

JANITORS

"PILOT"

by

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ACT ONE

INT. MOONLIGHT ROLLERWAY - EVENING

It's 70's night at Moonlight Rollerway, a kitschy roller rink that caters to the hipster crowd. People in bell bottoms and afro wigs skate-dance to "Boogie Shoes".

MAGGIE(20s), in glitter make-up and big hair, skates off the rink. Her friend FREDDIE(20s) sidles up beside her.

FREDDIE

Cheap beer, polyester, and
consequence-free sex. We picked the
wrong decade to be alive.

MAGGIE

Tell me about it. I'm going outside
for a smoke.

FREDDIE

Smoking indoors, that's another
one.

Maggie skates away.

FREDDIE (CONT'D)

Don't take too long, couples skate
is coming up.

MAGGIE

Whatever.

EXT. MOONLIGHT ROLLERWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Maggie skates into the alley beside the rink and lights a
cigarette.

SCRATCH! Her ears perk up when she hears a scratching sound
come from the dark end of the alley.

MAGGIE

Freddie? Is that you?

RUSTLING NOISES continue as she tentatively skates down the
alley.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

Dude, come on, I'm not in the mood.

She approaches a large dumpster and looks around. Nothing.

SLAM! The dumpster lid flies open and a CREATURE jumps out. It's human-sized, but dark green and covered in scales, with the face of a lizard.

Maggie SHRIEKS and backs away from the creature, tripping on her skates and falling to the ground.

The creature approaches her, HISSING. Its forked tongue pokes out and we see a mouthful of razor-sharp teeth.

She is dumbstruck and panicked. Maggie desperately tries to crawl away from the creature, when it wraps a claw around her leg and yanks her back. Maggie SCREAMS.

Suddenly, JAMES FESSBEGLER(50s) in grey coveralls strikes the beast with a metal bo staff. WHACK! The beast rears it's head and lunges for him.

The man spins the bo staff with expertise, alternately jabbing and beating the creature. The creature HISSES and lunges at the man, tackling him.

SNAP! The man breaks the staff into two pieces, and starts using them as BATONS, wailing on the creature. He presses a button on the side of a baton and a BLADE slides out. He rushes the creature and STABS it in the shoulder.

The creature HISSES in pain and pulls the baton out, JAMMING it into the man's guts. It makes a sickening SQUELCH sound.

VROOM! A motorcycle speeds down the alley and slides to a stop. The creature slithers down the alley and out of sight. The motorcyclist jumps off her bike and pulls off her helmet. This is MELANIE MACFARLANE (30s) a beautiful but no-nonsense warrior. She rushes to the man's side.

MELANIE

James!

JAMES

The girl...is she okay?

Melanie looks and sees Maggie, shivering in the corner.

MAGGIE

I'm fine. He saved me. Jesus Christ, what was that thing?

JAMES

Lacerta demon.

MELANIE
(into her phone)
I need a medic evac and I need it
now.

JAMES
It's too late, kiddo. I've been
doing this for 30 years, I know a
mortal wound when I feel it.

Melanie examines the gut wound...it's bad.

MELANIE
Come on old man, I've seen worse.

JAMES
(coughing up blood)
You have to find my daughter. You
have to prepare her for what's
coming.

MELANIE
Not without you.

JAMES
Mel, please. Take care of my Josie.
She has no idea - -

MELANIE
Stay with me, James. Come on. Stay
with me.

Her voice CRACKS and tears form in her eyes.

JAMES
Josie.

He closes his eyes and he's gone.

FADE OUT.

INT. CADILLAC- MORNING

A vintage 1970's Cadillac is parked.

BRODY
Josie. Josie wake up, we're here.

JOSIE FESSBEGLER (25) squints her eyes and shifts up in her seat. She is a cute, girl-next-door type...if that girl lived next door to a Game Stop and a marijuana dispensary. She's wearing black jeans, a black t-shirt, and a black leather jacket, with a black beanie covering an unruly head of hair.

JOSIE

What did we smoke last night? My brain feels like an M.C. Escher drawing.

She looks at BRODY BEN-ISRAEL (25), a tatted-up punk princess with a crooked smile. She looks like Emily the Strange, if she grew up to be a drug-dealing lesbian.

BRODY

Let's get you cleaned up.

QUICK CUTS OF:

- Josie using eye drops
- Brushing her hair back
- guzzling a Starbucks Double Shot
- Chewing some mint gum
- Wiping her jacket down with a Bounce sheet

The girls are all cleaned up and ready to go.

BRODY (CONT'D)

You ready for this?

JOSIE

Not even remotely.

Josie grabs a simple daisy bouquet and the two head in.

CUT TO:

INT. FUNERAL HOME - MOMENTS LATER

Josie and Brody walk into the viewing room, where they see a closed casket. Beside it, a large photo of James Fessbegler sits on an easel beside a flower display.

Josie walks over to the casket and lays a hand on it.

JOSIE

I thought it would be open casket.

BRODY

Trust me, it's better this way. I remember seeing my Bubbe at her funeral. She looked like she was made of marzipan.

JOSIE
So long, pops.

BRODY
Vaya con Dios.

JILLIAN
I cannot believe you're late to
daddy's wake!

JILLIAN FESSBEGLER (29), preppy and poised in a tasteful black dress, glowers at her little sister.

BRODY
Hey Jill. Sorry about your dad.

JOSIE
You said 12 to 2, if you wanted me
here at 12 on the dot you should
have just said so.

JILLIAN
I don't know why I'm surprised. I
can't count on you for anything.

JOSIE
Really? We're doing this now? At
dad's funeral? Give me a break.

JILLIAN
A break from what? You're
unemployed, you dropped out of
college, you have zero
responsibilities, and you sleep on
Silent Bob's couch.

BRODY
That's ridiculous. Between the two
of us, I'm obviously Jay!

Before Josie can retort, she is grabbed by her mother, EVELYN FESSBEGLER-MCINTYRE (50s), a regal, polished woman in an immaculately tailored black pantsuit. She grabs both of her daughters by their arm skin in the classic mom pinch and drags them into a corner.

JOSIE
Mom, that pinches!

EVELYN
What do you girls think you're
doing? You will not embarrass me in
front of your father's extended
family!

JILLIAN

I'm the embarrassing one? Josie smells like Snoop Dogg's tour bus!

JOSIE

This is prom all over again.

Evelyn takes out a tissue, spits in it, and starts wiping down Josie's face.

JOSIE (CONT'D)

Ugh mom, what are you doing?

EVELYN

There we go. I knew my beautiful daughter was in there somewhere. Now I want you two to behave. I know you didn't spend a lot of time with your father, especially after the divorce. But we're here to say goodbye.

JOSIE

Did Joel come?

EVELYN

Your stepfather thought it would be awkward, so he stayed home.

JILLIAN

(looks towards the door)
Finally! My flower arrangement arrived.

Jillian walks over to a delivery man and signs for an enormous, tasteful, white flower centerpiece.

JOSIE

Are you sure she wasn't adopted?

EVELYN

She's upset. Everyone grieves in their own way.

JOSIE

Well, I wish her grieving process didn't include crapping all over my life choices.

EVELYN

It's not about you. Between her new promotion and planning the wedding, she's stressed out.

JOSIE

I get it, she's the golden child
and I'm...the other one.

EVELYN

You'll figure it out, Josie. In the
meantime, you've got your
waitressing job - -

JOSIE

Yeah, about that...I got fired.

EVELYN

Again?

JOSIE

Apparently seafood restaurants
frown on their employees racing
lobsters after hours.

EVELYN

There's something great out there
Josie. It's just waiting for you to
find it.

JOSIE

If you see it, let me know.

EVELYN

And honey, don't tell your dad's
relatives that you're unemployed.
They might get the wrong idea.

CUT TO:

INT. BATHROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Josie, eyes red from crying, splashes some cold water on her
face. She stares at herself in the mirror, takes out a flask
from her jacket, and swigs.

INT. FUNERAL HOME - LATER

Josie is getting grilled by her relatives.

AUNT

So, what are doing with yourself
these days, Josie?

JOSIE
 Oh, I'm just kind of bouncing
 around. Trying to figure out what I
 want to do.

Her aunt stares at her incredulously.

JOSIE (CONT'D)
 (lying)
 I'm thinking about moving to Japan
 and teaching English.

AUNT
 (perks up)
 How adventurous!

QUICK CUTS of Josie talking with her relatives:

JOSIE
 I'm joining the Peace Corps and
 moving to Croatia.

An old man nods approvingly.

JOSIE (CONT'D)
 I'm working on my own line of
 handcrafted artisanal cheeses.

An older couple make admiring noises.

JOSIE (CONT'D)
 I'm training to become an
 apprentice butcher.

A cousin listens attentively.

JOSIE (CONT'D)
 - - driving cross-country, it'll
 just be me, a saxophone, and the
 teachings of Christ.

A little kid looks skeptical.

LITTLE KID
 But you're Jewish.

JOSIE
 So was Jesus. Look it up.

INT. FUNERAL HOME - LATER

Jillian talks to an older couple, and she is accompanied by
 her fiancée ELLIS MARSHALL (30s) a blandly handsome bore.

JILLIAN

- - Ellis's mother wanted our wedding colors to be peach and teal, but luckily I talked her out of it! Isn't that right, honey?

ELLIS

Yes, dear.

Josie and Brody watch the exchange from across the room.

BRODY

So that's Ellis? I thought for sure he was a figment of her imagination and this whole wedding thing was building to an epic Shyamalan twist.

JOSIE

That relationship is just building toward cliché and disappointment.

BRODY

So it *is* like a Shyamalan movie.

JOSIE

Let's get out of here.

Josie and Brody walk towards the exit. Josie passes her sister's massive flower display, and sees her simple daisy bouquet shoved against the wall.

EXT. PARKING LOT - MOMENTS LATER

Josie and Brody get into the caddy and drive away.

Melanie watches them, lowers her helmet visor, and speeds after them on her motorcycle.

CUT TO:

EXT. SOCCER FIELD - NIGHT

Josie and Brody are stretched out on the hood of the caddy, sharing a joint.

JOSIE

Maybe Jill has it all figured out. Career, husband, the whole nine yards.

BRODY

Jill is a robot. And not like a fun one that mixes drinks and speaks in a British accent. She's like the Terminator in Lily Pulitzer.

JOSIE

I don't know, man. What's weird is, it's not his death I'm sad about. I never really got to know him. Two weekends together every month doesn't exactly create an intimate bond. And most of that was spent watching TV on his couch while he was out working.

BRODY

That sucks.

JOSIE

I thought we'd have more time, you know? He'd retire, and we'd get to know each other as adults. There's still so much I don't know about him. His favorite book, the first time he got drunk, what he wanted to be when he was a kid. But I waited. I waited and the moment fucking passed me by.

BRODY

Jos, it's not your fault, how could you have known - -

JOSIE

It is though. It's indicative of my whole fucking life. I keep waiting for something to happen, something big. Like I'm crouched at the starting line, waiting for that gun to go off.

BRODY

So what are you waiting for?

JOSIE

I don't know. The - -

Josie fires a pretend finger gun.

BRODY

You don't need someone to tell you to start. You just get running. Start the race yourself.

JOSIE

You're right. I need to get a job.
Something simple and mind-numbing
until I figure my shit out.

BRODY

Sounds like a plan.

INT. BRODY'S LIVING ROOM - LATER THAT NIGHT

Brody is dressed up for a night out. She sees Josie parked on the couch, with a remote in hand.

BRODY

Are you sure you don't want to join Sarah and me? It's mash-up night at the beverly, they're screening *Texas Chainsaw Massacre*, but instead of the original audio they're playing the new Taylor Swift album to see if it'll sync up Pink Floyd style.

JOSIE

I'm gonna pass.

BRODY

Working on your artisanal cheese preaching?

JOSIE

Haha. At least you didn't get job-shamed by your extended family.

BRODY

Dad was disappointed, until he saw the first year earnings of the dispensary. Now he wants me to franchise this bitch like a Subway.

JOSIE

Must be nice. I'll see you later.

CUT TO:

INT. BRODY'S LIVING ROOM - HOURS LATER

Josie is parked on the couch, playing a video game. A bong rests on the side table. Josie is pressing the controller animatedly.

JOSIE
(to the screen)
Come on you little bitch!

Her character dies. The game resets and on screen we read "press any button to start".

Josie turns off the TV and sighs. She takes out her phone and flips through photos of her and her father.

Suddenly, Josie grips her head in pain.

JOSIE'S POV: FLASHES OF IMAGES: BARED TEETH, BLOODY CLAWS, A WOMAN SCREAMING FOR HELP.

PULL BACK to reveal Josie screaming in pain.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. EXAMINING ROOM - MORNING

Josie, in a paper hospital gown, sits on the table. DR. MORRIS (late 20s) nerdy cute, walks in holding her chart.

DR. MORRIS
Josie Fessbegler?

JOSIE
In the flesh.

DR. MORRIS
I'm Dr. Morris. According to the labs and the CT scan, you're perfectly healthy.

JOSIE
Seriously? My brain felt like it was on fire. And I saw...some messed up things.

DR. MORRIS
Well, we found THC in your blood stream. Maybe you just had an adverse reaction to whatever you were smoking?

JOSIE
Is this the part where you break out the egg and the frying pan and tell me that this is my brain on drugs?

DR. MORRIS
I don't have a problem with recreational marijuana. It helped make med school bearable. But it seems to be the only explanation for your headache and hallucinations. Have you been under a lot of stress lately?

JOSIE
No, I mean...my dad just died. Maybe it's hitting me harder than I thought.

DR. MORRIS
I'm sorry. Losing a parent is devastating.

Dr. Morris puts a hand on Josie's shoulder. She looks at him.

JOSIE

You look too young to be a doctor.

DR. MORRIS

I'm just finishing my residency.

JOSIE

Nice. Your parents must be psyched.

DR. MORRIS

I'd like to think they would be.
They died when I was little.

JOSIE

I'm sorry, I didn't mean to - -

DR. MORRIS

(brushing it off)

I'm going to prescribe you a light
sedative to help you sleep. If the
symptoms come back, I want you to
come in.

CUT TO:

INT. BRODY'S APARTMENT, KITCHEN - THE NEXT DAY

Josie sits down in front of her laptop, a bowl of cereal in her hand. She starts to scan the Craigslist job ads as she slurps the milk from the bowl.

JOSIE

(reading to herself)

College degree required, B.A.
Required, Associates degree
required. Balls.

QUICK SCENES OF Josie ON THE PHONE WITH DIFFERENT EMPLOYERS:

JOSIE (CONT'D)

I don't have any experience in the
field but I'm a fast learner!

JOSIE (CONT'D)

I'm not familiar with the product,
but I'm a fast learner!

JOSIE (CONT'D)

I'm a hard worker, and I never
quit! I usually just get fired.

JOSIE (CONT'D)
 So you just want to massage my feet
 while somebody films it? Actually
 that sounds kinda nice...

CUT TO:

INT. BRODY'S APARTMENT, KITCHEN - HOURS LATER

Josie is playing Solitaire on her computer. She's one card
 away from finishing the game.

JOSIE
 On my command, unleash hell!

Josie drops the last card and watches as the card waterfall
 takes over the screen.

JOSIE (CONT'D)
 This should so not be the highlight
 of my day.

KNOCK KNOCK. Josie opens the door to see a UPS DELIVERY MAN
 (20s) standing in the hallway.

DELIVERY MAN
 I've got a package for Josie?

JOSIE
 That's me.

DELIVERY MAN
 (passing her the tablet)
 Sign here.

Josie signs and takes the large cardboard box.

DELIVERY MAN (CONT'D)
 Have a good one.

Josie opens the box and reads the letter inside.

JOSIE (V.O.)
 (reading the letter)
 Dear Miss Fessbegler, A-1
 Janitorial is saddened to hear of
 your father's passing. Enclosed are
 the contents of his work locker and
 his personal effects.

Josie removes old family photos from the box. She also finds
 her father's grey coveralls, with "Fessbegler" stitched
 across the breast.

JOSIE (V.O.)
(still reading)
Your father's untimely passing has left an open position on our custodial staff, a position we would like to offer you. Please call us at the following number, should you wish to pursue this offer of employment.

Josie holds her father's coveralls, unsure of what to do.

CUT TO:

INT. DIVE BAR - EVENING

Josie is having drinks with Brody and her girlfriend SARAH (20s), a dreadlocked grad student with a winning smile. The bar is crowded with hipsters drinking and hovering around the juke box.

SARAH
So do you think all these guys just woke up one morning and said, "you know what's a good look? Sexually ambiguous lumberjack."

BRODY
Hold up, I want to get back to this janitor thing.

JOSIE
It's weird, right? "Sorry you're dad's dead, here's his pants, get to work?"

BRODY
It's definitely weird. Are you gonna do it?

JOSIE
Well, I need the job. Unless you expect me to pay the rent with sexual favors?

SARAH
Not gonna happen!

BRODY
Sarah's jealous of our romantic past.

JOSIE

You mean the time we both got blitzed and woke up wearing each other's bra? I still don't know how that happened.

BRODY

College was fun.

SARAH

Surprisingly, I'm not threatened by any of that.

Sarah kisses Brody.

JOSIE

Next round is on me. Be right back.

Josie heads to the bar, when a guy in front of her stumbles and spills his beer on her shirt.

JOSIE (CONT'D)

Dude, what the fuck!

Josie looks up to see Dr. Morris.

DR. MORRIS

Shit, I'm so sorry, this drunk guy just shoved me - - Josie?

JOSIE

Dr. Morris, hey.

DR. MORRIS

Please, call me Noah. Here, let me get you some napkins.

Noah grabs some cocktail napkins and hands them to Josie.

DR. MORRIS (CONT'D)

Let me buy you a drink.

Josie looks at her white, soaked shirt. She eyes Noah, who wears a flannel over a t-shirt.

CUT TO:

INT. DIVE BAR - LATER

Noah has joined Josie's booth. He has given his flannel to Josie. The shirt is comically big on her.

BRODY

Well, our Uber is outside. You coming Jos?

Josie looks at Noah, who smiles at her.

NOAH

If you want to hang out a little longer, I can give you a ride home.

JOSIE

Yeah, that sounds good.

SARAH

(drunk)

You should ride him home.

BRODY

Okay babe, time to go.

SARAH

(drunken loud whisper)

I'm talking about his dick!

Noah blushes.

JOSIE

Thanks buddy, I figured that one out.

Brody drags Sarah out of the bar.

NOAH

They seem nice.

JOSIE

So what now?

NOAH

Do you want to come over to my place?

JOSIE

I don't know...

NOAH

Hold up, I didn't mean it to sound so sketchy. We don't have to do anything, zero expectations.

JOSIE

It is getting late...

NOAH
I have original Nintendo with Duck
Hunt.

JOSIE
(perks up)
Where are you parked?

CUT TO:

INT. NOAH'S APARTMENT - LATER

Noah and Josie are playing Duck Hunt on an original Nintendo console. Josie is kicking his ass.

JOSIE
Yes! New high score!

NOAH
You know, a lesser man would feel
emasculated right now. But I'm
secure with my Duck Hunt
inferiority.

JOSIE
Oh yeah?

NOAH
Besides, my Super Mario Brothers
skills are on point.

Noah leans in and KISSES Josie. She breaks the kiss,
giggling.

NOAH (CONT'D)
What?

JOSIE
I'm just surprised that this
(gestures to herself)
Is your type. I had you pegged
differently.

NOAH
Are you kidding me? A beautiful
girl, wearing my shirt and kicking
my ass at video games? So many
adolescent fantasies going on here.

Noah kisses her and they start making out.

CUT TO:

INT. NOAH'S BEDROOM - LATER THAT NIGHT

Josie and Noah are asleep in his bed, clothes scattered on the floor.

CLOSE ON Josie's face. She's having a nightmare.

JOSIE'S POV: FLASHES OF A POOL OF BLOOD, A SCALY TAIL, FISTS ANGRILY SLAMMING AGAINST A WALL.

Josie bolts upright, covered in sweat. She looks over to see Noah sleeping peacefully. Josie quietly gets out of bed and starts getting dressed.

EXT. NOAH'S APARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER

Josie waits for an Uber to arrive. She looks down the street and sees a helmeted figure on a motorcycle. Josie squints at it, and walks toward the biker.

JOSIE

Hey - -

VROOM. The biker speeds off. Josie watches the bike drive away as her Uber pulls up.

FADE OUT.

INT. BRODY'S APARTMENT - THE NEXT AFTERNOON

Brody sits on the couch strumming a guitar. Sarah is reading.

BRODY

So you spend a sexy night with a nice, good-looking - -

SARAH

For a guy - -

BRODY

- - doctor, and you leave in the middle of the night without leaving a note or anything?

JOSIE (O.S.)

When you say it like that, I sound like kind of a dick.

BRODY

Oh no, you handled the situation with grace and maturity.

JOSIE (O.S.)
Enough with the Jewish mother
routine. It's obvious to both of us
that it was a one night stand. Move
on.

Josie walks into the room wearing her dad's coveralls with a
white tank top underneath.

JOSIE (CONT'D)
What do you think?

BRODY
That's the second most depressing
stripper costume I've ever seen.

JOSIE
It's not a costume, it was my
dad's. And tonight I'm continuing
the proud Fessbegler family
tradition of cleaning up other
people's crap.

BRODY
So you're a janitor now?

SARAH
A lady janitor. Janitress?
Janitrix?

BRODY
Ooh, I like janitrix! I've been a
dirty girl and I need a hot
janitrix to clean me up!

JOSIE
That's not hot.

SARAH
I dunno, it's kinda working for me.
Let's workshop this once she
leaves.

JOSIE
Wish me luck!

BRODY
Play nice with the other
janitrixes!

Josie walks out. Brody looks at Sarah and slowly pushes some
of her papers onto the floor.

BRODY (CONT'D)
 (seductively)
 Oh no. I better clean those up.

SARAH
 (playing along)
 You better.

CUT TO:

INT. OFFICE BUILDING, LOBBY - NIGHT

Josie follows TESS (30s), a youthful secretary, as she shows her around the office.

TESS
 It's a pretty small practice,
 nothing to write home about. People
 keep their work spaces pretty tidy,
 so it shouldn't take you too long.

Tess walks over to her cubicle, where we see a gym bag and a bike helmet. The helmet is covered in roller derby stickers.

JOSIE
 Nice stickers.

TESS
 Thanks. I was supposed to go to
 practice tonight, but I'm gonna be
 stuck here with this case file. If
 you need anything, I'll be here.

JOSIE
 Supplies?

TESS
 The supply closet is around the
 corner on your left. You'll find
 everything you need in there.

JOSIE
 Cool, thanks.

Josie pops her earbuds in and starts playing music.

MONTAGE OF Josie CLEANING:

- Josie vacuums a hallway.
- Josie glides down the hallway on a rolling chair.
- Josie empties trash cans into her cart.

- Josie dances on a desk while replacing a fluorescent bulb.
- Josie opens the closet and takes out a bucket.
- Josie fills the bucket with water, spilling some.
- Josie mops the front lobby, singing into the mophead like it's a microphone.

END MONTAGE.

Josie mops and sings (badly) while she works.

JOSIE (CONT'D)
(singing "You Oughta Know"
but replacing the lyrics)
And I'm here/to re-mop you/from the
mess you left when you worked
today/it's not fair/to employ me/in
this rat ass job that ya gave to
me/you you you you oughta - -

Josie looks down and sees the dirty mop water has turned red.
She looks ahead and sees: the RIPPED OFF ARM of Tess on the
floor. Josie SCREAMS.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. OFFICE BUILDING, LOBBY - CONTINUOUS

Josie backs up against the wall and slides down, hyperventilating.

She looks down the hallway and sees the silhouette of a large lizardy-looking beast eating Tess. Or what's left of her.

JOSIE
(whispers to herself)
Holy shit.

The creature stops eating and cocks his head.

JOSIE (CONT'D)
Shit.

Josie ducks behind a cubicle, frozen in fear. She peeks around the corner and sees a scaly tail duck out of sight.

JOSIE (CONT'D)
Fuck me, this is not worth minimum wage!

Josie crawls towards the stairwell, with a red exit sign hanging over it. SCRATCH SCRATCH! She hears the creature moving and ducks behind another cubicle.

She hears the creature in the next cubicle over, rattling the wall between them. Josie looks up at the shaking bobble-heads on the desk she's crouched in.

A half-baked idea forms in her head. Josie takes one of the bobble-heads and pitches it across the room. It lands with a CLANG! The creature is distracted by the noise and scurries off to investigate.

Josie continues crawling towards the stairwell. She hears a HISS and grabs the mop she dropped. The creature comes around the corner and charges her.

THWACK! Josie hits it right in the mouth. The creature shakes it off and attacks. She tries to beat it off with the mop, but it grabs the mop head and rips it up, leaving a sharp wooden edge.

The creature lunges for her and Josie tumbles backward, still holding the mop. They land on the floor with a CRASH.

Josie closes her eyes, fully expecting to get eaten, but the creature is still. It sinks onto her, drool from it's mouth getting on her coveralls. Josie rolls it off.

The creature has impaled itself on her mop, and it's now dead. Josie, covered in blood and viscera, stumbles away horrified.

JOSIE (CONT'D)
What the shit was that!?

The stairwell door swings open and a man in coveralls comes out. This is CLARK MADSEN (50s), a bearded man with a long, diagonal scar on his face.

CLARK
Well, this is gonna be a bitch to clean up. You okay?

JOSIE
I just got attacked by a giant lizard. I'm as far from okay as I can get.

CLARK
That's not a lizard. It's a Lacerta demon. But you did good. Come with me.

Clark grabs Josie by the elbow and drags her off.

CUT TO:

EXT. STREET - MOMENTS LATER

Josie and Clark are walking down the street when Clark stops in front of a run-down looking white van with "A-1 Janitors" written on it.

CLARK
Come on.

JOSIE
Whoa whoa whoa. I don't know you.

CLARK
I'll explain everything, but I need you to come with me.

JOSIE
Dude, I almost died, I'm covered in slime, and my shift is up. I am not getting in your rape-mobile.

CLARK
Fair enough.

Clark takes out a small tube of breath-spray/knock-out gas and sprays it in Josie's face.

JOSIE
Stranger Danger - -

Josie passes out.

FADE TO BLACK.

INT. HOLDING CELL, HQ - LATER

Josie wakes up on a cot in a small, sparsely furnished room. Josie'S POV: her vision is fuzzy and disoriented. She hears people arguing.

Her vision sharpens and she sees Clark arguing with Melanie.

MELANIE
I told you this was a mistake,
she's way too green.

CLARK
I know she doesn't have the field
experience, but she took out a
Lacerta demon by herself. That's no
walk in the park.

MELANIE
She's raw and unfocused. And
according to her blood work,
there's more marijuana in her
system than there is oxygen!

JOSIE
Where am I?

MELANIE
That's classified.

Josie eyes the tube of knock-out gas in Clark's pocket.

JOSIE
(to Clark)
And you? Did you drug me? Not cool,
man!

CLARK
I'm sorry Josie, but I needed to
get you here and you were
being...difficult.

JOSIE
Dude, you haven't met difficult.

Josie stumbles out of the bed and grabs the knock-out gas.
She points it toward Clark and Melanie like it's a gun.

CLARK
Josie, just calm down. I can
explain everything.

JOSIE
Get away from me.

MELANIE
Just listen to us - -

JOSIE
Say goodnight, bitch.

Josie SPRAYS the knock-out gas, but ends up spraying it
directly into her own face.

JOSIE (CONT'D)
Oops.

Josie passes out.

MELANIE
She's obviously going to be a major
asset to the team.

FADE OUT.

INT. THE LIBRARY, HQ - CONTINUOUS

Josie wakes up to find herself sitting in a big leather chair
in a large library. There are stacks of notebooks, walls of
bookshelves, and a crackling fireplace. Clark and Melanie
wait for her to wake up.

JOSIE
Did I die and wake up in Downton
Abbey?

MELANIE
Not exactly.

Josie looks down at her hands, which are zip-tied together.

CLARK

We did that for your own protection.

JOSIE

The only thing I need protecting from is you weirdos.

CLARK

Josie, I know you must have a lot of questions. That's why I brought you here. This is our base of operations.

JOSIE

For what?

MELANIE

For the work that we do.

CLARK

The world that we live in is merely the tip of a cosmological iceberg. There is a vast realm underneath us that few know about. It is dark. It is dangerous. And the elements of that world have the ability to cross into ours.

MELANIE

And when they do, it gets messy.

CLARK

We clean up the mess.

JOSIE

I'm sorry, you lost me at iceberg.

MELANIE

Great, she's an idiot.

JOSIE

Hey!

CLARK

All those fears, those nightmares, those monsters that haunt us. They're not just figments of our imagination. They are very real. You killed one just a few hours ago.

JOSIE

So you're monster hunters?

CLARK

Josie, it's more complicated than that - -

MELANIE

Monsters, beasts, imps, demons, foul spirits. We run the gamut. Basically, if you're evil, we end you.

Clark gives Melanie a stern look.

MELANIE (CONT'D)

What? I'm giving her the Cliff notes version.

JOSIE

What does this have to do with me? I'm just a janitor.

CLARK

Not yet. But you will be. We can train you. Teach you how to be one of us.

JOSIE

Are you a cult? I'm getting a real matching sweatpants and sister wives vibe from you people.

CLARK

We're not a cult. I wanted to show you this.

Clark gestures to the fireplace.

JOSIE

Is it a remote controlled fireplace?

CLARK

No. I mean, it is, but...pay attention!

JOSIE

Sorry.

CLARK

Look.

Above the fireplace is a fragment of Grecian marble, an bas-relief of a two-faced man in a toga. He holds a primitive broom like a weapon.

CLARK (CONT'D)

That's Janus. In Greco-Roman times, he was the God of portals, doors, and entry ways.

JOSIE

Ye old timey bouncer.

CLARK

Janus guarded the old world, he looked to the future and the past. Hence the two faces. Many, many years ago a small collection of men and women created the Order of Janus. They alone stood between our world and the ever encroaching darkness.

MELANIE

They were the first Janitors.

CLARK

Few people have the ability to comprehend the real world, the world as we know it to be. They are so certain, so resolute in their beliefs, that the very notion of an alternative is intolerable. It's human nature to fear and hate what we don't understand.

MELANIE

The people turned on the Order, and its members were forced to go underground and protect the world in secret. They disguised their weapons and hid in the shadows. And we've been there ever since. Protecting the world right under your stupid noses.

Josie stares at them for a beat and BURSTS out laughing.

JOSIE

Wow! Holy shit, you guys. This is impressive. I mean, I've heard about hazing the newbie, but you really kicked it up a notch!

CLARK

Josie, this isn't a joke - -

JOSIE
No, it's like Clooney-level
pranking. Kudos, really. You almost
had me. Can I go now?

CLARK
So you haven't been getting the
visions?

Josie stops.

JOSIE
How did you know about that?

MELANIE
Your father used to get them. He
must have passed them on to you
when he died.

JOSIE
What do you know about my father?

CLARK
Josie, your father was a janitor.
He was one of us.

JOSIE
I'm sorry, are you telling me that
my dad, James Fessbegler, was a
secret demon hunter and I didn't
know about it?

Melanie takes a photo off the mantle and gives it to Josie.
CLOSE ON THE PHOTO: a smiling James with Clark, Melanie, and
others.

MELANIE
Your dad was a hero. He saved my
life countless times.

CLARK
James had a gift. Those visions
aren't hallucinations. They're
real, and they run in your family.

MELANIE
You come from one of the oldest
bloodlines in world. There have
been janitors in your family for
centuries.

CLARK
And now it all comes down to you.

Josie is shocked into silence. The tension in the room is palpable. Until...

A secret door on the bookcase opens and a young guy, ALFIE (20s) stumbles in with his arms full of plastic bags. The bags are piled so high we can't see his face.

ALFIE

'Sup party people? Schwarma Palace was off the chain tonight! I got lula kebabs, I got baba ganoush, I got falafel balls up to my ears. Little help here?

Melanie grabs the bags and starts placing them on the table. We finally see Alfie's face, nerdy and scruffy.

MELANIE

I told you to put these in the canteen.

ALFIE

A "you're welcome" would have sufficed, Mel. Don't forget this.

Alfie hands over another plastic bag, but this one is gripped by his long, cat-like TAIL. He takes off his baseball cap to reveal two FURRY, POINTED EARS.

ALFIE (CONT'D)

Who's the new girl?

Josie stares at Alfie in complete shock.

JOSIE

What- - are you?

ALFIE

I'm a poet, a warrior, a raconteur. And thanks to a slight mishap in chemistry lab, I am now the next step in the evolution of man.

MELANIE

Okay, first of all, no. This genius tried to give himself superpowers in high school chemistry and instead he ended up looking like a knock-off Thundercat.

ALFIE

Maybe I wanted to look like a knock-off Thundercat, did you ever think of that?!

MELANIE

Did you?

ALFIE

No! But I have crazy animal hearing now, and this badass tail. Soon, the evil in this city will fear the Catman!

CLARK

Now you're just embarrassing yourself, son.

JOSIE

I think I'm gonna be sick.

Josie's eyes roll back in her head and she passes out.

FADE OUT.

INT. HOLDING CELL - LATER

Josie wakes up on the cot and sees Alfie and Melanie watching over her.

ALFIE

Take it easy, just sit up slowly.

Josie slowly sits up and looks down at herself. She's wearing sweatpants and an oversized t-shirt.

JOSIE

What am I wearing?

MELANIE

You threw up on your coveralls.

JOSIE

And you took off my clothes?

MELANIE

It wasn't a pleasant experience for either of us.

JOSIE

Well, at least I didn't piss myself.

ALFIE

Oh, you did that too. But the library carpet is stain-resistant so - -

MELANIE

Alfie. Out. Now.

ALFIE

Fine. Later, Josie.

Alfie heads out of the cell. Josie looks at Melanie.

MELANIE

Look, I know this is a lot to take in. I was freaked out the day they recruited me.

JOSIE

And then what happened?

MELANIE

Your father gave me a cup of coffee and promised me the world hadn't stopped spinning.

Melanie hands Josie a cup of coffee. Clark walks in.

CLARK

Feeling better?

JOSIE

Not really.

CLARK

Come with me, I want to show you something.

INT. VISION ROOM - LATER

Clark walks Josie into a spotless white room. There is a large cushion in the center of the room, surrounded by pillows. Everything is white.

JOSIE

A Mac store? This place has everything.

CLARK

Your dad called this the vision room. This is where he used to channel his sight. Control it.

JOSIE
I can control them?

CLARK
You can learn to. Meditation,
practice, self discipline. They'll
be your greatest gift. Sit down.

Josie takes a seat on the large cushion. Clark sits facing her.

CLARK (CONT'D)
I want you close your eyes. Take a
deep breath. Clear your mind.

JOSIE
Not the easiest thing to do right
now.

CLARK
Just try it. Create an inner
stillness.

Josie closes her eyes and breathes deeply.

CLARK (CONT'D)
Open your mind.

JOSIE'S POV: FLASHES OF A WOMAN SCREAMING, BLACK AND WHITE STRIPES, A WOODEN INSTRUMENT.

Josie GASPS as she comes to.

CLARK (CONT'D)
What is it? What did you see?

JOSIE
A woman, she's screaming. And I saw
black and white stripes and some
wooden thing - -

CLARK
See? You can do this. You're
gifted. Just like your father.

JOSIE
No, I'm not. I don't want this. I
don't want any of this.

CLARK
But your dad - -

JOSIE

- - Wasn't there! He wasn't there,
and now you just expect me to waltz
in here and take his place? I'm not
him!

CLARK

I know you're not - -

JOSIE

I hate to break it to you, but I'm
not the girl you're looking for.
Don't you know I'm an unreliable,
irresponsible fuck-up? I can't even
save myself, much less the world.

CLARK

Josie, you can't hide from who you
are. You were meant for this.

JOSIE

(in tears)

Meant to die alone like my dad? Or
that girl in the office building?
I'm sorry, but I can't be who you
want me to be.

CLARK

We only want you to be yourself.

JOSIE

Look at me, man. I'm nobody's idea
of a hero.

Josie starts crying. Clark tries to comfort her, but she
brushes him off.

JOSIE (CONT'D)

I can't do this. Can you please
take me home? I want to go home.

CLARK

If that's what you really want.

FADE TO BLACK.

INT. BRODY'S LIVING ROOM - LATER

Josie wakes with start. She looks around; she's back on
Brody's couch, by herself, still wearing her dad's coveralls.

She looks down to see an A-1 Janitors business card sitting
on the coffee table.

Josie picks up the card and flips it over. "You're not alone - Clark" is written in ink on the back.

JOSIE

Fuck me.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

EXT. CEMETERY - DAY

Josie sits by her father's grave, deep in thought. She touches the headstone, clearing off some leaves that have fallen on it. She feels a presence behind her...an arm reaches out to grab her...it's Jillian.

JOSIE
(shocked)
Jesus Christ!

JILLIAN
What's wrong with you?

JOSIE
We're in a cemetery! You can't just creep up on me like a ninja.

JILLIAN
Sorry. I didn't expect to see you here.

JOSIE
Well, he was my dad too.

JILLIAN
I know. I didn't come here to fight.

JOSIE
Me neither.

JILLIAN
I don't want it to be like this, you know? Squabbling every time we see each other. One day mom will be gone, and you'll be the only family I have left.

JOSIE
You'll have Ellis.

JILLIAN
That's not the same and you know it.

JOSIE
Well, he doesn't have my sparkling personality.

JILLIAN

The older you get, the more you realize that all the bells and whistles aren't important. Because at the end of the day, despite his faults, Ellis shows up. He's there.

JOSIE

That's really all it takes?

JILLIAN

That's more than we got from dad.

CUT TO:

INT. HOSPITAL - DAY

Noah is talking with some nurses at the nurses' station when Josie walks in.

NOAH

Hey stranger.

JOSIE

Do you have a minute?

Josie doesn't wait for him to answer, pulling him aside.

NOAH

What's up?

JOSIE

I'm sorry for bailing on you the other day.

NOAH

Yeah, that wasn't great. Did I do something or say something - -

JOSIE

No! No, you were awesome. Aces all around. I was an immature dick.

NOAH

(teasing)

Was?

JOSIE

I'm working on it. Wanna get dinner this week?

NOAH

Yeah.

JOSIE
Cool. I gotta go...I'll text you
later.

NOAH
Looking forward to it.

Josie walks off, before rushing back and KISSING him. Hard.

NOAH (CONT'D)
Whoa.

JOSIE
Now I'm going.

A NURSE (40s) gives her the slow clap.

INT. HOSPITAL LOBBY - MOMENTS LATER

Josie walks out of the hospital but stops when she sees a news story playing on a large TV screen.

CLOSE ON TV: A REPORTER (30s) stands in front of a candle-light vigil.

REPORTER
I'm here at the Doll Factory, where friends and family are mourning the loss of Tess Borich, better known as Tesselmania, captain of the popular roller derby team the Wreck City Rollers. Borich was found murdered at her place of work - -

The commentary goes silent as Josie focuses in on a REFEREE in the background, whose face is obscured by a hoodie. CLOSE ON the WOODEN WHISTLE around their neck. The exact one from her visions.

JOSIE
(recogniizing it)
Holy shit.

CUT TO:

INT. BRODY'S LIVING ROOM - LATER

Josie tears apart the living room, looking for the A-1 Janitors business card.

JOSIE
Come on, I just had it!

Josie flips the cushions off the couch, finding spare change, the remote...literally everything but the card.

Suddenly, an idea forms. Josie grabs her keys and hustles out of the apartment.

CUT TO:

EXT. SHWARMA PALACE

Shwarma Palace sits in a rundown strip mall. Alfie, baseball cap covering his ears, leaves with his take-out. He is grabbed by Josie, who slams him against the wall.

JOSIE

Cat man! I need your help.

ALFIE

Josie?! What are you doing here?

JOSIE

I need to talk to Clark. Take me to the secret lair.

ALFIE

Okay.

Alfie walks her to the next shop over, where "A-1 Janitors" is written on the door.

JOSIE

(disappointed)

Oh. I thought there was like, a secret entrance or something.

ALFIE

Yeah, we're going for the whole "hiding in plain sight" thing.

JOSIE

A bit anti-climactic, don't you think?

ALFIE

This is why we need to recruit a billionaire playboy.

Alfie and Josie walk into the shop.

INT. A-1 JANITORS OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

Alfie leads Josie over to rack of mops. He pulls the third mop like a lever and the wall section opens, revealing an elevator.

JOSIE

Nice.

ALFIE

I know, right?

They step into the elevator.

INT. LIBRARY - MOMENTS LATER

Josie and Alfie walk into the library.

JOSIE

Where is everybody?

Alfie gets a text. He looks at his phone.

ALFIE

They're gone. Mel says they tracked a lacerta demon to - -

JOSIE

The doll factory?

ALFIE

How did you know?

JOSIE

My vision. The black and white of the referee's shirt. And that wooden whistle thing, that ref was wearing it on TV.

ALFIE

Of course!

Alfie rushes over to a large mahogany desk, covered with old books. He grabs one and flips through the pages.

ALFIE (CONT'D)

Did it look like this?

Alfie shows her an image in the book resembling the wooden whistle.

JOSIE

Yeah. What is it?

ALFIE

Silbato Muerte. It means "death whistle". It's a mystical instrument, the ancient Aztecs used it for ceremonies, human sacrifices and the like.

JOSIE

Charming.

ALFIE

(reading)

"Whoever possesses the whistle controls the servants of death".

JOSIE

Green, scaly lizard servants?

ALFIE

Exactly. It's a pied piper scenario, only instead of children it's reptilian hell beasts.

JOSIE

Clark and Melanie are heading into a trap. We have to help them.

Josie goes to the wall of books and starts pulling different books off the shelves.

ALFIE

What are you - -

JOSIE

Which one of these opens the wall?

ALFIE

Please be careful, those are first editions! Besides, you're not equipped. Come with me.

CUT TO:

EXT. THE DOLL FACTORY - CONTINUOUS

The A-1 Janitors van pulls over next to the doll factory.

INT. VAN - CONTINUOUS

The van is filled with surveillance equipment. Clark and Melanie scan the empty parking lot with a night vision camera.

MELANIE

All clear. We are good to go.

CLARK

Remember, this is recon only. We're not here to engage, just to confirm that this is the location of the Lacerta nest.

MELANIE

Roger that.

CUT TO:

INT. THE SUPPLY ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Alfie leads Josie into a large supply room. There is a rack of coveralls on one wall. Mops and brooms hang from racks, and bottles of cleaning supplies line the shelves.

Alfie tosses a pair of coveralls to Josie.

ALFIE

Welcome to the supply room. Time to suit up.

JOSIE

I get the whole "janitors as a cover" thing, but we need weapons. Guns, lasers, proton packs. I can't scrub these things to death.

Alfie presses a button on the side of a mop and a SHARP BLADE pops out.

ALFIE

You're not gonna find these at Walmart. Aluminum, so it's lightweight but durable.

Alfie breaks the mop handle into two baton-sized pieces, twirls them around and reconnects them.

ALFIE (CONT'D)

Your mop is the most versatile weapon in the janitor's arsenal. Ooh, this is fun - -

Alfie flips a switch and the end of the mop CRACKLES with electricity.

ALFIE (CONT'D)
 Full tasing capabilities. Brooms
 come similarly equipped, buckets
 are bullet-proof, and your
 coveralls are made from the
 lightest, most breathable armor
 known to man.

Alfie STABS a pair of coveralls, which cause his mop blade to
 bend.

ALFIE (CONT'D)
 Pretty sweet right?

JOSIE
 Are these urinal cakes?

ALFIE
 Flash grenades. You do NOT want to
 pee on those, trust me.

QUICK CUTS of:

- Boots getting laced up.
- Pockets stuffed with urinal cakes
- Mops locked and loaded.
- coveralls zipped up.

Alfie and Josie are dressed and armed for battle.

ALFIE (CONT'D)
 (puts on goggles)
 Attention shoppers, we've got a
 clean-up on aisle Hell!

JOSIE
 Let's workshop that one.

CUT TO:

INT. DOLL FACTORY - LATER

Clark and Melanie walk through the deserted Doll Factory. The
 space is dark, quiet, and creepy.

Clark and Melanie make their way towards the banked track, a
 large oval track that slopes inward. They hear a muffled
 WHIMPER and climb into the track.

In the flat center lies Maggie (the girl from the opening). She is bound and gagged to a table, tears in her eyes.

Melanie rushes to her side and removes her gag.

MAGGIE
(terrified)
Please help me. He's going to kill me.

MELANIE
(to Clark)
This is the same girl from last week.

CLARK
We need to get her out of here.

MAGGIE
He's crazy. He killed Tess.

A PIERCING SHRIEK causes Melanie and Clark to collapse, clutching their ears. Maggie wails in pain.

Melanie looks up and sees twenty Lacerta demons spilling onto the track, surrounding them. They HISS and SNAP at them.

The referee climbs over the track, death whistle around his neck. It's Freddie, the skater from the opening.

FREDDIE
Enough!

The demons stand still, awaiting his orders.

FREDDIE (CONT'D)
Who's ready for a time out?

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

INT. DOLL FACTORY - LATER

Melanie and Clark are tied up, along with Maggie. They are surrounded by demons.

MAGGIE

Freddie, why are you doing this?
Tess was your friend!

FREDDIE

You know, I ref your bouts. I volunteer every weekend. I helped build this damn track. And you want to be my friend?! I don't need any more friends.

MELANIE

You're killing people because you can't get a date? You're insane.

FREDDIE

You'd be crazy too after a lifetime of friend-zoning from these ungrateful bitches!

Freddie takes out a large knife, and runs the blade along Maggie's cheek. She cries.

CLARK

Don't touch her!

FREDDIE

I fixed your flat tire, remember? I mean, I let the air out first, but then I fixed it. And you never said. Thank you. That's just rude.

CLOSE ON Melanie's hands, furiously trying to untie the rope that binds them.

MAGGIE

But why Tess?

FREDDIE

Because you complained to her Mags. You complained about me being "creepy". Whatever that means. She was going to fire me, and I couldn't have that.

(MORE)

FREDDIE (CONT'D)
 I didn't know what to do. Until
 this little baby came into my life.

Freddie kisses the death whistle hanging around his neck.

FREDDIE (CONT'D)
 I tried being a nice guy, I really
 did, but you know what they say
 about nice guys - -

Suddenly, the LIGHTS are turned on, and everyone squints at
 the harsh glare. Freddie looks up to see:

Josie, in her coveralls, mop in hand, wearing a pair of
 skates.

JOSIE
 Is it the same thing they say about
 misogynistic psychos?

Josie skates down the banked track and WHACKS Freddie in the
 face with her mop.

JOSIE (CONT'D)
 Here's a pro tip: women don't
 respond well to murder!

Freddie scrambles away from her.

FREDDIE
 Attack!

The demons lunge for Josie, who gets back on the track and
 starts skating. She slaloms around the demons, bypassing them
 with jumps and sharp turns.

SMACK! She hits one trailing her and it rolls down the track.

Melanie frees her hands and rushes to untangle her legs. She
 crawls over to Clark and unties him. They each pull small
 batons out of their pockets that expand to full size mops,
 and start battling the demons.

Melanie is cutting Maggie free when a demon bites her on the
 shoulder. She HOWLS in pain. Clark leaps to her defense and
 stabs the beast in the back.

Alfie slides down the banked track and splits his mop in two,
 TASING two demons that rush him. They collapse. He smiles
 triumphantly, only to slip on a skate and fall down.

ALFIE
 Come on.

Maggie crawls across the floor, grabbing a discarded derby helmet. She throws it at Freddie's head and WHACK! He crumbles to the ground.

Josie skates over to Melanie, who is clutching her shoulder.

JOSIE

There are too many of them.

MELANIE

Get the whistle.

Josie skates after Freddie, and finds him moaning on the ground as Maggie beats the shit out of him.

JOSIE

Hey!

Josie grabs her arm to stop beating.

FREDDIE

Thank you.

Josie rips the whistle off him.

JOSIE

(to Maggie)

As you were.

Maggie continues punching Freddie in the face.

Josie takes the whistle and BLOWS. Everyone clutches their ears in pain.

JOSIE (CONT'D)

Enough!

The demons stop fighting and look at Josie.

JOSIE (CONT'D)

No fighting. No killing. Anyone.
Now go away and stuff.

The demons slither off the track and into the shadows. Josie drops the whistle on the ground and CRUSHES it under her skates.

She skates over to Alfie and Clark, who are helping Melanie off of the track.

JOSIE (CONT'D)

We need to get her to a hospital.

ALFIE
What are we going to tell them?

CUT TO:

INT. HOSPITAL - LATER

Melanie sits in a hospital bed, while Josie talks to a NURSE (30s).

NURSE
A bear attack?! In Echo Park?

JOSIE
Can you fucking believe it?

NURSE
That's crazy.

JOSIE
Can you get my friend some more ice chips?

NURSE
Sure, I'll be right back.

The nurse leaves, and Josie sits next to Melanie's bed.

MELANIE
Bear attack was the best you could come up with?

JOSIE
She bought it. How're you feeling?

MELANIE
Heavily medicated.

JOSIE
Lucky.

MELANIE
Where did you learn to skate like that?

JOSIE
My dad's apartment building was right next to a skate park. I'd spend hours out there when I was a kid, skating around while I waited for him to come home from work.

MELANIE

I'm glad you came back. What made you change your mind?

JOSIE

I thought it was time I started showing the fuck up.

MELANIE

You know, this doesn't mean you're a full-fledged janitor. There's training, studying, it's not easy.

JOSIE

I've had my fill of easy. I'm ready to work.

MELANIE

I'm sorry I was hard on you when we first met.

JOSIE

Yeah, you were kind of a bitch.

MELANIE

I'm told I can be a little intense.
(beat)
Your dad was really important to me. He recruited me, trained me. You have a lot of him in you.

JOSIE

Well, I get my mustache from my mother's side of the family.

Melanie LAUGHS then winces in pain.

JOSIE (CONT'D)

(to the nurse)

We're gonna need way more drugs in here.

FADE OUT.

INT. DIVE BAR - THE NEXT NIGHT

Josie is having drinks with Brody, Sarah, and Jillian. The bar is loud and noisy.

BRODY

I'd like to propose a toast to my best friend, Josie!

SARAH
Miss Fessbegler if you're nasty!

BRODY
For holding down a low-
responsibility, minimum-wage job
for two weeks!

JILLIAN
(sloppy)
That's my sister! Woo!

Everyone CLINKS their glasses and drinks.

Josie leans over to Brody.

JOSIE
(whispering)
How much did you give Jill to
drink?

BRODY
(whispering back)
She's had two whiskey sours, and
I'm pretty sure she just squeezed
my ass. Not gonna lie, kind of
turned on right now.

JOSIE
Gross.

SARAH
Josie, does this mean you'll start
paying rent?

JOSIE
Let's not get ahead of ourselves.

BRODY
Aim low, friend!

Alfie, wearing a cap, brings another pitcher of beer.

ALFIE
Did I miss the toast? I have the
worst timing.

JOSIE
She's been toasting every 15
minutes, you're not missing
anything.

SARAH
 Hey, why does Josie call you Catman
 anyways?

Alfie looks at Josie, who looks back at him, horrified.

ALFIE
 (waving his hand like a
 paw)
 Meow?

Everyone starts LAUGHING. His secret is safe for now.

BRODY
 (to Josie)
 You know, I like this look on you.

JOSIE
 Coveralls are sexy.

BRODY
 No, this "bright in the eyes"
 thing. It works for you.

Josie looks up to see Noah waving at her from the bar.

JOSIE
 I'll be right back.

Josie walks over and takes a seat beside Noah.

JOSIE (CONT'D)
 Hey stranger.

NOAH
 Hey. Congrats on your job.

JOSIE
 Thanks! I'll finally get to use my
 masters in the custodial arts
 degree.

NOAH
 I signed us up for the next darts
 game. I really want to impress you
 with my hand-eye coordination.

JOSIE
 If we're gonna play games, I'm more
 interested in Duck Hunt.

He leans in and KISSES her. Everyone in the booth WOOS.

JOSIE (CONT'D)
Yeah, we should probably go now.

Josie and Noah head out.

SARAH
Yeah Josie! Get it in!

BRODY
Dude, you're embarrassing her!

SARAH
Does she know I was talking about
his dick?

FADE OUT.

INT. NOAH'S BEDROOM - THE NEXT MORNING

Josie wakes up in Noah's bed. She reaches out for Noah, but he's gone. Josie opens her eyes and sees a Post-it note on his pillow reading: "Got called into work. Would much rather be with you. Dinner tonight?"

Josie gets out of bed and gets dressed.

INT. JOSIE'S CAR - LATER

Josie is driving when she gets a call from Brody.

JOSIE
Good morning.

INT. BRODY'S LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

BRODY
I had a sex dream about your
sister.

INTERCUT BETWEEN BRODY AND JOSIE:

JOSIE
Come on, man! Keep that to
yourself.

BRODY
Who else am I gonna tell?

JOSIE
Literally, anyone else.

BRODY

Sarah and I are gonna wake and bake
and watch *The Craft*. You in?

JOSIE

I can't, I have to swing by work.

BRODY

But it's Saturday.

JOSIE

You know me, eager beaver.

BRODY

There's a hilarious vagina joke in
there, but I'm too hungover to make
it.

CUT TO:

EXT. A-1 JANITORS OFFICE - LATER

Josie pulls up and walks towards the Janitors storefront.

INT. A-1 JANITORS OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

Josie walks over to the mops and pulls the handle, opening
the door to the elevator.

INT. LIBRARY

Josie walks out of the elevator and into the library, where
Clark, Melanie, and Alfie are waiting for her.

MELANIE

Are you ready for your first day of
training?

JOSIE

No, but let's do it anyway.

Melanie tosses her a mop. Josie doesn't catch it.

JOSIE (CONT'D)

I'll get it next time.

Josie's cell phone RINGS, and she answers it.

JOSIE (CONT'D)

Yeah?

INT. HOSPITAL - CONTINUOUS

Noah is in the breakroom.

NOAH
Hey, sorry about this morning.

INTERCUT BETWEEN JOSIE AND NOAH:

JOSIE
No worries, it happens.

NOAH
We still on for dinner tonight?

JOSIE
Yeah, text me when you get off work.

NOAH
Will do. They need me in surgery, I gotta go.

JOSIE
Bye.

NOAH
Bye.

INT. HOSPITAL - CONTINUOUS

Noah hangs up the phone and steps into the elevator. He inserts a key card and the elevator doors close.

INT. LOWER FLOOR - MOMENTS LATER

Noah steps out of the elevator, and gets off at the lower floor. He steps into a sparse, concrete hallway. Noah opens an office door and walks in.

INT. OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Noah walks into a dingy office and puts on a pair of gloves. He grabs a bone saw, and turns toward his patient...

A hissing Lacerta demon strapped to the operating table.

NOAH
(nonchalant)
Now you are going to tell me everything you know.

The bone saw WHIRS to life.

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF SHOW