

**"THE DISAPPEARANCE
OF ALICE CREED"**

Screenplay by

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CINEMA NX

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1	EXT. AIRPORT PARKING SECTION - DAY Rows and rows of cars and vans. We find VIC (about 40, serious) and DANNY (mid-20s, handsome) by a transit van. Vic keeps watch as Danny uses a metal instrument to pop the lock. They get in. Danny shoves a screwdriver in the ignition. And drives.	1	*
2	EXT. JUNKYARD - DAY Danny removes the number-plates from a smashed-up transit. He replaces them with the plates from the stolen van - switching the vans' identities.	2	*
3	INT. HARDWARE SHOP - DAY We glide down the aisles. Past saws, screws, paints. Vic and Danny browse with intent. They stop by the rope and put a load into their trolley. Then they take duct tape. Screws. A drill. Padlocks. Chains. Buckets. MDF Sheets. A saw. Paint. Shovels. Sheets of plastic. A roll of carpet underlay. Boards of sound-proofing foam.	3	* *
4	INT. SPARSE FLAT - LOUNGE - DAY Vic and Danny dump down their purchases. And go to work--	4	* *
4a	INT. SPARSE FLAT - BEDROOM - DAY Vic and Danny rip an old headboard from the wall. Drag out an old piece of furniture. They tear down the curtains from the windows. Nail soundproofing foam and underlay onto the walls. They take a break. Drink tea and eat sandwiches in silence. They measure and saw the MDF. Then screw the MDF <u>over</u> the windows, totally covering them. No more natural light. They stand back and look at their handiwork - a dark, depressing space. They exchange a satisfied look.	4a	* * * * * *
5	EXT. DEEP IN A FOREST - DAY Vic and Danny walk through the woodland carrying shovels. Vic stops by a large tree. He takes out a red handkerchief and nails it to the tree. Vic nods at Danny and the two of them begin digging a hole.	5	

6 **INT. IKEA SUPERSTORE - DAY** 6

Vic and Danny wander around. They stop by a bed. Danny sits, lies on it. Bounces. He nods at Vic. Vic nods back.

7 **EXT. IKEA PICK UP POINT - DAY** 7

Vic and Danny load cardboard boxes - the flat packed bed - into the back of the transit van.

8 **INT. SPARSE FLAT - BEDROOM - DAY** 8

Vic and Danny build the bed. They do it fast and silently. Soon it is complete. They use thick metal brackets to screw the bed's legs to the floor. They put a mattress on the bed. Then cover the mattress with a plastic sheet. Then a fabric fitted sheet.

The bed is in the centre of the otherwise empty room. Vic and Danny head into the lounge, closing the bedroom door.

8a **INT. SPARSE FLAT - LOUNGE - DAY** 8a

Vic and Danny build flat-pack chairs and a table. Danny screws a cheap plastic clock to the wall. He checks his watch, then sets the clock to the right time.

Vic and Danny set about fixing dead-bolts, padlocks and mortice locks into the bedroom door and front door.

Vic puts the keys from the locks on two key-rings. He hands one to Danny. Keeps the other for himself.

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*

They take a break. Pass a can of lager back and forth. They are both tired from their hard work.

9 **EXT. MIDDLE OF NOWHERE FOREST CLEARING - DAY** 9

The transit van pulls up. Vic and Danny step out. They pull on workman's gloves and open the back of the van. They unfold huge sheets of plastic, then set about covering the interior of the back of the van with them.

Once that is done, they affix a large U-shaped metal bracket to the side of the interior, through the plastic. They test that it is secure. Then they get out of the back of the van and slam the doors.

The transit van parks up. Vic and Danny step out. Head towards the shop.

INT. SPARSE FLAT - KITCHEN - DAY

Apart from the old-fashioned units, a fridge and a microwave, the kitchen is totally empty.

Vic and Danny come in carrying bags of shopping. They unpack dozens of tins of soup. Huge bottles of water. Boxes of pain medication. Gauze, plasters, disinfectant. Vic glances at his watch.

INT. SPARSE FLAT - LOUNGE - DAY

There are two chairs. A table - with a closed laptop on it. A few lamps.

Laid out on the floor neatly are lots of items. Vic watches as Danny packs them carefully into a sports bag--

Rope. Tape. Two sets of hand-cuffs. Two ski-masks. A fabric sack. Knives. A gun. A ball-gag.

Danny zips up the bag.

Vic starts to take off his clothes. Danny does the same. They put on brand new black trousers. They each rip open a packed white shirt. Pull them on. They put on brand new black shoes. Cheap black winter jackets. Leather gloves.

They are dressed exactly the same. Danny grabs the sports bag. Vic pushes all their old clothes into a bin-liner. They leave the flat, turning off all the lights.

EXT. STREET - DAY

The van stops by a row of bin bags on the curbside. Vic leans out and drops his black bag amongst the rubbish, ready for the morning collection. They drive off.

INT. VAN - DAY

They drive in silence. Vic checks his watch.

EXT. ROADSIDE - DAY

Vic and Danny sit in the van, looking out of the windscreen beyond the camera. They wait in silence.

There's a sense of nervous tension. We can hear their breathing. Deep and fast. Danny seems to be psyching himself up, flexing his jaw. Then Vic reacts very slightly to something he sees.

VIC

Okay.

They both pull on ski-masks. Danny throws the sports bag over his shoulder. They get out of the van.

We stay with the van. We hear their footsteps walk away.

A BLACK SCREEN

We hear MUFFLED SCREAMING. The sound of a struggle. People grunting and panting with effort. Suddenly light floods in. We're in...

*

16 INT. THE BACK OF THE VAN - DAY

16

Vic and Danny, with their ski-masks still on, are carrying a struggling woman. She has the fabric sack duct-taped over her head. They throw her onto the bed of the truck. Danny flips her over, face down. Vic puts hand cuffs on her wrists. Then duct tapes her ankles together.

*

*

She screams, but is obviously gagged under the sack.

Vic and Danny drag her inside. They loop the second pair of handcuffs round the first and attach them to the U-Shaped metal on the side of the truck.

They leave her alone. Slam the doors. Darkness again. She continues to scream through her gag.

*

All of this takes about ten seconds.

17 INT. SPARSE FLAT - LOUNGE - DAY

17

*

The door is unlocked and opened. Vic and Danny - still in ski-masks - carry the bound woman inside. She still has the bag over her head. She still struggles and moans. Danny and Vic move her quickly into the bedroom.

18 INT. SPARSE FLAT - BEDROOM - DAY

18

*

Vic and Danny drop her onto the bed. Danny holds her down as Vic closes the door and locks the mortice with a key.

Vic comes over and holds the woman in a head-lock in a sitting position as Danny cuts through the duct tape on her legs. She kicks and flails, her legs now free. Vic increases the pressure round her throat.

VIC

Shhhhhhh.

She moves her head, choking, distracted from her legs.
Danny - with some difficulty - manages to remove her
shoes and socks. He puts them straight into a bin-liner.

*

He then uses rope to expertly tie her legs to the bed -
spread-eagled. Danny looks to Vic, who nods. Vic pushes
the woman forward and grabs her left wrist with his free
hand. Danny grabs her right wrist, then unlocks one of
the cuffs.

In a fast, obviously practised, move they pull her arms
over her head. Danny clicks the unlocked cuff round the
bed-head - shackling her right hand to it. At the same
instant, Vic locks her other wrist into another hand-cuff
that is already waiting, attached to the bed head.

*

*

Danny and Vic then use strong scissors to cut into her
clothes. Danny cuts through her jeans. Pulls them away.
They cut away her coat. Her jumper. Her top. Her bra.
Danny cuts off her underwear. Danny shoves the clothes in
the bin-liner.

The Woman is naked, except for the bag duct-taped over
her head and the hand-cuffs shackling her wrists to the
bed head.

Danny and Vic step back. Catch their breath. Watch as the
woman helplessly struggles against her constraints.

Satisfied that she's not going anywhere, Vic leaves the
room, locking the door behind him. Danny waits, still and
silent, as the woman struggles and moans, terrified.

Danny's eyes linger on her exposed flesh. We hear his
deep breathing through his ski mask. We hear her muffled
screams through her gag.

Vic comes back in. Locks the door again. He has a digital
camera and a newspaper. He rests the paper on the Woman.

*

He nods at Danny, who uses scissors to cut the tape round
the bag over the Woman's head. Danny pulls the bag off.
The woman blinks, disoriented, fearful. Danny forcefully
turns her head towards the camera. She's wide-eyed in
terror, a saliva-wet ball-gag in her mouth.

Flash. Flash. Flash. Flash. Vic takes her picture.

Danny steps away, the woman flails and screams. Vic takes
a wider shot of the woman. The whole bed. Vic then comes
closer and takes a photo of a tattoo on the woman's hip.
Of the newspaper next to her face.

We now see that the woman is in her mid-20s and pretty. The make-up on her face has been smudged by the gag and her tears. She is totally fucking terrified.

Danny puts the bag back over her head.

Vic and Danny leave the room. They lock the door behind them. The mortice. A padlock. Three dead-bolts.

19 **INT. SPARSE FLAT - LOUNGE - DAY** 19 *

Keeping their ski-masks on, Vic and Danny quickly strip naked. They put the clothes and shoes into another bin liner. Danny pulls on a boiler-suit. New trainers. Vic pulls on jeans. T-shirt. Old trainers. Then pulls a boiler suit over the top. They exchange a nod, then head back into...

20 **INT. SPARSE FLAT - BEDROOM - DAY** 20 *

As the door opens, the Woman tries to scream again. Vic holds her left leg as Danny unties the ropes binding it. Danny hooks a new pair of knickers and the leg of some jogging bottoms over the ankle. Then ties it back.

They repeat the procedure with the right leg. Danny pulls the underwear and jogging bottoms up.

They do the same with her right arm - unclicking the handcuff, quickly pulling the sleeve of a sweat-shirt over it, before re-locking the cuff. Then the same for her left arm. Then they pull the sweat-shirt over her head and torso.

Vic carefully places a pillow under the Woman's head. Then Vic and Danny turn the light off and leave the room.

21 **INT. SPARSE FLAT - LOUNGE - DAY** 21 *

As Vic closes the foam-padded door, the woman's muffled screams become barely audible. Vic locks the door.

Danny rips off his ski-mask. He's drenched with sweat. He sits down, panting, catching his breath. Vic takes off his mask too and goes to the kitchen. He returns with a bottle of water. They pass the water back and forth, gulping it down.

Vic connects the camera to the laptop. He downloads the photos he's just taken. They come up on the laptop's screen. Behind Vic, Danny edges closer and looks at the pictures, interested. Vic senses him, turns and catches Danny ogling. Vic shoots Danny a cautionary look. Danny quickly looks away.

Vic transfers the photos to a flash-drive.

Vic takes off his boiler-suit. Hangs it over the other chair. He pockets the flash-drive. Grabs the two bin bags and looks at Danny, who's still panting.

VIC
You okay?

DANNY
Just unfit. That's all.

VIC
Check her every ten minutes. Lock the door after me.

Danny nods. Vic heads to the front door. Leaves.

DARKNESS

22 **INT. BACK OF VAN - DUSK**

22 *

Then light. We're in the back of the van, looking out from its far end through the now open doors. Vic comes in and rips out all the plastic sheeting. He bundles it up.

He walks off, then comes back with the two bin bags and a can of petrol. He takes the bundle of sheeting too.

He slams the door shut. Darkness again.

MATCH CUT TO:

DARKNESS.

23 **INT. SPARSE FLAT - BEDROOM - NIGHT**

23

We hear panicked breathing. A door creaks opens. A light is switched on. But all we can see is gauzy fabric.

We are seeing from the woman's POV inside the fabric bag. We see light and indistinct shadow. The bag is taken off. We see Danny - in the ski-mask.

He stares at us. Then puts the bag back on. We scream through the gag. He turns the light back off. The door closes.

Darkness again. We hear multiple locks being secured. We hear our own breathing, sobbing.

24

INT. SPARSE FLAT - LOUNGE - NIGHT

24

Danny sits back down in his chair. He takes off his ski mask. He taps his foot on the floor, impatiently.

There's a sound at the door. Locks turning. Then silence. A knock comes. Then again. Danny goes to the front door, looks through a peep-hole. He draws back the dead-bolts. Opens the door. Vic comes inside.

Danny closes the door quickly behind Vic, locking it back up. He's agitated, jumpy.

Vic has a plastic shopping bag. He empties it onto the table. Five different cheap mobile phones fall out.

*

DANNY
(nervous laugh)
I thought, you know, that you might not come back.

VIC
Don't be stupid.

DANNY
Any problems?

VIC
Nothing. You check her?

DANNY
She's okay. Did you send it?

VIC
No incidents?

DANNY
No. No incidents. Did you send it?

VIC
Send what?

DANNY
The e-mail. The photos.

VIC
Yes. I sent them. They're sent.

This news hits Danny. He's suddenly even more nervous.

VIC
You sure you're okay, you look--

DANNY
What?

VIC
I don't know. Nervous.

DANNY
Just, you know, excited I guess.

Vic stares at Danny hard.

VIC
(the phones)
Help me with these.

Danny and Vic quickly go about unpacking the phones - wearing gloves. They insert the pay-as-you-go SIM cards into them, then line them up on the table. Danny fumbles a bit, his hands shaking. Vic's hands are stone steady.

VIC
Okay. What's the time now?

DANNY
(checks wall clock)
Ten.

Vic sits back. Sighs. Allows himself a second to relax.

VIC
She'll be dehydrated by now.

Vic pulls on his bolier suit. They both put on their ski-masks and begin unlocking the bedroom door.

*

25

INT. SPARSE FLAT - BEDROOM - NIGHT

25

Darkness is splintered by two torch-beams. Danny and Vic enter. Vic carries a bottle of water with a sports-cap. They take the bag off the Woman's face. She's extremely scared. Vic crouches down to her head level. He speaks softly, shining the light in her face.

VIC
Listen. We need to keep you hydrated. We don't want you to come to any harm. We need you healthy and alive. Understand?

The woman just stares, terrified.

VIC
Please nod if you understand.
(she nods)
Good. Now, for you to drink, we need to take off the gag. Please do not scream. If you scream, we'll have to give you a sedative...

Vic shines his torch at Danny, who is charging a syringe from a vial. The woman sees it and breathes faster.

*

VIC

And if we have to give you a sedative,
we'll have to hydrate you by other means.

Danny takes out a medical saline bag linked to a drip-tube.

VIC

We'd rather you were awake. Asleep, you
can't tell us whether you feel sick. Or
whether you need the toilet...

(he pauses for emphasis)

Or if you can't breathe. Asleep, your
chances of accidentally dying are much,
much increased. Awake you can alert us to
all these things and we can make sure you
are kept as comfortable as possible.

The woman just stares.

VIC

Please believe me when I say that I do
not want to hurt you. And I apologise for
the unpleasant nature of this experience.
I'm sure it's scary. Harrowing. But we
have nothing against you. You're just an
essential cog in a much bigger machine.
We don't care who you are. We just need
for you to be here, be alive and be safe.
Again, we don't want to hurt you. We
certainly don't want to kill you.

(beat)

But we are absolutely prepared to do
either or both of these things if we need
to. Do you understand?

She stares, wide-eyed. Then she nods.

VIC

Now. If I take off your gag, will you
scream?

(she shakes her head)

Good.

He nods at Danny, who carefully takes off the gag. The
woman gasps for air and spits out a mouthful of saliva.

WOMAN

Please. Please let me go. I... have a
daughter... She needs me. She...

Vic puts his hand over her mouth.

VIC

Please. We know you don't have a daughter. We know a lot about you. About your father. About his money. Now, I know it's a natural response, but trying to reason with us is just a waste of energy.

*

She bites his hand. Vic yells. Pulls his hand away.

*

VIC

Ow. Fuck!

WOMAN

Somebody help me! Please somebody!!

Vic smacks her hard across the face, then claps his hand tight round her throat. Gets very close.

*

VIC

Listen to me! No-one can hear you. No-one will help you. The only people who can get you out of this are me and him. We are your only friends.

*

(calmer)

I urge you to do as we say. The easier you make this for us, the easier it will be for you.

Her wide eyes stare at him. She breathes in shallow gasps behind his grip.

VIC

Now. Are you going to be quiet and drink from the bottle?

(she nods)

Good.

He takes his hand away. This time she stays quiet. Vic cradles her head and puts the water-bottle sports cap into her mouth. She sucks on it hungrily.

VIC

Slower. Go easy. Take your time.

She drinks the whole bottle dry, its plastic cracking and crinkling. She gasps and pants.

VIC

Good. Well done.

He nods at Danny, who puts the ball-gag back in her mouth. She groans - pleading. Vic ignores it.

VIC

Now. We'll come and check you from time to time. To make sure you're okay.

VIC (CONT'D)

If you ever need the bathroom, just wait until we come and then make this signal to us...

Vic opens and closes both his hands quickly.

VIC

And try to hold it in, because we won't be changing your clothes or the sheets. So if you have any accidents, you will have to lie in it for as long as this thing takes. Understand?

(the woman nods)

Now. I suggest you try to sleep. You've have quite an ordeal today. Your body needs rest.

Vic stands up. Danny puts the bag over her head again. Danny and Vic leave and lock the door.

26 **INT. SPARSE FLAT - KITCHEN - NIGHT** 26

THE MICROWAVE. Food rotates inside. An instant meal. The microwave BEEPS. Danny opens it and pours out the food onto a plate.

27 **INT. SPARSE FLAT - LOUNGE - DAY** 27

Danny hands a plate to Vic and keeps one for himself. He opens a beer.

VIC

We should keep a clear head.

DANNY

I need a drink. Just one.

VIC

(sighs, shakes head)

Make sure it's not on your breath in there. Make sure she can't smell it on you.

DANNY

Why?

VIC

(stares hard)

Because we're not a bunch of fucking amateurs.

DANNY

Fine. I'll chew gum after.

Vic eats his food methodically, Danny just picks at his.

VIC
You need to eat. You need to keep your
energy up.

DANNY
I'm not hungry.

VIC
I don't care. Eat.

Vic continues shovelling food in. Danny doesn't eat
anything.

VIC
I said eat.

DANNY
I don't want to.

Vic stands up. Moves over to Danny and stands over him.
Danny looks back and shrugs.

DANNY
What?

Vic leans in and uses his fork to skewer some of Danny's
food and holds it in front of Danny's face.

VIC
Eat.

Danny just stares at Vic.

VIC
Eat it.

DANNY
I said I'm not--

Suddenly Vic grabs the back of Danny's head and forces
the fork into his mouth. Danny struggles.

DANNY
For fuck's sake. Jesus!

Danny swallows the forkful.

DANNY
What the fuck? What was that for. I told
you I'm not hungry.

VIC
You're not hungry? You've not eaten for
nine hours. You've done a lot of physical
work, but still you're not hungry?

DANNY

No.

Vic stares at Danny hard.

DANNY

What? What difference does it--

VIC

If you're not hungry, it means something's not right. It means your emotions are suppressing your appetite. It means you're thinking too much. About whether we've done everything right, or whether we've made a mistake somewhere along the way which will get us caught. Get us twenty years in jail. Or maybe you're thinking about whether we'll have to get rough with the girl or perhaps even kill her.

(leans in closer)

Or worse, maybe you're getting senti-fucking-mental now the girl isn't just theoretical. Now you've looked into her eyes, maybe you're having second thoughts. Maybe you're thinking that you've made a mistake by agreeing to do this. Maybe your conscience is eating away at your conviction. Maybe you're persuading yourself that the best thing to do is to just go in there, untie her and let her go. End this thing before it gets too complicated. Get out while we still can...

Danny's eyes hold Vic's, but we can see Vic's words are hitting a nerve.

VIC

Listen... Fuck. That.

Danny looks away.

VIC

Look at me. Look at me!

(as Danny does)

Fuck that. Understand? Fuck that. We're in this. There's a plan in play. And we're too far along to get fucking squeamish. Any doubts you're having are just bullshit. Just knee-jerk bullshit. You know it. You know you know it. So say it.

DANNY

Say what?

VIC

Fuck that.

DANNY

(takes a breath, nods)

Fuck that.

VIC

Again.

DANNY

(stronger)

Fuck that.

VIC

Good. Now don't think. Just eat. We've got a long night ahead.

Danny eats, shaken. Vic eats too. Danny nurses his neck.

VIC

Sorry if I hurt you.

Danny nods. They keep eating and finish their plates quickly. Danny sips his beer.

VIC

We should check her before I leave.

He looks at Danny. Danny doesn't move.

VIC

Well?

DANNY

Why do I always have to do the fucking dog work?

VIC

Because that's your role. Now go check on her.

Danny sighs, snatches up his ski-mask and heads towards the bedroom door.

VIC

Wait.

(as Danny stops)

Gum. Remember?

Stroppily, Danny goes back to the kitchen, fishes out a pack of gum, shoves a tablet in his mouth and munches away. He heads towards the bedroom. Unlocks the door.

28 **INT. SPARSE FLAT - BEDROOM - NIGHT** 28

Danny shines the light over the Woman. She opens and closes her hands rapidly.

29 **INT. SPARSE FLAT - LOUNGE - NIGHT** 29

Danny comes back out.

DANNY
Bathroom alert.

VIC
Already?

Vic stands up and pulls on his ski-mask.

30 **INT. SPARSE FLAT - BEDROOM - NIGHT** 30

Vic and Danny come in. Vic crouches by the Woman's face. Takes away the bag.

VIC
Do you need a "one" or a "two"? Hold up your fingers.

The Woman holds a single finger up on her hand.

VIC
Okay.

Vic glances at Danny, who leaves the room. The Woman and Vic hold each other's eyes. Danny comes back with a hospital-style female-urinal bottle.

She sees it and squirms. This obviously isn't how she imagined doing this. She stares, shocked, at the bottle. *

VIC
Are you ready?

She looks to Vic.

VIC
Ready?

Begrudgingly, she nods.

Danny carefully pulls her jogging bottoms and knickers down. He pushes the mouth of the female-urinal bottle to her crotch. Then nods at Vic.

VIC
Okay. Go ahead.

Shaking with humiliation, the Woman closes her eyes, sobbing through the gag. Vic and Danny wait in silence. After a few seconds, the sound of LIQUID STREAMING INTO THE PLASTIC BOTTLE is heard. The woman sobs louder. The SOUND stops.

VIC

Done?

She nods, her eyes still closed. Danny pulls away the urinal. Pulls her clothes back up. Puts the bag back over her head. Vic and Danny leave. The Woman is crying.

31 **INT. SPARSE FLAT - BATHROOM - NIGHT**

31

Danny pours the Woman's urine into the old dirty toilet. Flushes. He uses disinfectant and water to clean out the urinal and stands it to dry. He goes into-

32 **INT. SPARSE FLAT - LOUNGE - NIGHT**

32

Vic takes off his boiler suit. He picks up one of the pay-as-you-go phones from the table. *

DANNY

Already? You're going already?

VIC

Yeah. It's time. Keep checking her. Don't leave it too long. That gag's not foolproof. We don't want her suffocating on us.

DANNY

Okay.

VIC

(putting on his coat)
I may be a little while. *

DANNY

Take care. Remember to dump the phone.

VIC

What?

DANNY

Remember to get rid of the phone.

VIC

I'm not fucking stupid.

DANNY

Just reminding you.

Vic fixes Danny with a "fuck you" stare.

VIC

Reminding?

Danny stares back at Vic, but looks away first.

VIC

Don't sleep. Keep checking her. And don't drink.

DANNY

Sure. Whatever.

VIC

(stepping to Danny)

No. Not whatever. Just do it. Just keep your head in the fucking game. Understand?

DANNY

Understand.

Vic fixes Danny with a final look, then shakes his head and leaves the house. Danny locks up after him, then sits back down alone waiting, annoyed. He sighs. Leans back. Bored. He runs his hands over his face, angry at Vic.

*
*

DANNY

Fucking...

(sighs)

Fuck him.

He looks at the closed front door. Then glimpses back at the bedroom door, then away again, thinking.

He stands up. Goes to the bedroom door. Presses his ear against it, listening. He can't hear anything. He goes and sits down. His eyes fall on the laptop.

He opens it up. He clicks on a folder. The photos of the naked Woman open up. Danny stares at them. He clicks through them. His eyes glued.

He sighs shakily and closes the computer.

Danny lights a cigarette and heads to the kitchen. He opens a can of beer and drinks, his mind clearly whirring with thoughts.

He comes back into the Lounge and sits by the computer. He looks at it, then at the clock on the wall, then at the bedroom door.

He turns away. Leans forward, thinking. Then looks back over at the bedroom door again. Staring at it.

He takes a big swig of the beer, then stubs his cigarette out. And puts on his ski mask. He grabs a torch.

He unlocks the bedroom door. He goes inside.

33

INT. SPARSE FLAT - BEDROOM - NIGHT

33

Danny sneaks inside. The Woman is breathing deeply, listening to Danny moving around. Danny moves his torch beam over her body, over the hand-cuffs.

Her sweat-shirt has ridden up - exposing her stomach. Danny centres his torch beam on her belly button, then on the elastic of her underwear which is just visible.

He moves to her face - covered with the bag - and gets to her eye-level. He stares at her.

He leans in close. Sniffs deeply, smelling her scent.

He reaches out, as if to touch her, but stops his fingers millimetres from her. He moves his hands over her body as if caressing her - but doesn't actually touch her.

She shifts, uncomfortable with his presence. He pulls his hand away like a startled animal and leaves the room quickly, locking the door behind him.

DARKNESS. We hear a KNOCK KNOCK. Knuckles on a door. It comes again, KNOCK KNOCK. We hear locks turning.

*

34

INT. SPARSE FLAT - NIGHT

34

Danny opens the door. Vic comes in, agitated carrying a hold-all. Danny locks the door. Vic takes off his jacket.

*

*

DANNY

What? What happened?

Vic is busy pulling on his boiler suit.

*

DANNY

Did you make the call?

VIC

Yeah I made it. I made the call.

DANNY

So?

VIC

So what?

DANNY

So how did it go?

VIC
It went fine. Just...

DANNY
Just..?

VIC
(unconvincing)
Just... Just nothing. We're fine. We're good.

DANNY
But he's going to pay?

VIC
(nods, distracted)
He said yes. But...

DANNY
But what?

VIC
But I think the police were there. I think they were listening in.

DANNY
The police?

VIC
There was a click. I definitely heard a click.

DANNY
Fuck. The police? You think they traced it? You think they knew where you were? You think they followed you?

VIC
It's okay. We knew this would happen eventually.

*

Vic opens the hold-all. Starts taking something out.

*

DANNY
But not... not so fucking soon. You think we're okay?

VIC
Of course we're okay. We planned for this. That's why we dumped the phone. We planned for this. So just calm down.

DANNY
So... so what did he say? How did he sound?

VIC
Sound? He sounded... sounded rehearsed.
It wasn't natural. It was managed. It
wasn't just fear, worry, anger. It was...
It was... was like he was told to say it.

DANNY
You're sure?

VIC
Yes, I think... Yes. Yes definitely.

DANNY
What did he say?

VIC
He said he wanted to speak to his
daughter. He wanted proof she was okay.

DANNY
And?

VIC
And I said no. He was just playing for
time. So they could trace the call.

DANNY
Trace? Fuck!

VIC
Calm! We're still okay.

DANNY
But he agreed? He agreed to the money? To
the timings?

VIC
Yes. Yes, he said he'd get the money. He
said first thing tomorrow he's going to
get the money. No sequential notes. No
tracer. No paint bomb.

DANNY
He agreed?

VIC
I said I'd kill her if he didn't. So,
yeah, he fucking agreed.

DANNY
Good. Okay. Good.

VIC
But I want to be sure. We need to make
sure.

We now see that Vic is readying a video camera. He pulls a tripod open.

VIC
We need to make him understand what's at stake here.

Vic mounts the camera on the tripod.

VIC
We need to make sure he goes to his bank as soon as it opens and gets the money as fast as he fucking can. *

Vic grabs the tripod, looks at Danny.

35 INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

35

The lights are on. Danny (in ski mask) pulls off the Woman's bag. She squints into the light. She looks right. Sees Vic (in ski mask) aiming a gun at her.

VIC
We need you to do something.

She stares at the gun, shaking.

VIC
He's going to untie you. When he does, you are going to sit up on the edge of the bed and stay very very still. Now this gun is loaded and my finger is on the trigger, so just do as we say and no fucking about, okay? Understand?
(as she nods)
Okay. Untie her.

Danny unties her legs. Unlocks the hand cuffs from the bed. Then cuffs her hands behind her. She scoots round to the edge of the bed, her eyes on the gun all the time. *

Vic steps to the side, revealing the video camera. Danny goes to the camera. Aims it at the Woman, framing a close-up of her face. Danny goes back to the woman.

VIC
Now. We're going to take the gag off. Do not shout or we will hurt you. Okay?

She nods. Danny takes out the gag. She breathes deeply. Scared. Her eyes flit from Vic to Danny and back.

VIC
Now. You're going to look into the camera. Look right in here...
(the lens)

VIC (CONT'D)

And speak to your father. Tell him that he must pay the money. That he must do exactly as we ask or we will kill you. And tell him that you are in no doubt that we will kill you. Do you understand?

(as she nods)

Okay. Take one.

Vic presses the "record" button. Nods at her. The Woman stares into the camera. She takes a few breaths.

WOMAN

Daddy... I'm okay. They just took me. I was leaving the house and they just took me... I don't know where I am...

VIC

(stops the camera)

Stop. I don't want a narrative. I just want you to look down the camera and tell him that unless he pays the money we will kill you. Any deviation from our instructions, we will kill you. Any police, we will kill you. Understand?

*
*

WOMAN

Yes.

Vic stares at her, dissatisfied.

VIC

No... No... Wait...

(to Danny)

She's not scared enough. Give her some motivation.

Danny thinks, then goes out of the room and returns with a SCARY LOOKING KNIFE. He holds it to the Woman's neck. She panics. Tries to pull away from the knife.

VIC

Better. Now. Get yourself together and let's try again

Petrified, the woman stares at the camera, her breathing erratic with fear. We see the camera's POV - her face with a gloved hand holding a knife to her throat.

WOMAN

Daddy. It's Alice. I love you. Please... Do exactly as they say. Pay... Pay them the money. Do exactly as they say or they'll kill me. Daddy. They'll kill me if you don't.

(starts to cry)

Please Daddy. Just do whatever they want. Exactly as they say. I want to come home. Just pay them please.

Vic and Danny watch her cry. Then Vic switches off the camera. Danny takes the knife away.

VIC
Good. Thank you. Now. We're going to put
you back as you were before.

WOMAN
Please. No... I won't try to--

VIC
No talking.

WOMAN
My arms hurt.

Danny exchanges a look with Vic. She's still sobbing.

VIC
Uncuff her.
(Danny does)
Now. Stretch your arms. Move them around.
Go on.

The Woman obeys. She stretches to the front, then back.
It obviously hurts.

VIC
Rub them. Get the blood going.

She rubs her shoulders and arms. Loosening up.

VIC
Better?

WOMAN
A little.

VIC
Good. Tie her up.

With Vic aiming his gun, Danny gags her, then cuffs her
arms back to the bed-head and ties her legs back to the
other end. She doesn't struggle, but just sobs.

Danny and Vic leave the room.

36

INT. SPARSE FLAT - LOUNGE - NIGHT

36

The laptop plays the DV camera footage playing in some
editing software.

WOMAN (ON LAPTOP)
Do exactly as they say. Pay... Pay them
the money. Do exactly as they say or
they'll kill me. Daddy.

WOMAN (ON LAPTOP) (CONT'D)
They'll kill me if you don't.
(crying)
Please Daddy. Just do whatever they want.
Exactly as they say. I want to come home.
Just pay them please.

She sobs violently on screen. Vic freezes it. Then presses a button. A progress bar zooms along. He pulls his flash drive from the USB port. Raises it to Danny.

VIC
This is good. This will work.

DANNY
She did well.

VIC
Yes she did. She was a good choice.
(validation:)
She was a good find, Danny.

Danny nods modestly. Vic stands. Pulls on his coat.

VIC
Okay. Don't fall asleep. Here...

Vic digs into his pockets and brings out some pills.

VIC
These will keep you awake. I'll be back soon. Keep an eye on her. She's worth a lot of money to us.

DANNY
I know. Take care.

Vic nods. Leaves. Danny locks the door after him, then sits down. He looks at the bedroom door. Goes over to it.

DARKNESS. We hear LOCKS BEING OPENED. Light floods in. We're in...

*

37 **INT. SPARSE FLAT - BEDROOM - NIGHT**

37

Danny comes in (in ski mask). The Woman reacts to his presence and groans to get his attention. Danny shines his torch on her. She opens and closes her hands quickly.

Danny sighs, looks back at the open door behind him, the empty flat beyond, unsure. The Woman groans and opens and closes her hands even quicker. Danny goes out to--

38 **INT. SPARSE FLAT - BATHROOM - NIGHT**

38

Where he snatches up the female urinal. He heads back to--

39 **INT. SPARSE FLAT - BEDROOM - NIGHT** 39

Danny switches on the light. Starts to yank down the Woman's tracksuit bottoms. But she pulls against her ties moaning. Danny stops. She shakes her head and waves her right hand in the cuffs. She's holding two fingers up.

Danny sees this and sighs, agitated. He looks round, not happy doing this himself. He pulls the Woman's bag off so she can see him. He sees her eyes begging him.

Danny shakes his head. No. He turns to go. The Woman groans more urgently through her gag. She opens and closes her hands as quick as she can.

Danny looks at her, unsure. Then sighs in resignation.

40 **INT. SPARSE FLAT - LOUNGE - NIGHT** 40

Danny goes back out into the lounge. He thinks for a second, then takes the gun off the table.

DANNY
(under his breath)
Fuck it.

He picks up a bucket and toilet roll. Goes back into--

41 **INT. SPARSE FLAT - BEDROOM - NIGHT** 41

Danny puts the bucket down near the bed. He holds up the gun and aims it at The Woman. *

With the gun still in his hands, he begins untying her legs. When they are free, he uncuffs her left hand. Her right hand is still cuffed to the bed-head.

Danny physically pulls her off the bed and over to the bucket, then he stands back, holding the gun at his side.

The Woman stares at Danny, wide-eyed. Danny motions with the gun, urging her on.

The woman stares back at him, humiliated, then awkwardly pulls down her tracksuit-bottoms and knickers with one hand before squatting over the bucket. Danny watches her. She stares back at him. Nothing happens.

She says something through her gag. It comes out as grunts. Danny motions with the gun more vehemently.

She grunts again, trying to speak. Danny stares at her long and hard. She stares back, her eyes pleading.

Danny tentatively goes closer. He undoes her gag.

WOMAN

I can't. I can't go with you watching me.

Danny nods. Yes you can. Motions with the gun.

WOMAN

(tears coming)

I can't... Please. Just leave me alone
for a few minutes and--

Danny shakes his head. No fucking way.

WOMAN

(increasingly upset)

Then look away. Please. I can't shit with
you staring at me. Close your eyes or--

Danny's getting very agitated. He stares at the Woman's
tearful, begging eyes. He runs his hand over his face.

WOMAN

Please!

Danny holds up his hand to silence her. He thinks. Then
sighs and gestures with his gun for her to get a move on
before turning his back on her.

She looks up at him and sees the gun in his hand by his
side. Her eyes fix on it. She stays perfectly still,
looking from the gun to the back of Danny's head.

We see close on Danny's eyes. He waits, impatient.

The Woman carefully and silently pulls up her knickers
and tracksuit bottoms. The Woman grips the bucket's
handle in her free hand, screws her nerve and then...

SLAM! She swings the bucket at Danny's head. It connects
hard. He stumbles. The gun drops from his hand. Quickly
she jumps at him, kicks his legs hard. He buckles down.
She grabs the gun. He grabs her wrist holding the gun.

DANNY

(hissed threat)

Let go! Let the fuck go!

They struggle. The Woman bites Danny's hand holding her
wrist, he pushes her face back. She kicks Danny in the
balls hard. He doubles over, coughing. She aims the gun
at Danny, sobbing, hysterical. They both talk at once--

WOMAN

Let me go! Let me go!

DANNY

Wait. Wait. Give me the gun. Just give me the gun--

WOMAN

No. Give me the keys. Give me the keys for the cuff--

DANNY

He's coming back. He'll be here any second. And he'll kill you. I promise you. He will fucking kill you without even thinking.

WOMAN

Give me the fucking key. Now.

Danny leans forward, reaching for the gun.

DANNY

Look. Just give me it. It's better if you just--

BANG! A bullet just misses Danny and embeds in the wall at the far corner.

XCU - The bullet casing lands on the floor by the bed.

Danny backs off immediately and raises his hands.

DANNY

Woah! Fuck! Jesus! Alice. No. Wait. Wait. This isn't what you think. Alice, please--

WOMAN

The key.

She cocks the gun again. Levels it at his head.

*

WOMAN

I'll kill you. I'll get the keys from your body... So just give me them...

DANNY

Wait. Just--

Her finger begins to squeeze the trigger.

DANNY

Alice wait! Listen to me. Listen. It's me... It's me... It's Danny. It's Danny. It's me.

WOMAN

(thrown)

Wh... What?

DANNY

It's me. Danny. It's Danny. Look...

Danny rips off the ski mask and shows his face. The Woman reacts with confusion and horror, sobbing.

WOMAN

D... Danny?

DANNY

It's me. Alice. It's me. Put the gun down. Please.

She stares at him totally fucking stunned.

DANNY

The gun, Alice...

WOMAN

What... What the fuck's going on? What the fuck are you--

DANNY

Listen. Alice. Listen to me.

WOMAN

Did you... Was it you?

DANNY

Listen. There's a plan.

WOMAN

(near hysterical)

A plan?! Danny? Fuck...

DANNY

Just put the gun down before it goes off again and you fucking kill me.

She doesn't lower the gun. She grits her teeth, biting back the tidal wave of conflicting emotions.

WOMAN

Danny. Get me the fuck out of here. Unlock me right fucking now.

DANNY

Okay. I will. Just listen to me first, okay?

The Woman - Alice - is so confused she doesn't know what the fuck to do. Danny carries on, fast-talking.

DANNY

We're getting some money from your dad. A lot of money.

(forces a smile)

DANNY (CONT'D)

You're always saying how much you hate your dad. About how he tried to buy your love your whole--

ALICE

What? What the fuck are you--

DANNY

You hate him Alice. He cut you off. He's got all that fucking money and now he's never going to give you any more of it. You told me, remember? All about that fucking bullshit he gave you. About you building your life from scratch like he did. About how he's doing you a fucking favour by cutting you off.

ALICE

Wh... What?

DANNY

We've always talked about a way to change his mind. A way to get his money off him. Well this is it, Alice. This is how. This is how we can get his money.

*

Alice can't process what she's hearing.

DANNY

Your Dad's going to give us his money. You're going to be rich. For good.

*

ALICE

What? But... But you fucking... you fucking kidnapped me!

DANNY

Yes. I kidnapped you for us. The money's for us. All for us.

ALICE

What?

DANNY

This is a good thing, Alice. Believe me. This is good for you too.

ALICE

(taking this in)

Good? I thought I was going to die! You... You fucking stripped me naked! You made me piss in a fucking bottle in front of... Who?... who's the fuck's the other man? Do I know him too?

DANNY

No. He's Victor. Vic. He's no-one. He's no-one. He doesn't know...

ALICE

Doesn't know what?

DANNY

About us. He doesn't know we're... He thinks you're just a random rich girl. He just thinks I picked you because of your dad. Because he's loaded. That's the beauty of it...

(smiles)

No-one knows about me and you. No-one. That's why it'll work. Because we kept it so secret. That's why it's perfect.

ALICE

Danny. Just get me the fuck out of here.

DANNY

Alice. Please. Listen. Vic thinks he's running all this. He thinks he's the boss, a fucking player, but...

(smiles)

But don't you see? We've got the upper hand. We've got knowledge. He's not got the whole picture. He think's all this is his plan. He doesn't suspect. He doesn't...

(lower)

He doesn't suspect we're going to take all the money. My share. His share. We're going to take it. All of it. Me and you. Instead of the exchange, we'll just disappear. Me, you and the money.

*
*

Danny's eyes plead. Alice stares in utter disbelief.

ALICE

You kidnapped me so I could get some of my dad's money?

DANNY

Well... Yeah.

ALICE

Then why the fuck didn't you ask me first!? I thought I was going to fucking die in here! I was fucking terrified!

DANNY

I know. I'm sorry! But... But it had to look real. Feel real. For Vic. For you. If you hadn't fucking taken my gun, it would have just all played out as if it was real.

ALICE

Look real!? You can't do that to somebody
Danny. You can't make them think they're
going to fucking die!!

DANNY

You can't fake fear, Alice. Not proper
fear. He would have seen if you were
pretending. He would have known.

*
*

ALICE

You're meant to love me. You told me--

DANNY

I do, babe. That's why... That's why I
did this. Because I love you. I was going
to tell you the truth after it was over.
Once I had the money. Once--

ALICE

What? But what would you say? Sorry that
I scared you to fucking death? So I
totally fucking humiliated you?!

DANNY

But we'll be rich, Alice. Rich. That's
all we've both wanted.

Alice stares at Danny. A stand-off.

ALICE

Who is he? Who's Vic?

DANNY

I told you. He's no-one. I met him on the
inside. He only just got out. He needs
money. He's--

ALICE

But you're going to take his share?

DANNY

We are.

ALICE

How?

DANNY

I've got a plan. He'll never see it
coming.

ALICE

How much money?

*

DANNY

All in? Two million.

*

Alice is stunned by the amount. She shakes her head.

ALICE

No... He won't pay. He loves his money.
He loves it more than he loves--

*

DANNY

You're wrong. He's going to pay it. The
video you did was...

(smiles)

It was a fucking Oscar winner. He's going
to pay. Two million. Cash. Untraceable.

Alice stares at him - totally overwhelmed by confusing
emotions: anger, heart-break, fear.

DANNY

And all you'll have to do is lie in that
bed. Eat. Drink.

ALICE

Tied up. Humiliated. Abused.

DANNY

It'll only be another day or so. Not much
to ask for two million. For a whole new
life.

ALICE

You should have fucking told me.

DANNY

I'm sorry. I'm sorry babe. But I only did
this because I love you.

They stare at each other.

DANNY

Alice. I love you. Truly.

Alice still has the gun raised.

DANNY

So can I have my gun back?

Alice doesn't lower it.

DANNY

I swear. It's all going to work out fine.
And then we'll be millionaires. In the
fucking Caribbean somewhere. We'll be...
free. Free.

She just stares at him. Danny takes a step forward.

DANNY

I know you, Alice. If you could get two million quid and never have to see your fucking father again, you'd jump at the chance. You'd snatch it right up.

We can tell from Alice's face that he's right. But she shakes her head defiantly.

DANNY

I know you would.

Danny holds out his hand for the gun. *

DANNY

Alice. Please. Just do this. Do this for us. Please.

KNOCK KNOCK. Danny looks behind him. Someone's at the front door. Danny's eyes are alive with panic. *

DANNY

Fuck. Oh fuck.

(whisper)

That's him. It's Vic. He's back. Alice. Will you do this? Alice?

Alice doesn't move. KNOCK KNOCK. Danny's practically shaking now. His eyes are begging.

DANNY

Alice? Alice. If he comes in here and finds us like this... He'll go fucking crazy. He'll fucking kill us both... You have to give me the gun. Please Alice. I'm not joking... *

Her eyes flick towards the front door. Then she stares at Danny long and hard. KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK. *

DANNY

Please. Alice. Please.

Alice thinks hard. Then throws the gun down at Danny's feet. Stares at Danny defiantly. *

ALICE

Don't let him fucking hurt me. *

DANNY

I won't. *

She gets back on the bed. Stares at Danny who quickly picks up the gun. Ties her legs. Cuffs her free hand. He gets the gag. Before he can put in on. *

ALICE
Promise me Danny. Promise me.

*
*

DANNY
I promise. I love you, Alice.

He kisses her softly. Then puts the gag back on. Then the bag. He grabs the bucket and his ski mask, turns out the light and locks the door.

42 INT. SPARSE FLAT - LOUNGE - NIGHT 42

KNOCK KNOCK. Danny rushes through the lounge with the bucket to the toilet.

*

42a INT. SPARSE FLAT - BATHROOM - NIGHT 42a

He pours bleach into it. Washes it around. Rinses it quick. Pours the excess into the toilet. Flushes.

42b INT. SPARSE FLAT - LOUNGE - NIGHT 42b

He rushes back out into the LOUNGE. Heads to the door. He stops himself and then puts the gun on the table.

KNOCK KNOCK. Danny unlocks the door. Opens it. Vic comes in, agitated. Vic locks the door behind him.

VIC
Where the fuck where you? What took you so long?

*

DANNY
(avoids eye contact)
She needed to shit. I had to keep the gun on her.

VIC
You did it by yourself?

DANNY
She couldn't wait. It was no problem. I just flushed it.

VIC
Hey. Look at me.
(Danny sheepishly does)
Is she okay?

DANNY
I think so. Go look if you like.

Vic glances at the bedroom door as he pulls on his boiler suit. Danny watches him nervously.

*
*

DANNY
You speak to him? He saw the video?

VIC
(nods)
I think he now understands the gravity of the situation.

DANNY
How did he sound?

VIC
Not so calm this time.

DANNY
Good. So when's the exchange?

VIC
Tomorrow.

DANNY
You made the arrangement?

VIC
No. It has to be last minute. They can't have time to prepare. As soon as he gets the money, we'll start him moving.

DANNY
So we're cool? This is going to work?

VIC
Of course it fucking is.

Danny smiles uneasily. Vic sits down.

*

VIC
You should sleep. Busy day tomorrow.

DANNY
Don't you want to?

VIC
No. I've still got adrenaline all through me. You sleep first.

DANNY
(glances towards bedroom)
Don't you need me to check on her. Make sure she's okay.

VIC
I think I can handle it for a while.

DANNY
(uneasy)
If you're sure...

VIC

Go ahead.

Danny lies down on the floor on a make-shift bed. Vic hands him his jacket.

VIC

Here. Use this.

DANNY

Thanks.

Danny pulls the jacket over him. Danny turns onto his side away from Vic.

VIC

Sleep tight.

We see that Danny still has his eyes open, wide open. His brain is furious with thought...

FADE TO:

BLACK. We hear BIRDSONG. Fade up on...

*

43

INT. SPARSE FLAT - LOUNGE - DAY

43

Danny's asleep on the floor. Behind him, in the chair, Vic is also asleep. Vic wakes with a start. He looks around, disoriented. Then realises that he fell asleep.

VIC

Fuck!

He stands up, shakes himself awake. Danny stirs now. He too realises what's happened and sits up.

DANNY

Shit. What time is it?

They both look up at the wall clock. It's 6.19am.

VIC

Fuck. Oh fuck.

DANNY

Why didn't you wake me up?

VIC

I think it's pretty fucking clear I didn't intend to fall asleep. Fuck...

(remembers)

The girl.

*

DANNY

Oh shit.

They scramble up. Danny heads to the Bedroom, worried.

VIC
Wait. Wait.

Danny stops and turns.

VIC
Your ski mask.

DANNY
What?

VIC
Cover your face.

Danny stares at Vic, not quite comprehending.

DANNY
Right. Of course. Fuck. That was close...

VIC
You better wake up.

Danny pulls on his ski mask, as does Vic.

44 **INT. SPARSE FLAT - BEDROOM - DAY**

44

They unlock the door and push it open cautiously and turn the light on. Alice is totally motionless on the bed.

VIC
Hey! Wake up!

She doesn't move. She doesn't seem to be breathing. Vic and Danny stare at her, hoping she's not dead. They edge closer. They see a fly crawling on her pale bare foot. The foot doesn't react.

DANNY
Oh Jesus. Fuck. Is she..?

Vic reaches forward with his hand and tentatively nudges her. Nothing. No reaction. He goes to try again when...

She jerks. Pulling against her binds. Grunting through the gag. Vic and Danny jump, then breathe easy.

VIC
Fuck... Wake up, Miss Creed. It's
Breakfast time.

45 **INT. SPARSE FLAT - KITCHEN - DAY** 45

Danny pours soup into a bowl, then shoves it in the microwave. He watches it rotate, nervous.

46 **INT. SPARSE FLAT - BEDROOM - DAY** 46

Danny (in ski mask) has the soup bowl on a tray. He sets it down next to the bed. Vic (in ski mask) pulls a chair into the room. He nods at Danny.

Danny adjusts the ropes round Alice's ankles - giving them more slack. Then Vic and Danny pull Alice into a semi-sitting position. Vic takes the bag off her head.

VIC
I'm going to take off the gag now. Okay?

She nods. Vic takes off the gag. She coughs and moves her jaw around as if it were aching. Vic takes up the bowl of soup and stirs it.

VIC
It's minestrone. It's hot.

He gets a spoonful. He blows on it.

VIC
Open up.

Alice opens her mouth. Vic puts the spoon in. She swallows. Then opens her mouth again. Vic feeds her.

VIC
Good.

Alice's eyes flick over to Danny, who's holding his knife. She looks back to Vic, swallowing spoonfuls.

VIC
You're calmer today. That's good. You'll see that it is so much more pleasant if you co-operate. Oops...

Soup dribbles down her chin. Vic stops it with the spoon.

VIC
Got it.
(smiles)
This should be all over soon.

Vic keeps feeding her. Danny watches, agitated. Danny then notices something on the floor catching the light. He steps to his side to get a better look.

It is an empty bullet casing. The one from the shot fired by Alice. And it is right next to Vic's foot. Danny stares at it in horror. His heart beats quickly.

Alice sees Danny's stare. She follows his look to the floor. Sees the casing. Distracted, she closes her mouth just as Vic lifts the spoon to it.

VIC
What? What is it?

Alice's eyes flick back to Vic. They are wide and panicked. Both Danny and Alice are now nervous as hell.

VIC
What's wrong?

ALICE
Nothing. Sorry.

She opens her mouth, ready for more soup, but Vic holds the spoon away from her. He stares at her, suspicious.

He glances round at Danny, who just shrugs, trying to act cool. Vic's eyes narrow. He knows something's not right. He can feel it, but he doesn't know what it is.

VIC
Okay...

He carries on feeding her. She swallows it, keeping her eyes right on Vic, not daring to look elsewhere. But in her peripheral vision, she sees Danny shifting sideways, silently getting closer to Vic.

Vic senses movement and looks at Danny.

VIC
What are you doing?

Danny shrugs innocently.

VIC
Get on the other side. Keep an eye on her.

Danny nods and moves back. Danny's eyes flick from Vic's face to the bullet casing on the floor. Vic's foot shifts on the floor and now touches the casing.

Danny's breathing gets shaky. Alice notices this, but just keeps accepting spoonfuls of soup. We hear the rhythmic CLACKING of her teeth on the spoon, followed by swallowing.

Vic scrapes the dregs of soup and feeds them to Alice.

VIC

All finished. Well done. See how much
more pleasant it is when you don't make
life hard for us?

Vic puts the bowl down on the bed and picks up a sports
bottle of water from next to it. He puts it in Alice's
mouth and she sucks it down. Then stops.

VIC

Enough?
(as she nods)
Okay.
(picks up ball-gag)
Open, please.

*

Alice opens her mouth. Vic puts the gag in. He kneels on
the edge of the bed as he fixes the clasp behind her
head. As he fiddles with it, he knocks the empty soup
bowl off the bed. It CLATTERS to the floor, the spoon
cart-wheeling a few feet, coming to rest right next to
the bullet casing.

Danny's eyes go wide with fear. He and Alice exchange a
panicked look. Vic HEARS the clatter and turns.

VIC

Damn it...

Vic goes to pick up the bowl. He's only a couple of feet
away from the casing. He's eyes move towards the spoon...

*

Danny moves fast.

He rushes in and grabs up the spoon - palming the casing
at the same time. Vic looks at Danny strangely, noticing
his nervousness. He grabs Danny's wrist that holds the
spoon (sticking out) and the casing (hidden in his fist).

VIC

What the fuck you doing?

Danny just stares.

VIC

Give me it.

Alice watches, scared. Vic looks into Danny's eyes.

*

VIC

Give me it. Now.

Danny doesn't move. He doesn't know what to do. Vic yanks
the spoon from Danny's grasp (but Danny keeps his fist
clenched and the casing hidden).

VIC

I said give me the spoon... and go back
to watching her.

Danny just stares in relief... Vic didn't see the casing.
Danny nods quickly and moves back across the room.

Vic puts the bowl and spoon back on the bed, shaking his
head. As he does, Danny slips the bullet casing into his
pocket. Alice and Danny exchange a relieved glance....

Just as Vic slips the bag back over Alice's head. Vic
turns to Danny who still has his hand in his pocket.

VIC

Well come on...

DANNY

What?

VIC

What do you mean "what"? Re-tie the
fucking ropes.

Danny snaps back with it. He takes his hand out of his
pocket. Helps Vic pull Alice back down flat onto the bed.
Tightens the ropes on her ankles. But he's all fingers
and thumbs, the stress making his hands shake.

Vic notices and watches him like a hawk. Eventually Danny
manages to tie the knots. He glances at Vic "innocently".

Vic turns and opens the door. Danny follows him out.

47

INT. SPARSE FLAT - LOUNGE - DAY

47

Danny and Vic come out of the bedroom. Vic locks the
door. They take off their ski-masks. Danny is flushed,
sweaty and shaken.

VIC

What's got into you?

DANNY

Nothing. I'm fine.

Vic goes over to Danny, stares at him hard.

VIC

You sure? You're not--

DANNY

Not what?

VIC

Not thinking too much.

DANNY
No. Just a little nervous.

VIC
Nervous of what?

DANNY
Nothing. It's just butterflies.

Vic eyes Danny carefully, not entirely convinced.

VIC
I need you focused.

DANNY
I am. I will be. Totally.

Vic puts his hand on the back of Danny's neck and stares into his face.

VIC
You sure?

Vic stares deep into Danny. Danny tries to hide any expression that may seem suspicious. He stares back, fronting as best as he can.

DANNY
I'm solid, Vic. One hundred percent.

VIC
(smiles)
Good. Because I need you. I can't do this without you.

DANNY
You've got me.

VIC
Atta boy.

Vic gently slaps Danny's cheek, affectionately, then releases him. Vic takes the bowl into the kitchen. Danny puts his hand into his pocket and keeps it there. Danny surreptitiously starts looking round the room. His eyes land on the bathroom door. Danny heads towards the bathroom. Vic notices him moving.

*

VIC
Hey. Where you going?

DANNY
Take a piss.

Vic nods. Danny goes into--

48 INT. SPARSE FLAT - BATHROOM - DAY

48

Danny closes the door. Locks it. He leans against the wall and closes his eyes, breathing deep, letting the stress come out. He's shaking.

He moves to the toilet, unzips and pisses. He sighs, relaxing. He finishes. Zips back up. As he adjusts his clothes, the bullet casing falls from his pocket and CLATTERS to the tiles - the sound echoes round the room.

Danny quickly picks it up and puts it back in his pocket. But then he stops, looks at the door behind him, then down at his pocket.

*

Danny takes the casing back out. He weighs it in his hand, staring at it thoughtfully. He looks at the toilet. Drops the casing into it. Then he flushes.

The water swirls and gushes. Danny goes to the sink and washes his hands. He looks in the mirror. He looks like shit. He dries his hands, heads for the door, but then...

He notices the bullet casing is still in the bottom of the toilet bowl.

DANNY

Fuck...

He flushes the toilet again. But this time he stares into the bowl, watching the water swirl. To his horror, the casing doesn't move.

Danny thinks to himself, looks back at the door, then into the water again. He starts pulling toilet paper from the roll. He bunches it up. Puts it in the bowl. He reaches for the flush handle...

49 INT. SPARSE FLAT - LOUNGE - DAY

49

Vic hears the flush go for the third time. He looks at the toilet door.

VIC

You okay in there?

(no answer)

Danny?

Vic stands up and heads to the door. He listens.

VIC

Danny?

50

INT. SPARSE FLAT - BATHROOM - DAY

50

Danny watches as the water settles. The toilet paper has gone. The casing is still there. He grimaces.

VIC (O.S.)
Danny? What's wrong?

DANNY
Nothing. Everything's fine.

VIC (O.S.)
You sure?

DANNY
(eyes on the casing)
Yeah. I'll just be a second.

Danny kneels down and sticks his hand into the old dirty toilet. He fingers scrape the stained porcelain as he fishes the bullet out. He holds it up and looks at it.

The door handle turns. Vic tries to open the door. But it's locked.

VIC (O.S.)
Danny? Are you okay? Danny?

Danny, now panicking, looks around him. Looking for somewhere to hide the bullet. There's no cistern on the toilet (it's built into the wall). Danny goes to the window. Tries to open it, but it's painted shut. Vic rattles the door.

VIC (O.S.)
Danny!

DANNY
Just a second.

VIC (O.S.)
What the fuck are you doing in there?

DANNY
Nothing!

Danny goes to push the casing into the sink drain, but it doesn't fit through the holes - or into the over flow. He searches around desperately.

VIC (O.S.)
Danny. Open up. Right now. Before I kick it in!

51 INT. SPARSE FLAT - LOUNGE - DAY

51

Vic stops rattling the door.

VIC
Open up this fucking door now!

He takes a step back, eyes the door with intent.

VIC
Danny. I'm coming in.

52 INT. SPARSE FLAT - LOUNGE - DAY

52

Danny still has the bullet casing in his hand. Out of options, Danny puts the toilet-dirty bullet casing into his mouth. He grimaces as it goes in.

SMASH! Vic kicks the door. The latch pops off the wall.

Danny tries to force himself to swallow the casing. He can't. He closes his eyes, clenches his jaw and...

Vic comes in. Stares at Danny...

GULP! Danny swallows hard. He catches his breath from the effort of swallowing something so big.

DANNY
Jesus, Vic. What the fuck?

Vic eyes him cautiously.

VIC
Why didn't you open the fucking door? I didn't know what you were.... I was... I was worried.

DANNY
I said I'd be out in a second.
(off Vic's look)
Something... wouldn't go down.

VIC
You said you just needed a piss.

DANNY
I... I thought I did.

Vic goes and looks in the toilet. It's empty.

DANNY
It's gone now.
(beat, forces a smile)
Third time's the charm.

*

Vic sniffs the air. Danny watches him carefully. Vic looks at Danny with a hint of suspicion.

DANNY

What?

VIC

It doesn't smell of anything in here.

DANNY

I've got a good diet, I guess.

Vic eyes Danny carefully. Danny shrugs.

DANNY

My shit don't stink, what can I say?

Vic sighs, letting the matter go. He shakes his head.

VIC

Wash your hands and stop fucking about.

Vic leaves the room. Danny breathes in relief and grimaces at the bitter taste in his mouth and then follows Vic out.

53

INT. SPARSE FLAT - LOUNGE - DAY

53

Danny quickly gets some GUM. He pops some into his mouth. Then three more pieces. He chews quickly.

VIC

It's the adrenaline.

Danny looks over at him - huh?

VIC

The sudden need to shit. That bitter taste in your mouth. It's because of the adrenaline.

(beat)

Same thing happened to me when I made the first call.

DANNY

Oh. Right. Yeah.

(smiles)

That explains it.

VIC

It'll pass. Just relax, Danny. We're nearly there now.

(checks clock)

In five minutes the bank opens. Then I'll call him and tell him the details. After that, it's showtime.

DANNY
Yeah. Good. Good.

VIC
We're going to be rich. Me and you. We're going to be millionaires.

Danny nods. Vic picks up a pay as you go phone.

VIC
When I've made the call, I'll come back here. But be ready to move fast. We'll need to get her up, out and into the van as quick as we can.

Vic stares at Danny and smiles warmly.

VIC
Nearly there, Dan. Nearly there. You holding up?

DANNY
I'm good.

Vic puts his hand on Danny's arm. We see a look in Vic's eye that we've not seen before. We see hope. Tenderness.

VIC
You sure?

DANNY
Sure.

VIC
In two days we'll be the other side of the fucking world. Just me and you. Me and you.

Danny smiles. Vic puts his hand on Danny's face, gently.

VIC
We'll be away from all this shit. Away from the past. Starting new lives. Being new people. Being happy.
(smiles)
The first two weeks we'll barely get out of bed. We'll just get room service and fuck each other senseless.

DANNY
Sounds perfect.

VIC
Yeah. It does, doesn't it?

Vic and Danny stare into each other's eyes for a long beat.

Then Vic suddenly pulls Danny towards him and kisses him. They kiss urgently. Passionately. Hungrily. A full-on, wet, mouths-clamped-together kiss. And Danny gives as good as he gets. It fades out into smaller kisses. Then--

VIC
I better go. See you soon.
(kisses Danny again)
Take care.

DANNY
You too.

VIC
I fucking love you.

DANNY
Love you too, babe.

Vic holds his look for a second, smiling, then turns to go. Danny locks the door after him, watches through the peep-hole as Vic walks away, then turns, leans on the door and breathes out deeply.

Danny checks the clock, massages his temples, then goes over to the Bedroom door. He opens it up.

54 INT. SPARSE FLAT - BEDROOM - DAY

54

Danny turns on the lights, takes off Alice's bag.

DANNY
Hey. How are you doing?

He takes off her gag, touches her face and kisses her.

*

ALICE
Where is he?

DANNY
Out. Making a call.

ALICE
To my father?

DANNY
(nods)
Making arrangements. It's going to happen soon.

ALICE
That fucking bullet case... I thought he'd seen it. I thought we were screwed.

DANNY
It's okay. I got rid of it.

ALICE
How long till he comes back?

DANNY
An hour I guess. Maybe less.

ALICE
Untie me.
(as Danny stalls)
Come on. Untie me. He's gone.

*
*

Danny nods. He unties her feet, then unlocks one of the cuffs, leaving it hanging empty, still attached to the bed-head. He stops.

ALICE
Danny?

DANNY
What?

ALICE
The other one.

Danny squirms, unsure.

ALICE
Danny. What's wrong?
(growing angry)
Come on, Danny, unlock it.

Danny thinks about it.

ALICE
Don't you fucking trust me?

DANNY
Of course I do, but--

ALICE
But what? I let you fucking tie me back up! Gag me! I fucking trusted you! So trust me!

DANNY
I do trust you.

ALICE
But what? You think I'm going to run away?

DANNY
I don't know. I don't--

ALICE
We're close to the finish right?

DANNY

As soon as he comes back, we're taking you to the exchange.

ALICE

And we get the money?

DANNY

Yeah.

ALICE

All of it.

DANNY

(slight hesitation)
Hundred percent.

ALICE

(smile)
Then why would I run?

Danny smiles too. Shakes his head.

DANNY

Sorry, I'm just... I'm just jumpy.
(small laugh)
This is fucking stressful.

ALICE

You think?

They share a smile. Alice rattles her still-cuffed hand.
Danny leans over and unlocks it.

ALICE

Thanks.

She massages her wrists and ankles.

ALICE

Those things really fucking pinch. My fingers and toes are all pins and needles.

DANNY

Here...
(starts rubbing her ankle)
Better?

*
*

ALICE

(nods)
Danny?

Danny smiles. They hold each other's eyes.

ALICE

What if your friend... Vic... what if he's onto us. What if he suspects something..?

DANNY

He doesn't.

ALICE

But what if he does?

DANNY

Believe me. He hasn't got a clue.

He goes to massage her other ankle.

ALICE

But how did you do it?

DANNY

What?

ALICE

How did you get him to agree to pick me for this?

DANNY

It wasn't tricky. You fit his criteria. Rich father. Female. Mid twenties. Only child. Slim enough to carry easy.

ALICE

Jesus. He had criteria?

DANNY

Of course. Vic's been planning this forever. All the time we were in prison he'd talk about it. I never really thought he'd do it. But then he got out and contacted me. And we set about looking for a target.

(smiles)

Of course, I didn't have to look very far.

ALICE

You suggested me?

(as Danny nods)

But you didn't tell him we knew each other from before?

*
*

DANNY

Of course not.

*

(half laughs)

Your dad's on the rich list. I said I just read your name in that newspaper article about him.

*
*
*

DANNY (CONT'D)

I even cut it out and sent it to Vic. He
went for you right away.

(smiles)

He said you were perfect.

Danny moves closer. Takes her hands. Starts to rub them.

ALICE

How did you meet him?

DANNY

We shared a cell. He liked to think he
was protecting me. And I let him believe
that.

ALICE

Where is he now?

DANNY

Right now? He's calling your Dad and
arranging the exchange.

ALICE

Where will it be?

DANNY

In a wood, out near the river.

ALICE

You're taking me there?

DANNY

No. We drive you nearby. Somewhere safe
and secure. Somewhere you can't escape
and your dad can't find you. Then Vic
gets the money.

ALICE

By himself?

DANNY

I stay with you.

ALICE

But he could just steal it. Run.

DANNY

No. He wouldn't. I know he wouldn't.

ALICE

How can you be sure?

DANNY

I just am. Trust me. He's not even
considered it.

ALICE

So he gets the money. Then what?

*

DANNY

Well. Once we're sure the money's right
and the police aren't on us, we move you
to the final release location, where
we'll leave you. Then we'll call your
father and tell him where you are,

(smiles)

But of course, when Vic's getting the
money, I'll be setting you free. And once
he has the money, I'm going to take it
from him. Then we meet up. And get the
fuck out of here.

ALICE

How will you take the money?

DANNY

He trusts me. It'll be easy.

ALICE

He trusts you?

DANNY

Completely.

Danny turns Alice's hands over. Rubs them some more.
Alice watches him concentrating on doing this.

ALICE

That feels good.

(beat)

Danny?

He looks up. Sees her looking at him.

DANNY

What?

ALICE

I'm scared.

He holds her look and touches her face.

DANNY

Don't be.

ALICE

(tears welling)

I can't help it.

Danny takes her into his arms. She clings onto him.

ALICE

Sorry.

DANNY

Shhhh...

ALICE

I just keep picturing your friend and his gun. He said he'd kill me...

DANNY

That's not going to happen.

ALICE

He said he'd kill me if anything went wrong. I saw his eyes. He meant it.

DANNY

Shh. It's okay. Everything's going to be fine. Trust me.

*
*

They sit in silence, just holding onto each other.

ALICE

Danny?

He pulls away a little to see her face. She looks up at him, vulnerable, scared.

DANNY

What?

She moves in slowly and kisses him. The kiss is a heavy, slow and lustful kiss. She pulls away and looks at him, her eyes riddled with hormones.

ALICE

I love you so much.

He kisses her. This time with more urgency.

DANNY

Love you too.

She kisses him. He kisses back. She pulls off her sweat-shirt and tugs at his boiler-suit. He unzips it, pulls it down. Their hands are all over each other.

It's like the world is ending and this is their last chance to fuck each other. It's urgent, almost desperate. Their mouths and hands search each other.

Danny pins Alice's hands above her and kisses her breasts. Her breathing is fast and shallow. The stress, tension and fear is pushing them on. Feeding the fire.

They kiss again. Alice shifts. They flip over, so that she is now on top. She pulls his boiler suit all the way off. Throws it across the room. Then his underwear.

She kisses his stomach. Licks a nipple, his neck, lands back at his mouth. She pins his arms above him - as he did to her before. His knuckles touch the bed-head.

ALICE

Close your eyes.

Danny smiles and closes them. She kisses his eyes. Moving her hands over his hands, towards the bed-head.

Suddenly she grabs one of the hanging hand-cuffs and clips it round his hand. CLICK! She reaches for the other one, but Danny's already noticed what she's doing and flinches his other hand away...

DANNY

Alice?

Alice grabs his free hand and desperately tries to force it up, but Danny throws her off. He pulls at the cuff shackling him to the bed.

DANNY

Alice! This isn't fucking funny. Unlock me. Unlock me. Now...

*
*

Alice picks herself up from the floor. She steps away from Danny, shaking her head.

ALICE

No.

DANNY

Alice. What the fuck! What the fuck are you doing!?

*

Alice pulls her sweat-shirt on, covering herself.

ALICE

What do you think I'm fucking doing?

Danny stands and pulls against the cuff, reaching out for her, but she's too far away. He's still naked.

DANNY

Alice, you can't do this.

ALICE

(shaking with adrenaline)
Fuck you.

*
*

DANNY

Alice! But... But we're so close!

ALICE

Close to what? You kidnapped me you cunt!
And you want me to sit around and let it happen?!

DANNY

But we had a plan.

ALICE
No. You had a plan. This is my plan...

DANNY
Alice. No. Alice! Come back!

She goes out of the room.

55 INT. SPARSE FLAT - LOUNGE - DAY

55

Alice come in. She stops for a second, shaken. She fights back her emotions and fear. Then she looks around.

DANNY (O.S.)
Alice! Come back! Come back!

She tries to open the front door. It's locked. She shakes it, desperately.

ALICE
Fuck. Fuck!

She sees a mobile phone on the table. She picks it up. She starts to dial a number...

DANNY (O.S.)
He'll kill me! If you do this, he'll fucking kill me!

ALICE
(quietly, urgently)
Police. Quick. I need the police.
(beat, shaking)
Hello? I need you to come get me. I've been kidnapped. I haven't much time. I've been kidnapped. My name is Alice Creed. Please help me. I've been--
(listens, looks around)
I... I don't know... In a flat... I don't know where... I... I'm locked in, I can't get out... I don't know where... What?
Uh... Okay... Wait... I'll...

She moves to the window. Looks out through the curtains. Shakes her head.

ALICE
No. I... I don't know. I don't recognise anything... I'm high up... Can't you trace the call? I thought with mobile phones you could... yeah...
(listens, hopeful)
Thank god... How long will that take...?
(listens, hope vanishes)
How long? No.. No, you've got to come get me now. The other man's coming back.

ALICE (CONT'D)

He'll kill me. I can't wait. You have to come now. You have to come right fucking now! He'll kill me!

(listens, getting angry)

Calm down?! He's coming back! He's--

Alice stops talking as her eyes land on the GUN on the table. Light glints off the metal. She stares at it.

Alice looks from the gun to the front door, then towards the bedroom.

ALICE

(more quietly)

Wait a second. Wait... I... I think I can get the keys. I think I can get out...

Despite the MUFFLED WORRIED VOICE, Alice hangs up and Alice pockets the phone. Then she steals her nerve, carefully picks up the gun and steps back into...

56 INT. SPARSE FLAT - BEDROOM - DAY

56

Danny is shaking. He's a total mess of panic and desperation and anger.

DANNY

Alice. Please. I love you. I fucking love you. And you love me. I know you do. You can't do this. You can't do this. I love you!

ALICE

Where are the keys?

DANNY

Please, Alice. I'm sorry. I love you...

ALICE

(tearful anger pours out)

No Danny. If you love someone, you care for them. You do everything you can to keep them safe. What you don't do is fucking kidnap them! Understand? You don't jump them in the street and bundle them into the back of a van. You don't put a fucking knife to their throat!

She levels the gun at Danny. Danny's sobbing now.

ALICE

The keys!!!

DANNY

(eyes begging)

Alice...

ALICE

I swear to God, Danny. You've got to tell me where the keys are.

DANNY

My pocket.
(glances at boiler suit)
Right hand pocket.

The boiler suit is in the corner beyond the bed. To get to it, Alice has to go past Danny.

She keeps the gun on him and walks round the bed. He watches her. She gets within a metre of him.

ALICE

Don't fucking move. I'm so angry I don't even need an excuse to fucking hurt you.

She creeps past, bobs down and picks up the boiler suit. She pulls out the keys. Then begins to creep back out of the room. She inches past Danny, when--

He suddenly launches himself at her. He jumps feet first and kicks her HARD into the wall. She tries to pull the gun's trigger, but nothing happens. She's confused - which distracts her, giving Danny time to kick her in the face. Her head SMACKS back against the wall. She goes down. The gun scuttles towards Danny.

Danny pushes his foot against her throat and snatches the gun up with his free hand. He's stretched and contorted on the floor, but has Alice's throat firmly held between his foot and the wall.

DANNY

The safety was on.

He unclicks the safety.

DANNY

But not any more.

Alice tries to prise his foot from her throat, but can't.

DANNY

The keys.

She's going purple. She can't breathe.

DANNY

Throw me the fucking keys!

She throws him the keys. He catches them.

*

*

ALICE
(struggling to talk)
I can't breathe...

But Danny just keeps his foot on her throat. She goes even darker purple. She struggles harder...

Then she goes limp. Danny pulls his foot away. Alice slides sideways down the wall.

Danny quickly unlocks the cuff, freeing himself. He rushes to Alice and checks her pulse.

DANNY
Come on... Come on...

He feels it. He breathes easier.

DANNY
Thank fuck.

He raises his hand to strike her, but stops himself.

DANNY
Fuck!

He sits down, catches his breath. Looks at Alice. He pushes the hair from her face affectionately

*
*

DANNY
(tenderly)
You stupid fucking girl. Why wouldn't you just listen to me? It would all be okay if you'd just listened to me...

*
*
*

Danny lifts her onto the bed. He cuffs her hands back up. Pulls on his underwear and boiler-suit. Then re-ties her legs and puts her gag in. He looks at her, sadly, for a few moments, then puts the bag over her head.

*

He tidies any mess up. Fixes the room to the way it was. Then he takes the gun, turns out the light and exits.

57

INT. SPARSE FLAT - LOUNGE - DAY

57

Danny locks the bedroom door behind him, goes and sits down in a chair, shaken. He puts the gun back on the table. He touches the sore broken skin on his wrist from pulling against the hand-cuff. His hand is shaking.

Emotion prickles at his nose and eyes. He begins to cry. He bites it back. He puts his head in his hands.

DANNY
Fuck. Fuck...

He takes a couple of deep breathes. Then looks up suddenly. He runs to the...

58 **INT. SPARSE FLAT - BATHROOM - DAY**

58

Danny kneels by the toilet and vomits violently. His body convulses. After it's all out, he catches his breath. Wipes his mouth - and the rim of the toilet - with tissue, then drops the tissue into the bowl and flushes. He hangs his head, exhausted, rubbing his eyes.

DANNY
Jesus fuck...

The water swirls. Then calms. He opens his eyes. At the bottom of the bowl is the bullet casing. He can't believe it. He stares at it in absolute despair.

DANNY
Oh, fuck you...

He fishes the casing out of the water, sits on the floor and stares at it long and hard, almost without emotion.

He starts to sob/laugh in despair. In a matter-of-fact way, he pops it into his mouth and swallows. He groans.

KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK. The front door.

Danny looks up. He doesn't move. KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK.

Danny slowly pulls himself up.

58a **INT. SPARSE FLAT - LOUNGE - DAY**

58a

He goes to the door. Checks through the peep-hole. It's Vic. Danny takes a few breaths to prepare himself, then unlocks the door.

He forces a smile. Vic comes in, agitated, excited. Danny locks the door behind him.

VIC
Everything okay?

DANNY
Yeah. Of course. Why?

VIC
Is she okay?

DANNY
She's fine.

VIC
She still in there?

DANNY
Where else would she be?

VIC
(shakes head)
Of course. I'm just... It's just that
it's time. It's going to happen. It's on.
It's all on.

DANNY
He has the money?

VIC
Yeah. He's just waiting for the location.
This is really happening. This is really
going to fucking work.

*

DANNY
(smiles)
Fucking hell.

VIC
Right. So we have to get her ready. We
have to move her to the warehouse.

DANNY
Okay. When do we move?

VIC
Now. We move now.

DANNY
Right now?

VIC
Abso-fucking-lutely.

Vic pulls on his boiler suit and ski-mask. Danny gets his
mask on too. Vic moves to the bedroom door. Opens it up.

*

*

59

INT SPARSE FLAT - BEDROOM - DAY

59

Vic turns on the lights. Goes to Alice. Crouches by her.

VIC
Okay. This is it. We're going to have to
move you now. You understand?

There's no reaction.

VIC
Nod if you understand...

Nothing. Vic looks at Danny, who's trying not to look guilty.

DANNY
What's wrong?

Vic takes off the bag. Alice is unresponsive. *

VIC
Lady. Wake up. Wake up.

Vic nudges her. Nothing. Worried, Vic checks her pulse.

VIC
She's out cold. What happened? What the fuck did you do?

DANNY
Me? Nothing. I... I thought she was sleeping. She was fine...

VIC
What the fuck happened!!!

DANNY
Nothing! I don't know! Is she okay?

Vic stares at Danny's face. Shakes his head, thinking.

VIC
Fuck. It must be the gag. She can't be getting enough air. Fuck... I told you to check her!

He quickly unbuckles the gag. Pulls it out.

DANNY
I did!

VIC
Fuck! Wait here.

Vic leaves the room. Danny waits, uneasy. Vic comes back. Crouches by Alice. Snaps smelling salts under her nose.

VIC
Come on! Come on!

Alice reacts, waking up, groggy, disoriented.

VIC
Oh thank fuck...
(to Danny, smiling)
I thought we'd half killed her. I thought she was... Thank fuck.

Vic just stares at Alice, who's still incoherent.

DANNY
We should move her.

VIC
Not yet. She needs air. We need to give her a couple of minutes.

DANNY
But we have to go. We can't wait any--

VIC
Two minutes!!!

Danny shuts up. Vic softens.

VIC
Sorry. Sorry, I... I mean, we want to get her there alive, right?

DANNY
Okay. Two minutes.

Danny watches Vic nervously staring at Alice.

VIC
Can you hear me. Miss Creed? Can you hear me? Say something.

Alice tries to focus on Vic.

VIC
Come on. Say something. Are you okay?

Danny is increasingly jumpy. Danny moves over to Vic. He puts his hand on Vic's shoulder.

DANNY
Hey. She's fine. We're fine. You need to calm down. You need to keep your head straight.

Vic looks up at Danny.

DANNY
Look, she's okay. Everything's fine.
(takes Vic's hand)
Come on. Let's just give her a couple of minutes to breathe.

Danny touches Vic's face. Smiles.

Alice is groggy, but she can still see this highly intimate exchange. We see it via her in shifting-focus POV. Alice frowns, confused.

*

DANNY

Let's just have a minute together. To refocus. You and me. Okay?

VIC

(nods, smiles)

Okay. Sorry. We're just so close. I don't want anything to fuck up.

DANNY

It won't. We're home free. Come on.

Danny holds out his hand. Vic takes it and stands up. They go out of the room together. Danny ushers Vic out, then glances back at Alice, who's still blinking off the smelling salts and taking in what she's just seen.

He turns out the light. Closes the door.

60

INT. SPARSE FLAT - LOUNGE - DAY

60

Danny sits Vic down. Kneels in front of him, getting on his eye level.

DANNY

Look at me. You okay?

VIC

Yeah. Just... you know.

DANNY

Will you do something for me.

VIC

What?

DANNY

Tell me what to do.

(off Vic's look)

I need you to stop worrying. Stop panicking and just be Vic. You're the brains, remember? So be the brains. Give me some orders. Take charge.

(beat)

Vic's confident. Vic pushes me around. Vic's mean.

VIC

Mean?

DANNY

Mean as hell. That's the Vic I want. That's the Vic I fell for. So push me around. Tell me what to do.

Vic looks into Danny's eyes. Vic leans in and kisses him, he smiles tenderly. Then Vic sits up straighter, changes his posture, tightens his jaw. Danny watches, seeing the transformation, enjoying it. All softness evaporates from Vic's face. He's back to the man we saw earlier.

VIC
Stand the fuck up.

Danny stands up. Vic stares up at him.

VIC
Pick up your keys.

Danny obeys. Picks up his bundle of keys off the table.

VIC
Now go move the van into position.

Danny doesn't move. He glances at the bedroom door. He takes a breath.

*
*

DANNY
The van? Now?

VIC
Yes fucking now. We're wasting time.

DANNY
But what are you going to do?

*
*

VIC
I'm going to pack the bag.

DANNY
(stalling)
Why don't I pack the bag and you move the van.

*
*
*
*

VIC
Danny. Just fucking go do it.

*
*

Still a little uneasy, Danny nods. He grabs his jacket and pulls is over his boiler suit, zipping it up. Then goes to the door.

VIC
What you waiting for? Just go!

*

Danny leaves. Vic watches Danny go. Then smiles to himself, affectionately. He moves to a sports bag on the floor. He pushes in some things - including a bike U-lock and some medical supplies. He zips it up.

Then Vic picks up the ball-gag from the table. Pulls on his ski-mask. Goes into the bedroom.

61 INT. SPARSE FLAT - BEDROOM - DAY

61

Vic turns on the light. Alice squints at him. Vic comes towards her, with the ball-gag in hand.

ALICE

(woozy)

Wait. I... I... I need to talk to...

VIC

Too late. There's no time.

Vic pushes the gag into her mouth. Buckles it. Alice tries to speak through her gag - to no avail. She struggles. As she does we see the mobile phone come free of her pocket and fall off the bed to the floor.

CLUMP! Vic turns round.

He sees the phone on the floor. His eyes fix on it. He looks to Alice, who's now gone silent, scared. Vic picks up the phone. Looks at Alice.

VIC

Motherfucker...

Vic stops. Stunned. Trying to work out what this means. He then urgently frisks Alice, searching her clothes. He finds nothing else.

VIC

How... How the fuck did you get this?

Alice stares at him, wide-eyed. She tries to speak through her gag. Vic moves close to her, nervous. He unbuckles the gag, puts his hand round her throat.

VIC

Quietly. Tell me how you got it?

Alice just stares at him. She shakes her head.

*

VIC

Tell me.

ALICE

I... I don't know.

VIC

How did you fucking get it!!?

*

*

ALICE

I don't know. I never... Someone must have put it there..

VIC

Someone?

ALICE

I... I don't know... If it wasn't you...
then...

VIC

Then what?

Alice looks at the door.

VIC

He gave you it?

ALICE

I don't know. I never saw it before.
Please, I... I don't want trouble. I just
want to do as you say... I just want to
go home...

Vic looks at her. Weighing her up. Then glances back
towards the door. He looks back at Alice. Then at the
phone. He presses the "CALLS" button. He selects
"OUTGOING CALLS".

One number comes up: 999. Vic's eyes snap up to look at
her. He knows she's not telling the truth.

VIC

Nine nine nine? The police?
(suddenly panicked)
Did you call the police?
(voice rising)
Are the fucking police--?

He stops himself, the rage, anger and panic rising.

VIC

Did you call the fucking police?

ALICE

No.

VIC

Tell me the truth.

ALICE

No. I... How could I? I've been tied up
since I got here.

VIC

Then how did you get the fucking phone???

Alice shrugs. Vic's anger overboils. He pins Alice back
by her neck. Rage coursing through him.

VIC
Tell me the fucking truth!

ALICE
I don't know...

Vic hits her in the face. She's wide-eyed in pain and shock.

VIC
Tell me!

ALICE
I don't--

SMACK! He punches her again. Hard. She sobs.

VIC
Tell me!

ALICE
Please! Stop!

He punches her again. His eyes are shining with fury. He leans back and takes out a knife. Flicks it open. Alice sees it and panics.

ALICE
No! Stop! Help me! Help me! Danny!
Danny!! Danny!!

62 **INT. UNDERGROUND CARPARK - DAY**

62

A concrete bunker style space. Danny reverses the Van to a set of emergency doors with "NO ENTRY - THESE DOORS ARE ALARMED" written on them. He moves fast, worried.

63 **INT. SPARSE FLAT - BEDROOM - DAY**

63

Alice's panicking and struggling, her eyes on the knife.

ALICE
Danny! Danny!!

Vic stops suddenly. Backs away from her.

VIC
How'd you know that name?

ALICE
(realising her mistake)
What? I... I don't...

VIC
How do you know that name?!

ALICE

I... I...

VIC

You... You know him?

ALICE

No. No. He just told me his name... To calm me down. He told me--

VIC

He gave you the phone. Danny gave you the phone...

ALICE

No. I...

VIC

Well if I didn't. And you've been tied down. There's no-one else...

He stares at Alice. She stares back. She has no answer.

VIC

Fuck...

Vic stands up, confusion and anger running through him. He kicks the bed-frame. He doesn't know what to do. He paces around the room, thinking.

VIC

Fuck!

Vic turns and slams his hands against the wall in fury. he leans his head on the wall. Closes his eyes.

ALICE

Please...

VIC

Shut up. I need to think. I just need to think...

Vic opens his eyes and leans his head back. As he does he sees something in the wall right in front of his eyes. It is the bullet-hole.

Vic stares at the hole. Stunned. Confused.

He pushes his finger in the hole. He pulls out a crushed bullet. Stares at it in shock. Then turns to Alice.

ALICE

Please. I just want to go home. Please I...

VIC
What the fuck happened here?

ALICE
Nothing. Just take me home. Please...

VIC
This is a bullet.

ALICE
I don't know, please...

VIC
Who fired the gun?

ALICE
Please...

Vic moves very close to Alice. He has confusion mixed with anger in his eyes. He's shaking.

VIC
Who fired the gun!!

She shakes her head.

VIC
Tell me the truth.
(gets very close)
Tell me truth or I swear to god you will never see your family again.

Alice sees the fury and conviction in his eyes.

VIC
(softly, intimidating)
Tell me.

ALICE
I... I fired it
(beat)
I... I needed the toilet. He turned his back. I hit him. I got his gun.

VIC
You got his gun? If you got his gun then why are you still here?

ALICE
(stares for a beat)
Because.... Because he's going to fuck you. He's going to take the money. He's going to take all the money.
(As Vic pales)
The whole two million.

Vic looks at her, confused.

ALICE

I'm still here because he made me a deal.
If I went along with him, then he'd... he
said he'd...

VIC

(penny drops)
He said he'd give you some of the money.

ALICE

It all happened so fast. You were coming
back... I couldn't get away. So I... So I
agreed...

Vic closes his eyes. Shakes his head.

VIC

Oh Danny...

ALICE

I'm sorry... Please...

He opens his eyes. He's devastated. Heartbroken.

ALICE

I'm sorry... But... But now you know, so
you... You can just go along with the
plan. You can just take me home. You can
pick up the money. And you can disappear.

Vic looks at her.

ALICE

You can fuck him instead, right? You can
take the money. All of it.
(tries to smile)
Fuck him... Right?

Vic looks down and closes his eyes. Breathes.

ALICE

You can just take me to my father. To my
family. You can just take me home... All
I want is to go home... Please...

Vic looks down at his hands. He touches a gold ring on
his wedding finger. He then looks back up. Then nods to
himself. Vic looks at Alice. Speaks quietly. Terrifyingly
calm.

VIC

What's my name?

ALICE

What? I... I... I don't know your name, I
don't--

VIC
(gets very close)
What is my name?

ALICE
I don't know.

VIC
Yes you do. He told you it. Now tell me.
Please.

ALICE
(shaky)
He... He didn't tell me your name.

Vic stares long and hard at her.

VIC
You're lying. I can see you're lying.

Alice shakes her head, panicked.

ALICE
Please. No. I... Just take me home.
Please...

Vic lifts up the ball gag.

ALICE
Please--

Vic pushes the ball-gag into her mouth. He pulls the bag over her head. He sits in silence, gripping the bed with his fists, clenching his jaw, breathing, his anger and emotion rising.

KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK. Vic looks up. He heads back into--

64

INT. THE LOUNGE - DAY

64

Vic opens the front door. Danny enters, out of breath. Vic closes the door and looks at Danny.

VIC
Is it in position?

DANNY
All backed up and ready to go.

Vic just stares hard at Danny.

VIC
You're out of breath. What happened?

DANNY

Nothing. I... I just know we're on a schedule here. I just ran back up.

Vic stares, unconvinced.

DANNY

What's wrong?

VIC

Why would there be anything wrong?

DANNY

You just seem...

VIC

What?

Danny shrugs. Vic stares at him.

DANNY

So. Shall we gag her up?

VIC

I already did it. I was just in there.

DANNY

(uneasy)

You were?

(off Vic's slow nod)

She okay?

Vic moves past Danny and picks up the gun.

DANNY

Vic? Is she okay?

Vic ejects the magazine from the gun. Looks at it. Danny is suddenly nervous.

DANNY

What are you doing? Vic?

VIC

Just checking.

DANNY

Checking? Checking what?

Vic stares at Danny, expressionless, hard.

VIC

We don't want it to fuck up if we need it, do we?

Vic counts the bullets in it. Pauses, staring at them.
Danny watches Vic, knowing he's in shit.

*
*

DANNY

So is it, you know..? Is it okay?

*

Vic pushes the clip in. Cocks the gun.

DANNY

Vic?

Vic looks up to Danny. A beat passes. Vic heads over to Danny. Gets very close to him. Intimidatingly close.

VIC

Wait here. I need a piss.

Vic moves past Danny, who breathes a little easier.

65 **INT. SPARSE FLAT - BATHROOM - DAY**

65

Vic enters. Closes the door behind him. He takes the cell phone from out of his pocket. He opens it up. Takes the SIM card out. Wraps it in toilet roll. Drops it in the toilet. Flushes. He stares at the swirling water, waiting. When the water calms, he sees the swaddled SIM card has gone.

Vic thinks. Looks at the door.

66 **INT. SPARSE FLAT - LOUNGE - DAY**

66

Danny sits down, breathing hard, trying to calm himself. He rubs his hands over his face.

Danny jumps up as the Bathroom door opens. He looks at Vic. Vic stares back. Vic comes closer. Looks at Danny.

VIC

Danny. Tell me something. How come you chose her. Why her?

DANNY

I didn't choose her. You chose her.

VIC

But you suggested her. Why?

DANNY

I... You know why. I read about her in the newspaper. You saw the article. What's this all about Vic?

VIC

I don't know. Something doesn't feel right.

DANNY
What... What do you mean?

VIC
I mean, she was... just now... she was acting funny.

DANNY
(suddenly very jumpy)
Funny? Why? What did she say?

VIC
Say? Why do you think she said anything?

Danny stares at Vic, trying to figure what he knows.

DANNY
I don't... You... You said she was acting funny.

VIC
Yes, but I didn't say she said anything.
What could she say? What do you think she would say?

DANNY
I don't... Nothing I guess.

Vic stares at Danny, who's trying to hide his panic. Vic uses the gun to beckon Danny.

VIC
Come here a second.

DANNY
What?

VIC
I said come here.

Uneasy, Danny edges to Vic. Vic puts his hands on Danny's shoulders - the gun millimetres from Danny's head.

VIC
Tell me you love me.

DANNY
What?

VIC
Tell me you love me.

DANNY
(shakily)
I love you.

VIC

You sure?

Danny stares into Vic's eyes. Does he know? But there's no glimmer of anything wrong. Danny tries to sound convincing...

DANNY

I love you, babe. Totally.

Vic stares at Danny long and hard.

VIC

Okay. Good.

Vic pulls away and slings the bag over his shoulder, across his body. He pulls on his ski mask.

VIC

Time to get this thing done.

Danny watches Vic, relieved but still very nervous. He pulls on his own mask and follows Vic into...

67

INT. SPARSE FLAT - BEDROOM - DAY

67

Vic turns on the lights. He pulls duct tape and tapes it round the bag - over Alice's eyes. Danny watches.

From Alice's POV - our view through the bag is totally obscured by the tape. We scream through the gag.

Vic doesn't react to her screaming or struggling.

VIC

Get the sedative.

Danny nods and goes back out of the room. Returns with the syringe that's still charged with the sedative. Vic hastily pulls Alice's tracksuit bottoms down. He takes the syringe and plunges it into her backside.

Alice flails like mad. Terrified.

Vic steps back and watches her flail. Danny watches too, uneasy. Vic glances at his watch. Looks back at Alice. She still thrashes around. Vic and Danny just wait.

Eventually Alice's limbs grow heavy. Her movements slow. And she stops. She's unconscious. Vic seems satisfied.

Vic removes his ski mask. Wipes sweat. Looks to Danny.

VIC

The ropes.

Danny takes out scissors and cuts the ropes around Alice's ankles. Hacking quickly through the fibres.

At the same time, Vic unlocks the handcuffs around the bed-head - leaving a pair attached to each wrist.

Vic nods to Danny and the two of them roll Alice over.
Vic pulls her hands behind her. Cuffs her wrists together
- using both sets of handcuffs in parallel.

*

They roll her back over. Danny unfurls duct tape and tapes her legs together. At the ankles and the knees.

They work fast and methodically. But Danny's hands are shaking slightly. Vic notices, but says nothing.

Vic and Danny untuck the sheets from around the bed, then they wrap it over Alice. They wrap duct tape round the sheets - sealing her inside.

Vic grabs Alice's torso. Danny takes her legs. Vic nods. They lift her off the bed. But Danny loses his grip. THUMP! Alice's feet hit the floor. Vic glares at Danny.

DANNY

Sorry...

Danny gets Alice's legs again. They carry her out into...

68 INT. SPARSE FLAT - LOUNGE - DAY 68

They carry her to the front door. Then put her down. Vic unlocks the door. Looks through the peephole.

69 INT. CORRIDOR - DAY 69

The corridor outside is empty.

70 INT. SPARSE FLAT - LOUNGE - DAY 70

Vic opens the door. Pokes his head into the corridor.
Checks left and right.

He steps back in and nods at Danny. He turns off the light in the flat. They lift Alice and carry her out. Danny closes the door behind.

DARKNESS. We hear locks turning.

71 **INT. STAIRWELL - DAY**

71

DARKNESS. Blink. Blink. Flicker. Minimal neon lighting buzzes on. This is a back stairway. An emergency exit. All bare concrete and steel.

Vic and Danny carry Alice - wrapped in the sheets - down the steps. It is slow and hard work.

FADE TO:

DARKNESS.

CLUNK. A shaft of light cuts through the black. We're in--

72 **INT. BACK OF THE VAN - DAY**

72

Vic opens the doors of the van. Beyond them we see the doors with "EMERGENCY USE ONLY - THESE DOORS ARE ALARMED" written on them.

Vic looks left and right. Then pushes the Emergency doors open. No alarms sound. Danny is behind the doors with Alice. Vic and Danny lift Alice's body into the van. Vic slams the doors behind them.

DARKNESS. Vic lights an electric lantern. Danny holds it as Vic takes scissors out of the bag slung round him. He cuts away the tape wrapped round the sheets. He pulls the sheets away, revealing Alice.

He checks her pulse. Listens for her breathing. Danny watches, fidgeting. Vic nods to Danny. She's okay.

Vic takes out keys and unlocks her handcuffs. He loops them through the large U-Shaped bracket screwed into the wall and relocks them.

Vic takes the lantern off Danny. Opens the back doors. They exit, slamming the doors again.

NEAR DARKNESS (there's a sliver of light where the van doors join). We hear FOOTSTEPS move round the van. We hear DOORS OPENING, the SQUEAK of seat springs, then DOORS CLOSING. We hear and ENGINE START. The van begins to drive.

73 **EXT. HIGH-RISE TOWER BLOCK COMPLEX - DAY**

73

The van comes up from the underground parking garage and drives onto the street and away. We follow it, then pan up to see a cluster of tall, striking, 1960s council buildings above. Hundreds of flats.

74 **EXT. ABANDONED WAREHOUSE COMPLEX - DAY** 74

A depressing sight. Long disused buildings. Boarded up or smashed windows. Deserted car parks. There's no-one around at all.

We HEAR an engine approach. The WHITE VAN pulls into the carpark. Stops. Then reverses up to a SHUTTERED DOORWAY.

75 **INT. VAN - DAY** 75

Vic and Danny get out and open the back doors. Alice is still unconscious and cuffed to the inside.

VIC
Get her out.

Danny goes in. Unlocks the cuffs, re-attaches them behind her back. Then drags her to the edge.

Vic turns to the shuttered doorway. He takes out a key and undoes a PADLOCK on the door. He pulls the shutters up. They make a lot of NOISE. Vic looks around, nervous. But there's no-one. This place is a ghost town.

Vic and Danny carry Alice out of the van. Take her through the DOORWAY. Disappear inside. After a few seconds, Vic comes back out. Slams the van's doors. Pulls the warehouse's shutters down.

76 **INT. ABANDONED WAREHOUSE - DAY** 76

Empty, cavernous, industrial. Rubbish and disused machine parts are scattered around.

Vic and Danny carry Alice, grunting in exertion. They move through rooms and down some metal steps and into--

77 **INT. WAREHOUSE CELLAR - DAY** 77

Vic and Danny take Alice through the dark, dank cellar to a door. Danny holds Alice as Vic unlocks the door. He pushes the heavy door open. They take Alice inside...

78 **INT. CELLAR ROOM - DAY** 78

Small. Dark. Vic and Danny carry Alice to a set of RAILINGS at the far end. They lean her against the railings and stand up, stretching their backs and catching their breath.

Vic drops the bag down. He unlocks the cuffs behind Alice's back and he and Danny cuff her to the railings.

Vic takes out a BICYCLE U-LOCK from the bag. He puts it round Alice's neck, locking her to the railings by the throat. It's not too tight, so she can breathe easily.

Vic steps back. He and Danny look at Alice shackled to the railings. Vic puts his ski mask back on. Danny does the same.

Vic then uses scissors to carefully cut the tape from round the bag over Alice's head. He takes the bag off and pushes it into the sports-bag. She still has the gag in.

He checks her pulse one last time. Pulls her eye-lids up. Her unconscious eyes loll, bloodshot. He shines a light into each one. The pupils react. He pockets the torch.

VIC

Okay. Now. Give me your set of keys.

*

Vic holds out his hand. Danny stalls.

DANNY

My keys? Why? You've got your own set.
Why do you want mine?

*

*

VIC

Because you don't need them any more. Do
you?

*

*

*

Danny stays quiet, but still doesn't obey.

*

VIC

Is there a problem?

DANNY

No. No problem.

VIC

So come on then. Give them to me.
(eyes locked to Danny's)
Now.

*

Danny uneasily takes out his bundle of keys and puts them in Vic's hand. Vic puts them in his sports bag.

VIC

Good. Now let's go.

DANNY

Go where?

VIC

Let's go get the money.

DANNY
What, both of us?

*

Vic fixes Danny with a hard look.

DANNY
But the plan was that I would stay here
and--

VIC
The plan's changed.

DANNY
Changed? Why? Why has the plan changed?

VIC
I need you at the meet. In case there's
any surprises.

*

*

DANNY
Like what?

VIC
(losing patience)
If I knew, they wouldn't be surprises now
would they.

DANNY
But...

VIC
(challenging him)
But what?

DANNY
But what if something happens to us. I
mean... what if we don't make it back..?

*

VIC
We will make it.

DANNY
But if we don't, then she'll... She'll be
stuck here. She'll die.

VIC
So? If we don't make it, then why do we
care if she makes it? Why do you care?

Danny stares at Vic, feeling Vic's eyes drill into him.

DANNY
I don't, I just... I just...

VIC
Just what?

Danny tries to think fast. But he has no answer.

DANNY
Nothing, I guess.

VIC
Then let's get the fuck out of here.

Vic leaves. Danny glances back at Alice, worried.

VIC
Come on.

Vic drags Danny out of the door, then slams it. Leaving us and Alice in near darkness. The only light is from a small, long re-enforced window high in the wall.

We hear locks being turned on the other side of the door.

79 **EXT. ABANDONED WAREHOUSE - DAY**

79

The scrolling metal shutter is pulled up from the inside. Vic steps out with his bag, Danny follows. Vic closes the shutter and locks it.

They get in the van. Vic presses keys on a mobile phone. Texting. He hits SEND. Waits. Watches the phone's screen.

DANNY
You sending the co-ordinates?

VIC
Just drive.

Danny looks at Vic for a millisecond longer than comfortable, then drives. Vic disassembles the phone. Snaps the SIM CARD. Throws it out the window.

80 **EXT. ROAD - DAY**

80

The broken SIM pieces hit the dirt. The Van drives away.

81 **EXT. DEEP IN A FOREST - DAY**

81

Birds sing. Light dapples through the leaves in the canopy above. Vic and Danny walk determinedly through the forest. Their footfalls crunch on earth and twigs.

Vic consults a hand-held GPS device. Danny looks round, jumpy. Vic stops. About twenty metres ahead is the tree with the red handkerchief nailed to it that we saw earlier. Vic pulls Danny behind a fallen tree. They kneel down. Whisper.

DANNY
You think it's there? You think they
dropped off the money already?

*
*
*

VIC
Yeah. It's there.
(beat)
Now go and get it.

DANNY
Me?

Vic just stares at him.

DANNY
But what if they're waiting for us?

*

VIC
Trust me, they're not.

DANNY
But--

VIC
Just go get the fucking money, Danny.

Danny looks all around. The woods are peaceful. Deserted.

VIC
Go. Now.

Danny sees his has no choice. He psyches himself up.

DANNY
Fuck... Oh fuck...

Danny stands. Then tentatively walks towards the tree. He goes carefully, looking all around him. His feet crunch on leaves and twigs. The noise seems deafeningly loud.

Halfway there he hears a SOUND to his left. Movement. Danny stops dead, terrified. Looks.

He sees a Magpie hop from behind a nearby tree. He breathes easier - but his nerves are still wound tight. He looks back at Vic. Vic gestures for Danny to go on.

Danny fixes his eyes on the tree ahead. He creeps closer. Closer. Closer. Looking around him all the time.

He gets to the tree. He looks all round, then crouches down. He finds a piece of rope on the ground. He pulls it. A HIDDEN TRAPDOOR opens up. Beneath it is a hole.

With fear and excitement, Danny looks into the hole.

FROM HIDING--

Vic watches Danny look in the hole. Danny looks back at Vic. Worried. Then looks back in the hole. Vic's pulse is racing.

AT THE HOLE--

Danny's breathing's shaky. His face grows grim. He turns.

FROM HIDING--

Vic sees Danny beckon him, urgently. Vic just stares at Danny, uneasy.

DANNY
(low hiss)
Come here! Come here!

Vic looks all round, then moves, low and fast, to Danny.

DANNY
Vic... Vic...

Danny looks at Vic with total panic. He looks into the hole again. And now we can see...

The hole is empty. Vic stares into it, blank faced.

DANNY
(panicking)
It's not there. There's no money. They've fucked us over... They've fucked it up... Oh fuck, Vic... fuck... They fucked up!

Vic stands, watching Danny shake. Vic's very calm.

VIC
No. They didn't fuck up.

DANNY
Wh... what?

VIC
The money's not here because the co-ordinates I sent weren't for this location.

Danny looks at Vic, confused.

DANNY
But... but the hole... This hole is for the money.

VIC
No. Not any more, Danny. Now the hole is for you.

Danny's blood runs cold. Vic raises the gun at Danny.

VIC

They didn't fuck up, Danny. You fucked up. And now you're going in that hole.

Danny stands, raises his hands in submission.

DANNY

Vic. No. Vic. Listen. Please... Whatever she told you... Whatever she said, she's--

CLICK. Vic cocks the hammer. Danny looks at Vic, terrified. Vic holds back emotion, but is clearly heartbroken by this.

DANNY

Vic. Please. I'm sorry. I love you. I'm sorry. I love you.

VIC

No. No you don't.

DANNY

(emotional)

I do. I love you. I do. Please. Please don't do this.

(gets onto his knees)

I beg you. Please.

VIC

What did you tell her about me?

DANNY

What?

Vic pushes the gun hard onto Danny's forehead.

VIC

Did you tell her my name? Who I am?

DANNY

(close to tears)

No... I... only your first name... only... Only that I know you from prison... Only...

VIC

(stunned)

What? You... That's all she fucking needs to... to...

(anger)

You fucking idiot!

DANNY

Vic. Please.

VIC

You realise what you've done? You've killed her Danny. You've not only killed yourself, but you've killed her too.

DANNY

(white hot panic)

Killed her? No, Vic. Please, Vic. Please. You don't have to do this. We can just finish this. Like we planned. We'll go away. We'll be happy. I'll do whatever you want me to. Me and you. Just like we talked about all those times.

VIC

Close your eyes.

DANNY

Remember when we met? When they first let me in the cell? I was scared. I was so fucking scared. But you protected me. You helped me. I'll never forget that Vic. I'll never--

SMACK! With no warning, Danny suddenly launches himself at Vic, knocking him to the floor. Vic sprawls backwards.

BLAM! The gun goes off. It misses Danny and blows splinters out of the tree trunk. Danny turns and runs away. Vic gets up. Aims at Danny. But Danny disappears into the trees.

VIC

Danny!

Vic chases Danny, his gun raised. They both slalom trees. As he weaves between the rows of trees, Danny constantly disappears and reappears in Vic's view.

Vic runs at full pelt, the anger and frustration streaming through him. Aims at Danny as he fleetingly comes into view.

BLAM! BLAM! BLAM! Vic fires at Danny. Misses. Misses...

Hits.

From Vic's POV we see Danny fly forwards onto the leafy ground. Vic exhales in relief and horror.

Vic rushes towards Danny. As he weaves between trees, we glimpse Danny, bleeding, trying to pull himself along. We get closer and closer to the clearing where Danny fell.

But turning around a final tree Vic sees...

Danny's gone. There's only a pool of blood on the ground.

VIC

No. NO!

Vic turns around. There are so many trees that Danny could be hiding anywhere.

VIC

Fuck... Fuck...

Vic aims the gun all around him, searching. But there's no sign of Danny anywhere. Just trees. Hundreds of trees for as far as he can see.

VIC

Fuck...Danny!!!?

Vic runs a hand over his face, tries to think what to do.

VIC

Fuck... Fuck... Fuck you...
(sudden shouting)
Fuck you! Fuck you Danny!

Now we see Danny hiding behind a tree nearby. He's holding a wound in his back, staunching the blood flow. He silently listens to Vic's shouting.

Shaken, Vic checks his watch. Sighs.

VIC

You'll fucking bleed to death out here,
Danny! Hear me? You'll fucking die!
(beat, no response)
Fine! Fine, if that's what you want!
(quieter, sad)
Fine.

Vic checks his watch again. Then determinedly heads back the way he came. As he passes the original tree, he rips the handkerchief off the tree and looks into...

*

82 **INT. THE EMPTY HOLE - DAY**

82

We're inside looking out. Vic looks down at us, sad and grim faced. Then he slams shut the trapdoor--

NEAR DARKNESS

We hear GROANS, SHIFTING. We're in...

83 **INT. WAREHOUSE CELLAR - DAY**

83

Still shackled to the wall, Alice wakes up. She looks around herself, confused. She panics and pulls against her binds. She tries to shout through her gag.

84 **EXT. QUIET STREET/ INT. VAN - DAY** 84

The van sits parked on the street. In the background we see a MAN running towards the van carrying two large bags. The Man opens the Van door and gets inside.

The Man loads the bags into the passenger seat, then sits in the driver's seat. We now see that the man is VIC - wearing a hat, thick glasses and a beard.

Vic looks at the sports bags. He opens one up. It is absolutely full of money. He stares at the cash - emotionless. He zips it back up. Then he starts the van.

Vic drives. As he does, he takes off his disguise. The glasses. The cap. The beard.

85 **INT. BACK OF THE VAN - DAY** 85

Darkness. Then light. Vic comes in carrying bags. He closes the door. Turns on the electric lantern.

Vic loads the money from the sports bags into new bags. He then strips off his clothes. Leaves them in a pile. He throws the bags, cap, glasses and beard on too.

He puts on new clothes. Then opens the doors. Steps out with the new bags full of money.

86 **EXT. WASTELAND - DAY** 86

The van is parked in the middle of nowhere. Vic takes the bags from the van to a SALOON CAR parked nearby. Vic puts the new bags into the passenger seat. He takes a LARGE JERRY CAN and heads to the van.

Vic throws petrol all over the van. In the front seats. The back. Over the pile of clothes. Everywhere. He douses a rag in petrol and lets it hang from the spout of the can. He steps back from the van.

He uses a lighter to set fire to the doused rag. He tosses the burning can towards the van, which catches fire. Flames leap into the sky. They CRACKLE and ROAR. *

Vic's face is brightened by the flames. We see them reflected in his eyes. He squints at the heat.

87 **EXT. ABANDONED WAREHOUSE - DAY** 87

The saloon car pulls up into the deserted complex. Vic steps out. Closes the car door.

Vic takes a small bag from the car. Slings it over his shoulder. Then he BLIPS the car's alarm on. Unlocks the padlock on the shutters. Rolls them up.

He takes the gun from his bag. Checks it. Steps inside. He pulls the shutters down.

88 **INT. ABANDONED WAREHOUSE - DAY**

88

Vic walks briskly through the cavernous warehouse - the gun in his hand, wary. He heads down the stairwell and walks to the locked door in the cellar.

Vic takes a torch from his bag. Unlocks the door. Takes a breath. Pulls on his ski mask. Steps inside...

89 **INT. WAREHOUSE CELLAR - DAY**

89

Vic switches on his torch. Shines it nervously around the room, then at the railings. Alice looks back, trying to shout through the gag, scared. Vic half-smiles in relief.

Vic kneels closer to Alice. He places the gun on the ground. He takes a syringe and a bottle from his bag. He charges the syringe with the full vial of sedative. Alice sees it and reacts, pulling away as best she can.

VIC

Shhh. Be calm. It's almost all over now.
This is it. This is the end.

He flicks the syringe. Squirts some liquid out. Alice thrashes. Kicks her legs at Vic. Groans through the gag.

VIC

Please. Stay still, Miss Creed.

Alice keeps thrashing.

VIC

It will be over very quickly. You'll feel
no pain.

He moves the syringe closer. Alice's eyes fix on the needle. She breathes fast and shallow, trying to move away from it. Then her eyes flick up as she notices...

A silhouette appearing in the open door behind Vic. Vic sees her look, and instinctively turns, just as...

SMACK. A foot kicks Vic in the face. Vic tumbles sideways. The syringe scuttles across the floor. A hand reaches down and picks up the gun from the concrete floor. The figure stands back up, moves into the light.

It's Danny. He levels the gun at Vic, who stands up, getting his bearings. Alice looks at Danny, relieved. She grunts through the gag

DANNY
Get back Vic. Against the wall.

Vic doesn't move. He sees Danny's breathing is laboured. He sees blood dripping to the floor from Danny's back.

VIC
(eerily calm)
Danny, you're bleeding. It's bad. Give me the gun. We'll get to a hospital. We'll fix you up. *

Danny shakes his head, determined. Vic pulls off his mask, looks affectionately at Danny. *

VIC
You're dying Danny. Listen. You're dying. Let me help you. Let me protect you. *

DANNY
(cocks gun)
Move against the fucking wall Vic!

VIC
Okay. Okay. Whatever you want...

Vic moves back. Alice grunts loudly. Danny looks down at her. Her eyes beg him. She grunts again. With the gun still on Vic, Danny unclasps the gag. Alice spits it out.

ALICE
Danny. Thank fuck. Get me out of here. *

DANNY
The keys, Vic. Toss me the keys.

VIC
Danny. Don't do this. *

DANNY
Give me the fucking keys!

VIC
You love me, Danny. I know you do.

DANNY
Shut up... *

VIC
I know you do. I felt it. The way you kissed me. The way you held me--

DANNY
Shut the fuck up!

VIC
--The way you made love to me. There's no
faking that.

*
*

Alice's eyes flick from Vic to Danny. Danny stares at
Vic, jaw clenched. Vic's words seem to be hitting home.

*
*

VIC
You love me. You love me.
(softly)
So give me the gun, Danny. Give me it and
we can get you fixed up.

Danny is wavering. Vic takes a step forward.

VIC
Give me the gun.

Danny's hand is shaking. Vic smiles. Holds out his hand.

VIC
It's okay. It's okay, Dan.

Vic's hand gets closer and closer to the gun barrel.

ALICE
Danny. No. Danny. Don't give him it.
Danny! Please Danny! Don't listen to him.
Just get me out of here! Danny!

Danny's almost in a trance, staring at Vic coming closer.

*

VIC
It's okay...

Vic's hand closes over the barrel of the gun.

VIC
There. Now all you have to do is just let
go of--

BANG! The gun goes off into Vic's belly. Vic is thrown
backwards. Danny's finger still grips the trigger.

Vic's eyes are wide in total shock. He tears open his
shirt to reveal a nasty bleeding wound. Alice watches,
horrified.

VIC
Danny?

Danny fires again. Into Vic's chest. BLAM! Vic slams back
against the wall. He coughs blood.

Then slides down the wall, leaving a bloody trail on the dirty concrete. Vic's dying, blood gargling in his throat.

ALICE
Danny? Danny..?

Danny slowly turns. Looks to Alice.

ALICE
They keys Danny. Get the keys.

Danny looks back to Vic, who stares up at him, blinking. Danny kneels down by Vic. Stares at Vic with cold eyes. Reaches into Vic's pocket and pulls out a set of keys.

ALICE
That's it. Thank fuck. Quick, Danny. Get me out of here. Danny...

Danny stands up. Looks at Alice with no emotion.

ALICE
Let's just get out of here...

Danny weighs the keys in his hand. The look in his eyes seems to change entirely. He smiles at Alice. Not his usual charming smile, something much more malevolent.

DANNY
Sorry.

ALICE
What?

DANNY
Sorry, Alice.

And now Danny backs away, gripping the keys in his hand.

ALICE
Danny..?

To Alice's horror, Danny leaves the room. He closes the door. Locks it from the other side.

ALICE
Danny! Danny! No! Come back! Danny! Get me out of here! Please! Danny!

Alice tries to pull against her bonds, but to no avail.

Danny walks through the warehouse, holding the keys in his hand. Alice's screams are growing ever further away.

91 **EXT. ABANDONED WAREHOUSE - DAY** 91

Danny comes out. He pulls down the shutters. Alice's shouting is blocked out. He looks at Vic's car. He raises the keys. Presses the fob. The alarm BLIPS off.

Danny smiles. He gets into the car. He's in obvious pain.

92 **INT. CAR - CONTINUOUS** 92

Danny sees the big sports bags on the seat next to him. He unzips one of them. Looks inside. It is full of money. Danny grins as if his dream has just come true. His bloody hands taint the money with red.

He puts the key in the ignition. Drives.

He switches the radio on. A FEEL-GOOD SONG plays. Danny smiles wider. He opens his window, stealing glances at the money as he drives off towards the sunset.

93 **INT. WAREHOUSE CELLAR - DAY** 93

Alice shakes. Ridden with fear. Locked to the railings.

ALICE

Danny! Danny!! Danny!!!

No reply. She starts to cry - realising she's stuck here. She looks around herself, then sees--

Vic. Staring at her. Pale. His breathing shallow. His body in agony. She looks at him. Feels his eyes on her.

ALICE

Please. Help me. Help me. Please.

Vic just stares at her, expiring fast.

ALICE

You... You loved him. Didn't you? I loved him too. I loved him...

(sniffing back tears)

We're the same. He's broken my heart too.

*

Vic whines as his breathing gets more laboured.

ALICE

Please. I can... I can stop him from getting away with this. With what he's done to us. To you.

Vic doesn't seem to even hear her. But he still stares.

ALICE

A phone... You must have a phone.
Everyone has a phone. Please. I'll...
I'll die here. They'll never find me.
They'll never...

She starts to cry again, but tries to hold it back.

ALICE

You must have a phone...

Vic looks down at the sports bag next to him.

ALICE

In there? Can you reach it? Can you...
Please. Please try...

Vic looks up to her, then back at the bag.

ALICE

Please. Please Vic.

Vic summons the last reserves of his energy. Moves his hand towards the bag. He groans in pain as he does.

ALICE

Oh... That's it. That's it...

Vic's hand moves agonisingly slowly into the bag. It grips something. Vic pulls his hand out. Raises it up.

But it's not holding a phone...

He's holding the other set of keys - the ones he took from Danny earlier. Alice sees them and is breathless with hope.

ALICE

Oh... Oh god...

But then Vic's breathing becomes fast, wet and erratic.

ALICE

No. No... Please No...

His strength suddenly vanishes. His arm slumps to the ground. The keys hit concrete. An breath chokes in his throat. His eyes stare at Alice, wide, fearful. Then they glaze over.

Vic is dead.

ALICE

No... No...

Alice stares at the keys on the ground. She tries to reach them, straining her hand against the handcuffs. But it's no use. She gasps with the effort.

So now Alice twists her whole body. Flesh scrapes against concrete. Skin pinches in metal. She half-chokes herself on the U-lock. But somehow she contorts her knees underneath her. Kicks her feet round towards the keys.

Her bare toes are millimetres away. Scrabbling on the cold floor. Trying to make contact. It's agonisingly close. With a final YELL of exertion, Alice strains, her face purple. Her toes moves a little further over...

And nudge the keys.

Alice's eyes go wide. She hooks her toes round the key-ring. Pivots back round. Catches her breath. Then carefully lifts her legs and tosses the keys towards her right hand. She snatches them up and tries to push a key into the lock.

It's tricky. But after a few maddeningly close fumbled attempts, a key slides into the lock. It slowly clicks round. The handcuff opens. Her hand is free.

Alice laughs in adrenaline-charged relief and joy.

She unlocks the locks round her neck and other hand, then stands up, shaky on her feet, dirty, bruised, battered.

She goes to the door. Unlocks it. She looks back at Vic's body with conflicting emotions, then leaves the room.

94 **INT. ABANDONED WAREHOUSE - DAY** 94

Alice stumbles through, looking for a way out.

95 **EXT. ABANDONED WAREHOUSE - DAY** 95

The shutters roll up. Alice steps out and squints at the bright day-light. She breathes. Sucking in fresh air. Overwhelmed by her freedom.

She looks around her. The place is deserted. She heads up the road towards the main gates of the complex.

96 **EXT. ABANDONED WAREHOUSE - MAIN GATES - DAY** 96

Alice stumbles out of the warehouse complex. She walks up the road. There's nothing around but rough country-side and distant woodland.

Suddenly a few pieces of paper flutter by on the wind.

Alice looks down. By her bare feet, there is a blood stained £50 note. Ahead, there a few dozen more. All up the road, billowing like autumn leaves in the wind.

Confused, she follows the money trail. As she does we hear an UPBEAT SONG playing somewhere on a radio.

Alice stops as she sees--

Vic's saloon car in a ditch by the side of the road.
Money is blowing from out its window onto the tarmac.

Alice stares at the car as if in a dream. She edges closer and looks inside. She sees the stash of money in the bags. Sees Danny slumped against the steering wheel.

He's dead.

Alice opens his door. Danny falls out into the grass. His clothes are drenched in blood. So is the driver's seat. Alice looks down at Danny with mixed emotions.

Alice gets into the car. Sits on the bloody seat. Slams the car door. Turns off the radio. Breathes in silence.

Then she begins to cry. She lets out all her emotions, fear and trauma in loud, hot, heavy sobs.

97 EXT. CAR - DAY 97

As Alice cries, we dolly backwards and away from the car.

98 INT. SPARSE FLAT - DAY 98

We start on the bare bed and dolly out into the lounge.
Past the table. Chairs. Silence reigns.

99 EXT. WASTELAND - DAY 99

The burnt out van smoulders and smokes. We dolly away from it to see that there is no-one around.

100 INT. WAREHOUSE CELLAR - DAY 100

Vic lies dead. We dolly out from his face.

101 INT. CAR - DAY 101

Alice stops herself from crying. Wipes her eyes.

She looks at the money next to her. Stares at it long and hard. Thinking. She looks at herself in the rear-view mirror and breathes.

Then she turns the key in the ignition.

102 **EXT. ROADSIDE - DAY**

102

Danny lies dead in the ditch surrounded by a handful of bloody bank-notes. The car drives out of the ditch and off towards the horizon.

FADE TO:

BLACK AND SILENCE

Suddenly we hear an aeroplane ROAR overhead.

FADE UP TO:

103 **EXT. AIRPORT PARKING SECTION - DAY**

103

Exactly where we started. We move through endless rows of cars. We find a PARKING ATTENDANT checking number plates on his hand-held computer. He stops and stares at...

Vic's car. Parked haphazardly in a bay. He peers inside. He sees dried blood on the seats. In the back is the tracksuit Alice was wearing. But Alice and the money have gone.

The Attendant types the car's registration into his computer. It bleeps negatively. The Attendant stares at the car, thinking. Then he just prints a ticket. Puts it on the screen. Walks away.

We stay with the car. Caught between the dashboard and the windscreen - on the other side of the glass from the ticket - is a single blood-stained fifty.

We move up to the sky. A plane flies over, low and loud, heading towards a deep, clear open blue sky.

SUPER: "Alice Creed was kidnapped nineteen days before her twenty-sixth birthday. She was never seen or heard from again"

Hard cut to black and silence.

THE END