

PUDGE PATROL

Written by

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SCRIBBLED ACROSS THE SCREEN: *MONDAY*

INT. CAR - NIGHT

***Wicked Game* by Chris Isaac plays on the radio.**

LIBBY, 16, romantic, emotional and fat with a "pretty face," holds the hands of a SUPER HOT GUY as they stare into each others eyes.

ASTRID, 16, feisty and fat with a "pretty intense sex drive," dry-humps SECOND SUPER HOT GUY in the backseat.

Both girls are dressed to the nines, SLAYING IT.

SUPER HOT GUY

(to Libby)

Wow. In this light, you look exactly like Topanga from the episode of *Boy Meets World* where she and Cory kiss for the first time.

Libby SWOONS.

SECOND SUPER HOT GUY

(to Astrid)

Here, eat another chicken leg. You're looking a little gaunt.

Astrid grabs a leg from a huge bucket of KFC as both girls put on weird head contraptions. A stack of heavily used spiral notebooks sits on the dash.

SUPER HOT GUY

(to Libby)

Show us all those insightful surveillance notes you wrote down about us again?

Libby SQUEALS.

SECOND SUPER HOT GUY

(to Astrid)

God you're sexy in night vision goggles.

Astrid BEAMS.

SECOND SUPER HOT GUY (CONT'D)

I wanna rub those goggles on your milk jugs.

This is the best nerd double date in the history of time.
Until we FADE OUT...

And we see this is only an elaborate fantasy. Libby and Astrid are actually just sitting in Libby's parked car, weird homemade night vision masks on, bucket of KFC between them.

LIBBY

You had me until that last bit.

The girls turn to look at each other. They look like terrifying giant alien insects.

SMASH CUT TITLE: PUDGE PATROL

INT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

Wicked Game still blares on the radio. These girls have tastes that skew way 90s.

A thick spiral notebook labeled "*Operation: What Cool Kids Do At Night*" sits on the dash.

Astrid peers intensely into an upstairs window of a house through her binocular mask.

ASTRID

Jackpot.

Libby, her own binocular mask on, is staring into a different house across the street.

LIBBY

You got him?

ASTRID

Okay well I can't see *him*, but I'm pretty sure I see an upside down cross. SO hot.

(beat)

Affirmative. It's definitely his room. I spy a Marilyn Manson poster. Maybe we should give him a listen?

LIBBY

Adding to the list. Oh and I thought we agreed we weren't using "I spy" anymore. Makes us sound unprofessional.

ASTRID

Right, I forgot.

(beat)

Ohmygod ohmygod, the subject is in frame! God he looks *good*.

(beat)

Yeah that's right, baby, you stretch that sexy bod.

(beat)

Yeah. You rub on that stomach. Maybe rub a little lower?

(beat)

Just a real slow, gentle rub.

(beat)

You gonna take those itchy pants off for mama?

LIBBY

Jesus Christ.

ASTRID

Oh please, like you wouldn't hit it.

LIBBY

You know I'm saving myself for my soulmate.

(beat)

Can we focus on the task at hand please? See any, like, movie posters? Books?

ASTRID

It's really hard to see but I think I see an iguana cage? Confirmed.

LIBBY

Hmm.

ASTRID

How about the C-bomb? Whaddya see? Anything good? Because I can't imagine anything better than this sexy brooding bastard.

LIBBY

Not sure. Something weird is afoot at Queen Candace's. Her back gate is open and it never is.

Through the binoculars we see CANDACE, head mean girl, beautiful, sexy and effortlessly cool, changing in her window, wearing a T-shirt that says, 'BAE.'

LIBBY (CONT'D)
God I bet she can eat whateh- whoa
nellie, WHAT is that?!

Astrid quickly turns her binoculars to Candace's window.

ASTRID
What am I looking at?
(beat)
Holy shit, blinded by the
birthmark! You can barely even see
her pubes. This is the weirdness
afoot?

LIBBY
No man, it looked like someone was
sneaking around in the backyard.
Keep eyes for a sec. I need to see
a Colonel about some chicken. I'm
hungry.

ASTRID
(doing it anyway)
Boring.

Libby puts her binocular mask down for a sec and peers into
the KFC bucket.

LIBBY
Dammit, Astrid, you took the last
leg.

Astrid also removes her binocular mask.

ASTRID
Lo siento, hooker. You know I'm a
leg man.

The girls laugh.

A door SLAMS.

Binocular masks back on. High alert in the direction of
Candace's house. They hear SHOUTING. Then LOUD WHISPERING.
WTF.

A DARK FIGURE emerges from Candace's house and creeps down
the street toward a grey 4-runner. The Dark Figure is
familiar, but they can't place him. The Dark Figure hops in
the SUV and drives slowly away, headlights off for half the
block.

Something isn't right.

The girls tear their binocular masks off and look at each other, eyes wide.

ASTRID (CONT'D)
Uh, that was fucking weird.

LIBBY
Correct.

ASTRID
You drive, I'll record.

Beat as they look at each other excitedly as Libby speeds off. This MUST be recorded. This is their favorite part.

POV SHOT FROM ANOTHER CAR, down the street, someone watching them.

Both girls start thinking out loud, not speaking TO each other, just more AT each other. Very stream of consciousness, but this is how they do it. Astrid scribbles every word.

ASTRID (CONT'D)
Desert Blue, possibly slate grey
SUV. Maybe a 4-runner. That ain't
Tate's car, yo.
(beat)
More of a steel, light concrete.
The color of a box of Bareskin
Trojans.

LIBBY
Slouching adult male, 6'1, 6'2,
hunched shoulders. Seemed sad.
Thoughtful.
(beat)
Almost kinda familiar but also not
really? Why was he sneaking out of
Candace's house? Who are you, Mr.
Man?

ASTRID
Candace. Fucking intense birthmark
above left side of her pubes.
Huge, ugly. Hideous, really.
Reddish, hints of brown? Shape of
Florida-
(erases something)
Shape of North Carolina meets
southern tip of Florida. Cheating
on her sexy boyf? Fun college boy
sidepiece action?

Libby pulls into her driveway.

LIBBY
Standby.

INT. LIBBY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

The girls creep into Libby's room, careful not to wake her parents.

INT. LIBBY'S BEDROOM, AKA PUDGE PATROL HEADQUARTERS - NIGHT

This is not the room of a cool kid. The walls are covered in 90's bands and TV show posters, mostly *Boy Meets World* and *Ace of Base*. There are bookshelves full of their old notebooks and scrapbooks and trunks full of Astrid's spy equipment since she can't keep it at her house. There's also rows of health books, diet books, yoga manuals.

A colorful sign sits center stage on the wall. It reads PUDGE PATROL. They own this title and this is their sanctuary.

Libby adjusts her lamps to the 'right setting,' carefully arranges some decorative pillows on the floor, sits cross-legged. Astrid falls into the beanbag chair.

Libby grabs the notebook, her turn to write.

LIBBY
Proceed.

Back to their 'talking AT each other.'

ASTRID
Sparrow. Objectively the most attractive guy in 11th grade. Chiseled abdomen. 6-pack. Nay, 9-pack. Trying something new with his luscious locks, shinier than usual. Auburn chest hair scattered in between two heaving and defined pectorals -

LIBBY
(interrupting)
Yeah I think we're done here.

Astrid laughs as she leans back and assesses their notes. They nailed it.

As Astrid hits play on some Marilyn Manson, Libby stands in front of her mirror.

She pulls up her shirt a little and starts drawing a big birthmark on her stomach. Then she smudges it so it sort of looks like Candace's. Smiles at her handiwork.

LIBBY (CONT'D)

(re: the music)

This is terrifying. You really think us blasting this in college is actually gonna make people want to hang out with us?

ASTRID

I mean, it might? Kids today!

(serious)

I dunno, Libs. Thought the whole plan was to figure out how to like, not be us?

LIBBY

But I love us.

ASTRID

Just like I love Sparrow's creamy-white translucent skin?

(off Libby's look)

I love us too, Libs. But we have to stick to our plan.

Astrid clicks around on her laptop.

ASTRID (CONT'D)

I wonder what losing my virginity to a vampire is gonna feel like.

(re: computer)

Ummm, you have to feed iguanas *live* crickets.

LIBBY

That...could be...scientifically interesting so therefore cool?

Beat as they look at each other. No way.

Astrid notices the time.

ASTRID

Shit! Curfew!

INT. LIBBY'S CAR - LATER

Libby stops the car at Astrid's house, Astrid jumps out.

ASTRID
Nice work tonight, partner!

LIBBY
Great recon!

Astrid gives a super dorky double thumbs up and races inside.

INT. ASTRID'S HOUSE - SAME

Astrid creeps up the stairs, passing the dozens of crosses and Jesus statutes that line the hallway. She tiptoes to her bedroom, creaks open the door and -

ASTRID'S MOM JANET
Nothing good happens after 10,
Astrid.

Astrid's Mom JANET is just standing in the darkened hallway, arms crossed.

ASTRID
(as her door closes)
Good doesn't even *start* til 10,
mom!

Janet makes the sign of the cross.

TITLE CARD: *TUESDAY*

Ext. ESTABLISHING SHOTS OF COPPERS COVE - NEXT MORNING

This is a small town with big drama. We see cute tree-lined streets with similar looking houses, a very well-manicured church "Our Lady of the Lake" and finally, the high school-Promise Academy.

Promise Academy is unlike most conventional public high schools. This place is a private charter that functions more like a Montessori than anything else. Teachers go by their first names and the line between authority figure and student is often blurry.

INT. PROMISE ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL - MORNING

Typical locker hallway chaos, kids running to and from class.

A group of GRUNGY KIDS sits in a circle, meditating near a sign-up sheet to learn how to grow your own hemp.

SOCCER JOCKS kick a ball around.

We see signs for something called GATEWAY. Sign says "Kidnap the Lord this Thursday." Several WELL-GROOMED KIDS high five, "yeah dude" type stuff.

Libby and Astrid roll their eyes at this.

As Libby heads to Art class and Astrid heads to Computer Science, they get sidetracked by Candace and TATE, hot soccer star who is both charming and a dick, arguing in the hallway.

ASTRID

God if he were my boyfriend, I'd never fight with him. I'd just massage with him. On him, to him, lots of sensual massage.

Libby ignores her.

INT./ EXT. ART CLASSROOM - MORNING

Libby floats thru the doors of the art classroom. It's her favorite class because JONAS, the beloved art teacher with a man bun, is sensitive and sweet and "gets her."

She carefully removes a folded drawing from her notebook, nervously looking down, and waltzes up to Jonas, frowns when he's not there. She quickly folds up her gift and tucks it back into her notebook.

Sitting in Jonas' chair is RAJ VARSHIDI, 50s, Indian, relatively newly minted principal who wants badly to be cool/liked.

LIBBY

Shitballs, I mean schnikes!

Over her shoulder, WESLEY, 17, respected by students and teachers alike, SMILES, amused.

VARSHIDI

Charming, Libby!

LIBBY

Sorry, Varshidi. Didn't realize I said that out loud. Where's Jonas?

VARSHIDI

Out sick.

LIBBY

Whaddya mean? He never gets sick except for that one Friday afternoon last semester when he thought he had an ulcer but turns out it was only a gas bubble.

VARSHIDI

Someone needs a hobby, amiright?!

LIBBY

(under her breath)

He wouldn't just not show up when we have an after school art sesh.

Bell RINGS.

VARSHIDI

Jonas is out guys, so you're stuck with me! Your favorite super cool principal Raj!

Kids look at each other like, "this guy."

VARSHIDI (CONT'D)

He didn't leave instructions, so let's do something exploratory. Why doesn't everyone just take out some paper and draw the person to your left?!

(beat)

With clothes on.

GROANS

Libby looks at the empty seat to her left. It's Candace's chair but she's MIA. She approaches Varshidi.

LIBBY

(quietly, passionately)

I feel like Jonas wouldn't want me to do any artistic exploration that he didn't personally sanction. And since Candace isn't here-

Suddenly, the door bursts open and Candace, who's clearly been crying, rushes in and takes her seat.

VARSHIDI

Oh look, problem solved. Do the assignment.

Libby takes her seat.

LIBBY
 (to Candace)
 You ok?

CANDACE
 Gross.

Classic Candace.

Rather than draw, Libby takes out a notebook and starts taking notes. She studies Candace, then the room, takes inventory of Jonas' desk and workspace. She frowns. There's a nagging feeling growing that she can't place.

Next to her, Wesley sulks back into his seat, bored, but also appears to be acutely tuned in to everything around him and watches as Libby writes.

INT. COMPUTER SCIENCE CLASS - SAME

While her classmates stare into their screens and read about the advent of DOS, Astrid clicks open her bookmarked screen, '**Hackers Forum**,' and starts clicking around.

INT. SCHOOL CAFETERIA- LATER

Libby and Astrid go thru the food line, grab waters and salads from a salad bar that rivals Whole Foods. It's pizza day (organic, gluten free) but it's still pizza and they can't actually eat that shit in front of their classmates.

SPARROW, the goth creeper they were stalking the night before, looks back at Libby and Astrid in line.

SPARROW
 (old-fashioned bow)
 Make way! Pudge Patrol, coming through.

Libby and Astrid go beet red, frozen.

MICHELLE THE BITCHY TEACHER, 30s, still shops at Forever 21, laughs.

Libby and Astrid look at each other like "seriously?!"

Candace and Tate, oozing coolness, cut in line ahead of the girls, and weirdly start feeling each others butts, UNDER their jeans. Astrid STARES at this as they walk past her.

LIBBY
 I guess they made up.

ASTRID

They're totally having sex, right?
I hate that he's so hot. I bet his
butt feels like a hard dinner roll
or like the curve of a ripe plum or
maybe two peeled honeydew melons.

Tate is aware Astrid is staring.

TATE

(whispers)
Sup' Fatasstrid.

Astrid turns bright red and mumbles something incoherent.

Tate and Candace walk away laughing.

Libby looks over Astrid's shoulder and see's Tate's soccer
team lunch table friends laughing.

LIBBY

(to Astrid)
I'm starving, let's get outa here.

Astrid nods in agreement. They've been down this road before.
The girls sneak out-

INT. GIRLS BATHROOM - LATER

Libby and Astrid are in a stall, scarfing down whatever they
could find from their lockers - half eaten bags of chips, old
Snickers. This shit is contraband at Promise Academy.

LIBBY

I'm sure they didn't mean it.

Astrid looks up at Libby, thankful for her friend.

Bathroom door CREAKS open. It's Michelle the bitchy teacher
and her bitchy shadow, SIMONE, the school nurse whose glass
is always half empty.

Libby and Astrid freeze as Michelle and Simone pee.

MICHELLE

Well he better be back tomorrow
because I'm having a great tit
week.

SIMONE

Wish my tits didn't look like
upside down ice cream cones.

Libby and Astrid making gagging/suicide faces and hand gestures at each other.

EXT. PARKING LOT - AFTER SCHOOL

Libby and Astrid walk to Libby's car, passing the teacher lot and the spot marked "Jonas." It's empty, of course, and Libby sighs. They climb into Libby's car and drive away past...

Sparrow walking into his house right across the street.

Kids digging around in a thriving kale garden.

Soccer team heads to field, Candace and Tate smooch goodbye.

Wesley looking cool as a cucumber climbing into his super fancy car, making eye contact with Libby as they cruise by.

A bunch of kids piling into a van that reads GATEWAY TO GOD. Van is driven by Candace's mom, CHRISTINE. She wears a bedazzled wrist cuff that says, "What Would **CHRIST**ine do." That's probably all you need to know about her.

Mr. Frick scowls at the van as he walks to his car.

Libby's car -

LIBBY
Crimeny! I left my notebook. One
sec.

Libby pulls up to the back side of the school, heads inside.

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - SAME

Libby grabs her notebook from her locker but hears something around the corner. She peers around the wall to see Candace sneaking into the art classroom.

LIBBY
What the hell. Candace *hates* art.

Libby opens her notebook to record.

TITLE CARD: WEDNESDAY

INT. PROMISE ACADEMY AUDITORIUM - NEXT MORNING

Varshidi stands at the head of the room with SCHOOL SECRETARY FRIDA and Michelle. He starts snapping his fingers, kids join in, snapping their fingers as they do. This is how this school quiets down.

VARSHIDI

Only one big announcement today!
Soccer formal tickets are on sale!

Cheers from the jocks.

VARSHIDI (CONT'D)

What's everyone gonna wear?! Get
your tickets before you get kicked
to nerdville!

This is not funny but Michelle snickers. Varshidi beams. He so badly wants her approval.

Kids start exiting the room for class. Michelle joins the soccer jocks, joking around like she's one of them.

Varshidi and the Frida whisper to each other. Astrid happens by and catches this conversation.

SCHOOL SECRETARY FRIDA

I tried like 6 times, Mr. Varshidi.
He's not answering.

VARSHIDI

These hippie artist types,
amiright?

Varshidi has a ponytail and is wearing a tie-dye shirt.

VARSHIDI (CONT'D)

Hey so Frida, can we just try Raj?

SCHOOL SECRETARY FRIDA

(uncomfortable)

Um, I think the teachers feel like
since you're the boss, it's weird,
Mr. Varshidi.

VARSHIDI

But everyone else goes by their
first name!

He races outa there, annoyed.

INT. ART CLASSROOM - MORNING

Libby waltzes in to art class excited to see Jonas. He's obviously there today, right? Alas, his chair is empty.

LIBBY
(not realizing she's
talking out loud)
Again?! I don't understand. This
just isn't his pattern.

STUDENT
Stalker.

A few other kids snicker.

Nagging feeling again, this time stronger. She glances over at Candace who is scowling more than usual.

Varshidi comes sulking into class like a child.

VARSHIDI
No creative shit today, kids.
Couldn't find a sub so grab your
stuff and follow me. You're all
gonna head out to the kale farm and
till.

GROANS.

LIBBY
(quietly)
Uh, Varshidi, Jonas didn't like,
um, leave a private message for me
or anything did he?

VARSHIDI
Sometimes people disappoint you,
Libby.

Say what? Is he talking about himself or Libby?

As she picks up her backpack, Libby's eyes dart quickly around the room, taking even more in than yesterday. She stops at something she didn't notice yesterday - Jonas hiking boots. She GASPS.

INT. LIBBY'S BEDROOM, AKA PUDGE PATROL HEADQUARTERS - NIGHT

Indie music plays.

Astrid is hunched over the binocular masks, wearing a head lamp, tinkering.

ASTRID

Okay, walk me through this one more time.

LIBBY

Try to focus this time. Really hear me.

Astrid lifts up the head lamp, puts down her tools, looks up at Libby.

ASTRID

Go for Astrid.

LIBBY

One. He would never, under any circumstances be so careless with his Italian horsehair brushes unless he were under serious duress but there they were! Right on his desk and not in their protective vinyl case! For him to leave them like that for one night is impossible and two nights is just like, in a different galaxy of impossibility. Two. His Bernie Sanders mug is always on the shelf by his stack of National Geographic's but yesterday it was in the sink.

Libby makes a "can you believe it" noise and shrug.

Astrid is *trying*.

LIBBY (CONT'D)

Three. Whenever he has had to miss class, which is never, but when he has, he always always leaves a really interesting assignment with the main office, but he's left them with nothing but broken hearts and unreturned phone calls which brings me to four. The big four. His LL Bean hiking boots. He had them custom fitted with orthodic lifts because his right leg is half an inch shorter than his left. It's, The. Pair. Of. Shoes. He. Wears. The. Most.

(refers to notes from
other night)

Lopsided gait. Seemed familiar?

Off Astrid's look.

LIBBY (CONT'D)

Sneaking out of Candace's??? And Five. My gut says something is off, A. We always talk about trusting our instincts, right? Well my instincts are screaming at me to investigate because what if he needs my help? Right? And I don't know how or if Candace is involved but we gotta find out, right? So? Whaddya think?

ASTRID

Besides the fact that I need to stage an intervention?

(off Libby's look, slowly)

Okay so him being the guy sneaking out of Candace's house is a stretch but, I do think it's weird that no one at school can get ahold of him but like, do we really trust those chodes anyway, but if you're so sure that this is all so out of character, then yeah, let's go check it out.

LIBBY

(fist pump)

Yes! So, major Pudge Patrol sesh after dinner?

ASTRID

You know I can't say no when you talk dirty to me.

The girls laugh.

INT. LIBBY'S CAR - LATER

Astrid's driving so Libby can really look.

They slow as they approach Jonas' house. Libby is at FULL ATTENTION. The house is totally dark, not a light on in the whole place.

Libby checks her phone, just to make sure.

LIBBY

(big sigh)

If he really was sick, he'd be
curled up on his couch, jazz
playing in the background, hugging
a giant cup of chicken broth,
sketching by the fire. Jonas loves
a fire. We'd see the glow.

ASTRID

His car's there. Maybe he's just
sleeping and his phone died?

Libby is already out the door and walking up the driveway to
the back of his house. Astrid scrambles to follow.

As the girls tiptoe to Jonas' back door, Libby spots
something. She picks it up.

LIBBY

Oh my god oh my god oh my god oh my
god. This is his favorite favorite
cardigan.

(smells it, then suddenly
very worked up)

What's it doing out here? This
makes no sense. Should we knock?
Should we knock? Maybe we should
knock?

ASTRID

I don't think--

Libby KNOCKS.

Nothing. Not a sound. Hmm. That *is* weird. The girls try to
peer into windows, can't see anything.

They walk silently back to the car and Astrid grabs the
cardigan. Libby starts to protest until she sees Astrid strap
on her head lamp and peer closely at the cardigan.

LIBBY

(already knows the answer)

What are you doing?

ASTRID

Checking for blood.

And just like that, Astrid decided something was wrong too.

TITLE CARD: THURSDAY

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE ART STUDIO - NEXT MORNING

Libby and Astrid stare at a sign on the classroom door that reads, "Art Cancelled Until Further Notice."

They give each other a look.

Candace stops to see the sign too. Her resting bitch face is in full effect. Why is she so pissed? Again, she hates anything artistic. Libby summons the courage -

LIBBY

Sucks. Jonas must be like so sick,
right? Unless, do you think
there's another reason he's out?

Candace looks at her, turns and walks away.

INT. COMPUTER SCIENCE CLASSROOM - SAME

Astrid clicks through various screens, fully immersed in her hacking.

TEACHER

We talked about this, Astrid.
Let's stick to the assignment.

She continues doing her own thing. Her eyes grow wide.

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - LATER

LIBBY

Got your text, what's the big news?

ASTRID

Okay, I don't know what this means
but the cell tower that Jonas phone
is pinging closest to is way over
on the other side of town. Like,
miles from his house.

LIBBY

Recon mission in the office?

Eager nodding.

INT. SCHOOL OFFICE - SAME

Libby and Astrid stroll slowly into the office like they have some reason to be there. They don't.

They're carrying folders of nonsense, trying to make it look like they have things to do.

Two teachers talk quietly.

TEACHER
Maybe he left town because of a
gambling addiction.

OTHER TEACHER
I never trusted that guy.

Libby and Astrid share a glance.

Two SERIOUS MEN IN SUITS walk out of Varshidi's office,
holding a few fileboxes.

Michelle, who's refilling her coffee cup, immediately
straightens and sticks out her butt and chest soon as she
sees the suits.

LIBBY
(indicating the suits,
sounds desperate)
Is that about Jonas?

MICHELLE
What are you talking about? Why
would you even ask that? And what
are you doing in here? LEAVE!

INT. SCHOOL BATHROOM - A LITTLE LATER

Libby sits on the can. Astrid stands, jotting down some
notes.

LIBBY
Don't forget to write down that in
addition to all the very important
facts in this case, my heart knows
something is wrong.

The bathroom door slams open and the unmistakable bitchy
voices of Michelle and Simone fill the room. Libby and Astrid
freeze.

SIMONE
Yeah but it's not what you think.
It's so much worse. Just like I
suspected. The hubs spilled the
beans about what they're saying
down at the precinct.

Libby hides a GASP.

MICHELLE

Ooooooh!
(calls out to room)
Anyone here?

SIMONE

Lemme just make sure. Hopefully my
back doesn't go out.

Michelle rolls her eyes. Simone starts peeking under stalls.

Libby and Astrid quietly and quickly both stand on the toilet
seat, sort of weirdly hugging to hold each other steady.

SIMONE (CONT'D)

I dunno, Michelle. I could get
into a lot of trouble.

MICHELLE

I swear I won't say anything.

SIMONE

Okay so apparently some anonymous
dude called in with info. He's not
sick, Michelle. He's missing.

Libby and Astrid share a horrified look.

LIBBY

(mouths to Astrid)
I knew it! I knew it! I knew it!

Libby covers her mouth, she might barf.

ASTRID

(whispers back)
Are we actual detectives now????

EXT. SCHOOL PARKING LOT - AFTER SCHOOL

Candace and Tate full on dry-hump against Tate's car. Kids
are staring...so is Christine, Candace's mom, who is standing
outside the Gateway van, ushering kids in.

Candace feels her moms gaze, kisses Tate goodbye and runs to
the van.

CHRISTINE

Didn't look like you were leaving
much room for the holy spirit,
Candie!

CANDACE
Hi mom, sorry.

More kids pile into the van.

CHRISTINE
Everyone excited about tonight?

Cheers from the kids.

CHRISTINE (CONT'D)
That's what I'm talking about! I
feel you, Jesus! I feel you inside
me!

Snickers from some of the kids. Christine shoots a dirty
look.

VARIOUS KIDS
Sorry. / Sorry Mrs. Parker.

CHRISTINE
That's ok. The lord forgives. He
always does.
(beat)
Okay everyone, let's do this!

The van screeches to a halt in front of a house and everyone
reaches under their seats, grabs a ski mask and puts it on.

INT. / EXT. SUBURBAN HOUSE - EARLY EVENING

Flanked by 2 rows of 6 kids each, Christine lets herself in
the house. A conservative-looking set of parents nod to her
and point upstairs.

INT. SUBURBAN HOUSE - SAME

Christine and her God S.W.A.T SHOVE open a bedroom door and
are greeted by a SHOCKED Sparrow. Christine holds him down
while the rest of the mob tie a bandana around his eyes and
lead him down the stairs.

He struggles to get away, but can't.

SPARROW
Mom! Mom! Dad! What the fuck!
Stop! Mom! MOOOOOOMMMM! I know
you're right there! Mom?????
DAAAAAD??? You cannot be
serious!!!!!! MOOOOOOMMMM.

The Gateway team lifts Sparrow and carries him to the van.

Christine smiles thru her mask. Success! She gives Sparrow's parents a "Praise Jesus" hand motion as she drives away.

INT. LIBBY'S BEDROOM, AKA PUDGE PATROL HEADQUARTERS - NIGHT

One of the walls of Libby's room has been transformed into a police-style crime timeline. There's notes, magazine articles, string, post its, pushpins and large photos of Candace and Jonas. It's a whole thing. A little off to the side, a huge photo of Sparrow with a giant heart around it. And a crappy sketch of a cartoon penis going into a cartoon vag. It's clear who's in charge of what side of the wall.

Libby is digging through her backpack as Astrid lays on the beanbag with a notebook.

ASTRID
Black sweats.

LIBBY
Check.

ASTRID
Boxcutter.

LIBBY
Check.

ASTRID
Caprisun.

ALLOFASUDDEN -

The Gateway militia RUSHES into Libby's room. Libby's parents ED and HEIDI, come running in after, HYPED THE FUCK UP.

LIBBY'S MOM HEIDI
You can't just come in here and
steal my kid!

CHRISTINE
(sugary AF)
Well it's not like you have
anything else worth taking. But
don't worry, Heidi, she's not the
one we want.

Libby and Astrid are up on their feet, FREAKED OUT AF and not because of the ski masks. Their personal haven is being violated.

They're frozen. This has never happened before.

VARIOUS KIDS

Dude, look at the heart around
Sparrow./ Nice dick./ You wanna
tell him or should I.

A kid picks up "What cool kids do at night," shows it to a few others, they all laugh.

Libby wants to crawl inside her own skin.

And before anyone can do or say anything, Gateway has Astrid in a bandana and is leading her to the stairs.

Christine pauses at the wall and clocks the photo of Candace.

CHRISTINE

We're gonna need all hands on deck
for this one.

Kids are loudly talking, yelling, laughing. You hear the words "Fat Asstrid" "Pudge" etc. It's mayhem and it's mortifying.

Astrid can't even speak, she's just bright red and tearing up.

Libby is just frozen, mouth wide. Libby's parents are following them out, yelling and trying to stop them, to no avail.

INT. OUR LADY OF THE LAKE CHURCH REC ROOM - NIGHT

The kids are all sitting, quietly now, with Christine in front of them.

Astrid has clearly been crying, but has calmed down. Sparrow sits next to her along with a few other sad victims.

Christine holds up a bible.

CHRISTINE

I know a few of you are thinking
that might have been too
aggressive. And you know what,
you're right. You know what else
is aggressive? The lord's love.
At Gateway to God, we're gonna
shine a light into your hearts that
your poor parents thought was dead.
That's why you're all here,
newbies.

(MORE)

CHRISTINE (CONT'D)

Your parents asked us to pluck you
from the sin of your regular lives
and bring you into shining beam of
HIS love.

Astrid crumbles at the notion that her parents set this up,
makes eye contact with Sparrow, who quickly looks away.

EXT. OUR LADY OF THE LAKE CHURCH - SAME

Libby crouches behind some bushes, trying to get a better
view of the rec room. She's trying to balance the sound
equipment, the video camera and her notebooks.

From behind her -

VOICE

You know you're not being sneaky
like, at all right now.

She flips around, mortified. It's Wesley.

LIBBY

(superfast, nervous)

What are you doing here? Are you
spying on me?!

WESLEY

Glass houses, girl.

Libby takes a moment, looks at all her shit, acknowledges she
looks ridiculous.

WESLEY (CONT'D)

(indicating the church)

They get Astrid?

Libby nods sadly.

Wesley looks around. Looks behind him. Takes a beat.

WESLEY (CONT'D)

Well you can't really hold all that
shit by yourself, can you?

He grabs the heavy sound boom and hits some switches like
he's done this before.

Libby peers down, finally gets a good vantage point, turns
camera on as Wesley holds the boom.

CUT BACK AND FORTH BETWEEN INSIDE THE REC ROOM AND
LIBBY/WESLEY OUTSIDE:

REC ROOM

Astrid sees the mic from outside and knows Libby is there.

Christine passes out 'What Would CHRISTine Do' bracelets.

Sparrow and Astrid make eye contact again.

CHRISTINE

Sparrow, do you know that opening
your heart to the lord starts with
a simple word? Can you guess what
it is?

SPARROW

(yells, not answering her)
Help!

CHRISTINE

(ignoring his tone)
That's exactly right! Help!

OUTSIDE

LIBBY

I gotta get her outa there. They
could be in there for hours and we
have....super important and crucial
plans.

Beat.

WESLEY

Easy peasy.

Libby is all, "why is he being so nice?!"

Wes sneaks around to the side of the church and allofasudden,
FIRE ALARM. Kids start streaming out of the church.

As Wesley runs away, he passes Libby-

WESLEY (CONT'D)

(joking)
Peace be with you!

Libby, confused by Wesley's help just now, grabs her gear and
heads to her car.

Astrid comes bounding out, beelines to Libby, they hug.

ASTRID

Thank you. That was awful.

LIBBY

I know. Okay listen, we don't even have time to talk about what they saw or didn't see when they busted in because we have work to do. Putting a pin in that til later?

ASTRID

Deal.

EXT. PROMISE ACADEMY - LATER THAT NIGHT

The school looks ominous. It's dark, empty and scary as balls. The girls change into their super cool all-black ninja suits and night vision goggles. This is serious business. Look out, Special Ops.

They sneak up to a side door and Astrid digs out her lock-picking kit. Before she even unzips the damn thing, Libby has the door open.

ASTRID

Say wha?

Libby holds up a key.

ASTRID (CONT'D)

You sneaky little bastard.

They high-five and enter the school.

INT. ART CLASSROOM - SAME

Libby and Astrid creep into the art classroom.

LIBBY

I sorta hate this. I feel like I'm violating Jonas' trust.

ASTRID

Cause you wanna be violating his dee-ack.

LIBBY

DO you ever stop?

ASTRID

Can't stop perfection, baby.

The girls creep back to Jonas' art cabinet behind his desk. It's locked.

LIBBY
Lemme at it.

She fiddles with the lock for a sec, then-

LIBBY (CONT'D)
Bingo, bango, boingo.

ASTRID
Literally never say that again.

Each girl takes a stack. Libby carries hers to a desk, she wants to do this privately.

Astrid flips through them right there. We stay with Astrid.

First few are just your standard landscape sketches, still lifes, etc.

ASTRID (CONT'D)
(as she's flips)
Boring, boring, boring, ugly,
boring, boring- what the-

The art is suddenly super intense...drawing after drawing of naked women with roses and guns wrapped around their bodies. It's weird and dark and sexual. Astrid is visibly turned on.

ASTRID (CONT'D)
What the, oh hell yeah, now we're
talking, you pervy mother-fu- Oh
shit.

Libby races to Astrid.

LIBBY
What?!?

Astrid holds up a black and white photo of a very naked nubile lady. There's a bunch of them. Can't see any faces, and all the parts are covered, but still.

LIBBY (CONT'D)
(dejected)
Ugh, fuck.

Libby braces herself against a desk.

LIBBY (CONT'D)
You don't think that's-

ASTRID
(quickly)
No, no way. Nope.

Astrid grabs one of the sexier photos, shoves it in her jumpsuit.

ASTRID (CONT'D)
Evidence.

The girls sneak outa there. This is all no bueno. Libby has a heavy heart and Astrid, still a bit skeptical, is worried.

INT. LIBBY'S BEDROOM - LATER THAT NIGHT

Libby rearranges the pillows on her bed so she can slide into half of it.

She picks up her notebook labeled 'Jonas' and flips through it, stopping to pull out the sketch she made for him. She puts it away, SIGHS heavily.

Grabs the pill bottle next to her and pops an Ambien.

TITLE CARD: *FRIDAY*

INT. PROMISE ACADEMY HALLWAY - NEXT MORNING

All the students are being corralled into the auditorium. Astrid searches for Libby, to no avail, but she does spot Sparrow. She catches up to him, mouthing a line over and over on the way. She's been rehearsing this.

ASTRID
Last night was intense. God's the worst, you know?

Nothing from Sparrow. Astrid quickly glances at her hand for her other rehearsed lines.

ASTRID (CONT'D)
Those Jesus freaks be super freaky, yo.

Sparrow SMACKS his black lipsticked lips together, turns to Astrid. Astrid shivers.

SPARROW
You handled it pretty well. Me, not so much.

Astrid is taken aback that he spoke to her like a human.

ASTRID
(false sincerity)
No man whose testicles have been
crushed or whose organ has been cut
off may become a member of the
Assembly of God. Deuteronomy 23:1.

Sparrow ACTUALLY SMIRKS as he walks away, leaving Astrid like
'holy shit that worked.'

But seriously, where the hell is Libby?

INT. PROMISE ACADEMY HALLWAY- MORNING

Libby comes racing into school WAY late. She's totally
disheveled and confused when she sees the hallways are full
of students and teachers and everyone is heading to the
auditorium.

She finds Astrid.

LIBBY
I overslept. What's going on?

ASTRID
Emergency school meeting. They
won't say anything else.

They share a look. This is bad.

INT. AUDITORIUM - SAME

The room is a buzz. Teachers and students are filing in,
gossiping about Jonas.

Varshidi, several other teachers and two cops stand in front
of the room.

ASTRID
(whispers to Libby,
hopeful)
Maybe they found him and he's just
like off with whatever underage
whore he was taking pics of and ran
out of town and owes a bunch of
money and the cops are here to see
if we know anything?!?

Libby shakes her head.

Varshidi snaps his fingers. Soon the whole room is snapping, even, reluctantly, the cops.

VARSHIDI

Alright, alright, settle down everybody. Thank you.

(beat)

I know a lot of you have heard the news that Jonas is missing.

(he looks at Michelle)

And while that's technically still true, god, I don't even know how to say this, we have some pretty upsetting news that the chief of police is gonna talk to you about. Officer Choi?

POLICE CHIEF CHOI

Thank you, Principal Varshidi.

VARSHIDI

(weirdly interrupts)

You can call me Raj.

Police Chief Choi is bewildered at his timing.

POLICE CHIEF CHOI

(clears throat)

At approximately 9:30 AM this morning, the body of Jonas Luther was discovered by a team of officers.

Loud eruptions/gasps/crying/screams.

Libby is distraught. Starts crying. This can't be true.

VARSHIDI

Guys, guys, we're freaking out too but let's talk about this as calmly as we can.

Police Chief Choi looks at Varshidi again like, "let me talk."

POLICE CHIEF CHOI

It appears foul play was involved.

SOME KID

You mean he was murdered?

MR. VARSHIDI

(interrupting again)

He was murdered!

Choi gives major side eye at Varshidi.

POLICE CHIEF CHOI
Unfortunately yes, that's what that means.

More eruptions, tears, etc.

POLICE CHIEF CHOI (CONT'D)
Now, the details of the case are still confidential but we are releasing some information in order to hopefully speed up the investigation. Mr. Luther was last scene Tuesday night driving a grey 4-runner, which as you may know is not his car. We have some leads, but any information which would lead to the arrest of the individual or individuals responsible should be funneled through the station. Officer Spiller here will be handling all the tips.

Officer Spiller waves.

A KID stands up.

RELIGIOUS KID BART
Sir, Gateway to God would like to begin a prayer circle if that's alright?

POLICE CHIEF CHOI
Um -

VARSHIDI
It's not really the time or place. Right, Sam?

POLICE CHIEF CHOI
Uh, it's Officer Choi.

Libby and Astrid sneak out.

INT. SCHOOL BATHROOM - MORNING

Libby and Astrid sit on the floor of the handicapped stall. Libby can't stop crying.

ASTRID

I'm just gonna say it. Grey 4-
runner? The guy who seemed sort of
familiar? Creeping out of
Candace's at 1AM? Come on.

(beat)

Are we the last two people to have
seen Jonas alive?

Libby yelps.

EXT. SCHOOL PARKING LOT - MORNING

In SLOW MO over *Wicked Game* by Chris Isaac:

Everyone is somber as fuck.

Christine's Gateway van opens its doors as various kids pile
inside.

Candace crosses the parking lot.

Michelle buttons up her cardigan - No one to look at her
boobs now.

Police Chief Choi's car rolls into view, students all turn to
look.

Tate walks with his soccer buddies.

Libby and Astrid turn to watch a rookie cop carrying a box of
photos toward the police van. The rookie trips over a curb,
drops the box, a few photos go flailing in the wind.

Candace has stopped by the Gateway van, eyes wide as the
photos fall. A couple kids are picking up the photos, no face
on them, but they're way more scandalous than the ones Libby
and Astrid found. We're talking full genitals here, people.

One of the photos lands near Pudge Patrol. They grab it and
see it's a very graphic pic of a naked girl with a huge
birthmark above her vag. They spin around to see Candace,
who's mouth is open wide.

Kids start whispering about who it could be.

Tate grabs a photo, flips around to stare at Candace IN
SHOCK.

Christine, sitting in the Gateway van is oblivious. Candace
quickly heads toward the van.

Libby and Astrid turn to look at Police Chief Choi and get out of his car and start walking. He is joined by Officer Spiller as they approach Tate.

Tate sees the cops approach, confused look on his face. Cops get to Tate, pull him aside for a private discussion. Cops escort Tate to the cop car and he gets in the backseat.

Libby and Astrid, and the rest of the kids in the lot are staring, dumbfounded, as one more naked photo slowly falls to the ground.

OVER CREDITS WE SEE:

EXT. FOREST - AFTERNOON

Cops are casing an area near the site where Jonas was found. A plot of earth has been dug up and is roped off.

Office Spiller spots something shiny under a bush. As he gets closer he can see it's a cell phone. He picks it up, looks at the case - a drawing of a woman's body intertwined with a gun and roses. He glances around, no one is near, and puts it into his pocket.

POLICE CHIEF CHOI
Hey Spiller, you find anything?

OFFICER SPILLER
Nothing yet, boss.

FINIS