

PRIONS

Written by

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TEASER

OVER BLACK:

TEXT:

"Fatal Insomnia: A rare disease caused by PRIONS. The only release from the ever worsening madness is assured and begged for death."

All of the text disappears except for the word "PRIONS" - this is our TITLE CARD.

EXT. PLANTATION HOUSE - NIGHT (1997)

The beautiful white house sits atop a hill in HAWAII. Palm trees sway gracefully in the night's ocean breeze.

GRAPHIC CARD: 1997

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT (1997)

It's summer. Hot. The windows are open, letting in a cool ocean breeze. The bedroom belongs to teenager JACOB.

The DIGITAL CLOCK on the night table reads "3:07 AM"

Jacob lays in bed half-awake, half-asleep. His eyes flutter open and close as he stares at the glow-in-the-dark star covered ceiling. It is SILENT - calm. But something is off.

Jacob's eyes flutter open, then closed. Open. Closed.

There is a slight NOISE interrupting the silence. It's a soft, slow, SWINGING sound. Like a porch swing, rhythmic and calming.

The clock flips to "3:08."

From JACOB'S POV we see that there is something in the bedroom corner. Something in the SHADOWS rocking in time with the SWINGING NOISE. It's creepy, blurry, and menacing.

Suddenly Jacob sits up in bed with a JOLT. He stares ahead with a glazed, almost possessed, look.

He gets out of bed and stumbles across the room toward the swinging shadow. The NOISE gets LOUDER.

The REVERSE ANGLE shows the sound is coming from...

An unconscious and BLOODIED YOUNG WOMAN hanging from a rope, strung up by her hands. She is the swinging shadow.

Her dress is tattered. Her legs are bent, not supporting any weight. She slowly sways side to side.

Eventually she comes to and struggles to lift her head. With every ounce of willpower she WHISPERS...

YOUNG WOMAN

Help me.

Jacob doesn't react. He looks up to her hands over her head, tied tightly by the ropes. BLOOD trickles down her arm.

He reaches up and touches the blood, getting it all over his hands. In a trance, he smears the blood across his face.

And with that the woman's head droops, she's DEAD.

Jacob blinks, coming out of his trance. He starts to realize what's in front of him. A complete change in mood.

JACOB

No! Please, no!

He grabs the woman and hoists her up, trying to relieve the weight from her hands.

JACOB (CONT'D)

Come on!

He slips on the pool of BLOOD on the floor, and they both come crashing to the ground with a THUD. The woman's body is on top of him pinning him down. He's helpless.

Suddenly the room is filled with LIGHT as the bedroom door opens and Jacob's MOTHER rushes into the room.

JACOB'S MOTHER

Jacob!

She kneels next to him on the ground.

The young woman, rope and all, is NOT THERE. She was a HALLUCINATION. It's only Jacob and his mother.

Jacob looks up, tears in his eyes. The BLOOD is still on his face and hands.

JACOB'S MOTHER (CONT'D)

Are you bleeding?

She frantically looks over his body for a wound. Jacob sees his FATHER standing in the doorway.

JACOB'S MOTHER (CONT'D)
He... he's bleeding. I can't tell
where it's coming from!

JACOB'S FATHER
The police are here.

JACOB'S MOTHER
He's hurt. We have to get him to
the hospital!

JACOB'S FATHER
It's not his blood.

She looks down to her son. Realizing what her husband means.

Jacob looks off, unresponsive. Just inches away from him on the floor is the DEAD YOUNG WOMAN. Eyes open, staring back.

INT. OPERATING ROOM (1997)

The fluorescent light on the ceiling flickers.

Jacob lays on a gurney tied down by restraints. Time has passed. He now has a shaved head and looks much skinnier and paler - sickly.

He holds up his hands. They're thin and trembling. Various tubes are connected to him via IVs.

A DOCTOR wearing a surgical MASK hovers over him.

JACOB
What are you doing to me? How long
have I been here?

The Doctor ignores his questions and continues prepping something out of sight. Jacob tries to move. He can't.

The masked doctor turns to Jacob and holds up his hands. In one hand is a BLACK PILL. In the other is a WHITE PILL.

The doctor forces the black pill into Jacob's mouth. He swallows. Suddenly Jacob starts getting ELECTROCUTED.

JACOB (CONT'D)
Stop! Stop!

Finally it does. His body relaxes. Then, a bell DINGS.

DING. DING.

The noise cues the Doctor to hold up the white pill close to Jacob's face. It blurs in and out of focus.

He then forces it down Jacob's throat. Jacob braces, waiting for another shock. But nothing bad happens. In fact, his breathing calms down; he relaxes, feeling much better.

JACOB (CONT'D)

Thank you.

The Doctor scribbles something on his notes. He then reaches for a LONG SYRINGE on his medical tray. He turns to Jacob. Approaching menacingly.

JACOB (CONT'D)

No!

The doctor sticks Jacob and injects the RED liquid.

Jacob's eyes roll back in his head. A BEEPING heart monitor indicates his pulse slowing. He's dying.

His heart continues to slow until it STOPS. Jacob's head falls to the side.

CUT TO BLACK.

END TEASER

ACT ONE

EXT. RAINFOREST ROAD - DAY

GRAPHIC CARD: PRESENT DAY

A quiet dirt road. The skies are dark with clouds and the WIND blows strongly in the trees.

The serene nature is interrupted by a white, unmarked CARGO VAN slowly coming around the curve. It takes its time but finally passes a sign that reads:

"WELCOME TO POKE, HAWAII (Population 1,235)"

EXT. PLANTATION HOUSE - DAY

It's the same house - Jacob's house - sitting atop the large hill. A big STORM is coming in. The sky is dark and menacing.

Local teenagers, FREDDY and HAN, both late teens, lead a family of TOURISTS as they hike up the hill.

FREDDY

This is my favorite spot in the whole town.

They're conducting some sort of ragtag tour. TED, the slightly overweight father, walks to the edge. He's carrying a backpack and is a bit out of breath.

TED

It's beautiful. Carol, come look!

Ted's wife, CAROL, and 10 year old son, JON, go over to look.

HAN

Over there is one of the famous haunted spots on the island.

He points over to a grove at the edge of the town.

HAN (CONT'D)

They say a kid with a sewn-on face haunts the grove. Every night a wild dog attacks him ripping his face off and every morning he gathers his scraps of flesh and sews them back on one piece at a time.

(MORE)

HAN (CONT'D)

The problem is when he can't find all of the pieces and needs more. He takes it from whoever he can.

FREDDY

The town has such a great history of hauntings and ghosts. The church, the school, not to mention the native wars that took place on the Malaka cliffs just over there.

Jon pulls out his IPHONE, uninterested.

HAN

I don't think he's scared, Freddy!

Freddy puts and arm around Jon guiding him around the tree. He points to the white plantation home.

FREDDY

You see that house? That used to be the home of a serial killer. A kid named Jacob Cruetz. He was just a little older than you when he stopped sleeping. He went crazy and killed three people one summer on July 4th. He was sent to an asylum where he died. They say his ghost still haunts the town, forever awake, forever looking for his next victim.

TED

And thank you for what I'm sure will be many sleepless nights.

FREDDY

You better go to sleep. If you don't Jacob will come to you and...

He runs his finger across his throat. Jon's jaw drops. He might have peed a little.

INT. PLANTATION HOUSE (ALANA'S CLINIC)

A very PREGNANT young woman CORA, 21, sits on an exam table. She's cute and put together. But she looks sick. She's pale with DARK CIRCLES under her eyes.

Dr. ALANA MAKI walks in carrying a PATIENT FILE. Alana is in her mid-thirties, a beautiful Hawaiian woman with long black hair. She's commanding and nurturing. She's our woman.

The EXAM ROOM is clean, simple. A small town doctor's office built into the house. Alana lives upstairs and has converted the downstairs into her clinic.

ALANA

Well, everything looks good.
(Cora is disappointed)
That's a good thing.

CORA

Right. It's just... I feel terrible. I was hoping the tests would point to something.

ALANA

They did. They pointed to you being eight months pregnant. You're supposed to feel terrible.

Alana smiles and sits next to her on the table. Clearly this is more than a patient, doctor relationship.

CORA

I'm just worried.

ALANA

I'll tell you when to worry.
(beat)
Stay here tonight. I'll pick up stuff at the market and cook something nice.

Cora nods, relieved.

Hearing MUFFLED TALKING, Alana turns to the window annoyed. She goes and looks out - it's Freddy and Han's tour.

ALANA (CONT'D)

They sure like to tempt the lock on my 12 gauge.

She closes the window.

EXT. PLANTATION HOME - CONTINUOUS

Jon sees the window close. He gets scared.

JON

It's Jacob!

HAN

(laughing)
Jacob doesn't live there anymore.
(MORE)

HAN (CONT'D)

It's a clinic now, little man. Dr. Maka works there.

FREDDY

Ya, and she hates us being on her property so we better scoot.

HAN

Especially before this rain hits. A big hurricane is coming in.

TED

Not until tomorrow, though, right?

HAN

My mom said it's coming in tonight, and she's never wrong.

FREDDY

Our little village doesn't do too well in storms. Power lines here are as old as dirt.

TED

Sounds like we'll be checking out early, then. Thanks guys.

The group heads off down the hill.

EXT. RAINFOREST ROAD

The WHITE VAN continues down the road. It weaves in and out of the wide curves.

In the distance above the tree tops, a BOLT of lightening hits a tree.

A NEWT aimlessly wanders into the road. The creature licks its eye. Lightening flashes in the distance.

SQUISH. The white van runs over the newt.

EXT. HILLSIDE

Han, Freddy and the gang walk down the hill.

Alana drives down the road in her RED PICKUP TRUCK. She leans out the window.

ALANA

Still haven't learned how to read?

She gestures to a NO TRESPASSING SIGN.

TED

Aloha! Just passing through.

ALANA

Howdy.

She looks at Han who wipes sweat from his brow.

ALANA (CONT'D)

Han, you don't look so good.

HAN

I'm fine, doc.

ALANA

You sure? I don't want another case of mono going though the high school. Not with finals coming up.

HAN

Yes, ma'am.

Alana waves and then drives away.

Everyone continues walking. Jon takes the lead, skipping ahead.

TED

Watch out, son.

He doesn't listen and keeps running. There's a cross road ahead.

The WHITE VAN is speeding toward the intersection.

CAROL

Jon!

As Jon takes a step into the road, the Van almost hits him. Han swoops in at the last second, pulling Jon to safety.

Carol rushes to them and holds her son, worried.

Freddy and Han, out of breath, watch the white van speed off into the distance.

EXT. RAINFOREST ROAD - EDGE OF TOWN

The White Van continues down the road. It's on the outskirts of town. No buildings or people around. Just nature.

Suddenly it comes to a SCREECHING STOP right at the border where the lush rainforest starts back up.

The back two doors fling open. Slowly, A MAN steps out of the van and tumbles to the ground.

The doors to the van suddenly close as it speeds off leaving the Man in the dust. He COUGHS and looks back to the van as it drives away.

The man is thin with dark eyes and a shaved head. He wears all white. Something in him is reminiscent of a POW survivor.

The van disappears into the rainforest.

Frantically, he begins searching all around him and in his POCKET. He finds an OLD CELL PHONE.

He reaches back into his pocket and pulls out a SMALL PILLBOX. Anxiously, he opens it and sees two WHITE PILLS.

He quickly pops one in his mouth and closes his eyes in relief. It's a drug addict's ADDICTION taking over. Once he swallows, everything in him relaxes.

He looks down and sees there is ONE PILL REMAINING. He closes the pill box and puts it back in his pocket.

MAN IN WHITE
(muttering to himself)
Go home. Complete the task. Go
home...

The Man looks up and scans the horizon. He sees the WHITE PLANTATION house on the hill. Alana's clinic. He stands.

INT. PLANTATION HOUSE

Cora has fallen asleep in the living room with the book on her large belly.

CREAK. The noise wakes her up. She thinks little of it as she stands up stretches.

She goes to walk up the stairs in the FOYER and hears a THUD sound coming from above. Is someone there?

CORA
Alana?

Brushing it off, Cora walks upstairs to Alana's living quarters above the clinic.

Cora walks down the hallway toward the GUEST BEDROOM. Suddenly, something MOVES in the bedroom behind the slightly ajar door. Cora is spooked.

She slowly inches her way forward. She pushes the door open. There's nothing there. Cora, relieved, walks in.

As the door swings closed we see THE MAN IN WHITE. There's a madness in his eyes. Cora is completely unaware he's there. She sits on the bed and takes off her shoes. She still doesn't see him.

Cora sits up and in a JOLT, sees the Man. He LUNGES forward, grabs her throat and shoves his hand over her mouth. There's pure terror in Cora's teary eyes.

MEANWHILE DOWNSTAIRS...

Alana walks in, arms full of groceries.

ALANA

Cora?

No response. Alana goes to the kitchen.

BACK IN THE BEDROOM...

The Man in White squeezes Cora's throat. He's scared, too. Unsure of what he's doing and how to stop. His grip tightens.

Suddenly a VASE breaks over the Man's head and he falls to the side. Cora scrambles away.

Alana stands over the Man in White with the partially broken vase in hand, ready to strike again. Cora cowers behind her.

The Man in White turns to Alana, she sees his face for the first time. It takes a moment for her to realize but when she does, it's sudden. She KNOWS the intruder.

ALANA (CONT'D)

Wha- it's not possible.

She drops the broken vase - no longer scared, now in shock. Alana walks toward him and falls on her knees next to him.

CORA

Alana, what are you doing?!

ALANA

(beat, then)

Jacob?

The Man in White is an OLDER JACOB.

Alana begins to cry. She hesitates but slowly her hands reach out and touch Jacob's face. He recoils, scared.

ALANA (CONT'D)

It's me. Alana. Don't you remember?

Alana inches her way forward. Jacob starts to remember.

FLASH TO - Jacob's POV memory of Alana as a teenager. The images are hazy and in quick succession but we can make out their HANDS HOLDING; A KISS; LAUGHING. It's YOUNG LOVE.

JACOB

Alana?

Alana smiles through her tears. She reaches out again and touches his face. He is scared, trembling.

She tenderly hugs him. After a moment, he relaxes into her embrace, resting his head on her shoulder.

ALANA

I thought you were dead.

JACOB

Me too.

His eyes close in relief.

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. PLANTATION HOUSE - EXAM ROOM

Alana preps some basic medical equipment. Across the small room, Jacob stands, anxious and uncomfortable.

ALANA

I don't understand.

JACOB

They cured me.

Alana stops and looks at him.

ALANA

That's impossible. I studied Prion diseases. There is no cure.

JACOB

They gave me these white pills.

Jacob pulls out the PILLBOX and shows Alana the last lonely WHITE PILL inside. Alana takes it out and examines it.

JACOB (CONT'D)

(mumbling)

Go home. Complete the task. I'm home. Com-

(realization)

I really shouldn't be here.

ALANA

It's your home, Jacob.

(beat, then)

Please let me do a quick exam.

Alana puts the pill down on the counter. Jacob eyes it the way a drug addict looks at their stash.

JACOB

You're a doctor.

ALANA

So they tell me.

JACOB

Can you get me more white pills?

That's my last.

ALANA

I need to do an exam first. Can you take off your shirt and sit here?

Jacob thinks for a moment. He nods then reluctantly takes off his shirt and sits on the exam table.

Alana glances quickly and sees that his entire torso is covered in SCARS. Jacob has been tortured for years.

ALANA (CONT'D)

Jacob...

Jacob catches the look of shock and horror in her eyes. She quickly looks away - the professional.

Alana starts performing a basic exam. She listens to his chest with a stethoscope.

JACOB

Where are my parents?

ALANA

I haven't seen them in 18 years.

JACOB

Did you... did you say 18 years?

Alana steps back.

ALANA

I'm so sorry Jacob.

JACOB

So I'm...

ALANA

Thirty-five last month. I poured you a drink every year.

Jacob smiles a small sad smile.

ALANA (CONT'D)

What?

JACOB

We can drink.

Alana smiles back.

JACOB (CONT'D)

I thought you wanted to be a dancer.

She moves across his chest and around his body. She can't help but gape at his various SCARS of all shapes and sizes.

ALANA

I actually became a doctor because of you. After your diagnosis. Started my college application the day after they took you away.

She gently touches a particularly gruesome scar on his shoulder blade. She can't hold it back any longer.

ALANA (CONT'D)

What happened here?

Jacob trembles from his memory.

ALANA (CONT'D)

I'm sorry. I'm almost done.

JACOB

I need my pills.

ALANA

What do they do?

JACOB

Keep the monsters at bay, I guess.

Jacob looks back to his pill. Alana holds back her concern and puts on a smile as she looks at a faint scar on his chin.

ALANA

I remember this one. You were trying to surf by Woreman's cove. Thought you were hot shit.

A slight smile bubbles out of Jacob.

Alana looks over as Cora steps into the doorway - mindlessly stroking her pregnant belly while eyeing Jacob warily.

ALANA (CONT'D)

Cora, you should go upstairs.

Jacob doesn't take his eyes off Cora.

CORA

Can I just talk to you for a sec?

Alana looks to Jacob and then back. She nods.

Cora and Alana step into the HALLWAY. It's muffled, but Jacob can still sort of make out their conversation.

-- IN THE HALLWAY --

Cora looks worried and even SICKER. She's sweating.

ALANA

What's wrong?

CORA

What is he still doing here?

ALANA

Calm down. You need to be in bed.
You look terrible.

Alana feels Cora's forehead for a fever. Cora pulls away.

CORA

If that really is Jacob Cruetz in
there then... he's a convicted
murderer. He is dangerous.

-- IN THE EXAM ROOM -- Jacob hears, he's concerned.

ALANA

He didn't kill anyone.

CORA

Ya, well, I heard that he slit
three people's throats and got
thrown in an asylum.

ALANA

It's more complicated than that. He
was sick. He had hallucinations
that made him confused. But he
never killed anyone.

(beat)

He once had an episode at a
football game. It was terrible and
the whole town saw. Everyone was so
scared of him after that. You know
how people are here. They thought
he was possessed.

(beat)

So they took him away, blamed him
for a crime he didn't commit, and
locked him in a place that did god
knows what to him.

CORA

Look me in the eye and tell me you
know for certain he's not
dangerous.

Alana takes a moment... she can't do it.

ALANA

Just go upstairs and lie down.

Cora turns and goes upstairs. Alana goes into the...

-- EXAM ROOM -- she finds Jacob sitting on the table.

JACOB

Who is she?

ALANA

My niece, Cora. Eight and a half months pregnant.

JACOB

She looks sick.

Alana looks at him curiously.

ALANA

She doesn't feel well, no. How did you know?

JACOB

I really can't be here.

ALANA

(beat, then)

You don't see things anymore, do you?

JACOB

No. Not for years. Not since the pills. That's why I need them.

She walks over and picks up the pill. She looks at it again and shakes her head.

ALANA

I'm sorry, Jacob. I need an ID code or something. Every pill has an ID if its mass produced, legally, at least. There's nothing on this.

JACOB

If I don't get more I'll...

Jacob trails off. Alana gets anxious.

ALANA

What? What will you do?

He gets off the table and takes the pill back from Alana. He then picks incessantly at the skin around his FINGERNAILS. They're raw and bleeding.

She touches his hand lovingly. He stops and looks at her. It's a moment.

JACOB

I have to go.

ALANA

You can't go out there. Jacob, people think you're dead. They think you're a serial killer.

JACOB

I didn't kill anyone.

Jacob walks to the door.

ALANA

Don't you remember the football game? What they did to you then?
(he stops)
Please. Stay. For me.

Jacob hesitates, honestly terrified, then nods.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL FIELD (1997)

GRAPHIC: 1997

Teenage Alana walks under the BLEACHERS in her CHEERLEADER's outfit. She's a little spooked. It's dark and dirty. Above her are the SOUNDS of a high school football game.

Suddenly, something grabs her. She JUMPS but then turns around and sees teenage Jacob. He looks good - healthy.

ALANA

Don't do that!

Jacob pulls Alana in close and kisses her. It's sweet.

ALANA (CONT'D)

There are spiders down here.

JACOB

I think its romantic.

Alana smiles. They kiss again.

ALANA

I have to go. It's almost halftime.

Alana turns to leave. Jacob doesn't let go of her hand.

JACOB

Love you.

ALANA

Love you, too.

She leaves.

-- LATER -- Alana walks through the crowd with a group of her cheerleader FRIENDS. They're giggling.

The crowd is energetic, even riotous. Everyone's shouting but not for the game; they're angry. Someone shoves into Alana.

KID (O.S.)

Alana!

Alana looks around and sees FELDING, running toward her. He's a jock (read: handsome and fit).

ALANA

Felding. What's wrong?

FELDING

It's Jacob!

Felding grabs her hand and pulls her through the crowd. As they get closer to the field, Alana can finally see Jacob.

He is standing in the middle of the field, SCREAMING and brandishing a long STICK as a weapon, swinging it back and forth, keeping people away. He looks CRAZY.

A rock is thrown into the field. It hits him. A few POLICEMEN come on to the field led by a young SHERIFF PUNA who we'll meet in the present day later.

ALANA

No!

Alana and Felding jump the bleacher rail, land hard, and run straight for Jacob.

FELDING

Jake! Jake!

Felding gets restrained by the football coaches. Alana is the only one who can still reach him.

She finally gets to Jacob who has collapsed on the turf. She starts shaking him. His eyes are FLUTTERING.

ALANA

Jacob! Stop! Stop!

- END OF FLASHBACK -

INT. PLANTATION HOUSE - LATER (PRESENT DAY)

Adult Jacob sits on a neatly made pull out couch in his makeshift guest room.

His eyes FLUTTER, just like in the flashback. His eyes open. There's something dark in his gaze.

He CRACKS his neck then stands. He peaks out the door, checks to make sure the coast is clear, and leaves out the front.

EXT. RAINFOREST ROAD - DUSK

A JEEP blows past the town's WELCOME SIGN as it leaves town and enters the rainforest. The RAIN is torrential.

INSIDE THE JEEP, Freddy is driving Han and TWO OTHER TEENS. They drink BEER and laugh, having a good time.

Han looks sick. He's SWEATING and is pale with dark circles under his eyes.

Freddy slows down. He sees Ted and family on the side of the road, in their rental car - HAZARDS on.

FREDDY

Hide the beer.

HAN

What are you doing, man?

Freddy pulls over and puts on a big, sarcastic, fake smile.

FREDDY

Aloha! You guys OK?

TED

Freddy! Aloha! Just trying to find our way out of town. Having some trouble.

FREDDY

Not that hard, Ted. Just follow this road. Only one coming in or out of town.

TED

Well, you see, we did that and just came right back here. Must've taken a wrong turn or something.

The teens SNICKER.

HAN

Why don't you follow us. We're headed to Waimea.

TED

Perfect!

Freddy rolls up the window and pulls forward.

HAN

You better lose them.

FREDDY

Why are you such an ass?

HAN

You hear how he says "Aloha"?
Hoales.

Freddy looks in his rearview mirror.

A brief, anticipatory moment between Han and Freddy. He smiles then puts his foot to the ground and speeds off leaving Ted in the dust.

The teens all LAUGH.

INT. GENERAL STORE

Jacob walks into the store that is packed with LOCALS buying canned goods, water, general emergency storm kit supplies.

He has his hood up, trying not to be seen. Someone bumps into him and says a passing "sorry."

He walks down an aisle and looks at a pair of SHINY METAL SCISSORS. He stares at them.

MAN (O.S.)

I don't have it.

Jacob looks over and sees a man yelling at the cashier. It's FELDING - the jock - Jacob's old childhood friend.

FELDING

I'm a buck short.

Jacob ducks around the aisle not sure what to do. Felding storms out of the store. Jacob decides to follow him.

EXT. FELDING'S TRAILER (NIGHT)

It's a run down trailer in the slums of the town.

Felding runs into the house, trying to get out of the rain. Jacob watches him from behind a tree.

INT. FELDING'S TRAILER

Felding throws a TV dinner in the microwave. There's a KNOCK on the door. Felding goes over and opens it to see JACOB.

Felding freezes in shock. Jacob searches for words.

JACOB

Hey.

(beat)

Sorry. That was dumb.

Felding throws his arms around him and hugs him tightly. Jacob smiles.

INT. FELDING'S TRAILER - LATER

Felding and Jacob are sitting at the little laminate table talking. They have been for a while.

His RADIO is on and playing Johnny Cash's HURT. The rain pounds against the trailer window outside.

FELDING

You shouldn't be here. You should be anywhere else in the world right now, but don't come back here.

JACOB

I know. I didn't have much of a choice.

FELDING

What these people did to you...
They need to pay, all of 'em, if
you ask me.

(beat)

You look better.

Jacob notices an ARMY TATTOO on Felding's arm.

JACOB

You enlisted?

FELDING

Two tours. I've been out for three
years, and I ain't ever going back.

He takes another sip of his beer.

FELDING (CONT'D)

Why are you here?

Jacob thinks.

JACOB

Do you know Alana's niece?

FELDING

Cora? She's pregnant, right?

JACOB

(nods)

There's something wrong with her.

FELDING

Wrong? Like what?

JACOB

I don't know. I can't remember...

FELDING

Then don't try to. If I learned
anything from war it's leave it
behind you and get as far away as
you can.

Jacob is deep in thought, almost trance like.

JACOB

(mumbling)

Go home. Complete the task. Go
home.

FELDING

What was that?

JACOB

Huh? Nothing.

Jacob's ears start RINGING. Panic is coming over him. Instinctively, he reaches into his pocket, pulls out the PILLBOX and takes his LAST WHITE PILL.

And just like that, everything calms for him. He throws the empty pillbox aside.

The RADIO overcomes with STATIC. Felding turns it off.

FELDING

Damn storm.

Jacob smiles, half-heartedly.

INT. PLANTATION HOUSE - ALANA'S OFFICE

Alana is looking through an old BOX with "JACOB" written on the side.

She pulls an old PHOTO out of the box. It's of her, Jacob and Felding. Both boys are smiling wide while she kisses Jacob on the cheek. It's an ideal childhood.

She looks back to the box and pulls out a SCIENCE JOURNAL magazine. She turns to an article on a bookmarked page. The headline reads "FATAL INSOMNIA: FACT AND FICTION."

There's a THUD from upstairs. Alana looks up to the ceiling.

ALANA

Cora?

No response. Alana throws the magazine back into the box.

INT. BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

It's a cute quaint room. Pink with flowers. The white curtains blow in the night breeze and the PINEAPPLE coo-coo-clock on the wall TICKS rhythmically.

The bedroom seems empty and peaceful but it's not...

The serene mood changes entirely when we see Cora sitting on the floor. She's trembling, petrified beyond belief. We don't see why. She is wet, freshly showered, wearing a BATHROBE.

ALANA (O.S.)

(calling from downstairs)

Cora?

Cora tries to open her mouth to speak but FEAR consumes her. She shuts her eyes tightly.

CORA
(breathless/quiet)
Three, two, one.

She opens her eyes. We pull back and reveal...

A GHOULISH sight. A LITTLE GIRL with long hair covering her face is standing just inches from Cora, BREATHING heavily, staring her down. We'll call the girl DOLLY.

Dolly is wet, bloated, and blue. BLOOD pours out of her ears, MUD comes out of her eyes, and her TEETH are rotted.

Dolly is the worst nightmare someone could have.

CORA (CONT'D)
(whisper)
Help. Me.

Suddenly, Dolly lets out a HIGH PITCH scream. Cora freaks out and starts crawling across the room. Dolly is in hot pursuit - crawling after her. Her movements are stuttered - unearthly, fucking creepy.

-- MEANWHILE IN THE HALLWAY --

Alana casually walks down the hallway toward Cora's door.

She opens it to reveal the horrid sight...

Cora is on the floor in a bathrobe SCREAMING. She has her own hand to her throat - choking herself. There's no DOLLY.

ALANA
Cora!

Alana rushes over and tries to pull her arms away.

ALANA (CONT'D)
Cora! Stop!

They struggle.

ALANA (CONT'D)
Stop!

Alana sees Cora's eyes FLUTTER continuously - almost seizure like. It's weird and reminds Alana...

EXT. FOOTBALL STADIUM (FLASHBACK)

Back to the game. Everything is chaos.

Young Alana is in the middle of the field leaning over the young Jacob who is collapsed on the grass.

Alana tries to pull Jacob up but can't. His eyes FLUTTER continuously - JUST LIKE CORA.

ALANA
Somebody, please help me!

People are staring at her, shouting, jeering, screaming, running away.

Alana looks back to Jacob and his FLUTTERING EYES. Suddenly Jacob let's out a loud SCREAM.

-- END OF FLASHBACK --

MATCH CUT: Cora screaming. It's almost the same scene as Jacob on the football field.

Alana tries with all of her strength to pull Cora's hands off her own throat. As Cora starts to pass out, Alana is finally able to pry her hands away.

ALANA (CONT'D)
Cora. Cora!

Slowly, Cora comes to. Alana is confused, bewildered and scared. She sits on the floor. Both women take a few moments to catch their breath. Cora looks around, expecting to see Dolly, relieved she doesn't.

ALANA (CONT'D)
(to herself)
It's not possible.

INT. PLANTATION HOUSE - ALANA'S OFFICE - LATER

Alana enters panicked. She searches through her "Jacob" box and pulls out a business card for DR. GILLESB at AMTROLL Medical Research.

She picks up the phone and dials. It RINGS.

MAN ON PHONE
Hello?

CLICK. The phone goes dead. Alana flicks the receiver a few times. Nothing.

ALANA

Hello?

She hangs up and looks at her cellphone. NO SERVICE.

ALANA (CONT'D)

Shit!

She throws her phone across the room and goes back to

-- THE BEDROOM --

Cora is laying in bed.

ALANA (CONT'D)

Do you have service?

Cora looks at her phone and shakes her head no.

CORA

Must be the storm.

ALANA

The landline went out too.

Alana looks anxious.

CORA

Alana, what's wrong?

Alana is desperate, yearning to tell her the truth.

CORA (CONT'D)

What aren't you telling me?

ALANA

Nothing...

CORA

Is there something to worry about,
now?

ALANA

(beat, then)

Yes.

Off Cora.

EXT. POLICE STATION - LATER THAT NIGHT

The JEEP that Han and his friends are in drives up the road and stops just down from the Police Station.

Han stands up out the open roof of the jeep and looks around - completely bewildered.

HAN
What the hell man?

FREDDY
I don't...

The drunk TEEN GIRL in the front seat gets out of the car.

TEEN GIRL
How are we back home? I thought we were going to Waimea.

The drunk TEEN BOY in the back of the Jeep holds up a beer.

TEEN BOY
We're late! Let's go!

FREDDY
This is what Ted said happened.

HAN
I'll sit up front this time. Come on, we're late.

Han jumps in the front. Freddy drives off.

INT. JEEP - LATER

The two TEENS are in the back, LAUGHING and drinking BEER. Han and Freddy ride silently in the front, looking out.

There's a DEEP FOG blocking a lot of the view. Han wipes the SWEAT off his pale, sickly face. We see that they pass the Town's WELCOME SIGN... again.

INT. EXAM ROOM - NIGHT

The room is dark. The RAIN is heard outside.

Cora, still in her pajamas, sits in a chair while Alana places SENSORS on her head. They're attached to a medical monitor on a cart. An EEG machine.

CORA
An EEG? Why?

ALANA
Cause I said so.

Her harshness catches Cora off guard.

Alana turns on the EEG machine. The waveforms pulse on the monitor in a rhythmic pattern. Alana watches it.

ALANA (CONT'D)

Well, you look good.

Cora doesn't hear her as she looks down to her pregnant belly. Shockingly, FINGERS from within Cora's belly push out. Cora is once again terrified. It's eerie. It's Dolly.

ALANA (CONT'D)

Cora?

The EEG machine BEEPS. Alana looks over and one of the waveforms starts diverting from the patterns.

Cora looks up to Alana... scared and trying to hide it.

CORA

What... what does it say?

ALANA

It says... you're sleeping.

CORA

What does that mean?

Alana looks to Cora, worried, unsure.

ALANA

I have to find Jacob.

EXT. RAINFOREST ROAD - VARIOUS

The Jeep proceeds slowly down the road. Turn after turn. The headlights are bright and hazy in the fog. The STORM has temporarily let up leaving an eerie fog

They come up behind another vehicle, traveling slowly.

FREDDY

That's impossible. That's Ted's car. But they never passed us.

They continue on in silence.

INT. JEEP - CONTINUOUS

Freddy, following Ted, completes a big curve and they come to a straight part of the road. Freddy and Ted's car both slow to a stop. Han stands up out the Jeep's roof - mouth agape.

Neither Freddy or Han can say anything. The Fog is thick around the Jeep and the night is pitch black.

Ted gets out of the car in front of them.

TED

Freddy?

The girl looks out the window. She's drunk.

TEEN GIRL

Jesus Christ, Freddy!

They all get out of the car and walk down the road a bit just staring ahead.

Just ahead of them, is the TOWN. The same town they just came from. They've gone in a LOOP.

HAN

This is impossible.

TED

What's going on?

TEEN BOY

I'm freaking out, dude.

TEEN GIRL

Let's just go home, Freddy.

TED

We'll go see the Sheriff.

Ted gets back into his car and drive off.

Freddy gets back in the car with the other teens. He looks out and sees Han staring at something in the distance...

FREDDY

Come on, man. Let's go.

Han looks out into the jungle and, surprisingly, see TWO EYES starring back. It's a WILD DOG. Rabid. Fucking scary.

Han is worried but something about this doesn't seem real. The Dog GROWLS and bares its teeth. It takes a step forward, stalking its prey: Han.

FREDDY (CONT'D)

Han!

The Wild Dog lunges forward as Han snaps out of it. He goes and gets in the car.

FREDDY (CONT'D)

What was that about?

HAN

Nothing. Let's go.

Han looks out the window, there's no Dog. Freddy speeds off.

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE

EXT. RAINFOREST ROAD - THE NEXT MORNING

A cop car drives down the road and comes to a stop. An older SHERIFF PUNA steps out. The Sheriff is the same from the flashback - his black mustache now grayed.

He looks bewildered as he stares at the WELCOME TO POKE sign in front of him.

SHERIFF PUNA

Well, shit.

He looks back down the road and forward. Confused and worried, he gets back in the car and drives into town.

EXT. SCHOOL

The building is surrounded by few COP CARS and two AMBULANCES.

The EMERGENCY PERSONNEL are hustling to set up a shelter - moving in supplies: cots, medicine, etc.

Puna's cop car pulls up. He gets out and surveys the scene. The wind and rain are starting to pick up.

He walks over to a young deputy, MAGGIE, Puna's daughter, who is helping coordinate the effort.

SHERIFF PUNA

Maggie!

DEPUTY MAGGIE

Everything's fine, dad.

They step out of the rain under the building's overhang.

SHERIFF PUNA

Those inspectors that were here yesterday, did they get out okay?

DEPUTY MAGGIE

What do you mean?

SHERIFF PUNA

Did they leave?

DEPUTY MAGGIE

Yeah. Yesterday at dusk.

Maggie looks to her dad. He's worried.

DEPUTY MAGGIE (CONT'D)
What's wrong?

SHERIFF PUNA
Don's kid Freddy came by to see me
this morning. Said something was
wrong with the road. Was real
skittish and worried. So I went to
check it out.

DEPUTY MAGGIE
And?

SHERIFF PUNA
The eastbound road is looping back
around and dumped me on the west
side of town near the station.
(beat)
There's no way out.

A breaker is flipped and the lights in the building behind
them comes on.

MALE DEPUTY
Power's on!

Maggie is still focused on her dad.

DEPUTY MAGGIE
I don't understand.

SHERIFF PUNA
I know it sounds crazy. I wouldn't
have believed it if I didn't see it
with my own eyes.

Maggie is stunned. Puna is clearly telling the truth.

Suddenly a CAR swerves up and a panicked man, KUNA, gets out.
Maggie and Puna run over as the Man pulls a WOMAN'S BODY out
of the back seat.

KUNA
Help! Please! Someone helps!

EMTs run over and take the woman from him. Her body is
distorted like she's broken her back.

DEPUTY MAGGIE
Kuna! What happened?

KUNA

I don't know! She fell! She was on our roof. She must have slipped and fell.

Puna listens intently.

DEPUTY MAGGIE

Kuna, calm down. Calm down.

KUNA

They told me to come here.

DEPUTY MAGGIE

We'll take care of her.

KUNA

Maggie I think she... She might have jumped.

Maggie is shocked. Puna looks over to the broken woman being carried inside by EMTs. Her eyes are FLUTTERING.

QUICK FLASH TO:

EXT. FOOTBALL STADIUM (FLASHBACK)

We see the scene from Puna's perspective. As he holds back Teenage Felding he looks over and sees Jacob, being cradled by Alana. His eyes are FLUTTERING.

Just like the broken woman.

EXT. SCHOOL/MAKESHIFT SHELTER

Puna watches until the woman is brought inside, out of view. Maggie escorts Kuna inside as well.

Puna just stands there, fearing the worst.

INT. ALANA'S LIVING ROOM

The soft golden light that peaks through during a big storm streams in through the window.

A woman's HAND drifts through the air performing a repetitive, almost beautiful motion. It looks like it's petting something but there's nothing there.

The hand just floats lyrically through the air.

Cora, sits in a chair reading a book. She looks at her enlarged stomach and rubs it lovingly.

We pull back from this tender moment and see, strangely, that the floating hand belongs to Cora. The two entities, arm and woman, seem entirely separate.

Cora's arm moves as if it wasn't her own. Almost as if it's disembodied. She pays no attention to it and doesn't seem to even notice its flowing but very specified gesticulation.

Back and forth. Back and forth.

Cora begins to HUM a lullaby.

Suddenly, her floating hand SLAMS down on the side table in a fist. The sudden move and NOISE gets Cora's startled attention. The Arm seems to be angry.

Alana runs in.

ALANA

Are you okay?

CORA

I'm fine.

She looks to her arm which is resting calmly by her side.

ALANA

Internet's out now.

CORA

They'll have it back up soon. At least we still have lights.

Cora rubs her stomach again. Glowing with motherhood.

Slowly, but distinctly, her right arm begins floating up out to the side again. Cora doesn't notice. She doesn't control it. The Arm resumes the same gentle petting motion.

Alana watches on, worried.

ALANA

Cora? What are you doing?

CORA

Reading.

ALANA

Just relax. I'll be right back.

Cora smiles, completely unaware that her hand is now making sharp, twisted movements in the air behind her.

Alana walks out and past...

THE EXAM ROOM. She stops, startled by something.

ALANA (CONT'D)

Jacob! Where the hell have you been?

Jacob is standing, silently in the Exam Room.

JACOB

I was looking for you.

Alana looks into the living room, worried Cora will overhear.

ALANA

Come with me, we need to talk.

They both walk out.

We focus in on the pair of SHINY SHARP SCISSORS sitting on a medical tray. Jacob's scissors.

It's an ominous, long, and silent, beat in the room.

Then, Cora walks by. She stops casually just outside the Exam Room door to stretch. As if something calls her name, she looks into the room.

EXT. PLANTATION HOUSE

It's raining hard outside.

Alana walks out the front door onto the covered lanai. Jacob stands behind her in the doorway. She waves him to come out. He obliges, and she shuts the door behind him.

ALANA

Where were you last night?

JACOB

Why? What's wrong?

He looks at her. She's anxious, worried. Maybe mad even.

ALANA

I don't know. That's the problem.

(beat)

Ever since you got here, really strange things have been happening.

(MORE)

ALANA (CONT'D)

Things that don't make sense.
Things I can't explain.

JACOB

And you think it's my fault?

ALANA

I don't know what to think. Cora is really sick. And I know it sounds crazy but I think it has something to do with you.

INT. PLANTATION HOUSE - EXAM ROOM

Cora sits on the table peacefully. She's HUMMING a lullaby.

Unbeknownst to her, her right Arm is slowly inching its way from Cora toward the medical tray with the sharp looking pair of SCISSORS.

EXT. PLANTATION HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Jacob storms down off the lanai into the RAIN.

ALANA

Wait!

JACOB

How could you say that? She was sick before I got here.

ALANA

I know. I know. But she's showing the same symptoms that you showed all those years ago and that scares me more than you could imagine.

Jacob is stunned. He doesn't know how to respond. He picks at his FINGERNAILS.

JACOB

It's impossible.

ALANA

I just want to understand; why she's sick; why you're here.

JACOB

I don't know! Just leave me alone.

Jacob turns to leave. Alana runs after him. They stand together in the RAIN.

ALANA

If the very impossible scenario is true - if she does have Fatal Insomnia, then you're the only person to have ever survived it. You could save her.

INT. PLANTATION HOUSE - EXAM ROOM

Cora's left hand is pressed gently on her stomach. She is still HUMMING.

Cora's right hand closes firmly around the SCISSORS. Her face drops. Something's wrong.

But then she just smiles with pure joy. She felt the baby kick.

CORA

Hey, baby.

The light coming in through the window fades away as the STORM comes back into focus outside.

EXT. PLANTATION HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Jacob and Alana are still in the rain. Jacob is deep in thought.

JACOB

It doesn't make sense.

ALANA

She had very bizarre EEG results. She's experiencing random limb movement. Jacob, she had a hallucination. Just like yours.
(beat)
She'll be dead in a few months if we can't save her. She won't sleep ever. She'll go insane with hallucinations and then she'll die.

JACOB

I don't know how to help.

ALANA

Her daughter will be motherless.

JACOB

I'm not here to help!

ALANA

What do you mean? This is your home. Why else would you be here?

JACOB

I... don't know.

The sound of a LARGE BREAKER SWITCH startles both Jacob and Alana. The lights in the clinic go out. Alana rushes inside.

Jacob hears more power surges and scans the town he sees building after building, house after house go dark.

The whole town is without power.

INT. ALANA'S CLINIC - EXAM ROOM

Cora's looking around. Scared. All of the lights are out.

ALANA (O.S.)

I'll be right there.

Cora relaxes a bit. She wraps her left arm around her belly.

After a moment she becomes aware of her right arm. She looks down to it - scissors clutched in the fist.

In one sudden movement, Cora's right arm swings down. Cora dodges just in time so the scissors miss her belly but are STABBED into Cora's upper THIGH. Cora lets out a SCREAM.

END ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

INT. SEASIDE INN

Alana and Jacob help a wounded Cora inside. Cora is in pain, there's a bandage crudely wrapped around her wound.

The Inn still has POWER. It is quaint with dated furnishings. It's typically a sleepy place but now it's PACKED and chaotic. There is a crowd of people - locals with suitcases.

Jacob has his hood up and keeps his head down, worried he'll be seen by someone in the small crowd.

CORA
(wincing)
They don't have room.

ALANA
I need light to stitch you up. They
have room for us. Wait here.

Alana fights her way through the crowd to the front desk.

CORA
I need to sit down.

Jacob, dutifully leads Cora over to an empty chair. He watches her, guiltily, as she winces in pain.

JACOB
I'm... sorry.

CORA
I'm fine. I just fell.

Someone bumps into Jacob. He's overwhelmed by the crowd, Cora, and everything. He looks around.

JACOB
I'm going to get the bags.

He rushes outside.

CORA
Wait! Don't leave me!

EXT. SEASIDE INN

The storm is raging. Jacob takes a breath, then trudges through the rain out to ALANA's TRUCK parked a few feet away. He goes to the back and lifts the tarp.

He pulls out one bag, reaches back in and feels something curious, he pulls out a SMALL BLUE BOX WITH A WHITE RIBBON.

He stares at it, scared, curious, but beyond everything, desperate.

He looks around to see if anyone's watching, satisfied, he rips it open. Inside is a NOTE on which is TYPED: "GO HOME. COMPLETE THE TASK. WAIT." Beneath the note are two WHITE PILLS.

He quickly takes one then puts the other pill in his pocket.

Someone taps him on the shoulder. Jacob jumps and turns around to see Felding.

FELDING

Hey!

JACOB

What are you doing here?

They run under the lanai, out of the rain.

FELDING

I have no power. Was going to try and get a room. But looks like I'm not the only one.

JACOB

I think they're full.

Felding sees that Jacob is agitated.

FELDING

What's wrong?

JACOB

(hesitates, then)

I don't know why I'm here. Why they want me here. I thought they were done with me.

FELDING

Who?

JACOB

I didn't mean to hurt anyone. I never wanted to hurt anyone. They told me-

FELDING

Who's telling you to hurt someone?

(beat)

Jacob, are you still seeing things?

JACOB

No! It's not that. God damn it!

FELDING

Whoa, man. It's okay.

JACOB

It's not.

Off a worried Felding.

INT. SEASIDE INN - LOBBY

Cora sits in the chair, in pain and alone. She looks out the window. Her jaw drops.

Standing in the middle of the empty rain soaked street is DOLLY. She isn't ghoulish looking - just a normal girl.

Cora presses her hand against the window, reaching out. Dolly runs off down the street.

CORA

Wait.

Cora stands and walks around the edge of the crowded room, following Dolly from window to window.

Outside, Dolly runs into the JUNGLE.

Cora stops, watching her run away, worried. She's standing next to a side door exit.

-- MEANWHILE AT THE FRONT DESK --

Alana has forced her way to the front with a crowd of people behind her.

ALANA

Chris, I need a room, it's an emergency.

CHRIS, the middleaged innkeeper, is more than overwhelmed.

CHRIS

I know. I'm sorry, doc. I just don't have any room.

ALANA

My generator is fried, and I have a bleeding patient!

TED (O.S.)

You can stay in our room.

Alana whips around and sees Ted and his family.

TED (CONT'D)

(hesitant)

We were supposed to leave yesterday but the road was- we didn't get out before they shut the roads down.

(beat)

But take our room. Carol and I can move in with our son and you'll have the whole room.

Alana, relieved, hugs him.

EXT. SEASIDE INN

Felding and Jacob are still talking.

JACOB

I don't want to be here. I'll hurt people if I stay here.

Felding looks at him, worried but caring.

JACOB (CONT'D)

Cora's in there. Sick. What if it's my fault?

Jacob gestures through the window to the spot he left Cora. Felding looks over. The chair is empty.

FELDING

She's not there.

JACOB

Yes, she is. She's right...

Jacob looks up and sees she's GONE.

JACOB (CONT'D)

Shit.

He runs inside, followed by Felding.

INT. SEASIDE INN - CONTINUOUS

Jacob frantically looks around.

JACOB
Cora? Cora!

He's bumping into people, too distracted to worry about who's seen him.

He sees and runs over to Alana.

JACOB (CONT'D)
I can't find Cora.

Alana, shocked.

EXT. JUNGLE

The very pregnant Cora fumbles her way around the rainforest in the pouring rain. One hand is wrapped around her belly while the other grabs on to branches, trees, or anything to help keep her on her feet.

A few yards ahead of her DOLLY dodges around the trees - running away from her.

CORA
Wait! I can help you!

Dolly scurries further into the jungle.

DOLLY
(echoed)
Where are you? Help me!

CORA
I'm right here!

A lightning bolt illuminates the sky followed by THUNDER and even heavier downpour. Cora loses her footing and falls to the ground with a THUD. She winces.

CORA (CONT'D)
I can't see you. Come back!

She starts sobbing as she leans up against a tree. The rain is pouring down her face.

Beat.

A few feet away the MOSS at the base of a large tree begins to MOVE. After a moment it catches Cora's attention. She's confused, amazed, terrified.

She holds her breath out of fear when PALE FINGERS begin CLAWING their way up out of the moss covered ground.

Cora is scared frozen.

The fingers are followed by a hand, an arm, shoulders, a head. Eventually, but all too quickly, the ghoulish Dolly has emerged completely from the ground.

She's soaking WET and covered in MUD. Her stringy BLACK HAIR covers most of her face.

Cora shuts her eyes tightly and turns her head away.

CORA (CONT'D)

Please... please leave me alone.

In a flash Dolly transports from being a few feet away to being only inches away from Cora.

DOLLY

(whispering)

Why didn't you help me?

Slowly, trembling, Cora turns her head toward Dolly and wills her eyes to open. Dolly's face has changed. It's GHASTLY. Blue and SWOLLEN. BLOOD pours out of her EARS and MUD streams out of her EYES in globs.

Suddenly Dolly lets out a LOUD HIGH-PITCH SCREAM. Cora covers her ears. Dolly reaches out and grabs on to Cora's ARM with incredible force.

With her other hand, Dolly reaches up and begins clawing at her own face. Fingernails tearing at her FLESH.

Cora reaches out trying to stop her.

CORA

Stop! Stop!

But soon Cora's hands become the one tearing at Dolly's flesh.

CORA (CONT'D)

What are you doing to me!?

DOLLY

What are you doing to me?!

EXT. JUNGLE - CONTINUOUS

Felding, Jacob, and Alana are trekking through the woods. They hear Cora's screams and go running off in her direction.

EXT. JUNGLE - MOMENTS LATER

Felding rounds a corner and finds Cora. She's propped up against a tree crying. Dolly is no where to be seen. Cora's hands are bloody and outstretched, frozen into the position where they were tearing at the Girl's face.

FELDING

Over here!

Jacob runs over to him, sees Cora.

JACOB

Cora!

Alana follows. She rushes to Cora and carefully places her hands on Cora's shoulders.

ALANA

Cora? It's ok. Cora? I'm here.

Cora slowly forces herself to look at Alana. She looks completely mad.

ALANA (CONT'D)

Are you hurt? Is this your blood?

Jacob is worried. This is all too familiar. Alana begins inspecting Cora's body. She turns her arm over and sees the RED MARKING of a small HAND.

FELDING

We have to get back, the storm's picking up.

ALANA

Let's get you back to the Inn.

Jacob comes over and scoops Cora up into his arms. Her eyes are open but she's comatose. They head back.

INT. SEASIDE INN - TED'S ROOM (THAT NIGHT)

Cora lays in bed. Her eyes FLUTTER open and closed. She's been bathed and cleaned up, but her mind is clearly still back in that jungle.

Alana checks her pulse. Fine. She goes over and sits on the couch. Jacob is sitting on the floor, watching Cora.

ALANA

I remember when she was born. My sister was so young. We were all terrified of what this baby would mean. But then Cora came out, and she smiled, and nothing else mattered. She was perfect.

Alana smiles for a moment but a sadness comes over her.

ALANA (CONT'D)

And now. My sister's gone. Cora's having her own baby.

She starts to tear up.

ALANA (CONT'D)

It's impossible, right? She couldn't possibly have... It's too rare. It can't have happened to two people in my life. It doesn't make sense.

Jacob walks over to her and puts his arms around her. Alana relishes in this embrace. She looks up to him. They share a tender, loving moment. Maybe something is about to happen...

ALANA (CONT'D)

(pulls away)
Sorry. I'm a mess.

Jacob lets her go, disappointed maybe. He walks across the room and watches Cora. Her eyes are fluttering. Open. Closed.

Alana looks at the clock. It's 2:55 am.

ALANA (CONT'D)

I'm just so tired.

Jacob watches Cora's eyes flutter.

JACOB

I used to do that same thing.

Across the room, Cora's eyes OPEN in a JOLT.

ALANA

Cora? Are you ok?

She scurries over and sits at Cora's bedside.

CORA
I'm scared.

ALANA
I'm right here.

CORA
(eerie)
So's she.

Shit.

ALANA
Who's here, Cora?

Cora looks off to the right of her at something but nothing is there.

CORA
The girl.

ALANA
What girl?

Alana looks back to Jacob.

JACOB
She's having a hallucination.

CORA
How do I make it stop?

Jacob thinks for a moment. Remembering...

JACOB
Do you know her? The little girl.

Cora looks at him. This struck a chord.

JACOB (CONT'D)
I've... seen things too. Before.
(beat)
You see her now?

Cora, shaking, looks back to the right side of her.

REVERSE ANGLE: reveals that Dolly is kneeling on the bed inches away from Cora.

Slowly Cora's arm moves up and begins stroking Dolly's face. We finally see the reason for her arm's random movement. It's gently stroking Dolly's face.

CORA

Yes, I know her...

EXT. BEACH (FLASHBACK)

Seen through a series of soundless clips - snippets of the scene as seen through a memory.

Cora is a bit younger - late teens - she's smiling, laughing, having fun. Dolly is with her - nothing is weird about her here. She's a cute, innocent kid. Cora tickles her. They build a sand castle. It's perfect.

A few other TEENS approach - Cora's friends. Dolly watches as Cora turns away from her and starts talking to the teens.

The teens are all on the blanket with Cora, laughing, having fun. Dolly is on the other blanket, excluded and unwatched.

She gets up and slowly walks toward the ocean. Cora doesn't notice as Dolly takes a step into the waves. Then another.

Cora looks around and finally realizes the girl is missing. She calls out. Again, and again. All of the teens start running around the beach looking for her.

It's later in the day. Cora is exhausted and scared. Police are seen in the background. Cora approaches a rock, walks around it and in a jolt sees the little girl's BODY.

We see her face now and it's the same as from the jungle. She's dead. Dolly drowned. There's mud, blood and sand coming out of her eyes and ears.

-- END OF FLASHBACK --

INT. SEASIDE INN

Cora has tears in her eyes as she comes out of her memory.

CORA

Yes, I know her. I killed her.

Jacob and Alana are speechless.

END ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

INT. SEASIDE INN - LOBBY (THE NEXT MORNING)

The lobby is over crowded with people. The crowd is restless, mob-like. Innkeeper Chris stands at the front with Sheriff Puna and Deputy Maggie.

SHERIFF PUNA

Quiet down now!

The room lulls into a hush. Ted and Carol are in the crowd.

SHERIFF PUNA (CONT'D)

We have another week of this storm. Obviously staying in Chris' lobby ain't gonna cut it.

Alana walks into the back of the room and goes to the mostly empty VENDING MACHINE. She's a little shocked to see Puna there and avoids eye contact.

SHERIFF PUNA (CONT'D)

There's a shelter in the old school. Right now we're getting the wounded people there but we'll try and move everyone else there soon.

Then, Puna's attitude changes. He gets weird - like he's hiding something.

SHERIFF PUNA (CONT'D)

Lastly, the road in and out of town is impassable.

The crowd erupts into quiet, worried murmuring.

TOWNSPERSON 3

How is it impassable?

SHERIFF PUNA

It's not safe. We're putting up road blocks. Stay away from the outskirts of town.

The crowd has frozen into an eerie silence.

SHERIFF PUNA (CONT'D)

Thanks all. We'll get through this. Like always.

Alana makes her way back upstairs. Puna hustles over and stops her.

SHERIFF PUNA (CONT'D)

Alana.

She stops, reluctantly.

ALANA

Hey, Sheriff.

SHERIFF PUNA

I need you to come by the shelter as soon as possible. We have some really hurt people there.

ALANA

Sure. I'll go later today.

SHERIFF PUNA

It's important. We need you.

She hears the gravity in his voice.

ALANA

OK. I'll be there as soon as I can.

Again, she tries to leave but...

SHERIFF PUNA

I thought you were allergic to peanuts.

ALANA

What?

He points to Alana's hand where she's holding, amongst other candy, a SNICKERS BAR.

ALANA (CONT'D)

It's for my niece. Cora. Had a nasty spill yesterday.

SHERIFF PUNA

Right...

She scurries off. Puna is curious.

INT. SEASIDE INN (TED'S ROOM)

Jacob looks out the window. The storm has not let up at all. The wind has only gotten worse. It's a full-blown hurricane. He mindlessly picks at his FINGERNAILS.

Felding sits at the table playing a card game with himself.

Across the room, Alana opens the door. She throws the candy onto the table. Felding starts digging in.

ALANA

(to Jacob)

You have to be careful out there.
People are really on edge. If they
knew you were here-

JACOB

They won't.

ALANA

How is she?

Jacob looks at Cora who is laying in bed, constantly falling in and out of sleep. Eyes FLUTTERING.

ALANA (CONT'D)

I have to go to the school. They've
made a shelter there and people are
hurt.

Jacob notices something, walks over and picks up Cora's arm.

JACOB

Did you see this?

He turns Cora's arm over and reveals the red HANDPRINT.

ALANA

Ya.

She busies herself, trying to not have this conversation.

ALANA (CONT'D)

She must've done it to herself in
the jungle.

JACOB

It's a right handprint on her right
arm.

ALANA

I don't know Jacob.

JACOB

I always told you that I thought
the hallucinations were more than
just figments of the imagination. I
still do.

ALANA

The absence of an answer does not mean the absence of reason.

FELDING

Please Jacob, just drop it. We've all been through enough today.

Cora stirs. Alana bends down to check Cora's breathing. Fine.

JACOB

I can't stay here, Alana.

Alana has a quick unseen moment of despair. She closes her eyes, exhausted.

ALANA

What do you mean? You can't just leave. You'll end up back in that hospital. Someone will find you and send you back.

JACOB

Maybe. But that's better than staying here.

Alana walks over to him. She takes his hands in hers. She relaxes into this small, innocent embrace. Jacob gives into this moment. Allowing closeness for once.

JACOB (CONT'D)

I just don't want to hurt you.

ALANA

You won't. This isn't your fault. She was sick before you got here. Her hallucination drove her to stab herself. None of this was your fault.

JACOB

I don't want to chance it. At least until the storm has passed. I'll just stay with Felding.

Alana's face drops.

Felding is stunned. He treads carefully.

FELDING

I don't think-

ALANA

What?

JACOB
It'll be fine.
(to Felding)
Right?

FELDING
Well, actually...

ALANA
Jacob?

JACOB
Is it really such a big deal?

FELDING
No, it's not that, it's just...

Alana stands and backs away worried.

JACOB
What's wrong with you?

FELDING
Please drop it.

ALANA
Jacob!

JACOB
What?!

Alana has tears in her eyes.

ALANA
Who are you talking to?

JACOB
Felding...

ALANA
(beat, then)
Felding is dead.

Shit. A shot from Alana's perspective shows that Jacob, Alana and Cora are the only people in the room.

Felding is not actually there. HE'S A HALLUCINATION.

Jacob looks to Felding, there's an odd sense of fear and regret in his eyes. Jacob lets out a little unsure laugh.

JACOB
This is a joke.

His smile fades. Felding is doing nothing to refute her.

JACOB (CONT'D)
This is a joke.

ALANA
It's no joke.

JACOB
I don't get it.

Jacob takes a moment, finally realizing what they're saying. He's on the verge of tears.

FELDING
I'm sorry, Jacob.

JACOB
Sorry?

Alana starts tearing up herself.

FELDING
I should've told you.

JACOB
Told me that you're dead?!

Jacob takes a CUP OF WATER on the night stand and flings it across the room. It shatters. Alana jumps, startled.

FELDING
I didn't want you thinking that I wasn't here for you.

JACOB
But you're not here!

Alana sits on the floor with her head in her hands.

FELDING
Don't be an ass.

JACOB
I'm the ass? You're just my hallucination.

FELDING
I'm much more than a hallucination.
I'm your best friend.

JACOB
Fuck you.

FELDING

I was going to tell you when you
were ready.

Jacob's had enough. He turns away from Felding.

FELDING (CONT'D)

Jacob?

(no response)

Jacob, you can't just ignore me.
I can help you.

JACOB

Get out.

FELDING

I can help you. I can help her.
Cora is just the beginning.
Something inside you knows that.
There's going to be more.

JACOB

Get out!

FELDING

Fine.

Felding leaves quietly.

Jacob and Alana stand in silence.

JACOB

How'd he die?

Alana can't look at him.

ALANA

Three years ago. During his second
tour in Afghanistan.

Jacob takes in the full weight that his best friend is dead.

JACOB

He told me he got out.

(beat)

Is this real?

ALANA

(tragically)

This? Yes. This part is real.

Alana stands and wipes the tears from her eyes - always the professional.

ALANA (CONT'D)

I have to go see the people at the shelter. I'll be back in a few hours.

She goes to leave.

JACOB

He said Cora was just the first. That this is going to keep spreading.

ALANA

Let's pray that he's wrong.

She leaves. Jacob is alone with Cora.

After a beat, he goes over to Cora and sits next to her. He pulls the last WHITE PILL out of his pocket, stares at it for a moment.

JACOB

It's not a cure, but it does make things better - for a bit at least.

He puts the pill in her mouth. She swallows.

Almost immediately her eyes stop fluttering, her breathing calms down.

JACOB (CONT'D)

Good shit, huh?

(beat)

That's the last one so enjoy it. It's going to be a bumpy ride from here out.

Jacob rubs pill residue onto his gums. He's scared.

EXT. SCHOOL/MAKESHIFT SHELTER

Alana gets out of her truck and observes the CHAOTIC scene.

PEOPLE are running around while DEPUTIES try to help people into the building and out of the wind and rain.

Some people are BLEEDING others are CRYING and yet others are SCREAMING for no apparent reason.

Alana spots PUNA in the crowd. She runs over to him. They have to shout to be heard over the crowd and weather.

SHERIFF PUNA

Doc!

ALANA

What the hell is this?

SHERIFF PUNA

Come inside!

They head toward the building.

INT. HAN'S HOUSE - BATHROOM

Han stands at the sink, doing something. Shaving perhaps? We see him from behind. The only light is from a small FLICKERING CANDLE.

HAN'S MOTHER (O.S.)

Han! Dinner will be ready in 5 minutes.

He's shirtless with jeans on. The bottom of his jeans are covered in MUD.

He mumbles something that's hard to make out. The more he says it the more we understand.

HAN

It will get through. It will get through. It will get through.

A drop of BLOOD falls onto the white porcelain sink.

INT. SCHOOL/MAKESHIFT SHELTER

There is row after row of COTS, half full with PATIENTS. Some are hurt from the storm but others are laying there EYES FLUTTERING, screaming, HALLUCINATING.

THE WHOLE TOWN IS SICK WITH FATAL INSOMNIA

ALANA

It can't be.

Off Alana's shock.

INT. HAN'S HOUSE

Another drop of blood falls on the sink.

In the mirror we can finally see what Han's doing. It's a gruesome scene. There are THREE GAPING CUTS down the middle of Han's face.

He stares blankly into the mirror, repeating the words like a mantra all the while he is SEWING the open wounds closed. He's no surgeon, and he's using home thread and needle.

He doesn't feel it or react. He just pushes the needle in and out. Pulling his skin closer and closer.

INT. SHELTER

Alana is overwhelmed by the sight in front of her. The sickness. The screaming. The pain. It's her own nightmare.

HAN (V.O.)
It will get through.

She runs off to help someone. Anyone.

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF EPISODE