

SPONTANEOUS

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Based on the novel by

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1

INT. PRE-CALC CLASSROOM - DAY (FALL)

1

MARA is bored as unholy fuck.

Her teacher **SPIROS** drones on about some pre-calc bullshit.

All of Mara's classmates share in her boredom, even the ones that are kiss-ass assholes.

She flicks a pencil up her desk.

It rolls back down.

She flicks it back up.

It rolls back down.

She flicks it back up and-

It rolls off the desk and hits the floor.

Mara searches the ground for the pencil.

All she sees are shoes and backpacks until-

Finally, she finds it.

Behind her feet.

She bends out of frame to pick it up and-

A strange **puff** is heard.

Followed by the sound of **splattering**.

Followed by the sound of **gasping**.

Followed by the sound of **screaming**.

Mara pops upright, eyes wide open.

*

*MARA (V.O.)
Katelyn Ogden was a lot of things,
but she wasn't particularly
explosive, in any sense of the
word.*

A student covered in blood behind Mara begins to scream.

*

2 **INT. CLASS PHOTO - DAY**

2

The late great **KATELYN OGDEN** smiles for her class photo.

MARA (V.O.)

*She was a sundress of a person -
cute, airy, inoffensive.*

3 **INT. DALTON TWINS TRUCK - NIGHT**

3

With some friends, Katelyn smokes a joint.

JENNA DALTON

What do you think God looks like
stoned?

JOE DALTON

Are you stoned seeing God or are
you God and He is stoned?

KATELYN

Whatever the answer is, it's JK
Rowling.

Everyone in the car nods at this correct deepness.

MARA (V.O.)

*She was quickly becoming the Dalton
Twins' number one marijuana
customer, but that's hardly a
reason to pop like a zit-*

4 **INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - PRESENT**

4

Moments after the Katelynblast, a **GIRL** is screaming.

SKYE

SHE'S ALL FUCKING OVER ME!

Mara is stunned as the class charges out the door.

MARA (V.O.)

Spraying all fucking over us.

5 **INT. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CLASS PHOTO - PAST**

5

Five year old Katelyn Ogden smiles for her yearbook photo.

MARA (V.O.)

*I wasn't close with Katelyn, but we
weren't enemies or anything.*

(MORE)

MARA (V.O.) (CONT'D)
*She was just, ya know, a classmate.
For a decade. Lots of people liked
her. Guys especially.*

6 INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAYS LATER

6

A slow push in on **JED HAYES** as he declares into the camera:

JED
I was going to ask her to prom. She
was so hot. I even narrowed down
motel room options to two choices.
(starts to cry)
She was so open minded.

MARA (V.O.)
Jed Hayes was particularly crushed.

7 EXT. COVINGTON HIGH - PRESENT

7

Jed, covered on his back in his never-date's blood, stumbles
around in shock.

Mara looks down at her pants and shoes, which have flecks of
red on them.

TESS (O.S.)
Mara!

Mara looks up and sees her best friend, **TESS MCNULTY**, running
towards her.

TESS (CONT'D)
What happened?!

MARA
Katelyn Ogden blew up.

TESS
What?! Like... a bomb?

MARA
Like... a balloon?

TESS
...What?!

MARA (V.O.)
*Everyone quickly realized Katelyn
Ogden was not a suicide bomber,
seeing as the only thing that blew
up was Katelyn Ogden.*

8 **INT. PRE-CALC CLASSROOM - AFTERMATH**

8

Investigators study Katelyn's bloody but undamaged desk.

*MARA (V.O.)
Her desk remained unscathed by the
Ogdenblast.*

They put Katelyn's clothes into evidence bags.

*MARA (V.O.)
The only damage her clothes took
was cosmetic.*

INVESTIGATOR
This isn't right. She was just a
kid.

*MARA (V.O.)
It wasn't right. She was just a
kid.*

INVESTIGATOR #2
This is fucking disgusting.

*MARA (V.O.)
And it was very fucking disgusting.*

9 OMITTED

9 *

10 **INT. POLICE ROOM - LATER**

10

*MARA (V.O.)
After the unprecedented event, we
got taken to the police station.
Which was very exciting. We got
asked a lot of important questions
like-*

*
*
*

OFFICER
Did Katelyn ever say anything
suspicious?

MARA
About wanting to blow up? All the
time.

The Officer writes that down. Mara sighs.

MARA (CONT'D)
I was kidding.

He shows her that he wrote down "MARA CARLYLE: NOT HELPFUL".

MARA (V.O.)
*Then they took all our clothes and
let us shower.*

11 INT. POLICE SHOWERS - DAY

11

Mara wears a towel and drops her clothes in an evidence bag.

MARA
Will I get these back?

COP
Do you... want these back?

Mara clearly wants to say kiiiiiiinda.

THEN:

Mara stands by the open shower.

It is **COVERED** in blood, even with the water running.

MARA (V.O.)
*I only washed my hair. Then they
gave us a bunch of ugly as shit
sweat suits and made us wait.*

12 INT. POLICE HOLDING - LATER

12

The sweat suit clad class sit together in quiet until-

DYLAN
It was like a Cronenberg movie.

Mara laughs once. Everyone stares daggers at her. She stops.

She shrugs an apology to the boy who said that, who she will have some sex with later on in the movie. He smiles at her, because he just read that too.

JENNA DALTON
What do you... think it was?

PERRY
Aliens?

HARPER
It wasn't fucking aliens.

PERRY (CONT'D)
I'm just saying. She was
there. And then she wasn't.

JED
It's not fair. She was so
nice. I was gonna ask her to
prom.

JOE DALTON
She was very open minded.

BECKY
When the hell are they gonna let us
out of here?

MARA
When they know it's not gonna
happen again.

Everyone shuts up and looks at Mara.

BECKY
When what happens again?

Mara makes a **BOOM!** motion quietly. No one responds.

MARA (V.O.)
It happened again.

Becky throws up.

MARA (V.O.)
It happened again a lot.

13 **EXT. POLICE STATION - NIGHT**

13

The students are released to their anxious parents. Mara's
PARENTS hug their daughter tightly.

MARA
I'm not going to school tomorrow.

ANGELA
No shit, sweetheart.

14 **INT. CHARLIE'S CAR - NIGHT**

14

They drive home in silence.

15 **INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT**

15

They arrive home in silence.

ANGELA
Are you hungry?

MARA
No, not really.

ANGELA
Do you wanna talk?

MARA
I think I just wanna go to bed.

ANGELA
Okay, kiddo.

CHARLIE
We thought it was a shooter.

MARA
God, Dad.

CHARLIE
I'm just trying to say I'm glad
you're okay and your classmates are
just assholes and not evil.

MARA
That is... a silver lining.

Mara starts to head up the stairs, when Charlie blurts out-

CHARLIE
You're our whole world, ya know.

Mara takes it in for a second.

MARA
I know. You too.

16 **INT. MARA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT**

16

Mara is looking out the window when a text buzzes.

*

NEW TEXT
*Hey just wanted to say I've had a
crush on you for two years.*

Mara raises her eyebrows.

MARA
New phone who dis.

NEW TEXT

You got a new phone?

MARA

No same phone just wanted to say
new phone who dis.

(then)

Please don't send a dick pic.

The texter sends her a pic of Richard Burton. Mara laughs.

MARA (CONT'D)

Wow that's a beautiful dick.

NEW TEXT

You should see my other dicks.

MARA

I'd love to see your other dicks.

Soon, pics of Richards Attenborough, Armitage and Pryor
begin filling her phone.

She smiles and puffs away as-

17

INT. KATELYN'S MEMORIAL - SCHOOL HALL - DAY

17

Skye sings Leonard Cohen's "Hey, That's No Way To Say
Goodbye".

SKYE

*Your eyes are soft with sorrow.
Hey, that's no way to say goodbye.*

Mara stands beside Tess, staring at a group of students still
wearing the sweat suits, which are now bedazzled in eternal
remembrance of Katelyn. They are particularly into the song.

SKYE (CONT'D)

*I loved you in the morning, our
kisses deep and warm.
Your hair upon the pillow like a
sleepy golden storm.*

TESS

Is this song-

MARA

Yeah it's definitely sexual.

18 EXT. GRAVEYARD - DAY

18

The funeral. Most of the town is there.

19 EXT. GRAVEYARD PARKING LOT - DAY

19

Katelyn Ogden's **FATHER** weeps while scratching off Katelyn's family member sticker from the back of his car with a key.

Mara and Tess watch this in silence from afar.

TESS

I always wondered what happens to those when someone dies.

MARA

Fuck me. I need-

20 EXT. DALTON TWINS HOME - DAY

20

MARA

Drrrrrrruggggggsssss.

The Dalton Twins look at each other. Then at Mara.

JENNA DALTON

Mushrooms?

MARA

Shit, mushrooms?

JENNA DALTON

It's like weed, but a fungus.

MARA

I've never done shrooms before, but I can't honestly think of a better time to start.

JOE DALTON

And that's why we love you.

21 OMITTED

21

22 OMITTED 22

23 INT. MOONLIGHT DINER - NIGHT 23

Mara dumps a baggie of shrooms into a mug. Tess is skeptical.

TESS
You're going to make yourself sick.

MARA
Nah-uh. You brew 'em in liquid to
make sure you *don't* get sick.
That's what Native Americans do.

TESS
In pumpkin spice lattes?

MARA
Yeah. Pumpkins. Thanksgiving. Duh.

TESS
Duh. Here.

Tess shows Mara another Zillow for a beach side property.

MARA
I fucking love it.

MARA (V.O.)
*Tess McNulty and I have been best
friends since elementary school.*

24 INT. MOONLIGHT DINER - ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 24

Two eight year olds sit where Tess and Mara are sitting,
dressed as their older counterparts are dressed.

BABY MARA
Will you be my best friend forever?

BABY TESS
Obviously.

They high five, before Baby Mara dumps a bag of normal mushrooms into her pumpkin spice bullshit.

MARA (V.O.)
When Tess' shitbrain dad walked out on her and her mom we spent a few days at the beach and-

25 **EXT. BEACH - DAY**

25

Baby Mara and Baby Tess stare up at a beachfront Victorian.

MARA (V.O.)
We saw these baller old chicks in kimonos, holding hands and smoking a hookah with their toes in the sand.

BABY MARA
Let's do this.

BABY TESS
Yes, this and only this.

MARA (V.O.)
It remains our life plan.

26 **INT. MOONLIGHT DINER - RETURN**

26

Tess and Mara raise their drinks.

TESS
To Katelyn.

MARA
To Katelyn.

They clink. Mara chugs.

TESS
I didn't know her that well beyond social media.

MARA
I know. Me neither. Did she get into college yet?

TESS

I'm not sure. I know she wanted to be a journalist though.

MARA

Oh we have too many excellent journalists as it is.

TESS

Have you applied yet?

MARA

I've gotten in to every college I've applied to.

TESS

You haven't applied to shit.

MARA

Not a one.

TESS

But college boysssss!

MARA

I knowwww.

TESS

Did Katelyn at least get laid before everything?

MARA

Oh yeah. She was a total slut.

TESS

Ya know, good for her!

MARA

I agree! Get it while the getting is good. The only real downside is high school boys.

TESS

I can't wait to be old. I can't wait to be a cougar.

MARA

Imma be like, come hither, young man, and pleasure me eagerly.

TESS

What do they call a not-yet-cougar?
Like, someone that hates high
school boys now but admits they
will love them years from today.

MARA

A McNulty.

TESS

Oh I like that.

MARA

I like you.

BOY (O.S.)

Mind if I join you guys?

And with that, the boy who made the Cronenberg joke sits
beside Tess, across from Mara. He smiles sweetly.

MARA

Tess. Don't look now, but there's a boy staring at us.

TESS

I think he's staring at you.

MARA

Ah, right you are. Hey, Dylan.

DYLAN

Hi, Mara. Hi, Tess.

TESS

Hi, Dylan.

DYLAN

How you guys doing?

MARA

Alright. It was definitely the best memorial I've ever attended.

TESS

Best funeral, too.

DYLAN

Second best for me. My Dad's was better.

MARA

Well holy shit, Dylan.

DYLAN

It's okay. The Ogden's can just try harder next time.

MARA

Well holy shit, Dylan.

DYLAN

Am I bombing this banter thing?

MARA

Like the end of Dr. Strangelove.

DYLAN

Don't you think that movie is kinda ruined now?

MARA

Yeah I kinda do.

TESS
What is going on.

MARA
What *is* going on?

DYLAN
I thought talking to you at the
memorial would be icky.

MARA
Icky?

DYLAN
It's an adjective.

MARA
I know it's a- *Oh holy shit!* You're
the guy! You have a crush on me!

DYLAN
Hello.

TESS
What is happening.

MARA
This is the guy! This is dick pic
Dylan!

TESS
Ew! You sent her a dick pic?!

DYLAN
No, that would be gross!

MARA
He sent me pictures of Richards.

TESS
That's worse!

DYLAN
How is that worse?

MARA
Why did you text me that?

DYLAN
The Richards?

MARA
The declarative statement.

Dylan considers how best to answer.

DYLAN

Katelyn exploded in the middle of pre-calc, and it got me thinking about life and what if that was me that popped, ya know? And then you said, maybe it'll happen again, and I thought, I gotta get shit done, in case she's right.

Tess and Mara reluctantly appreciate this. Mara sizes him up.

MARA

You are pretty cute. Wanna go to the ladies room with me?

DYLAN

Uhhhh-

MARA

Come on, it'll be fun.

DYLAN

-hhhhhh-

TESS

She's gonna throw up in the bathroom because she drank a ton of mushrooms and wants you to hold her hair back.

Mara snaps a gun hand at Tess.

DYLAN

Oh. In that case-

27

INT. LADIES ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

27

Mara is throwing up while Dylan holds her hair.

MARA

I'm not usually like this. I can usually really hold my drugs. Also: I usually never do drugs.

DYLAN

We live in strange and unusual times.

Mara leans back, eyes closed.

MARA

That is so true.

She opens her eyes. Stares.

MARA (CONT'D)

Ohhhhhhh. There are a lot of you.

It's true. There are about eight Dylans in the room.

DYLAN

How many?

MARA

I'll throw up if I count but...
more than one.

DYLAN

That's awesome.

She sits against the wall. The Dylans roam about the room.

MARA

You guys should make out.

DYLAN

How do I do that?

MARA

With your tongues *oh shit-*

She bends over to throw up and-

28

EXT. SIDE OF THE ROAD - LATER

28

Mara throws up again. About twenty Dylans are present.

MARA

I saw Katelyn's dad scratch her
stick figure sticker off the back
of his car.

DYLAN

I always wondered what happens to
those when someone dies.

MARA

What happens is, I get shroomed.

DYLAN

Did you see... Katelyn...

MARA

Go boom? No, did you?

DYLAN

I only heard it. It's weird being right there and... missing it.

MARA

Like I'm sad I missed it and that makes me feel terrible.

DYLAN

Yeah. It must be so invigorating.

MARA

Invigoratingggggg.

She bends over to throw up again and-

29

EXT. MARA'S HOME - LATER

29

Mara throws up outside her home. Dylan holds her hair while Tess tries to clean up.

DYLAN

I feel like I should help her.

MARA

One of you should.

How many Dylan's can we afford? And yet, none of them help.

MARA (CONT'D)

Thanks for saying you like me.

DYLAN

Sure. Wanna go with me to the homecoming game?

Mara eyes him suspiciously.

DYLAN (CONT'D)

What?

MARA

I'm trying to think of a reason to say no.

DYLAN

I can give you some.

MARA

Shoot.

DYLAN

I could be a guy just after you for
grief-induced sex.

MARA

Way sluttier girls than me.
Wouldn't stick around while I
hurled either.

DYLAN

True. How about homecoming sucks?

MARA

But it's really fun to make fun of.
Plus, Halloween.

DYLAN

Hm. Thennnn, how about you don't
really know me?

MARA

But I know a lot about you.

DYLAN

Oh yeah?

MARA

Fo sho. You're in a bunch of my
classes. You're a movie nerd.
You're pretty cute. Your dad died
when a ton of manure fell on him.

(a horrified beat)

I just realized I said that out
loud.

DYLAN

Well now you *have* to go with me to
the game.

MARA

I really do. I'm so sorry.

DYLAN

I blame the shrooms.

MARA

Yes! They are at fault. Not I who
willingly ingested them.

DYLAN

My dad was a farmer. He died of a
heart attack. The rumor of getting
crushed to death by shit is false.

(MORE)

DYLAN (CONT'D)

And impossible, if you've seen any
Back to the Future movie.

MARA

Kids are cruel. I'm sorry.

DYLAN

It's okay. We're all cruel.

She smiles at him.

MARA

You're a really nice distraction
from the end of the world.

He smiles back.

30

INT. MARA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

30

Mara, crashing hard, is curled up in her bed beside ever-loyal Tess.

TESS

This isn't gonna become a regular
thing, right?

MARA

The intoxication? No, no. I just
needed... I don't know what I
needed.

TESS

Have you cried yet?

Mara shakes her head. Tess strokes her hair.

MARA

Have you?

TESS

I cry all the time.

MARA

Not in front of me!

TESS

That's when I'm taking care of you!

MARA

Well what do you get out of this
best friendship?

TESS

I just love vomit. I love cleaning
it up.

The girls devolve into laughter.

31 **EXT. COVINGTON HIGH - DAY**

31

It's Halloween, motherfuckers, and this is that establishing shot.

TESS (V.O.)

It's just not the same without the blood.

*
*

32 **INT. SCHOOL ROTUNDA - DAY**

32

Mara wears a pink prom dress. She sighs.

MARA

I knooooooooow. I just look like a
fucking prom queen now. You could
have helped me out and gone as
Carrie's mom but noooooo, you had
to stick with being a sexy witch.

*
*
*
*
*

Tess is dressed as a witch.

*

TESS

You never asked me to be your mom!

*
*

MARA

It was implied!

*
*

TESS

And I'm just a normal witch. Not
even cleavagey!

*

MARA

But your sexiness is unavoidable.

They turn and find-

Katelyn's locker. Memorialized with flowers. Some of the
sweat suit-folk sit around it.

Dylan is also standing there. He is dressed as-

MARA (CONT'D)

Hello, Quaker Oats.

DYLAN

Hello, Prom Queen.

MARA

That's not... nevermind.

DYLAN

Wait, what is it supposed to be-

TESS

Don't ask.

MARA

It's fine. Katelyn fucked it up.

Everyone looks at Mara, horrified.

MARA (CONT'D)

I mean, she didn't intentionally-

TESS

You're making it worse-

Mara sighs-

33

INT. CAFETERIA - LUNCH

33

Mara continues to sigh while gazing at chocolate.

MARA

This will make it better.

Dylan is sitting across from her.

MARA (CONT'D)

I should stick to chocolate instead
of shrooms.

DYLAN

That's probably a lot more boring.

MARA

You don't know. You just don't.

DYLAN

That's why I'm here. To know.

MARA

That's a good point. What gives,
Quaker Oats?

DYLAN

Well, our football team are the
Quakers-

MARA

No, not your costume, the crush you
have on me.

DYLAN

Well, you're the prom queen-

MARA

(laughs)

Fuck you. I want like, a timeline.

Dylan looks at her and nods.

DYLAN

So-

34

INT. CLASSROOM (MONTAGE) - DAY

34

Dylan address the camera while he walks into a classroom.

DYLAN

First day of school. New town after
my Dad died. Teacher introduced me-

TEACHER

Everyone, this is Dylan Hovemeyer,
he's new here. Don't be yourselves.
Be nice.

Dylan spots Mara staring at him. She rolls her eyes into the
back of her head like she's possessed.

DYLAN

It was a good first impression.

35 OMITTED

35 *

36 INT. MOONLIGHT DINER (MONTAGE) - DAY

36

Dylan has diner-dinner with his **MOM, DENISE**. A few booths away Tess and Mara sit with Mara's then-current boyfriend.

DYLAN

A few weeks later I saw you at the Moonlight and when Patrick McCoy wrapped his arm around you, you-

Mara begins convulsing at his touch and slides down the seat onto the floor. Patrick is eternally annoyed.

37 EXT. FIELD (MONTAGE) - DAY

37

DYLAN

And then on the day after the election-

GYM TEACHER? COACH? WHO CARES!

Mara, why are you wearing that?

Mara is wearing a full black outfit with a black veil.

MARA

Cuz I'm motherFUCKING GRIEVING.

DYLAN

You got detention for the profanity.

MARA
Motherfucking worth it.

38 **INT. CLASSROOM (MONTAGE) - DAY**

38

Mara is reading a poem. Dylan is listening.

DYLAN
It's cliché but you wrote a poem
last spring and it made me feel
like you understood me, even though
we've barely talked. I friended you
on facebook afterwards. I looked at
your pictures sometimes. I even got
your number but I think you forgot
and never saved it in your phone. I
hoped maybe I'd run into you during
the summer but never did. And then
it was senior year and I thought,
why try, we're going to college.
And it made me sad, because you
seemed so cool, and original. But
then-

39 **INT. HALLWAY (MONTAGE) - DAY**

39

The day Katelyn died. The madness. Everything's frantic.
Dylan sprints out of the room but realizes-

DYLAN
When Katelyn died I noticed I
didn't see you anywhere.

He turns around and heads back towards the classroom when
Mara runs out, holding a backpack. No. **TWO** backpacks.

DYLAN (CONT'D)
And then you ran out and you had
two backpacks and I realized you
had Katelyn's.

She stops in the hall and they look at each other.

MARA
I don't know what to do with this.

DYLAN
I can take care of it for you.

She nods, dazed. Dylan takes it from her as she runs away.

40

INT. POLICE HOLDING (MONTAGE) - NIGHT

40

BECKY

When what happens again?

Mara makes a **BOOM!** motion quietly. No one responds.

DYLAN

And when you said it might happen again, I thought, whoa, maybe I've been wasting my whole life preparing for a year that might never come for me. So fuck it. I'm going to tell Mara how I feel. I'm going to spend the money I've been saving on a car. I'm not going to be scared anymore. I'm not... wait, are you even listening to me?

41

EXT. FOOTBALL GAME - NIGHT

41

Montage Over! The homecoming football game is in full swing. Mara is beside Dylan. Her phone is out, pointed at the field.

MARA

Oh, yeah, sorry. Seriously, that was wonderful and I don't want you to think I wasn't paying attention-

DYLAN

Cuz it kinda seems like you are taking pictures of the game.

MARA

No! Not of the game. Never of the game. I'm waiting for the "we love cocks" moment.

DYLAN

I... would never have guessed that's what was about to be said.

She brings him close to her and points at the bench.

MARA

Look. Every game, Harper Wie, Perry Love and Steve Cox, for just one brief moment, line up for the "we love cocks" moment.

DYLAN

That's so immature.

MARA

It really is.

She looks at him. She keeps her phone out, taking pictures in case the beautiful moment comes and she misses it.

MARA (CONT'D)

I have a moment for you. Where I knew I liked you.

DYLAN

You like me?

MARA

Maybe. It was, like, forever ago. And I was just chilling and then you looked me in the eye and said, Mara. We love cocks.

DYLAN

Mara. We love cocks.

She smiles.

The crowd screams. Our crazy kids keep smiling at each other.

The crowd begin **FLEEING** from the stands. They stop smiling.

MARA

Did something happen?

Mara and Dylan look around in confusion. He sees it first.

DYLAN

I think everything happened.

On the field where Perry Love used to be is a large red **SPLATTER**, his uniform floating in the middle of it.

HARPER

PERRY! NO, BRO!

STEVE

OH MY GOD! PERRYYYY!

Mara lowers her phone in horror. Doesn't move.

Dylan takes Mara's hand and they run for safety.

Dylan and Mara run into the parking lot.

DYLAN

Are you okay?

Mara stumbles through a nod. Dylan hugs her close.

She sees a couple of adults glance at them, and for the first of many, many times, she sees them look at her with fear.

MARA (V.O.)

So Perry Love was gay.

43 **INT. CLASS PHOTO - DAY**

43

Perry Love sits for his yearbook photo.

MARA (V.O.)

I didn't know that until his memorial.

44 **INT. PERRY'S MEMORIAL - SCHOOL HALL - DAY**

44

Perry's memorial. The whole football team is on stage.

HARPER

And when my bro came out to us in 6th grade, we loved him. Because he was our best bro. And we're progressive like that.

Mara turns to Tess, shocked. Tess is not shocked.

TESS

Oh come on. Everyone knew.

MARA

I'm not everyone?

The football players raise their helmets.

HARPER

Our boy was just too much rock for this world, bitch!

MARA (V.O.)

He was that guy that just made everything better. He was air conditioning.

45 **INSERT.**

45

The photo of the "We Love Cocks" moment finally happening.

And then a different photo one second later, the splatter.

MARA (V.O.)
And then, he was gone.

46

EXT. GRAVEYARD ENTRANCE - MORNING

46

Mara, Tess and Dylan leave Perry's funeral.

TESS
Have you seen the video?

MARA
Of his death, no.

Dylan is silent. They look at him.

TESS
How bad was it?

DYLAN
Bad. But fast.

MARA
The last thing he was thinking
about was making a dumb pun for
everyone.

TESS
Hold up-

They look up and see-

An **OLDER COUPLE** holding up signs that read "**The Devil Inside Your Children Has Found His Way Out!**" and more simply "**You Are The Covington Curse**".

MARA
That's amazing.

All three hold up their phones and take pictures when-

A **WOMAN IN AVIATORS** walks up behind the protestors-

Yanks the sign out of the man's hand. Breaks the handle over her knee, before tearing the woman's sign in half.

The teens are far enough away that the only word they can hear is "fuck". They hear it a lot. She waves around a **BADGE**.

TESS

This is the best thing I've ever
seen.

MARA

We should come to more funerals.

DYLAN

Who is that?

TESS

Whoever she is, I bet she drives a
Tesla.

MARA

I bet she plays poker.

TESS

I bet she's killed a man with a
toothpick she chewed.

MARA

I bet they call her Lady
Nightshade.

As **LADY NIGHTSHADE** stalks back towards the graveyard, she
sees the trio watching her and points at them.

LADY NIGHTSHADE

I want to talk to you tomorrow.

She doesn't wait for an answer. Mara and Tess are smitten.

47

EXT. MARA'S HOME - NIGHT

47

Mara sits on her front step when an **OLD MILK TRUCK** pulls up.
Dylan pops out proudly.

MARA

Of course you don't drive a Hyundai
or something like that.

DYLAN

It reminded me of that Springsteen
song.

MARA

Which one?

DYLAN

The one about the milk truck
driver.

MARA

There's a Springsteen song about a
milk truck driver?

DYLAN

You'll have to find out.

MARA

I swear to God I will never find
out.

They stand opposite each other, endearingly awkward.

DYLAN

I just bought it today.

MARA

...WHY.

DYLAN

I was saving up for a college car
and then was like, I might blow up
tomorrow. So I went to the dealer-

MARA

Of milk trucks-

DYLAN

And I saw it and laughed and
thought other people would laugh
and it was so cheap so I figured,
why not. Just get me through til
graduation, baby.

MARA

That should be our school slogan.

DYLAN

It really should. You ready to go?

MARA

In your milk truck? Fuck yeah.

HARPER (V.O.)

FUCK NO!

48

INT. HARPER'S HOUSE PARTY - NIGHT

48

Shittily printed out portraits of Katelyn and Perry hang on
the wall as Harper Wie swings his red cup around.

HARPER

We are never forgetting them!

A group of partying teens cheer their red cups. Mara is standing beside Dylan. She looks at him.

MARA

Wanna go on a walk?

He smiles at her.

DYLAN

I love walks.

49

EXT. HARPER'S HOUSE PARTY BACKYARD - NIGHT

49

The duo walk through the backyard, into the woods out back. Dylan is laughing hard.

MARA

Viggo Mortensen's dick wields a knife in it.

DYLAN

I love that movie and I swear that never happens.

MARA

I guarantee you it happens. I guarantee you I've thought more about Viggo Mortensen's knife wielding dick than you.

DYLAN

No, I believe you.

They laugh as a pre-make-out lull hits the conversation.

DYLAN (CONT'D)

How's your drink?

MARA

It's very tequila-y.

DYLAN

Are you drinking straight tequila?

MARA

I mean... no?

DYLAN

I'm just drinking beer.

MARA

Drink big, bro!

DYLAN

Maybe alcohol is what makes it
happen.

Mara throws her cup over her shoulder. They laugh.

MARA

What do you think does?

DYLAN

I dunno.

MARA

That's not good enough!

DYLAN

But I don't! Who does! It is the
cosmic bullshit of the universe.

MARA

LAAAAAAAME.

DYLAN

Sorry.

MARA

I'm writing a book called "All The
Feels". It's about this guy who
whenever he touches someone, he
gets all their feelings. And then
they die. I wanted you to know
something about me that no one else
does.

DYLAN

Are you drunk?

MARA

Oh, dude, yeah. Are you?

DYLAN

No. Wait...

MARA

How many cups have you had?

DYLAN

...Ohhhh shit. Numbers?

They laugh. She starts backing up towards a tree. He follows.

MARA

Tell me something, just for me.

DYLAN

After my Dad died, I used to go out to this old barn with a tape player and dance by myself. Like to... Bon Jovi. I would cry and dance and rewind and play and cry and dance.

MARA

That's the saddest emo thing I've ever fucking heard. And people are literally blowing up.

They are very close together. Mara is against the tree.

DYLAN

Not people. Seniors.

MARA

Is that true?

DYLAN

It is. Also, we're not walking anymore.

MARA

The shocks keep coming.
(smiles)
I really wanna kiss you, man.

So she does. He picks her up against the tree.

There is some rowdy **SCREAMING** back from the house.

MARA (CONT'D)

(not stopping)
Fucking seriously?

DYLAN

(not stopping)
We should go-

MARA

(not stopping)
Nooooo.

DYLAN

(not stopping)
You taste like tequila.

The screaming continues. They finally stop.

MARA

You don't think-

50 **INT. HARPER'S HOUSE PARTY - NIGHT**

50

MARA
Oh, fuck me.

Dylan and Mara are alone in the room where the wall is
SPLATTERED RED.

DYLAN
Who was it?

MARA
I'm too drunk.

DYLAN
I don't know who either.

MARA
No, I know who. I just really don't
want to laugh.

Dylan slowly looks at Mara, who is deeply ashamed.

DYLAN
...The fuck?

51 **INT. CLASS PHOTO - DAY**

51

A **GIRL** we've seen but haven't met yet sits, smiles and when
the flash hits-

MARA (V.O.)
*Her name was Cranberry, alright?
Goddammit.*

52 **INT. KITCHEN - DAY**

52

Mara sits with her parents at breakfast. No one is eating.

ANGELA
How are you feeling?

MARA
I don't really know.

ANGELA
We're really scared.

Mara looks at her mom.

ANGELA (CONT'D)
We don't know what to do.

CHARLIE
School's canceled.

MARA
For how long?

They don't have an answer.

MARA (CONT'D)
What about college?

ANGELA
We'll keep applying.

MARA
At least now you can't say, *back in my day things were so much harder.*

Charlie smiles. Angela looks at her.

ANGELA
It's true. You have it way fucking worse.

MARA (V.O.)
After the third senior died, the barricades went up.

53 **EXT. BORDER BARRICADES - DAY (WINTER)**

53

Border barricades get put up.

A gaggle of reporters filming the sight.

MARA (V.O.)
Everyone could come and go as they pleased. Everyone except us. The press loved it, especially when the FBI and every other fucking agency came to town.

54 **INT. FBI OFFICE - DAY**

54

Tess and Mara sit opposite Lady Nightshade, who is actually-

ROSETTI
Special Agent Rosetti. Thanks for
coming in.

TESS
I mean, you did call our parents.

MARA
Do you drive a Tesla?

ROSETTI
What? No. I wish.

MARA
Have you ever killed someone?

ROSETTI
Yes.

MARA
That's so cool.

ROSETTI
Is it?

TESS
Mara thinks so.

MARA
Also we call you Lady Nightshade.

ROSETTI
Why do you call me Lady Nightshade?

MARA
We just thought it fit.

ROSETTI
I've been called worse.

MARA
We're women. We all have.

TESS
We saw you take down the creeps at
Perry's funeral.

ROSETTI
I got in trouble for that.

MARA
But worth it right?

Rosetti looks at Mara and answers **FUCKING YEAH!** without speaking or nodding.

ROSETTI

So... You girls blow people up?

TESS

No, ma'am?

MARA

Wait, do you think someone's killing everyone?

ROSETTI

I think we can rule that out. Unless there's a mad scientist or warlock or some such shenanigans.

TESS

Since kids are literally exploding, that's kind of possible, right?

ROSETTI

I guess everything is possible, if you believe in warlocks.

TESS

I don't know what I believe anymore.

MARA

Do you have any idea why it's happening though?

ROSETTI

I think we're close to figuring it out.

55 **EXT. BEACH HOUSE - SUNSET**

55

Mara, older, in a kimono and smoking a hookah, addresses us.

MARA

*They never figured it out.
Spoilers.*

56 **INT. FBI OFFICE - RETURN**

56

ROSETTI

Or so I'm told.

MARA

Oh, that's great!

TESS

Yeah! I'd love to be able to sleep
and not have constant nightmares of
exploding.

MARA

We're living our nightmare.

ROSETTI

I'm sorry. Really.

TESS

It's okay.

MARA

It could be worse. We could be
Republicans.

ROSETTI

*Uhhhhhh*nrelated as that may be, it
seems as if something has made its
way into your systems.

MARA

So you're saying we're... fucked.

ROSETTI

I just need some help. If there's
something going on, anything you
think, I don't know, an *FBI agent*
should know about it-

MARA

Tattle.

ROSETTI

No! No one's going to get in
trouble if they help save lives. We
know everyone's scared, and scared
people all want the same thing.

TESS

Which is?

ROSETTI

To survive.

Mara and Tess look at each other.

MARA

We would actually love to survive.

ROSETTI

Good. So maybe you could bring me something.

MARA

Whaddaya want?

57

EXT. DALTON TWINS HOME - DAY

57

JENNA DALTON

Drugs?

MARA

That's what she said!

JOE DALTON

She thinks drugs is making us pop?

MARA

I think it's less accusational and more, *what the holy fuck is going on, let's rule shit out-onal.*

JENNA DALTON

And you're not gonna tell this Scully-wannabe they came from us?

MARA

Girl, do I look like Benicio del Toro to you?

JENNA DALTON

I don't... think I get it-

MARA

I'm not sure I do either. I need to rewatch Traffic.

The Daltons look at her, then at each other.

JOE DALTON

We're gonna sidebar.

MARA

Do your thang.

They sidebar. Mara pulls out her phone. A picture of Richard Linklater awaits from Dylan.

JOE DALTON

Alright, we're down. What do you want?

MARA
That's the best part! America's
reimbursing me!

The Dalton's Twins go wide-eyed.

JENNA DALTON
So you're buying-

MARA
EVERYTHING.

Their eyes go wider.

JENNA DALTON
God bless America!

JOE DALTON
I'll get the keys!

MARA
Keys?

JENNA DALTON
We don't keep our shit at home!

58

INT. DALTON TWINS TRUCK - DAY

58

JENNA DALTON
We hide it!

Joe drives. Mara is in the backseat, surrounded by suitcases.
Doris Day's *"When the Red, Red Robin"* plays on the radio.

JOE DALTON
Never know when the feds are gonna
fuck ya.

MARA
I got a question.

JOE DALTON
Suitcase related?

MARA
Suitcase related!

JOE DALTON
Leaving Jersey tomorrow!

JENNA DALTON
Getting the fuck outta dodge.

JOE DALTON

I know a guy that'll get us through.

MARA

You think it's Covington?

JENNA DALTON

I don't know what it is, but I also don't really want to find out.

JOE DALTON

It's a blessing for you to show up today. We have a buncha shit we don't really want to travel with.

MARA

What you got stashed?

JOE DALTON

Besides weed and shrooms, got some acid. E. Molly. Meth.

MARA

Meth?! When'd you start selling hard shit?

JOE DALTON

Once Katelyn popped, hard shit sells.

MARA

In this one instance, I can respect that.

JOE DALTON

So how you been doing during all this garbage?

MARA

Hanging in there, yo. Started making out with a real sweet boy.

JOE DALTON

No shit! Who?

Mara smiles and begins texting Dylan.

MARA

Hovemeyer.

The twins laugh with delight.

JENNA DALTON

Whaaaaat-

JOE DALTON

The world is a-

Joe explodes.

The inside of the windshield splatters crimson.

Mara's head was down at her phone, missing the blast.

Jenna's long hair plastered wet to her face.

The car keeps driving with no one at the wheel as the two girls look around in shock.

Until Jenna begins to moan.

JENNA DALTON

Ohhhhhh-

MARA

Oh my God. Jenna, are you okay?!
Tell me you're okay!

JENNA DALTON

That wasn't, that wasn't-

The car keeps driving. Faster even.

Mara reaches over the driver's seat and grabs for the wheel.
She tries steering but it's impossible to see.

MARA

Jenna, take the wheel!

JENNA DALTON

It's wet. He was a good boy-

The car hits a huge bump. The girls both scream.

MARA

Jenna!

Jenna wakes up a little and grabs the steering wheel. She looks down towards the pedals and starts crying.

JENNA DALTON

It's flooded with Joe.

Blood sloshes around the pedals, over Joe's shoes and clothes.

MARA

Oh, God. Hold on.

Mara climbs into the passenger seat as Jenna moves into the driver's. Doris keeps playing.

Jenna turns on the windshield wipers. It doesn't work.

JENNA DALTON
He's staining the glass.

MARA
Put your foot on the brake!

JENNA DALTON
His shoes are there.

Mara wipes the gore off the window with her sleeves.

MARA
You can do it, Jenna. Just keep
your eyes on the-

Jenna explodes.

Re-coating the glass.

MARA (CONT'D)
FUCK!!

The car swerves violently.

Mara slides into the driver's seat. She opens the car door
and the remaining gallons of Daltons spill out.

Mara tries moving the four shoes and drenched clothes out of
the way so she can hit the brake when she looks up and-

Through the blood-soaked windshield, sees the trees coming
towards them very, very quickly.

59 **EXT. FOREST - DAY**

59

Dylan rushes out of his milk truck.

DYLAN
MARA! MARA!

He runs, looking for her when he finally sees-

The wrecked Daltonmobile. Blood dripping out of the door.

DYLAN (CONT'D)
...Ma... MARA! MARA!

He runs aimlessly, searching for her when he hears something
in the distance. He runs and finds-

A river.

And Mara sitting in it, up to her neck, furiously scrubbing herself in it.

DYLAN (CONT'D)

Mara!

MARA

Dylan! I'm over here!

He drops his backpack and hurries into the water.

DYLAN

Are you okay?!

MARA

I crashed a car! It really hurt!

DYLAN

Where's Joe and Jenna?

MARA

I think they're dead.

DYLAN

They are?

She nods, dazed.

MARA

I think I got them all off but-

DYLAN

I thought it might have been you.

He looks away from her so she can't see his face. She hugs him from behind.

He cries.

60

EXT. RIVERBANK - DAY

60

Mara opens the backpack Dylan brought and sees inside.

MARA

No, dude, seriously?!

DYLAN

I didn't have time to think!

She pulls out his ugly grey sweat suit.

MARA

I'm not wearing this.

She pulls out a t-shirt.

DYLAN

I called Rosetti. But I didn't call your parents.

MARA

Smart.

He turns around so she can change. She appreciates him.

DYLAN

...What was it like?

MARA

It... it really fucking sucked.

When she's done putting on the t-shirt, she looks up to him-

But notices he's staring at something off screen. She stands and sees-

THREE MEN in **HAZMAT SUITS** approach. Mara laughs.

MARA (CONT'D)

The fuck is this E.T. bullshit?

She turns back and sees a **DOZEN** more coming near them.

Dylan instinctively shields Mara from them when-

One of the suits reaches out and grabs at Dylan and Mara pushes the suit away-

MARA (CONT'D)

Get your fucking hands off of him!
What the fuck is this shit!

DYLAN

Mara, stop-

A different one picks her up from behind.

DYLAN (CONT'D)
Hey! Put her down!

MARA
Put me down you dickbag! What is
this E.T. bullshit! Fuck you! Fuck
you in half!

She flails uselessly against them as they carry her away,
with Dylan being led on foot close behind and-

61 **INT. TENTS TESTING AREA - DAY**

61

All plastic everything.

Syringes. Oxygen. IVs. Sensors. And-

Mara is lying on a bed, surrounded by doctors.

She's high AF on painkillers and Xenu knows what else.

A DOCTOR leans over to her-

DR. ROLANDA
Mara, my name is Dr. Rolanda, and
we're going to help you, okay?

MARA
Help yourself, ladyyyyyy.

She looks to her side and sees, behind a plastic partition,
Dylan laying on another bed, surrounded by other doctors.

She weakly reaches out towards him and-

MARA (CONT'D)
Eeeeeee-teeeeeee.

Dylan looks up and sees her. Smiles and reaches towards her.

DYLAN
Ellllliottttt-

MARA
EEEE-TEEEE!

DYLAN
ELLIOTTTT!

62

INT. TENTS TESTING AREA - NIGHT

62

Mara is asleep on her bed when-

DYLAN

Hey. Mara.

She opens her eyes and sees Dylan through the partition.

MARA

Yo. Where are we?

DYLAN

I think they're doing tests on us.
Whole class is here.

He gets up and pushes his bed against the plastic wall. She does the same. They lie down and face other.

DYLAN (CONT'D)

They asked me a bunch of questions.

MARA

Like what?

DYLAN

Like what I've had to eat or drink
in the last month. Everywhere I
visited. How I'm politically
inclined.

(embarrassed)

My list of sexual partners.

Mara raises her eyebrows.

MARA

What did you say?

DYLAN

I just said... your mom.

Mara laughs.

MARA

Nice.

DYLAN

I thought you'd like that.

MARA

Have you ever done it?

DYLAN

With anyone besides your mom?

He shakes his head, no.

MARA
Are you gonna ask me?

DYLAN
I don't actually care.

MARA
You don't?

DYLAN
Nah. Just don't like... screw
someone while you're my girlfriend.

MARA
Am I your girlfriend?

DYLAN
Are you?

MARA
Am I?

DYLAN
Do you wanna be my girlfriend?

MARA
I guess that's fine.

DYLAN
Cool.

They smile at each other.

MARA
What's gonna happen to us now?

DYLAN
I think we just, ya know, date.

MARA
I meant in this plastic world.

DYLAN
Oh. I think this is our life now.

Mara processes this and leans her head against the plastic wall. He leans his against hers.

MARA (V.O.)
*How long we gotta stay in this
condom?*

63 OMITTED

63

64 OMITTED

64

65 **INT. TENT COMMON AREA - DAY**

65

Mara, Tess and Dylan sit around Harper and Steve.

STEVE

For a while I think.

HARPER

At least now we know we're super healthy.

MARA

We should try to break out.

Everyone laughs. Mara looks at them.

MARA (CONT'D)

What.

HARPER

Why would we break out? We got here as soon as we heard about this place. This is where they're gonna cure us.

*
*
*
*

STEVE

Eh.

HARPER

Eh, what?

STEVE

I'm just saying. This isn't an accident or a flu. It's not a fluke. It's focused on us.

*

TESS

Those conservative weirdos with the signs. They said we were cursed.

*
*

HARPER

Everyone on reddit's trying to figure out why it's happening and who's next.

STEVE

Whose fault do they think it is?

HARPER

Bro it's no one's fault.

STEVE

If it's a curse it's someone's fault.

HARPER

BUT THERE'S NO CURSE BRO.

TESS

I don't care what it is. I just want to know how do we stop it?

DYLAN

Maybe we just have to graduate.

They ponder this. Mara ponders something else as she stares at Dylan.

MARA

I'm like, looking at you and really feel like we should make out.

TESS

That has nothing to do with college.

MARA

I beg to differ.

*

*

*

*

DYLAN

It's just the vitamin drip talking.

MARA

It's just the you're cute talking.

STEVE

Plus all the walls are see through.

Dylan and Mara look at each other.

66

INT. TENT BATHROOM/SHOWER - DAY

66

The walls are not see through here as they make out.

DYLAN

How are you doing?

MARA

About?

DYLAN

The Daltons? Everyone?

MARA

Can we talk about it later?

DYLAN

I just want you to know you can
talk to me.

MARA

I'd rather just make out with you.

DYLAN

But later.

MARA

There is no later.

They suddenly stop kissing and stare at each other.

MARA (CONT'D)

That was fucking DEEP, son!

DYLAN

That's what your mom said.

MARA

OH SHIT THAT WAS GREAT!

They continue making out.

TESS (V.O.)
You're disgusting.

67

INT. TENT COMMON AREA - DAY

67

The students are all sitting around facing a screen. Mara's hair is disheveled. Tess is disgusted.

MARA
Ah so you've discussed me.

TESS
Everyone's doing it because they're afraid of dying.

MARA
We didn't do *it*.

TESS
You didn't?

MARA
I'm not going to have sex in a tent toilet, gross.

TESS
You've done way worse.

MARA
That was younger, less matured Mara.

DYLAN
Hey guys, still right here.

MARA
No one cares.

An **OFFICIANT** comes out and everyone hushes up quickly.

OFFICIANT
Hey everyone! Thanks for coming!

TEEN (O.S.)
WE HAD NO CHOICE, DWEEB!

The group laugh. The Officiant laughs along.

OFFICIANT

I get it, I get it. We know this hasn't been ideal but to make it up to you, we've arranged a special little chat with someone who cares a great deal about you, and is doing everything he can to help solve the situation as fast as possible.

(to back of the room)

Can you bring him up?

They wait awkwardly for a minute until-

The room audibly gasps when the **MAN**'s face fills the screen. The Officiant looks on proudly.

MAN

Hello, students of Covington High!

OFFICIANT

Hello, sir!

The students all kind of react but not really.

MAN

We are so proud of how you have handled yourself during this difficult time, and you have our thoughts and our prayers every day. I have done everything in my power to get you cured, you have my word, top people working on it right now-

MARA

Hey I have a question.

The room all stare at Mara. Tess is terrified.

MAN

Yes, alright.

MARA

Firstly, thanks for talking to us today. Super cool.

(MORE)

MARA (CONT'D)

Secondly, when Russian whores
pissed on you, did it make you
laugh at all or were you just super
turned on and into that weird pissy
shit?

There has never been more silence in a room.

Because Mara just said that to the President.

MARA (CONT'D)

Also, go fuck yourself, you dumb
cunt. Choke on my dick.

Yeah, we're going there.

MAN

I will NOT-

DYLAN

Yeah, fuck you! Putin's hand is so
far up your ass I heard you got
asked to go on Sesame Street and
teach Nazis how to count.

They are frantically trying to cut the connection.

BECKY

You're worse than Andrew Jackson!
Fuck you!

*

MARA

We're dying here and you put this
sun burnt Pennywise in front of us?

TESS

My soul's been dead for years
because of you.

COLE

You make me embarrassed of my
parents every single day.

MARA

My only regret is that you didn't
come here in person so I could slap
your dumb fucking face, you
prickless bag of smegma. Fuck you
and the horse you fucked in on.

EVERYONE

FUCK YOU!

The line is cut. The President is gone.

Everyone erupts into cheers.

Harper explodes.

68 **INT. TENT BATHROOM/SHOWER - LATER**

68

Mara stares at the shower, stained pink.

69 **INT. TENT COTS - NIGHT**

69

Some students are crying.

Mara sleeps on a cot between Tess and Dylan.

TESS

He was the first one I saw.

Mara reaches out and they hold hands.

TESS (CONT'D)

What if it happens to you?

MARA

It won't.

TESS

You don't know that. I'd fucking die without you.

MARA

Not if I died without you first.

TESS

That doesn't make any sense.

MARA

I know. It's been a stressful time and I'm off my game. I just know I'm not a Mara without a Tess.

Tess smiles at her as they try to fall asleep.

And by now, it sounds like we need a motherfuckin'-

70 **MONTAGE! - LAB AREA**

70

Mara goes through tests with Dr. Rolanda. Blood taken. Urine taken. Therapy sessions.

Dr. Rolanda asks Mara questions and takes notes.

DR. ROLANDA
Tell us about Katelyn Ogden.
Harper Wie. Jenna Dalton. Perry.

STUDENTS
Perry was gay. Katelyn was
straight. Jenna was an atheist.
Harper was a vegan. Joe didn't own
a cellphone.

DR. ROLANDA
What do you hope to do in college?

MARA
Stay alive.

Dr. Rolanda makes a super serious note about this.

70A **INT. COMMON AREA (MONTAGE)** 70A

Mara and Tess watch as two hazmaters remove and replace a
bloodied plastic wall tarp.

70B **INT. COMMON AREA (MONTAGE)** 70B

Cole gets covered in blood when his (off-screen) opponent
pops onto them.

70C **INT. COMMON AREA (MONTAGE)** 70C

Skye and another Sweatsuiter write names on each others
outfits.

70D **INT. COMMON AREA (MONTAGE)** 70D

A hazmater carves a turkey for Thanksgiving for the students.

70E **INT. COMMON AREA (MONTAGE)** 70E

Closed circuit cameras watch the students. The students watch
the closed circuit cameras.

70F **INT. COMMON AREA (MONTAGE)** 70F

Two students turn a corner into a hallway. That horrible *PUFF!* is heard, and one of the students stumbles back into frame, covered in his buddy's blood.

70G **INT. LAB AREA (MONTAGE)** 70G

-Hazmaters work on finding a cure.

-A crying hazmater gets consoled by a fellow hazmater.

- A hazmater throws down their clipboard in anger and kicks the trash can after another student dies.

-Bloody hazmat suits pile up.

-Two hazmaters slap a congratulatory high five.

70H **INT. COTS - NIGHT (MONTAGE)** 70H

While everyone is sleeping, a body in the background POPS in bed.

70I **INT. COTS (MONTAGE)** 70I

Hazmaters remove bloodied bed sheets.

70J **INT. SHOWERS (MONTAGE)** 70J *

Dylan and Mara goof off with each other.

70K **EXT. TENTS - NIGHT (MONTAGE)** 70K

Mara's parents witness other parents being informed their kid died.

71 **EXT. TENTS - NIGHT**

71

Mara hugs her parents, free as a bird.

CHARLIE

We have to stop meeting like this.

MARA

I know right. I'm too old to have
to miss you jokers.

She looks at Charlie, who has clearly lost a shitload of weight. She clocks it with concern, and hugs him again.

Over his shoulder, she sees Dylan walking away, his mom's arms wrapped around him. He looks back and smiles at her. She smiles back.

72 **INT. CHARLIE'S CAR - NIGHT**

72

Mara hangs out the window like a dog, enjoying the cold air.

MARA

Where are all the decorations?

CHARLIE
No one really felt festive this
year.

MARA
Oh. Bummer.

Charlie looks up at her through the rearview.

73

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

73

The family file into their home, to find a completely bare
Christmas tree.

MARA
You got a tree!

CHARLIE
We just really hoped you'd get out
in time.

Mara squeals and heads to the tree and boxes of decorations.

The family decorate the FUCK out of it.

73B

OMITTED

73B

74

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

74

Mara and Angela finish decorating the tree-

MARA

They're calling the pill the Snooze Button?

ANGELA

That's what that Dr. Rolanda lady said on the news.

MARA

Oh I know her. She's very professional. For a bitch.

ANGELA

Well, she can call it whatever they want so long as it works.

MARA

True dat.

Charlie walks in and slumps on the couch beside them.

He offers a **VAPE PEN** to Mara.

MARA (CONT'D)

...This feels like a trap.

ANGELA

We know you smoke pot. You're really bad at hiding it.

MARA

...No I'm not.

ANGELA

Just let him be cool dad already.

Mara smiles and takes a drag. She hands it back to Charlie, who does the same.

MARA

Is this what adulthood is like?

ANGELA

Yeah it's just like this, with more anxiety and complete terror.

CHARLIE

We just got to get you through graduation.

MARA

Everyone keeps saying that. You really think that's the winner?

CHARLIE

I gotta think something.

Mara cuddles up beside them, as they smoke into the night.

75

OMITTED

75

*

*

76 **INT. MARA'S BEDROOM - DAY**

76

*

Mara gives Dylan a tour of her room. The door is shut.

*

DYLAN

*

I've never been in a girl's room
before. Like a girl I dated.

*

*

*

MARA

You can knock that off your bucket
list. Also: Got you a present.

DYLAN

No! I haven't had time to get you
one.

Mara stands there, smiling coyly at him. He smiles back,
confused.

DYLAN (CONT'D)

...What's the present?

MARA

It's my body, in a sexual
situation.

*

*

Dylan stares at her with all of the terror in the world.

77 **AFTERWARDS.**

77

They lay beside each other. He looks at her.

DYLAN

Hey.

MARA

Yeah?

DYLAN

I'm really glad I didn't explode
all over you.

Mara bursts out laughing.

MARA
Way to hold it in.

DYLAN
I just kept thinking, don't
explode, please don't explode.

MARA
Guys have it so tough.

DYLAN
So tough.
(then)
I really like you.

MARA
I really like you too.
(then)
Do you think we're safe now?

DYLAN
I don't know. I hope so. I just
figure we stick to the plan, go
back to school and then we just
take it a day at a time.

MARA
What.

DYLAN
What to what?

MARA
The school part?

DYLAN
You didn't hear?

78 **EXT. COVINGTON HIGH - DAY (SPRING)**

78

Mara stares up at the school.

MARA
FUCKKKKKKKK.

TESS
All the other classrooms are
meeting at the community center so
they don't catch our disease.

MARA
Fuuuuuuuuuck.

TESS
It could be worse?

MARA
How.

TESS
We could be like Katelyn.

MARA
Fuck Katelyn.

*SPIROS (V.O.)
Katelyn wasn't the first person I
saw blow up.*

79 **INT. SOCIAL STUDIES CLASSROOM - DAY**

79

A whiteboard states:

DAYS SINCE: 37

DAYS TO GO: 72

About half the students are wearing the grey ass sweat suits, now incredibly crowded with the names of the deceased.

Mara stares at one student in particular, wearing a suit made out of football gear, cardboard and plastic from head to toe.

SPIROS
When I was stationed, I saw a buddy
of mine, Mark Jensen, step on a
landmine. It was a lot louder than
what happens here. For a few
seconds I thought the ringing in my
ears was his voice, but then you
realize why you're sticky and
what's actually happened. No
goodbyes, or last words. That's it.
(then)
I don't know why this is happening
and I'm not going to tell you it'll
be okay, because that's bullshit.
But I'll help you graduate. I think
that's all I can do. Sound good?

The class affirm this choice. Cardboard kid raises his hand.

SPIROS (CONT'D)
Yeah, Cole.

COLE

Can I get a bathroom pass?

SPIROS

...Just go.

He ambles out of his seat and heads out the door.

The entire class watch him go, clearly all wanting to ask
"how does he go to the bathroom?" but choosing not to say it.

80

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

80

Mara walks the school hall by herself. They are completely
empty. There are **NO** other classes here.

She turns a hall and finds herself at the Ogden classroom. A
group of the sweat suit gang sit around, studying.

MARA

What up, cultists!

SKYE

We're not cultists, Mara! We're
just really sad.

MARA

Sorry, man. I was just joking.
(then)
What are you guys doing?

SKYE

We're working on our college
essays. It's not like we're allowed
to go anywhere else.

MARA

Tight. Whatcher essays about?

SKYE

They're all about what we've
learned from... everything here.

MARA

What have we learned?

Skye looks at her, annoyed.

SKYE

What do you think?

MARA

I think that... is an excellent question.

81 **INT. MARA'S BATHROOM - MORNING**

81

Mara taps out a blue pill. Regards it. Swallows it.

TESS (V.O.)

Have you heard of the infinite monkey theorem?

82 **INT. MOONLIGHT DINER - NIGHT**

82

MARA

No, but I'm way into how that sounds.

TESS

It's the idea of like, if you have infinite monkeys, and you give all of them infinite typewriters and infinite amount of time, they'll write Shakespeare.

MARA

The word "Shakespeare"?

TESS

No, like a full play of his.

MARA

Sound like pretentious fucking monkeys.

TESS

(laughs)
Stop.

MARA

Can't they write something else.

TESS

They'll literally write every book of all time because they can't not.

MARA

They can't... not.

TESS

I think about this a lot.

MARA

Okay.

TESS

I think maybe it helps explain
what's happening.

MARA

You think... Monkeys are writing
books that make us explode-

TESS

No, the idea that because you can't
say with certainty that something
won't happen then eventually it has
to happen. Like the big bang.

MARA

I like my idea about monkeys
writing evil plays better.

TESS

They're taking forever, aren't
they?

Mara notices that, yes, the girls have not yet been served.
They look towards the kitchen and see-

The waitress inside, staring back at them. Terrified.

MARA

I don't think she's coming.

Tess just stares at the waitress blankly.

TESS

No one's ever been scared of me
before.

MARA

Let's just go somewhere else.

TESS

No, this is where we go. This is
our spot. This is our thing.

MARA

I know. But maybe it's just not our
thing anymore.

Tess nods after a minute, and gets up. Mara follows, giving the waitress the finger nonchalantly as she leaves.

MARA (V.O.)
*You ain't gonna abduct us again,
are you?*

83

INT. FBI OFFICE - DAY

83

Rosetti takes Mara's blood pressure.

ROSETTI
Firstly, I never did. Secondly, no.
We are very confident in the-

MARA
Don't say it.

ROSETTI
(over says it)
Snooooooze button.

MARA
Fuck.
(then)
Also, since my last check-up, I've
become more regularly sexually
active, if you wanna make some
notes in your files.

ROSETTI
Mara.

MARA
You said snooze button after I
warned you.

ROSETTI
What do you have against it?

MARA
Literally just the name.

ROSETTI
What would you name it?

MARA
Something sciencey.

ROSETTI

It has a sciencey name, but no one remembers it because it's a dozen syllables long. That's why it has a nickname.

MARA

Thanks for FBIsplaining the concept
of nicknames to me.

ROSETTI

You're welcome. You can go.

MARA

But why are you still here?

ROSETTI

I work here.

MARA

But if you think it's done and
cured. Why are you still here?
There are tons of grunts that can
take my blood pressure. But you
have a badge.

ROSETTI

Everyone here has a badge.

MARA

You have cool sunglasses.

ROSETTI

What?

MARA

You don't think it's done, do you?

ROSETTI

You know what they say. Hope for
the best-

84

INT. BARN - NIGHT

84

MARA

PREPARE FOR THE WORST!

Dylan is blindfolded.

DYLAN

Is that a sex thing?

MARA

No. But maybe. Ready?

He nods. She takes off the blindfold.

They are in a barn with some lights. And that's it.

MARA (CONT'D)

Were you prepared?

DYLAN

Nothing could have prepared me.

MARA

I was like, what could I get my
boytoy for Valentine's SLASH his
birthday.

She runs over to an unseen boombox and hits play. A dope song
from the eighties we can afford begins playing.

MARA (CONT'D)

And I thought, he had it *so tough*
when he was a kid he would dance by
himself in a barn to eighties
music. So maybe he'd like to know
he wasn't by himself anymore.

She beckons him over. Dylan is smitten.

DYLAN

This is cool.

MARA

Yeah?

DYLAN

Yeah. Thanks, Mara.

He takes her hand and they start dancing.

DYLAN (CONT'D)

Can we talk about something?

MARA

You're pregnant.

DYLAN

I am. It's triplets.

MARA

My seed is mighty.

DYLAN

What happens after we graduate?

MARA

You mean, like, with us? I actually
haven't thought that far ahead.

DYLAN
I know, it's silly-

MARA
But I know I want to be with you.

DYLAN
Really?

MARA
Yeah. You're like... the best thing
to ever come out of spontaneous
combustions for me.

DYLAN
The very best?

MARA
The very best.

DYLAN
I love you-

MARA
Oh fuck!

Dylan bursts out laughing.

DYLAN
Whoa!

MARA
Sorry! I was! Wow!

DYLAN
You can't reply OH FUCK!

MARA
I know! I screwed that up! Say it
to me later on!

DYLAN
Deal.

She leans her head against his chest as they stop laughing.

DYLAN (CONT'D)
Maybe in the summer we can just
drive around for a while.

MARA
I'd like that. If we're not fleshy
dead bits.

DYLAN

If we're not fleshy dead bits.

85 **INT. MARA'S BATHROOM - MORNING** 85

Mara looks down at the tiny blue pill in her hand. And keeps staring. And staring. And staring.

DR. ROLANDA (V.O.)

*The last thing I want is for you to
feel like science fair projects.*

*
*
*

86 OMITTED 86

87 OMITTED 87 *

88 OMITTED 88 *

89 **INT. SOCIAL STUDIES CLASSROOM - DAY** 89

Dr. Rolanda holds up the tiny blue pill as she addresses the students. Spiros sits at the side. *

DR. ROLANDA

Because of your help, the CDC and
FDA are working around the clock
with Washington to make the snooze
button available over the counter
to all Americans.

Mara watches this with 0% excitement. Some of the class are the exact opposite.

DR. ROLANDA (CONT'D)
So what is the Snooze Button. For starters, it's *not*, sadly, a cure. But it is a treatment. Give you an example. Sometimes you're typing away on your computer and, out of nowhere, it turns off. Crashes. Now when that happens to us, we're not so lucky. Can I get a volunteer?

A bunch of hands shoot up. Rolanda picks Steve.

DR. ROLANDA (CONT'D)
Steve, great, come on up.

Steve does happily.

DR. ROLANDA (CONT'D)
So Steve, can you pat your head for me?

He obeys.

DR. ROLANDA (CONT'D)
Can you rub your stomach.

He does.

DR. ROLANDA (CONT'D)
A little trickier, huh. Okay, stand on one foot.

Steve does with some effort.

DR. ROLANDA (CONT'D)
Now jump up and down.

Steve laughs, trying to do it all at once.

DR. ROLANDA (CONT'D)
So it's tough, right?

Mara turns back to Tess, sitting behind her.

MARA
This feels like some horseshit.

DR. ROLANDA
And then when-

Steve explodes.

Dr. Rolanda shrieks, coated in blood.

Mara snaps forward again when-

A student in the back row explodes.

And the class descends into complete chaos. Everyone scrambling for the exit.

A student bumps into Mara as she gets up from her desk and-
Explodes.

Mara hits the ground in shock-

Shoes coming down on her. She covers her head.

Another **PUFF** is heard, followed by more screams.

Tess and Dylan reach down and pull her up.

90

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

90

They force their way into the hall, through the photographers who can't tell whether they should run or take pictures-

Mara looks back to see Rolanda stumble out of the room.
Rolanda vomits.

A student ahead of them explodes. Blood falls like rain.

Another student explodes, the blast knocking Mara over, separating her from Dylan and Tess.

DYLAN

MARA!

MARA

I'LL MEET YOU OUTSIDE!

He nods and gets carried away with the masses down the hall as Mara tries to get up in the adjoining hall when-

Cole, the cardboard kid, helps her-

MARA (CONT'D)

What the fuck is happening?!

COLE

I don't kn-

The cardboard suit puffs outwards for a moment when-

Blood spills out of the cracks of his suit.

Mara steps back in horror as the now-empty suit falls to its knees, and then forward onto its face.

Mara scrambles away, running down the hall as fast she can.

91

EXT. COVINGTON HIGH - CONTINUOUS

91

Mara gets outside, where everything is now calm and quiet. She searches and sees Dylan running towards her.

She runs to him. They embrace.

DYLAN

Are you okay?

MARA

No! Are you?

DYLAN

I'm just glad you're still here.

She looks at him. He looks at her.

92

THE SCREEN IS COMPLETELY RED.

92

MARA (V.O.)

The next thing I saw was red. The combustion happens faster than it takes to blink. His blood, his blood covered my eyes before I had a chance to close them.

93

THE SCREEN IS COMPLETELY BLACK.

93

.
. .
. .
. .
. .

MARA (V.O.)
*I kept my eyes shut for as long as
I could once I closed them. I don't
remember wanting to walk but I
guess that's what I did.*

94 **EXT. COVINGTON TOWN - DAY**

94

People move as Mara walks past them on the street. Drenched in blood. Her eyes are open, but completely vacant.

A car screeches to a stop beside her and Agent Rosetti sprints out. She grabs hold of Mara.

ROSETTI

Mara! Mara, are you alright?

MARA

Have you seen Dylan? I can't find him. I can't find him anywhere.

Rosetti wipes the blood off of Mara's face, revealing a deep gash in her forehead that keeps bleeding.

ROSETTI

Oh, God.

MARA (V.O.)

A fragment of his jawbone hit my forehead. I never felt it. I never felt anything.

95 **INT. POLICE STATION - DAY**

95

Mara sits in shock as a doctor checks her wound and her eyes.

MARA (V.O.)

*I don't remember how long I waited.
I don't really remember anything.*

96 **INT. POLICE SHOWERS - DAY**

96

Fully dressed, Mara stares at all of the blood on her and the shower floor. Her mouth is wide open but she doesn't breathe.

ANGELA (O.S.)

Mara!

Angela rushes into the shower, gripping hold of her daughter as if her life depended on it.

Mara never notices she's there.

MARA (V.O.)

All I remember is wanting to die.

In silence, Dylan sits for his photo. He laughs and makes small talk with the photographer. He smiles. The photo takes.

Dylan shakes the photographer's hand as he walks away.

Mara lays awake between her parents. It is quiet as death.

She looks at herself in the mirror. She pokes the white bandage wrapped around her forehead.

Mara is under the covers as Charlie stands at the door.

Charlie watches her with concern.

A second later, her hand reaches up and pulls the blankets off the bed down with her.

He looks down the hall to his wife, who stands there, equally scared and confused.

101 **INT. UNDER THE BED - NIGHT**

101

Mara reads a reddit post about the Covington Curse. Yearbook photos of her classmates are there with red X's through them.

She sees her yearbook photo, where she makes a stupid face.

She does what you should never do, and reads the comments about why she might be the curse.

102 **EXT. GRAVEYARD - DAY**

102

Dylan's mother watches her son's coffin get lowered into the earth. Tess is there.

*

But there is no Mara. Because instead-

103 **INT. DINING ROOM - DAY**

103

Mara is addressing us.

MARA

You'll need vodka. Dry vermouth.
Grenadine. Ice cubes. Mix three
parts vodka with one part vermouth.
Fill with ice, then stir, before
pouring in a martini glass.

Mara picks up the grenadine.

MARA (CONT'D)

And then with the grenadine, pour
basically the entire fucking bottle
into the martini.

The clear martini is now a bright red.

MARA (CONT'D)

And now you have my brand new
cocktail, which I've called, All of
My Friends and Boyfriend Are Dead.

She pushes it forward to reveal Charlie sitting there in a terrified silence.

CHARLIE

How... I have so many questions.

MARA

Okay but hold on.

Mara pulls back the martini and chugs the entire thing.

MARA (CONT'D)

You can have the next one.

CHARLIE

I feel really unequipped for this.

MARA

I know, right? There is literally just one thing I've found that really helps that feeling go away.

Mara begins making another one.

104 **EXT. HOME - PRE-DAWN**

104

Mara walks out the front door. She is wearing the shirt Dylan gave her. She holds a bottle of tequila.

105 **EXT. TESS'S HOME - DAY**

105

Tess exits her home in the morning to find Mara sitting cross-legged on her front yard. She is stupid drunk.

TESS

Mara?

MARA

Tessyyyy! Wanna fuck shit uppppp?

TESS

How'd you get here?

MARA

I walked yo.

TESS

That's like ten miles.

MARA

I'm fucking Wonder Woman. C'mon, lessgo, lessgo do something. Let's go throw water balloons of red paint at kids.

TESS
Mara... We have to go to school...

MARA
FUCK SCHOOL!

TESS
NO! I CAN'T FUCK SCHOOL!

Mara shrinks back a little at Tess's outburst.

TESS (CONT'D)
I need to get the fuck out of here!
And it sucks, it really fucking
sucks about what happened to Dylan,
but it's been happening for SEVEN
FUCKING MONTHS. I'm losing my mind!
I don't want to die.

MARA
Then don't die! Easy! Stop being a
bitch and help me out.

TESS
I can't help you the way you want
me to.

MARA
How do I want you to?

A black van pulls up at the curb.

TESS
You want to stop existing until you
actually stop existing.

Mara doesn't answer as Tess walks to the van.

MARA
What's with the van?

TESS
They don't want us driving anymore.

MARA
Those cocks. Just, just come hang
with me instead.

TESS
Mara-

MARA
If you don't, I'll never get a
beach house with you, ever ever.

Tess looks at her and laughs sadly.

TESS

As if we're really going to live
that long anyway.

She gets in the bus and it drives away, leaving Mara alone.

She sits there for a moment, before tossing the tequila
bottle into the air.

It sails through the sky and we match cut to:

106

EXT. COMMUNITY CENTER PARKING LOT - DAY

106

Mara jumping on top of a car.

MARA

BOO, MOTHERFUCKAS!

A group of conservative protestors take a dramatic step back
from her as she raises her arms in the sky.

MARA (CONT'D)

Bow before me, you sluts of earth!

PROTESTOR

You are a very rude girl!

MARA

You are a very rude cunt! Your
signs are about me!

Their signs are about the Covington Curse.

PROTESTOR

You are why this is happening!
You're proving our point!

Mara ponders this, and struggles to find a reason.

MARA

You don't... And shit... And plus,
puhlusssss, none of the seniors
even go to school here. Also God
hates you FUCK-

Mara slips off the car onto the tarmac, out of view.

The protestors gasp and lean forward, trying to see their out-
of-sight menace when-

She bursts from out of nowhere, stealing a Covington Curse sign and running away maniacally.

107 **EXT. COVINGTON TOWN - DAY, SLOW MOTION** 107

Bleeding from her knee and the bandage on her head, Mara runs by terrified people, waving the sign as if it were on fire.

108 OMITTED 108

109 **INT. LIQUOR STORE - DAY** 109

Mara grabs a bottle of tequila and strolls towards the door but the gruff **ATTENDANT** ain't having it.

ATTENDANT

You gonna pay for that?

MARA

With what?

ATTENDANT

Are you even 21?

MARA

Nope, I'm 17 as fuck! But my
boyfriend exploded and his bones
broke my face.

She holds up the tequila.

MARA (CONT'D)

And the longer you keep me here,
the more likely it is that I paint
your shit red.

The attendant regards her for a second before he turns
around, grabs a nicer bottle, and sets it on the counter.

ATTENDANT

I don't have a response to that.

Mara takes the bottle, while keeping the other.

MARA

No one does, man.

110 **EXT. LIQUOR STORE - DAY**

110

Mara walks outside to find Rosetti waiting for her.

MARA

Wassup.

Mara waves, and accidentally lets the cheaper bottle of free
tequila fall. It shatters on the ground.

*
*

MARA (CONT'D)

Hey it's like a metaphor.

ROSETTI

Mara.

MARA

What? Are you going to arrest me?

ROSETTI

No, you need-

Mara hurls the other bottle of tequila at Rosetti's
windshield-

Where both it and the windshield shatter.

Rosetti looks back at Mara and sighs.

ROSETTI (CONT'D)

I just washed those seats.

111 INT. POLICE HOLDING - NIGHT

111

Mara is back in the holding room, marching back and forth anxiously while Rosetti watches.

MARA

I don't want to be back here! This is where it all started. Before we all got Cronenberged to shit.

ROSETTI

What's Cronenberged mean?

MARA

You PHILISTINE.

ROSETTI

I'm trying to be your friend.

MARA

We're not gonna be friends. The only reason you even know who I am is because you wanted to use me. And when Dylan asked you for help, you threw us in tents and did tests for weeks *that didn't work*. So yeah, sorry, shut the fuck up and get me out of this room.

ROSETTI

I didn't put you in the tents-

MARA

You didn't stop it either!

ROSETTI

I couldn't stop it!

MARA

Then what good are you to us! You were supposed to be cool! Instead you're fucking useless! Just go home already. Why are you still in Covington if you can't fix me?

ROSETTI

I'm here because I care, Mara.

Mara rolls her eyes and groans.

ROSETTI (CONT'D)

Also, your parents are here to pick you up.

Mara groans again.

*

112 **INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT**

112

Mara is still groaning. Her parents are spazzing.

CHARLIE

An agent's car?!

MARA

It was funny at the time!

CHARLIE

What time was that?!

MARA

Like, four o'clock.

CHARLIE
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT.

MARA
NO SHIT, DAD.

ANGELA
Are you still drunk?

MARA
One thousand percent.

CHARLIE
Where do you even get the alcohol?!

MARA
I steal it!

CHARLIE
Why would you tell me that?!

MARA
You asked and I'm drunk so why
would I lie?!

CHARLIE
To make us feel better!

MARA
That's all you care about! I've
heard you call people about
"helping" me!

ANGELA
We've called them in front of you!
We only care about you!

She waves a packet of envelopes at her daughter.

ANGELA (CONT'D)
Why do you think we keep applying
to colleges?!

MARA
I don't want to go to any fucking
colleges!

ANGELA
I don't give a fuck what you do as
long as you're alive! That's the
only way we'll feel better!

MARA

Well I'm going to die in a violent
explosion of blood, probably all
over you. Feel better?

Her parents both start crying. Mara rolls her eyes.

MARA (CONT'D)

Oh fuck offffffff.

Mara stomps away, leaving them to cry and be powerless.

113 **INT. UNDER THE BED - NIGHT** 113

Mara, hot boxing the shit out of the space, reads up about
The Covington Curse on reddit.

Specifically, reads about **HERSELF** on reddit.

114 OMITTED 114

115 OMITTED 115

116 **INT. SCHOOL ROTUNDA - DAY (SUMMER)** 116

Mara stares down the school hall where everyone died.

117 **INT. PRE-CALC CLASSROOM - DAY** 117

Mara sits on the ground where her desk used to be. She looks
up and sees the still Katelyn-stained ceiling.

118 **EXT. COVINGTON HIGH - DAY** 118

Mara stands where Dylan exploded for a very long time.

119

EXT. FIELD - DAY

119

Mara bumbles up to a field, where a bunch of students sit on the ground, working on something.

Spiros sees her and smiles kindly.

SPIROS

Hey, Mara.

MARA

Is there a test?

SPIROS

It's the SATs.

MARA

What? What's the date?

SPIROS

It's almost May.

MARA

Fuck me.

He offers her a test. She looks at it for a second.

SPIROS

It can't hurt.

She exhales and takes it.

MARA

Everything hurts, man.

She sits on the ground and begins. She looks up and sees Tess staring at her.

Tess moves beside Mara, so Mara can see her answers.

Mara takes out her vape pen and dangles it in her mouth like a cigarette.

SKYE

Mr. Spiros? What's the answer to number nineteen? B or D?

SPIROS

My guess is D.

The class all politely react accordingly. Because it doesn't really matter how they do. They just have to do it.

120

EXT. PLAYGROUND - NIGHT

120

Mara, wearing her Carrie prom dress, swings on a swing with her bottle of booze.

Tess sits on the swing next to her, dressed nicely.

TESS

They're doing yearbook photos
inside.

MARA

Hey, here's our yearbook. It is one
pages long.

She offers Tess the booze. Tess shakes her head, before she
takes out her phone and texts. Mara's phone dings.

*
*

MARA (CONT'D)

Did you send me a beach house
listing?

TESS

Yes.

MARA

But we're never gonna be old.

TESS

But we're already really old.

(then)

I'm leaving tonight. I need my life
to start. Even if it's just a few
minutes long.

MARA

I hope you live for fucking ever.
Like an elf.

TESS

Elves live forever?

MARA

Unless they get murdered or die of
grief. That's what Dylan said.

(then)

He was a nerd.

Tess stops Mara's swing and looks her in the eye.

TESS

You'll always be my best friend.

Mara forces a nod. Tess heads back inside as Mara picks at her bandage and takes another swig.

121 **INT. SCHOOL HALL - NIGHT**

121

Mara enters the gymnasium, bottle in hand, revealing not just prom, but some sort of makeshift graduation.

Mara judges this. She turns to Jed.

*

MARA
What the fuck is this?

JED
It's graduation.

*

MARA
I thought it was prom.

JED
It's both.

*

Mara laughs.

MARA
That's fucking stupid.

And she marches off.

CUT TO:

*

Mara is pouring her bottle of booze into a punch bowl. She looks up to find a chaperone watching her.

When the bottle is empty, Mara places it on the table-

And walks away with the punch bowl.

CUT TO:

*

Mara sits on the bleachers, drinking out of the punch bowl ladle, watching Spiros hand diplomas to desperate students.

SPIROS
Becky Burke.

Becky practically sprints on stage to grab her diploma, crying once she has it gripped in her hands.

Before Spiros can say something else-

Mara is on stage, snatching a diploma and the mic.

MARA

I just wanna say that I'm sorry for
killing everybody.

Everyone stares at her.

SPIROS

Mara-

MARA

Nah ish cool, man.

And she starts to cry.

MARA (CONT'D)

I'm sorry I'm the Curse. I always
have been. I did the math. From
Katelyn to Perry and the Daltons
and Dylan, I'm the reason why it
happened. And I don't know why. I'm
not a great person. I don't know
what's wrong with me, but I hate
myself for hurting everybody. I'm
so sorry. I wish they were all here
with us for this dumb bullshit.

She turns to leave and then returns.

MARA (CONT'D)

Also, Springsteen's really good. I
found that out the hard way.

Mara shrugs. Then pulls the mic off the stand and drops it.
She laughs once, then starts crying as she walks off stage.

Spiros tries to recover, putting the mic back on the stand.

SPIROS

Claire Hacklon.

*

Claire goes right past her diploma for the microphone.

CLAIRE

It's all my fault. I'm the Curse.

Mara turns around with intense disapproval.

CLAIRE (CONT'D)

I wasn't a good enough Christian
and Jesus is punishing me.

MARA

BOOOO SIT DOWN WHORE.

SKYE

No! It's my fault!

Mara looks and finds Skye crying off stage.

SKYE (CONT'D)

I just wanted to be top of the
class and I think I like, willed
all my competition to die.

Skye starts crying.

And soon, everyone starts crying. Everyone believing they are
the one responsible.

Mara watches all of this with a strange fascination.

She looks around the room for Tess but she's already gone.

122 **EXT. STREET - NIGHT**

122

Mara wanders the streets, looking for her friend.

MARA

TESSSSS! TESSSSSS!

But there's no answer.

Mara sees something off screen. Even in her drunken state,
her heart breaks as she walks towards it.

123 **EXT. GRAVEYARD - NIGHT**

123

Mara walks through the graveyard like the saddest, drunkest
zombie that never lived.

She finally finds what she's been looking for.

Dylan's grave.

She stares at it for a moment, motionless, before she wipes her nose with her wrist.

MARA

Yo. I fucking love you too, ya know.

She gets a little dizzy and lays down, curling up in a ball six feet above him.

DENISE (O.S.)

Hi, Mara.

Mara looks up and sees Dylan's Mom standing over her.

MARA

Hi, Dylan's Mom.

DENISE

Can I join you?

Mara nods. Denise lays beside her.

MARA

I'm sorry I didn't come to the funeral.

DENISE

I understand.

MARA

It's a cool headstone though.

(then)

I threw up on a grave back there.

DENISE

You threw up on a lot of graves back there.

MARA

I didn't mean to.

DENISE

I know, sweetie.

MARA

The first time Dylan and I really hung out, I was super sick on shrooms and saw so many of him, and it was so beautiful, and now I can't even see one of him.

DENISE

He told me he held your hair.

MARA

He told you that? Did you think I was bad news bears?

DENISE

No, I just thought you were in a lot of pain and you didn't know how to deal with it.

Mara tries to shrug it off but instead starts crying.

MARA

I don't know what to do with my body. I feel like I'm dying. I'm so scared all the time that I'm going to die that I wish sometimes I would just die so it would be over.

Denise reaches over and touches her face.

DENISE

That's what life feels like sometimes.

MARA

Life fucking sucks.

DENISE

It does. It really does.

MARA

Why is this happening?

DENISE

Do you remember the man in Florida with the sinkhole? He was asleep on his bed. And a sinkhole opened up and his bed went down into it. His brother heard him shouting from the next room and ran over and found this giant pit where the room was. And he heard his brother screaming for help. But it was impossible to help him. They never even got his body out.

MARA

Great. So I have to be afraid of sinkholes now too.

DENISE

It's just life. He was probably a nice guy. Or at least inoffensive enough not to deserve to fall into a sinkhole in his bedroom and wait days to die. But deserve's got nothing to do with it.

MARA

That's a good line.

DENISE

I stole it from Clint Eastwood.

MARA

Oh.

(then)

I think Dylan got it. The answer, I mean.

(then)

I really miss him.

DENISE

I miss him too.

MARA

He gave me a cool scar at least.

Denise doesn't really react, because how do you react when your son's jaw bone gives his girlfriend a cool scar?

MARA (CONT'D)

What do we do now?

DENISE

Do you want to come over for dinner next week?

MARA

Yeah, sure.

(then)

Are you okay?

Denise shakes her head, and keeps stroking Mara's hair.

124

INT. LIVING ROOM - MORNING

124

Mara finds her parents sitting in the living room.

MARA

I'm sorry.

They quickly rush to her and hold her in their arms.

125 **EXT. BORDER BARRICADES - DAY**

125

The barricades get taken down. Mara watches them pack up. She drinks water.

MARA (V.O.)
*After a few months, there were no
more explosions.*

Rosetti sees her and raises a hand. Mara waves back.

MARA (V.O.)
*Everyone left and we were free to
leave. It was super anti-climactic.*

126 **INT. MARA'S BATHROOM - DAY**

126

Mara stares at more snooze button pills. Takes one.

MARA (V.O.)
*The Man was like, oh hey the snooze
button works, we just got the first
batch wrong, but we swear this new
batch is legit. I think they just
want to sell me pills for the rest
of my fucking life.*

127 **INT. MARA'S BEDROOM - DAY**

127

Mostly packed up now. She looks around sadly.

128 **EXT. HOME - DAY**

128

Mara loads the last of her things into Dylan's Milk Truck.

CHARLIE
Are you sure this thing is safe?

MARA
I mean, compared to what?

He shrugs, terrified. She hugs them both.

ANGELA
Call us every hour. Or more often.

MARA
I actually think I will.

129 **INT. MILK TRUCK - DAY**

129

Mara drives past Covington High.

MARA (V.O.)
*They're going to tear down the
school, which makes sense. They're
also going to make a memorial for
the departed, which makes less
sense, because let's be honest-*

She watches the school fade from her rear view.

MARA (V.O.)
That sappy shit's gonna suck.

130 **EXT. THE ROAD - DAY**

130

The Milk Truck rides.

MARA (V.O.)
*At the end of the school year, 78
students died, or about two thirds
of the senior class. I didn't die.
I guess I'll never know why.*

131 **INT. MILK TRUCK - DAY**

131

Mara waits at a red light in the truck. Ahead of her is a car with stick figure family members. Mara frowns, rubs her scar.

MARA (V.O.)
So. What did we learn.

She looks over and sees a school bus full of kids laughing at the milk truck. She stares at them for a moment.

MARA (V.O.)
*At the end of the day, it's all
about... what you do with the time
you are given or... Like... Gandalf
wisdom or...
(she sighs)
Fuck this, man.*

Mara turns her radio all the way up and floors it.

MARA (V.O.)

*The world is a fucking cruel piece
of shit and nothing makes sense and
the only thing you can do is put yo
middle fingers up and be all like,
fuck you, life!*

131A **EXT. BORDER BARRICADES - DAY**

131A

The Milk Truck passes through where the barricades used to be, as Mara leaves Covington.

132 **EXT. CAMP GROUNDS - NIGHT**

132

Mara and a bunch of random campers laugh around a campfire.

MARA (V.O.)

*I'm gonna be amazing in spite of
all life's shit. Suck my dick! I'm
gonna live forever! I'm gonna
travel the world-*

133 **INT. COLLEGE - DAY**

133

Mara sits for her student ID photo. She smiles calmly.

MARA (V.O.)

*I'm gonna get my bachelors of
bullshit, and write some books-*

134 **INT. CHIMP CAGE - DAY**

134

A chimpanzee slams his head repeatedly against a type writer and the title page emerges:

ALL THE FEELS

by

Jonathan Franzen

MARA (V.O.)

*And make a low-to-minimum wage but
do really well online and shit.
Probably date some nice boys.*

135

A SERIES OF NICE BOYS SMILING AT US.

135

MARA (V.O.)

*I'll probably marry a few of them.
They'll tend to me like I'm a
literal ticking time bomb and I
will lord it over them in fights
like "bitch, you don't know what
I've seen!*

(MORE)

MARA (V.O.) (CONT'D)
*I've seen some SHIT!" And
sometimes, late at night when the
world is quiet, I'll tell them
about Dylan.*

136 **DYLAN'S SMILING FACE.**

136

MARA (V.O.)
*And what he meant to me, and how I
think about him every day.*

137 **EXT. PARK - DAY**

137

Adult Mara's face gets slammed with a water balloon. Little kids laugh as she pelts them with more balloons.

MARA (V.O.)
*I'll probably have a bunch of kids
and be a dope mom, and be terrified
every day of my life that they
inherited my senioryearitis. And
then I'm gonna be, I don't know,
no, you know, fuck it, I'm gonna be
President.*

138 **EXT. INAUGURATION - DAY**

138

Mara puts one hand on the Bible and gives the finger to the camera with her other hand.

MARA (V.O.)
*Trump's gonna look up at me from
his gold crusted coffin and go, who
the fuck is this bitch, and I'll
tell him, that's President Bitch to
you, motherfucker.*

139 **BLACKNESS.**

139

And then a **BLAST OF LIGHT.**

MARA (V.O.)
*The Big Bang happened out of
nowhere for no reason. Or maybe God
set it all into motion. Who knows,
And then like the dinosaurs died-*

140 **EXT. DINOSAUR TIMES, BABY - DAY**

140

A T-Rex watches the explosion of the asteroid.

MARA (V.O.)

*Because a meteor hit the earth at
the exact worse spot, which is
probably like a one in an all the
numbers chance of fucked-*

T-REX

Aw fuck, man.

141 **INT. SINKHOLE - DAY**

141

From deep, deep in the ground, Mara looks up and sees the tiny sliver of day light above us. She lights a joint.

MARA (V.O.)

*And volcanoes explode and drunk
drivers drive and sinkholes open up
and people have brain aneurysms and
it's all bullshit. All of it.*

142 **EXT. BEACH HOUSE - SUNSET**

142

Old Mara drags her hookah from her beach porch.

MARA (V.O.)

*And maybe Gandalf and Clint
Eastwood were right, though Clint
Eastwood's a Republican so I'm
skeptical. But Gandalf is tight.*

Our regular aged Mara is on the porch.

MARA (V.O.)

*I don't know what's gonna happen
next. I hope it's dope. All I know
is I could die any second now.
Hell, so could you. Nothing's fair.
But it's a beautiful world, and I'm
happy I get to be here, if only for
a little while. 'The fuck else can
you do.*

Tess is beside her, smoking happily. Mara leans forward, staring at the sun setting over the ocean.

It is blood red.

THE END.