for sure she has that skill? Couldn't that girl just be showing her all this stuff because they knew each other?

MACEY

Possibly. I'd like to try some of my other cases with her first.

AJA

So you're gonna take her in too?

LEANN

I hope she comes to live with us!

MACEY

Simmer down. She already has a family. But she lives close enough that she'd be able to visit over the course of the summer. That's something she'd have to agree to.

PHIL

That's alright with me.

INT. MACEY'S MANOR, GUESTROOM - DAY

Rayna packs her bag. Chrissy comes in.

CHRISSEY
Can you come back next weekend?

RAYNA
Yeah. I kinda don't wanna leave.

CHRISSEY
I don't want you to either.

They share a smile.

CHRISSEY (CONT'D)
We can text until then. I'll update you on Sam.

RAYNA
Yeah. Uh, my phone's actually broken. I need to get a new one. But you can give me your number and I'll call you when I get a new one.

CHRISSEY
Okay!

Chrissy gives Rayna a tight hug. She's startled for a minute, but returns the affection.

EXT. MACEY'S MANOR - DAY

Rayna gets in the car with Phil and Macey. Leann, Aja, and Chrissy stand in the doorway waving.

EXT. KELSEY'S HOUSE - DAY

Phil gets Rayna's bike out of his trunk.

PHIL
(hugging her)
It was good having you, Rayna.
Hopefully you'll be back soon.

Phil gets back in the car. Macey embraces Rayna.

MACEY
You were such a great help to me.
Sorry about last night, I know it was a lot for you.

(MORE)

MACEY (CONT'D)

I completely understand if you don't wanna do that anymore.

RAYNA

No. I'll be fine.

Macey pulls back from the hug and takes Rayna's hands.

MACEY

Thank you. It would mean a lot. You have my number. Just call when you're ready to come back and Phil will swing by.

RAYNA

Thank you.

Macey waits for Rayna to go inside.

RAYNA (CONT'D)

You don't have to wait for me. It's a safe neighborhood.

MACEY

Alright, then.

She watches Macey get in the car. They wave and pull off.

Rayna gets on her bike and goes the opposite way.

INT. PHIL'S CAR - SAME TIME

Macey and Phil turn a corner. Macey catches Rayna ride away in the side-view mirror.

MACEY

Phil, turn around the block and follow Rayna.

PHIL

What?

MACEY

That wasn't her home.

EXT. TENT COMMUNITY - DAY

Phil and Macey sit parked across the street as they watch Rayna walk her bike up to her tent.

PHIL

What you about to do, ma?

Macey looks at him. Smiles.

INT. LORI'S BEDROOM - DAY

The cops and forensics are in Lori's room. Her body has been removed. A COP goes into Lori's closet and pulls something from a top shelf.

Kelsey Miller's cell phone.

INT. LEANN'S ROOM - NIGHT

Leann is awake in bed. She watches her closet door. A shadow moves underneath it. She brings the covers over eyes.

The black shadow slithers under the door and stops at the foot of her bed. It's just out of her sight.

She peaks over the bed to see where it went...

And it quickly morphs into a TALL OLD MAN!

Leann SCREAMS at the top of her lungs as he drags her back into the closet.

CUT TO BLACK.