



WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL

YOU'RE POPULAR. YOU'RE DEAD.

Written by
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UNITED TALENT
AGENCY



PRINCIPAL
ENTERTAINMENT

FADE IN:

BLOOD RED SCREEN, WHITE LETTERS: "JULY"

CUT TO:

EXT. WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL - NIGHT

We glide from a brick slab that reads "WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL" to the well-appointed, large suburban school. With three buildings, it's a mini-campus.

We hear -

AMY BRACKEN
I'm going to do it!

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL - SAME

SUPER TIGHT ON AMY BRACKEN'S 16-year-old, BEAUTIFUL, DEFIANT FACE.

AMY BRACKEN
I'm gonna do it and if I don't get what I
want, this whole school's gonna know!

She's half-smiling like she knows she has the upper-hand. Amy is used to having the upper-hand.

BAM! A TROPHY SLAMS INTO THE SIDE OF HER HEAD! AND THEN AGAIN! Amy is BLUDGEONED with the trophy until she goes down, not moving, smile gone.

INT. WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL, HALLWAY

SOMEONE DRAGS Amy down the hall by her wrists. We move down Amy's perfect body, see that she's wearing a WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL cheerleading uniform -- tight red-and-white top, short white skirt, splattered with blood.

CUT TO:

OPENING CREDITS in the form of TROPHY-PLATES play over -
We're getting eye-fucked, millennial-generation style.

BLOOD RED background behind pictures, video, texts, headlines, tweets, status updates and local news stories -- all featuring AMY BRACKEN, 16, brunette, suburban girly-girl, pretty face, hot body.

It's like we're stalking an ex on Facebook as we get a good look at Amy from every different angle, in different outfits, in an array of social situations, and from the pictures we see, we recognize the most popular girl at our high school.

Remember that bitch?

Text: Omfg u hear about Amy?!?

CLOSE ON/SOUND OF: Homemade video featuring RED POM POMS. We go into slow-motion, HEAR the sashay-sound they make as they SHAKE, SHAKE, SHAKE.

Headline: SEARCH UNDERWAY FOR CHEERLEADER AMY BRACKEN

Facebook Status Update: I hope they find u Amy! We miss and luv u!!! xoxoxox

Text: I just saw her at cheer practice on Sunday?!

Headline: POPULAR WESTLAKE TWP CHEERLEADER DISAPPEARS

Text: She sukd. So over it

Tweet: \$50,000 reward for info on #amybracken

Text: U think she's... dead?

News Report: "Amy Bracken has been missing for two months and Westlake Township police say they still have no leads. The new school year starts on Monday. Amy would have been a Junior at Westlake High School this year."

CUT TO:

RED SCREEN, WHITE LETTERS: "SEPTEMBER"

AND THEN:

EXT. SUBURBIA - DAY

SOUNDS OF: distorted TEENAGE BOY VOICES gradually coming into auditory focus over MONTAGE of:

Suburbia.

Sign welcomes you to: WESTLAKE TOWNSHIP which could be any place in the Midwest or on the East Coast. Not quite a town or a city. There's no Main Street, no central gathering place, unless you count the new-ish WESTLAKE MALL. Anchored by Macy's, Dillard's and Nordstrom, it's fucking enormous.

Discombobulated "nice" strip malls with insipid, coordinated signage line the busier streets.

There's also the middle-class-crystal-meth: Walmart, Home Depot and Best Buy.

EXT. WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL, FOOTBALL FIELD - DAY

CLOSE ON: JEFF WILLIAMS, 17, Junior, effortless brown hair, classic features, a body the other moms fantasize about while having sex with their fat husbands. Every high-self-esteem-inch of Jeff screams quarterback.

JEFF

Poor guy.

FROM ABOVE: Jeff and the other FOOTBALL PLAYERS are in an almost-huddle, looking down at -

A dead squirrel. It's macabre death scene is neatly set against the finely manicured, green grass of the football field.

FROM THE SQUIRREL'S PERSPECTIVE (if it were alive): Five All-American, well-fed faces huddle around, study it.

KURT WEST, 17, Junior, ridiculous body, black, hot -

KURT

One thing's for sure. The girls are going to go ape-shit.

They all laugh.

MARK LOPEZ, 17, Hispanic, huge body, runty IQ.

MARK

We should punk them when they come out for gym.

INT. GIRLS LOCKER ROOM - SAME

Large, modern locker room.

BRIDGET VANCE, 16, Sophomore, pale, fleshy, not cool, medium-length, brown hair, no make-up, starts to self-consciously undress. She freezes mid-pants-down when she hears hushed voices in the next row of lockers where -

BETH WALLACE, 16, Junior, blonde, curvy, undresses.

BETH

Amy's parents took her off of Facebook...? No one was writing on her page anymore anyway, but still.

VANESSA REGAN, 17, Junior -

VANESSA

It's so creepy that they haven't found her yet.

Vanessa has a beautiful, fake-bronzed, nearly-perfect body. Her shiny, auburn hair always looks clean and thoroughly combed. Her thighs, from years of dancing and gymnastics, are a little thick but otherwise she's flawless. And she knows it.

She sets down her large purse-bag, opens her locker, pulls off her pants.

VANESSA

So hope Coach Jenny doesn't make us do hurdles today. My hamstrings are *killing* from cheer practice yesterday.

Vanessa pulls on a little pair of shorts over a g-string.

VANESSA (CONT'D)

I got these new Pink shorts at Victoria's Secret. Aren't they cute?

Beth eyes Vanessa's ass in the shorts.

BETH

(not impressed)

Super.

CUT TO:

INT. GIRLS LOCKER ROOM, BRIDGET'S LOCKER - SAME

Bridget, slow-motion-quietly undressing so that she can LISTEN TO THEM -

CUT TO:

INT. GIRLS LOCKER ROOM, CHEERLEADERS LOCKERS - SAME

VANESSA

I know.

Vanessa pulls her clean, new tank top over her sports bra.

BETH

Ready?

They both smile and -

VANESSA AND BETH

"Westlake girls are always ready."

They grab their hoodies and head out.

Bridget snatches her raggedy cut-off sweats, quickly starts to pull them over her faded, pink, granny underwear when -

A MAXI-PAD falls out of Bridget's bag, lands on the bench.

Beth passes by, stops, stares.

BETH

Gross.

Behind her, Vanessa -

VANESSA

What? (sees Bridget) Oh my God, tragic!
Keep moving.

Vanessa and Beth head out of the locker room.

VANESSA (O.S.)

Were those her mom's Jehovah's Witness
underwear?

They laugh.

Bridget hears, her face turns BEET RED. Another GIRL glances over, tries not to laugh.

The bell RINGS.

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD - MOMENTS LATER

The track goes around the football field.

The girls PE class jogs around the track. The boys run drills on the field, have a hard time concentrating because of the girls. They break.

Jeff eyes Vanessa. Vanessa ignores Jeff.

Bridget struggles to keep moving. She's out-of-shape, clutches her lower abdomen: period cramps. She steals a look at Jeff's ass as he bends over, picks up the football...

Bridget refocuses on the track like an exhausted athlete about to complete a 10k, only she's barely made it around once when -

Jeff runs up behind her.

JEFF

Hey! Bridget! Watch out! Look out!

Bridget, confused, surprised, pained to be singled-out by Jeff of all people, looks back as he runs towards her.

JEFF (CONT'D)

Wasps! Two big ones! Move!

He ushers her ONTO THE FIELD. She's disoriented but moves in the direction he's sending her until she steps in something squishy.

JEFF (CONT'D)

Oh! Oh man! She STEPPED in it!

Dead squirrel. The boys are all "disgusted." The girls are curious. Bridget is traumatized/embarrassed/mortified.

She SCREAMS.

COACH MARK HAVLEN, 40's, sagging football coach, and COACH JENNY FLEMMING, 26, a wide-eyed, dyed-blonde, former cheerleader/gymnast, and the girls, all run over.

VANESSA

Oh my God! I can't look!

COACH JENNY

What-the-heck...? Jeff?!

JEFF

I didn't know it was there! There were two wasps circling her head! At least I thought that's what they were. Maybe they were flies off of that thing?

BETH
That's. SO. GROSS.

COACH HAVLEN
Everyone back on the field and the track!
Now! (to Coach Jenny) I'll call Russ.

COACH JENNY
(repulsed)
Bridget, why don't you go to the locker
room and clean off your shoes.

Bridget mouths "okay" but nothing comes out. She heads inside the building.

INT. SHOWER, LOCKER ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Alone, Bridget stands naked in the steaming hot shower, her face expressionless. She looks down as...

Blood goes down her leg, is diluted by the shower water before being pulled into the drain.

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD - DAY

RUSS, 40's, the janitor, thinning, buzzed hair, ugly face, comes out with a SHOVEL and GARBAGE BAG.

Coach Havlen points to the carcass, Russ lumbers over.

Sound of: Flies buzzing.

Russ studies the dead squirrel like a coroner. He digs the shovel underneath its rotting flesh, scoops it into the industrial, brown, plastic garbage bag.

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD

The football players finish their drills, begin to head back inside.

COACH HAVLEN
Jeff! A word, please.

Jeff runs over to the Coach.

COACH HAVLEN (CONT'D)
I know that wasn't an accident.

Jeff doesn't know what to say. His jaw moves awkwardly. His face and neck go red.

COACH HAVLEN (CONT'D)

And I should pull you from the next game and refer the matter to Principal Keller.

JEFF

Please don't, Coach. I-

COACH HAVLEN

However, if you act like a gentleman, and apologize to that girl...

JEFF

Bridget.

COACH HAVLEN

- apologize to Bridget, and the matter will be forgotten.

JEFF

Yes, Sir!

INT. LOCKER ROOM - DAY

Bridget, dressed in an oversized shirt, leggings and converse sneakers -- hair still wet, combed awkwardly -- gathers her things.

The other girls come in from outside. Sweaty, rosey cheeks, they look like they just had sex.

Bridget throws her black backpack over her shoulder, is making her escape when -

Vanessa shoots her an annoyed look, peels off her wet shirt.

BETH

(re: Bridget)

I wonder if *the Creeper* killed that poor squirrel?

VANESSA

Probably some Jehovah ritual or something.

Bridget hears, is embarrassed, angry, hurries out.

The girls continue to undress, CSI the situation -

BETH

It was really weird, though, right? I mean, on the football field?

VANESSA

Uck. Don't talk about it. Makes me sick.

Vanessa is undressed. She doesn't cover-up with a towel. She grabs her shower caddy and heads to the showers.

VANESSA

(unfazed)

I'm sure we'll have an assembly about it. We have assemblies about everything.

INT. WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL, HALLWAY

Bridget comes out of the girl's locker room. The bell hasn't rung yet and the halls are empty.

Up ahead, Bridget sees a GIRL in a WESTLAKE CHEERLEADER uniform round the corner and WALK INTO THE BOY'S LOCKER ROOM.

Bridget stops, isn't sure what to do. The Cheerleader doesn't come back out.

INT. BOYS LOCKER ROOM

Various young, football bodies in an open shower area. Most are lithe and muscular -- a few are fat and muscular from too many sodas and super-sizes.

Jeff is just getting in the shower.

MARK

(to Jeff)

What did Coach want?

JEFF

Says I have to apologize to Bridget.

MARK

Whatever. It will take two seconds and it's not like you mean it.

JEFF

She was kind-of an easy target. I should've went for her highness, Vanessa.

Kurt chimes in -

KURT
Weren't you doing her?

MARK
"Doing" her? Are you twelve?

KURT
Go to hell.

JEFF
I was. Past tense. She found out that I hooked-up with Beth at that party a few weeks ago.

KURT
Good to know.

Kurt heads out of the shower.

JEFF
Good luck with that! She won't blow you!

KURT
(yelling back)
We'll see...!

MARK
He won't get her. I don't know how he ever got Amy.

JEFF
I don't care. And EVERYONE got Amy. Except you.

MARK
You're wrong about that, buddy.

Mark mimes a blowjob with circled-fingers and tongue-in-cheek as he leaves the shower. Jeff laughs.

Jeff lathers shampoo into his hair. He senses someone behind him. He turns around. NO ONE is there.

CLOSE ON: Shampoo bubbles suddenly drain down his forehead, sneak into his eyes.

JEFF (CONT'D)
Damn it.

He tries to rinse out the shampoo when a BAR OF SOAP slides on the floor NEAR HIS FEET.

His left foot misses the soap. His right foot almost touches it but then -

THE WATER GOES SCALDING HOT.

Jeff JUMPS BACK and when he does, it's almost as if the SOAP MOVES ON IT'S OWN and he STEPS RIGHT ON IT, SLIPS, FALLS, and the back of his head SLAMS DOWN on the tile floor.

Jeff's head BLEEDS into the water.

EXT. WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL, GARBAGE AREA

Russ throws the bag containing the dead squirrel into the garbage.

He lights a cigarette, smiles to himself, shakes his head and takes a deep inhale.

INT. WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL, NURSE'S OFFICE

The school NURSE, late 50's, obese, pulls a plastic-covered thermometer out of Bridget's mouth.

NURSE

Normal.

BRIDGET

Yeah. Like I said, it's cramps. They're really bad.

NURSE

(sighs)

Okay, I'll see if we have any Motrin but you might have to settle for aspirin. I'll be right back.

Bridget sits back in the chair, looks up at a florescent light that BLINKS on and off.

INT. BOYS LOCKER ROOM - DAY

Mark, dressed, passes the shower room, sees Jeff on the floor.

MARK

Jeff? Oh shit! Kurt! Someone help!

Mark runs over to Jeff's lifeless, naked body.

CUT TO:

EXT. WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL, PARKING LOT - DAY

Jeff, still unconscious, body covered by a sheet, is on a gurney that's put into an AMBULANCE. Coach Havlen climbs in with him.

The doors are pulled shut and the ambulance screams away revealing -

- DETECTIVE JOHN MCCONNELL, early 30's, fit, handsome, conservative-looking in a pair of dockers, a dress shirt and suit coat.

He talks with PRINCIPAL KELLER, 45, a small, frail brunette armored in a suit from Kohls.

PRINCIPAL KELLER

It was just a very bad fall, Detective McConnell.

DETECTIVE MCCONNELL

(dismissive)

I hope so. I'll take it from here. Thank you, Principal Keller.

INT. BOYS LOCKER ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Detective McConnell looks around as a POLICE DEPUTY tapes off the area.

COACH JENNY

Is he going to be okay?

Detective McConnell turns around.

DETECTIVE MCCONNELL

Coach Jenny. Hello. Hard to say. He hasn't regained consciousness.

COACH JENNY

(nosy, flirty)

Poor kid. I don't know how this could have happened.

DETECTIVE MCCONNELL

You mean...

COACH JENNY

...how he could have just slipped and
fell like that.

DETECTIVE MCCONNELL

Do you know if Jeff had any beefs with
any of his teammates?

COACH JENNY

Not that I know of but you'd have to ask
Coach Havlen. Why? You think this maybe
wasn't an accident?

They both look at the yellow police tape. Another POLICE
OFFICER, wearing latex gloves, goes through Jeff's gym
locker.

DETECTIVE MCCONNELL

Probably was but I don't like leaving any
stones unturned.

COACH JENNY

I love a thorough man. Any new...any
leads on Amy?

DETECTIVE MCCONNELL

I'm not at liberty to discuss that case.
Sorry.

She smiles at him, turns to leave, thinks, turns back around.

COACH JENNY (CONT'D)

You know, something *did* happen today.
It's probably nothing but this Sophomore,
Bridget Vance...

INT. WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL, NURSE'S OFFICE

Bridget reads *DIVERGENT* by Veronica Roth, waits for the
Nurse. In the hallway, she hears -

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE OF NURSE'S OFFICE - SAME

PRINCIPAL KELLER

Bridget Vance? It happened in the boy's
locker room?

DETECTIVE MCCONNELL

Just routine, although I'll need her home
address so that I can ask her some
questions with a parent present.

PRINCIPAL KELLER
 (beleaguered)
 I'll have to print out her record. Have a
 seat in my office, Detective.

INT. NURSE'S OFFICE - SAME

The conversation panics Bridget. She gets up, checks the hallway. It's empty.

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE OF NURSE'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Bridget hurries down the hallway, runs into the nurse.

NURSE
 (loud)
 You're in luck, **Bridget**. I found a bottle
 of Motrin.

INT. PRINCIPAL KELLER'S OFFICE - SAME

Detective McConnell hears the name "Bridget." He gets up, heads for the door.

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE OF NURSE'S OFFICE - SAME

The nurse struggles with the bottle. Bridget's about to implode.

Principal Keller reappears with a few pieces of paper from the printer in her hand, eyes Bridget coldly, keeps walking.

Detective McConnell comes out into the hall. Keller's in his way as he tries to see past her, to -

PRINCIPAL KELLER
 I have her record.

- Bridget, who's just gotten the Motrin out of the nurse's clutches.

Bridget looks up at Detective McConnell.

PRINCIPAL KELLER (CONT'D)
 Detective?

Bridget hurries out of the administrative office.

INT. WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL, LUNCHROOM - DAY

All of the cliques are here: the populars, emos, goths, nerds, hipsters, outcasts. EVERYONE talks about what happened to Jeff.

INT. WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL, ART CLASSROOM - DAY

Empty classroom except for Bridget and her best friend, STEPHEN WEINTRAUB, 16, bleach-blonde hair, blue fingernails, flabby arms, fattish stomach, gay.

He plays with some oil paint while eating a sandwich.

BRIDGET

(worried)

You don't think he'll really come over to my house, do you?

STEPHEN

Seems kind-of stupid. I mean, how the hell are you going to walk into the boy's shower and knock over the quarterback?

BRIDGET

I swear I saw a cheerleader go in there but who's going to believe me?

STEPHEN

No one. People will always believe kids like them over kids like us.

BRIDGET

From behind it looked like Amy Bracken.

STEPHEN

No way.

BRIDGET

I'm serious. It did.

STEPHEN

But don't they all kind-of look the same in that get-up? I mean, isn't that the whole point? Conformity via slutty, school-sanctioned uniform?

BRIDGET

I guess... The whole popular crowd is vile. Except Jeff. He's not as bad.

STEPHEN

How can you STILL have a crush on him after today?!

BRIDGET

I just always thought that he kind-of liked me, too...? You should have seen the way Vanessa was evil-eyeing him on the football field this morning.

STEPHEN

(rolls his eyes)

They're a pack of narcissists who feed off of each other. Amy Bracken was Queen Bitch and now that she's gone, missing, whatever, Vanessa's filling in her shoes quite nicely. No one in that clique cares about anyone but themselves.

BRIDGET

You so wish you were one of them.

STEPHEN

Oh my God totally.

They laugh cynically.

BRIDGET

Ditto! It's too bad I don't have money, nice clothes, an expensive car and a dad who's not a deadbeat piece-of-shit.

STEPHEN

Dad's are over-rated, trust me. (changes subject) And speaking of cars, do you mind walking home after school today? I have an appointment.

BRIDGET

With your *supplier*?

Stephen shrugs. Guilty as charged.

The BELL RINGS. They both get up, gather their things.

BRIDGET

That's fine. I want to go the library to see if they have the new Suzanne Collins book anyway.

INT. WESTLAKE HIGH LIBRARY - LATER

Quiet. Bridget's the only one here. She sits at a desk, engrossed in a book.

Bridget HEARS POM POMS shaking. She whips around, no one's there.

Bridget walks over to the stacks, finds a shelf labeled "RELIGION AND MYTHOLOGIES." She puts LEGENDS OF VAMPIRES back on the shelf, pulls down ORIGINS OF RELIGION.

Bridget flips through, looks at images of: Christ with a WHITE AURA behind him; Prophet Mohammed receiving his first revelation from the angel Gabriel; Lot's wife turning to stone; the miraculous crossing of the Jordan by the Jews; people burning in hell...

Someone's behind her.

LIBRARIAN
I'm closing-up, Bridget.

Bridget jumps.

BRIDGET
Oh, okay. Can I check this out first?

EXT. WOODS - DAY

Cloudy. Fall. Cold. It's early afternoon but the woods are already becoming dark and textured with odd shadows.

LEAVES RUSTLE on the trees.

Bridget makes her way down a path. She HEARS RUNNING FOOTSTEPS near her.

Bridget WHIPS AROUND but there's no runner to be found. She freezes, listens and then -

She quickens her pace, frightened, looking over her shoulder.

EXT. DIFFERENT PART OF WOODS - SAME

Vanessa and Beth also walk through the woods near the school.

BETH

I still can't believe what happened to Jeff today. The football team's going to suck if he can't play.

VANESSA

Kurt's pretty good. He can QB.

BETH

He's not as good as Jeff.

Vanessa shoots Beth a "pissed-off" look.

BETH (CONT'D)

Oh, come on. I didn't know you were still together! We've already talked about this and I'm sorry. You know I'm sorry.

VANESSA

I know, I know. Just kidding. I think Jeff's a jerk...but I hope he's okay.

LEAVES CRUNCH somewhere nearby, behind them. They freeze.

VANESSA (CONT'D)

You hear that?

BETH

Yeah...

They listen. Silence.

BETH

Probably just a bird or something.

From behind them, someone's POV -- they're being watched.

VANESSA

Or the boys trying to scare us. (shouts)
We hear you! We know you're there!

She's smiling but looks nervous. They continue into the woods, cautious.

SOMEONE JUMPS OUT in front of them!

MARK

AHHH! It's the BEER BEAR!

Mark has a 6-pack of beer. Kurt's with him.

BETH

You scared the hell out of us!

VANESSA

Yeah, come on, after the day it's been.

MARK

Sorry. I'm just, I don't know. It's weird.

They all arrive at a CLEARING with a bench and some lawn chairs. This is clearly the populars' wooded hang-out.

VANESSA

Did you guys just get here?

KURT

Yeah.

Vanessa looks behind her and around, scans the woods...

MARK

We just came from the hospital.

Mark passes out beers.

KURT

(serious)

Jeff's in a coma. His brain swelled. He has a 50/50 chance of having brain damage.

BETH

(tries not to cry)

Oh my God.

MARK

(raises his beer)

To Jeff.

ALL

To Jeff.

They all drink.

BETH

Just from a fall in the shower...?

VANESSA

(dramatic)

I talked to Coach Jenny and she said there was a detective and police going through the boy's locker room. It was blocked off all day. Like a crime scene.

KURT

They think someone pushed him down or something?

VANESSA

She didn't say. But she did tell me that she told him about what happened with creepy Bridget today during P.E. and he wanted to question her.

BETH

I wouldn't put anything past that girl. She's always like, *creeping* around.

VANESSA

Yeah, "The Creeper!"

They all laugh.

EXT. WOODS NEARBY - SAME

Bridget has stopped on a path near where Vanessa and the others are hanging out. She hears them making fun of her. Tears well in Bridget's eyes.

EXT. WOODS, TEEN HANGOUT - SAME

BETH

Poor Jeff.

No one says anything.

VANESSA

So... Kurt, are you going to QB...until Jeff gets back?

KURT

I don't know. It's up to Coach Havlen.

Sound of: leaves CRUNCH nearby.

BETH

Someone's out there.

KURT

(to Mark)

Let's check it out.

MARK

Got you covered, bro.

VANESSA
 (re: beers)
 What if it's the cops?

KURT
 Nah. These woods are school property,
 they won't come back here.

BETH
 (flirtatious)
 Wouldn't you guys rather stay and protect
 us?

Vanessa shoots Beth a look as the boys head off.

VANESSA
 (in Beth's voice)
 'Wouldn't you guys rather stay and
 protect us?'
 (normal)
 It would have been more subtle if you had
 said 'I want your penis in my mouth.'

Beth scowls.

EXT. DIFFERENT PART OF WOODS - SAME

Kurt and Mark make their way through the trees.

Bridget's FEET RUN across the forest floor. She's breathing
 heavy.

Kurt and Mark catch a glimpse of her.

KURT
 You see that?!

They throw down their beers and GIVE CHASE.

Bridget has a decent lead and nearly disappears into the
 woods up ahead.

It's hard for Kurt and Mark to tell where she went while
 they're full-out running.

Bridget trips and falls in the thick leaves, slides down a
 small hill.

The boys stop.

MARK
 Where did they go?

KURT

I don't know but it looks like only one person. Let's split up. Cover more ground.

Fear crosses Mark's face as Kurt starts to head off.

MARK

(high-pitched)

Wait, wait, wait.

Kurt stops.

KURT

The hell's wrong with your voice?

MARK

(extra deep)

Nothing. I just...

(normal)

I just think we should maybe stick together. Have each other's back.

KURT

Are you scared?

MARK

No! I mean... We just don't know who's out there.

KURT

Pound for pound you're the biggest, hardest hitting mofo in a fifty mile radius, whoever's out there is gonna be more scared of you than you will be of them.

Silence hangs in the air for a beat then...

MARK

If they're human.

(off Kurt's expression)

This is just kinda how horror movies start. Two guys split up in the woods then BAM, the monster kills one of them. You know?

KURT

But by that logic I'd be the one who gets killed because the black guy always dies first.

MARK

(relaxes and smiles)

Oh yeah, thanks. That makes me feel a lot better.

KURT

Way to have my back, asshole.

With that Kurt shakes his head then takes off. Mark watches him go for a beat then shrugs his shoulders and heads in the opposite direction.

The camera pans to where Bridget lies in the leaves. She waits a beat until she's sure the boys are gone and then gets up, brushes the leaves off and turns to look behind her where -

A GIRL in a Westlake High Cheerleader uniform RUNS across the woods.

The GIRL stops suddenly, turns, and GLARES AT BRIDGET.

Bridget, frozen, gapes back at: AMY BRACKEN.

Heart racing, confused, frightened, Bridget turns and continues to RUN in the opposite direction.

EXT. WOODS - SAME

Mark HEARS SOMEONE RUN BEHIND HIM. He looks back but no one's there. He looks to his left and right. He can't see what or who but he hears *something*.

He slows down, looks around, cautious. Mark's just gone from predator to prey.

MARK

Kurt? Yo! Come on, this isn't funny.

TREES RUSTLE nearby... THEN the wind blows. Mark looks over but doesn't head in the direction of the noise.

He backs up in the other direction.

Becoming increasingly frightened, he turns to run back and when he does -

SPLAT! A THICK STICK IS SHOVED SO DEEP INTO HIS MOUTH that it juts out the back of his throat.

On Mark -- the pain and shock are so intense that he barely cries out and just doubles over. That's when his feet are pulled out from under him and he's dragged downhill.

Mark's dead body lies prostrate at the bottom of a ravine.

EXT. WOODS, POPULAR'S HANGOUT

Kurt comes back to where the girls are.

KURT
Where's Mark?

VANESSA
Isn't he with you?

Kurt pulls out his phone, texts Mark.

BETH
Did you guys see who it was?

KURT
That's a negative.

VANESSA
I'm cold. Let's go.

Kurt checks his phone. Nothing from Mark.

KURT
Yeah, that wuss probably went home.

They all head back together.

Low, but just loud enough so Beth can hear her, Vanessa says to Kurt -

VANESSA
My parents aren't home. Wanna come over?

KURT
That's a positive.

EXT. WESTLAKE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT - DAY

Establishing. Like the high school and the mall, the police department is contemporary, suburban-simple and expansive.

INT. WESTLAKE POLICE DEPARTMENT, MCCONNELL'S OFFICE - DAY
Detective McConnell looks at the time, gets up, grabs his coat.

MIKE "FOSTER", late 40's, heavy-set, high blood pressure candidate, all-around likable guy, pops his head in.

FOSTER
Anything new?

McConnell shakes his head "no."

FOSTER
Maybe the girl, Bridget, will lead to something?

MCCONNELL
We'll see. I'm heading over there now.

EXT. VANESSA'S HOUSE - LATE AFTERNOON/EARLY EVENING

Large, pale-bricked, McMansion.

Vanessa pulls her new Mustang Convertible into the driveway.

INT. VANESSA'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Over-furnished courtesy of Pottery Barn. Only a few lights are on as the family dog, a corgi named "Puffy", glues himself to Vanessa's heels.

She enters the -

INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Vanessa finds a note on the refrigerator telling her:
"Sweetheart, we'll be home late. There's lasagna in the microwave or you can order take-out."

She opens one of the screen doors off of the kitchen, lets Puffy out.

She notices that the motion-sensor light on the deck off of the kitchen doesn't go on. Two other lights pop on as Puffy makes his way out to the grass.

Puffy starts barking.

VANESSA

Is there a cat out there, Puff? Go get it.

Vanessa follows him, looks out, doesn't see anything.

Puffy charges out into the furthest part of the backyard and disappears.

Vanessa looks around, doesn't see anything. She looks up at a light that's out. She steps out onto the semi-dark deck.

VANESSA (CONT'D)

Puffy! Puffy come back.

Nothing. She whistles. No Puffy. Vanessa walks out further, steps off of the deck onto the cold grass.

VANESSA (CONT'D)

Puffers let's go!

She thinks she hears something in the opposite corner of the yard from where Puffy ran. She walks a little further out into the yard.

VANESSA (CONT'D)

(slight panic)

Puffy! Puffy get back here, now!

She doesn't see the dog. She scans the yard. In the other back corner, partially behind a tree, she sees -

SOMEONE holds Puffy.

Vanessa lets out a little scream, hurries back for the house.

MALE VOICE

Hey!

She turns -

VANESSA (CONT'D)

What are you doing in my yard?!

Kurt steps out into the light.

KURT

Just wanted to make sure your parents really weren't home. I didn't want to get into another five hour football talk with your dad.

Vanessa huffs back towards the house. Kurt puts Puffy down, follows her inside.

INT. VANESSA'S HOUSE, KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

KURT

What's wrong? You upset about Jeff?

VANESSA

How's Beth?

KURT

What do you mean?

Cheery, like she doesn't care. Like she'll drop Kurt right here and now if he steps out of line.

VANESSA

You two seemed really *friendly* when we were in the woods.

KURT

I have zero interest in Beth and a huge interest in you.

She lets her guard down a little. He kisses her. It's a familiar kiss. He lifts her onto the kitchen counter.

KURT (CONT'D)

Why can't we just tell everyone?

VANESSA

I told you. I'm private. It's none of anyone's business. I don't want the whole school talking about it. Especially since you used to have a thing with Amy.

KURT

So? You used to have a thing with Jeff.

VANESSA

Do you think I'm prettier than Amy?

KURT

You're a thousand times prettier. But it's creepy to talk about her.

He kisses her more, pulls off her shirt. He undoes her bra, takes it off. She stops him, indicates for him to take off his coat and shirt. He does.

She wraps her legs around his waist and he carries her over to a couch, lays down so that she's on top of him. They more than make-out...

EXT. STREET - LATE AFTERNOON/EARLY EVENING

The sky darkens further as Bridget nears her house.

She trudges through an upper-middle-class suburb full of four and five-bedroom houses, then out onto a two-lane, neighborhood street that was a dirt road fifteen years ago.

She heads towards the oldest house for miles.

EXT. BRIDGET'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

The Bate's house wouldn't be too far off as a comparison.

Built in the early 1900's, when the land all around the house was farmland and the nearest neighbor was five miles away, the house is now either a blight on the neighborhood or a charming reminder of a time long gone by, depending on your perspective.

There are still six, semi-unkept acres around the house that are devoted to a few horses, cows, and a chicken coop.

Several dogs and cats also roam the fenced-in property.

Bridget heads into the -

INT. BARN - CONTINUOUS

- grabs an apple from a shelf, feeds it to a HORSE who looks happy to see her. Bridget pets him, gives him a hug.

INT. BRIDGET'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Bridget enters, closes the door behind her, makes her way up the stairs that are to the right of the entrance.

She's half-way up when the voice of her mother calls out -

MOTHER O.S.

Bridget! Bridget, come here!

Bridget freezes on the stairs.

MOTHER O.S. (CONT'D)

Get down here!

Bridget slowly makes her way back down the stairs.

INT. FAMILY ROOM

Bridget's mother, GERALDINE "GERRY" VANCE, 40, eighty pounds overweight, sits on the couch in front of a decade-old TV, which she mutes when she sees Bridget. Gerry's wearing a worn nightgown that she purchased on sale at J.C. Penny eight years ago. Her blonde hair is in a short lady-do and her dark roots are an inch long.

She's eating scalloped potatoes and meatloaf off of a plastic dish which sits on the coffee table in front of the couch like a human trough.

She looks Bridget up-and-down with a critical eye.

GERRY

What the hell happened to your clothes?

BRIDGET

I fell.

GERRY

You fell? How?

BRIDGET

Never mind. What do you want?

GERRY

(chews food)

Didn't I ask you to clean the bathroom this morning before you went to school?

BRIDGET

I did.

GERRY

No you didn't.

BRIDGET

Whatever. I'll clean it again.

GERRY

You're in the house five minutes and you're already making my blood pressure go up. I'm not driving you to work this week.

BRIDGET

They'll fire me!

GERRY

Well, you should have thought of that before you neglected your responsibilities here.

Bridget understands the real problem.

BRIDGET

I'll get Stephen to drive me.

Gerry pauses for a minute, thinks.

GERRY

You do and you better be home right after your shift. And I mean RIGHT after. If you're not, so help me, you can kiss that job goodbye!

BRIDGET

Why can't I just take the car? You never go anywhere after work.

Gerry ignores her. Bridget goes into the kitchen which is within earshot of the living room, grabs some leftover spaghetti from the refrigerator, nukes it.

GERRY

When are you going to start hanging around some *girls*?! That Jewish fairy? I don't get it. Come to the Kingdom Hall, meet some nice kids.

BRIDGET

I told you I'm never going back. Get over it.

GERRY

You're becoming a weirdo like your grandmother.

The microwave DINGS. Bridget pulls her food out, exits the kitchen. She heads for the stairs. She's half-way up when -

The DOORBELL RINGS.

Bridget freezes on the stairs. The doorbell rings again.

Gerry silently comes into the foyer. She peers up the stairs at Bridget.

GERRY
 (whispers)
 Who's here?

BRIDGET
 I don't know. One of the Witnesses?

GERRY
 No. I need to get my robe on. Get down
 here and answer the door!

Bridget slowly comes down the stairs. Gerry goes upstairs,
 out of sight.

Bridget goes to the door.

INT. VANCE HOUSE - NIGHT

Bridget opens the door slightly, sees her nightmare -

Detective McConnell stands on the dark, unlit porch. A grey
 CAT winds it's way around his legs, *meows* at him.

He tries to peer through the cracked front door.

DETECTIVE MCCONNELL
 Hello, Bridget?

He can hardly see her -- she's backlit and he's in the dark.
 The cat attempts to run in -- she stomps her foot, blocks it.

BRIDGET (CONT'D)
 (to cat)
 No! Psshht! Go away, Clive! (to McConnell
 re: cat) He claws up the furniture.

DETECTIVE MCCONNELL
 Your parents home?

BRIDGET
 No.

The door is RIPPED OPEN by Gerry, shrouded in a long, pink
 robe.

GERRY
 Can I help you?

DETECTIVE MCCONNELL

I'd like to ask Bridget a few questions about something that happened at the school today. Would you mind turning a light on out here or could I come inside?

GERRY

The light's broke. And no, you can't come inside. I want to see some kind of identification.

McConnell takes out his badge, holds it up.

DETECTIVE MCCONNELL

Ma'am, if you don't let me question your daughter here, it will be necessary for me to take her down to the station. A whole lot of trouble will be caused or she could just answer a few questions.

Gerry flips on the light in the foyer, opens the door.

McConnell steps inside, appraises the shabby but clean house disapprovingly.

He takes out a notepad, turns his attention to Bridget.

DETECTIVE MCCONNELL (CONT'D)

What happened between you and Jeff Williams today?

Gerry's eyes go wide.

BRIDGET

I was in P.E. class, jogging around the football field, and he said there was a wasp around my head and he made me run over to where there was a, a dead squirrel. And I stepped on it...

GERRY

What?! What was a dead squirrel doing on the football field?

DETECTIVE MCCONNELL

(to Gerry)

Excuse me, please...(to Bridget) And then what happened?

BRIDGET

I cleaned off my shoes and took a shower.

DETECTIVE MCCONNELL

And then?

BRIDGET

I went to the nurse's office.

DETECTIVE MCCONNELL

What was wrong with you?

BRIDGET

I didn't feel well. (embarrassed) I had cramps.

DETECTIVE MCCONNELL

Why did Jeff single you out? Out of all the other girls he could have chosen, he chose to do that to you. Why?

BRIDGET

I don't know. (thinks) He doesn't like me?

DETECTIVE MCCONNELL

Did you do something to make him not like you?

BRIDGET

No. Not that I can think of.

GERRY

The kid sounds like an asshole. It-

DETECTIVE MCCONNELL

Excuse me, Ms. Vance, Jeff Williams is in a coma at County General.

She doesn't know what to say about that but her face says the kid still sounds like an asshole.

DETECTIVE MCCONNELL (CONT'D)

Were you mad after you went back to the girl's locker room?

BRIDGET

I was upset. It was...awful.

DETECTIVE MCCONNELL

Did you want to get back at him?

Gerry sees where this is going but remains quiet.

BRIDGET

I don't know, I-

DETECTIVE MCCONNELL

Did you go into the boy's locker room after you showered? Coach Jenny says you left before all the other girls.

Bridget's knees feel like they're going to buckle.

BRIDGET

I did. I mean I did leave the locker room early but no, I didn't go into the boy's locker room.

Bridget is about to say something else when -

GERRY

That's it. Arrest her or get out.

DETECTIVE MCCONNELL

Just a few more questions.

GERRY

I said, *get out* or I'm calling 911 and my lawyer. I know my rights. Either you're going to arrest her for doing something to this kid or not. Bridget, go upstairs.

Bridget is frozen.

GERRY (CONT'D)

Bridget!

Bridget comes to her senses, dashes upstairs.

McConnell looks around the outdated house as if it were an admonishment to Gerry's parenting skills.

DETECTIVE MCCONNELL

(threatening)

I talked to Principal Keller this afternoon. She says Bridget misses a lot of school.

Gerry doesn't give a rat's ass what this arrogant prick thinks. Before she can reply -

McConnell's Blackberry buzzes. He steps aside, answers.

MCCONNELL

This is McConnell. (...) When? (...) I'll be right there.

He hangs up, is now in a hurry to leave.

DETECTIVE MCCONNELL (CONT'D)

I'm going to have more questions for Bridget. In the meantime, might be a good idea to send a social worker over here.

GERRY

You do that. You do it. Good night.

Gerry practically hits him with the door as she closes it. She walks over to the bottom of the stairs, flicks on the light.

GERRY

You up there?

Bridget comes into view.

BRIDGET

Yeah. Mom, you know I didn't -

GERRY

Of course you didn't do anything. But you better pray to Jehovah that that jerk finds someone else to harass. My meatloaf's probably cold now.

INT. BRIDGET'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Lit only by a desk lamp and her laptop screen, the only thing this room has going for it is a substantial bookshelf.

There are no family photos or pictures of Bridget with friends anywhere in the room.

The bed is twin size, on the floor, and has lots of pillows so that it also doubles as a couch.

Bridget is on Facebook, looking at pictures of the popular kids who were just talking shit about her in the woods. There are pictures from the previous school year that include Amy Bracken with Vanessa. Amy with Beth and Jeff. Amy and Vanessa with Mark standing in between them with his arms around both of them.

Bridget pauses on a photo of Jeff wearing jeans and a t-shirt, laughing like he doesn't have a care in the world.

EXT. WOODS - NIGHT

YELLOW POLICE TAPE marks off a perimeter under FLOODLIGHTS.

Detectives McConnell and Foster look down at the thick stick jutting out of Mark's neck.

FOSTER

Dog got loose from the neighborhood. Owner chased him here, which is technically Westlake High School property. Kid's name is Mark Lopez. His phone and wallet are still on him. We got a hold of a friend, Kurt, who texted him, wondering where he was. Kurt said they were chasing someone they thought was spying on them. They thought it may have been Bridget Vance but he couldn't say for sure. Didn't get a good enough look.

MCCONNELL

I just came from questioning Bridget. She would have to have done it, gone right home and answered the door. She didn't appear to have struggled with anyone. But her clothes did seem a little disheveled now that I think about it.

FOSTER

I'd say this kid is 6'4, about two-fifty. He was dragged a good ten yards. Whoever did this was big. Strong.

McConnell looks at the hill Mark was dragged down and then around the darkened woods.

EXT. WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL, SCIENCE CLASSROOM - DAY

BRIGHT FALL SUN blares through the classroom window, catches the metal blade of a SCALPEL in -

Bridget's hand. The scalpel hovers over a belly-up, DEAD FROG.

Bridget and Stephen just look at it.

STEPHEN

I can't.

BRIDGET

This sucks.

STEPHEN

Come on, you stepped on a dead squirrel. Surely-

BRIDGET
So not funny.

STEPHEN
Sorry.

She sees he's useless, makes the cut.

BRIDGET
I'm craving McDonalds.

STEPHEN
Don't. I swear I'll hurl.

Bridget throws down the scalpel -- buries it between the frog's shoulder blades.

BRIDGET
Come on, quit being such a wuss.

STEPHEN
(re: scalpel hit) Impressive. Psycho. But impressive. (off her look) I'm sorry. Keep going. *Please*. I don't want to get an 'E'.

Bridget resumes the wet-work.

STEPHEN (CONT'D)
(talks low)
I can't believe they're even making us have class at all, let alone cut something up after what happened to Jeff AND Mark yesterday.

BRIDGET
(whispers)
I took the shortcut, through the woods, after school. Stephen, I swear I saw Amy Bracken. She looked right at me.

STEPHEN
Did you tell the detective guy?

BRIDGET
No. I didn't think he would believe me. I think he was trying to blame me for Jeff and if I had told him I was in the woods...

STEPHEN
There's no way you could have taken out two football players.
(MORE)

STEPHEN(cont'd)

I mean, don't get me wrong, you're bitter and jaded enough, but you have like zero upper-body strength. Just show the police your arms.

BRIDGET

Well, then I guess you wouldn't be a suspect either... What if it was her? What if she's out there and has gone crazy or something?

Bridget thinks, cuts.

STEPHEN (CONT'D)

Don't go Nancy Drew on this.

BRIDGET

I feel like if I don't figure out what's going on, that frat guy detective is going to try to pin it all on me. Or at least keep harassing me which will drive my mother insane.

STEPHEN

You mean insane-er. I think you're over-reacting and maybe you saw Vanessa or someone and only *thought* it was Amy.

BRIDGET

Maybe... (thinks a beat) I need you to take me somewhere at lunch.

EXT. HOSPITAL PARKING LOT - LUNCHTIME, DAY

Large, box-ey, modern hospital.

Stephen's whip, an '08 burgundy PT Cruiser that hasn't seen a car wash in months, rests in a visitor parking spot.

INT. STEPHEN'S PT CRUISER - SAME

Bridget and Stephen finish scarfing down McDonalds.

BRIDGET

(whines)

Pleeeeeease come in with me.

STEPHEN

Hell-to-the-no. I hate hospitals. I'm perfectly content playing Words With Friends while you play Shirley Holmes with the comatose quarterback.

BRIDGET

You're such a dork.

He nods, stuffs fries into his mouth. She gets out of the car.

INT. HOSPITAL, HALLWAY - DAY

Bridget walks down the hallway, looks for Jeff's room. Up ahead, she sees Beth.

Bridget dodges into a room so that Beth doesn't see her.

INT. HOSPITAL, ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Bridget HIDES behind a pulled curtain. She hears a STRANGE SOUND, slowly turns around to see -

An OXYGEN TENT. Inside is a SHRIVELED OLD WOMAN with very little hair breathing heavily with the help of a machine. The woman pulls her mask down, nods her head, labors hard to rasp-

OLD WOMAN

You can see. You can see...

Horrified, Bridget looks out into the hall, sees Beth round a corner, leaving.

INT. HOSPITAL, HALLWAY - DAY

Bridget quickly makes her way to Jeff's room, making sure no one sees her.

INT. JEFF'S HOSPITAL ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Jeff lies motionless on the bed. Bridget surveys all of the equipment he's hooked up to. His head is wrapped in a large, turban-like bandage.

His eyes are closed. His body, motionless.

Bridget looks closely at the IV's in his arms. She studies the heartrate monitor. She looks at the various PLUGS that lead into the walls.

BRIDGET

Jeff?

Nothing. She SNAPS her fingers in front of his face. Nothing.

She sits down in the chair next to him.

BRIDGET (CONT'D)

Hi, Jeff. I bet you're surprised that I'm here. If you even know. I think you do. We were friends in the third grade. Remember? You liked horses? And my grandma had a few and your dad would bring you over to ride? You were nice then...

He's lifeless. She runs her finger up his arm, gently touches the bandaged bump where the needle from the IV pierces his skin.

CLOSE ON: Bridget's finger on the needle-bump.

BRIDGET (CONT'D)

I'm here because I wanted to see if...you just fell...on your own? Or, if you saw who pushed you...?

She removes her finger, looks at his puffy, dead-looking face. He BREATHES in and out.

She looks over and sees his BACKPACK on the floor. Curious, she peaks inside, sees his iPhone. She reaches in, pushes the button. It's ON. She pulls it out, goes to his TEXTS.

She scrolls down, sees: AMY BRACKEN.

Bridget reads a conversation from June 15th:

AMY	JEFF
U better have the pix!!	I do! I don't want that bitch Vanessa to b captain either!

AMY	JEFF
I'm going to tell Coach Crotch.	Fine.

AMY	JEFF
What if she wants to c them?	She won't. She knows she sent them to me. She'll piss her pants.

AMY
Lol!

Jeff's EYES POP OPEN.

Surprised and busted, Bridget tosses the phone back into Jeff's backpack, JUMPS BACK and when she does, she knocks a tube loose that was connected to him.

Without moving his neck, Jeff looks directly at her with his big, blue eyes.

JEFF
(clear)
I didn't see anyone.

An ALARM goes off.

Just as quickly as his eyes opened, Jeff's EYES CLOSE.

Bridget panics, tries to get the tube back into the IV bag. She can't do it.

BRIDGET (CONT'D)
Jeff? *Jeff*?!

Spooked, Bridget runs out, hurries down the hall as two NURSES RUSH into his room.

INT. STEPHEN'S PT CRUISER - MOMENTS LATER

Bridget gets in.

BRIDGET
Oh my God. You're not going to believe this! I can't. I mean.

STEPHEN
What? Shut up! What happened?!

BRIDGET
He opened his eyes!

STEPHEN
And?

BRIDGET
And he said, "I didn't see anyone."

STEPHEN
And?

BRIDGET
That's all he said! It was like he wanted to tell me something. I freaked and accidentally pulled one of his tubes out.
(MORE)

BRIDGET(cont'd)

I couldn't get it back in and ran out of there.

STEPHEN

Good goin'.

BRIDGET

(confesses)

I looked at his phone.

STEPHEN

WHAT?

BRIDGET

Okay, don't kill me. But back in June, he texted with Amy Bracken about some pictures. It sounded like they were going to bribe Coach Jenny into making Amy Cheer Captain instead of Vanessa.

STEPHEN

Vanessa dumped Jeff for Kurt. You think it was because he was banging Coach Jenny?

BRIDGET

Did you just say "banging?"

STEPHEN

Did I?

BRIDGET

What if this has something to do with what happened to Jeff and Mark? Or Amy?

STEPHEN

But what does Mark have to do with it?

BRIDGET

I don't know.

He starts the car, backs out.

BRIDGET

I guess we'll just have to wait and see what Jeff says when he comes out of a coma. Hopefully, he doesn't think I pushed him.

STEPHEN

Please. You just want an excuse to come back here and see him again. Take advantage of his bedridden condition because you like him.

BRIDGET
Well yeah, that too.

Bridget smiles.

INT. GIRL'S LOCKER ROOM - NIGHT

Class is out. Vanessa and Beth, way over-dressed to be standing in a high school hallway, are at Vanessa's locker.

BETH
It's weird that they're still having the game tonight without Jeff and... Mark.

VANESSA
I know but we have to keep living our lives, you know? I mean, I hope they catch the psycho who did that to Mark but, I don't know. We've all worked hard for these games.

BETH
Kurt will be a good QB and Mark wasn't that great of a player anyway. I mean, STILL TRAGIC, but...you know.

VANESSA
Totally.

CUT TO:

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD - NIGHT

SLOW-MOTION CLOSE ON: RED POM POMS SHAKE SHAKE SHAKING.
Swaying cheerleader SKIRTS.

SOUND OF: MARCHING BAND, thumping drums.

In the bleachers: A rowdy mass of TEENS.

SCOREBOARD: Westlake 7, Salem 14

It's halftime. The CHEERLEADERS do a routine. Vanessa and Beth execute FLIPS, splits, choreographed dance moves in short cheer skirts and tight-fitting, white sweaters.

CUT TO:

EXT. BLEACHERS - SAME

Oddly, Bridget and Stephen are here.

BRIDGET

What *the hell* are we doing here?

STEPHEN

(looks around)

Just give me a minute. As soon as I find Joe Serekki, I'll sell him this dimebag and we're out. Joe said *Vanessa Regan* wants to buy some from me(!). There's a party in that new subdivision, Mulberry, that he invited me to -- they're all going to be there.

BRIDGET

So you're going to get into the popular crowd by selling pot?

STEPHEN

Whatever it takes. You should be happy. Do you want to be a social outcast forever?

BRIDGET

Maybe.

STEPHEN

Yeah, right. You hear about Jeff? (she hasn't) He's out of a coma. They say he's going to be okay.

Bridget brightens considerably.

She scans the field as if maybe Jeff is already back. Someone near the school catches her eye. A GIRL. She's in a Westlake Cheer Uniform but isn't on the field with the other girls. Bridget only sees her from the side but it looks like... AMY BRACKEN.

BRIDGET

There!

STEPHEN

What?

BRIDGET

Amy! See her, behind the cheerleaders?

Stephen looks but doesn't see her. He looks at Amy, worried.

STEPHEN

No.

BRIDGET

Let's go down there.

STEPHEN

I can't. I have to stay here and wait for Joe. I don't see anyone...

BRIDGET

I'm going. Be back in a jif.

Bridget heads down the stairs, stops at the bottom. The girl is gone. Bridget looks out at the field as -

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD - SAME

Beth makes a small error, gets back in step. She's huge fake-smiling but clearly out-of-sync.

The girls form a complicated PYRAMID. Beth is at the bottom. Vanessa puts her foot in Beth's hands and is hoisted UP into a precarious balancing position above.

The DRUMS carry the tense moment.

INT. BOYS LOCKER ROOM - SAME

The team gets encouragement from Coach Havlen.

COACH HAVLEN

We've been through a lot this week and suffered a terrible loss but YOU GUYS are the better team out there and THAT'S what matters!

The boys' faces, including Kurt, say they WANT to be the better team.

INT. WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL, HALLWAY - NIGHT

Bridget enters the school. It's dark. She looks around, walks down the hall. The OVERHEAD LIGHTS are on motion sensors and turn-on as she walks.

Bridget catches a glimpse of Amy crossing the hall up ahead. Bridget jogs to catch up to her.

BRIDGET

Amy? Hey!

Bridget rounds the corner but the hall's empty. The door to Coach Jenny's office is WIDE OPEN and the LIGHT IS ON. Bridget cautiously walks over to the office, peers inside.

It's empty. Bridget goes in, looks back out into the hallway, closes the door.

INT. COACH JENNY'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Bridget looks around.

On Coach Jenny's wall are FRAMED PHOTOGRAPHS of various cheerleaders with their names beneath them.

Amy Bracken is in the center of almost every single picture, smiling confidently at the camera.

Curious, Bridget taps the computer mouse. The monitor comes to life.

She starts navigating through various windows, opens up Coach Jenny's: PHOTO LIBRARY.

Bridget starts clicking through. She stops, shocked by what she's looking at and then a huge, excited smile -

BRIDGET

(to herself)

Oh. My. God. These are the pictures Jeff was texting Amy about.

The DOOR FLIES OPEN. Coach Jenny enters her office, is shocked to see Bridget.

COACH JENNY

What the hell are you doing?

BRIDGET

I, uh, I just...

Coach Jenny walks around the desk and looks at the pictures Bridget has on the monitor: playful shots of Jenny and Jeff in bed.

COACH JENNY

You little...Creeper!

BRIDGET

I won't tell anyone, I swear, I just -

COACH JENNY

No. You won't tell anyone.

Bridget backs up towards the door. Coach Jenny, maniacal, desperate, heads towards her.

COACH JENNY

You made a big mistake sneaking in here!

BRIDGET

I know.

Bridget knocks over a huge trophy between she and Jenny, dashes out the door.

Bridget RUNS down the hall, makes it through the doors and -

EXT. SCHOOL - CONTINUOUS

- outside, where we hear the band play. Coach Jenny is RIGHT behind Bridget. She GRABS her just as Bridget looks out to the field, sees -

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD, WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL - SAME

The cheerleaders are in another formation. Vanessa climbs to the top of a tall pyramid for their final, climactic half-time performance.

But someone else is also climbing onto the pyramid: AMY.

BRIDGET

Look! It's Amy Bracken!

Coach Jenny freezes. She tightens her grip on Bridget, looks out at the field but -

COACH JENNY

Where?

BRIDGET

She's climbing the pyramid!

Coach Jenny looks at the pyramid, doesn't see Amy.

COACH JENNY

Nice try. Come on!

She pulls Bridget, but Bridget resists, keeps looking back, watches in horror as -

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD - SAME

When it's Beth's turn to dismount from the pyramid, she goes to jump and -

Amy JUMPS ON TOP OF HER! Thrown off balance, Beth lands ONTO HER HEAD AND NECK.

EXT. SCHOOL - SAME

Coach Jenny DRAGS Bridget back towards the school. In the background --

The band stops playing.

THE CROWD COLLECTIVELY GASPS! Vanessa SCREAMS -

VANESSA

Oh my God! Where's Coach Jenny?!

EXT. SCHOOL - SAME

Coach Jenny and Bridget hear Vanessa. Bridget uses the moment to get free from her and RUN. Coach Jenny, unsure where to go, runs towards the field -

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD - SAME

Coach Jenny rushes over, checks Beth's pulse.

COACH JENNY

Call 911! I'm not feeling a pulse...

FROM ABOVE: the scene is grim. Beth lies spread-eagle, neck twisted on the turf. All action on the field and in the crowd is frozen.

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD, BLEACHERS - SAME

Bridget finds Stephen. They talk low (everyone is quiet) while looking down at the field.

Bridget doesn't see Amy anywhere.

STEPHEN

Where were you?!

BRIDGET
(breathless)
Coach Jenny just chased me out of the school.

STEPHEN
What?! Why?

BRIDGET
She caught me in her office.

STEPHEN
Oh, God.

SIRENS rapidly approach.

STEPHEN
(re: Beth)
You think she was just...knocked-out?

BRIDGET
Didn't you see what happened?

STEPHEN
Yeah, she lost her balance and fell.

Bridget looks at Stephen for a moment. He didn't see Amy either.

STEPHEN
What is it?

BRIDGET
You didn't see Amy?

STEPHEN
No. I told you I didn't. Did you?

BRIDGET
I think I saw her push Beth...

STEPHEN
There's no way. I saw what happened. What happened in the school?

BRIDGET
I followed Amy into the school but she ran off somewhere. And then Coach Jenny's door was open and her computer was on. I couldn't resist. She caught me looking at pictures of her and Jeff in bed together.

STEPHEN

Ohmygod, you are so fucked. Bridget?!

BRIDGET

No, I'm not. She can't tell anyone. She'd be in so much trouble.

STEPHEN

What are you going to about gym class tomorrow?

BRIDGET

I'm going to skip it, see if I can drop it and get into art class. Take gym next year.

PARAMEDICS rush onto the field.

BRIDGET

What about the Amy part?

STEPHEN

There's no way you saw her. It must have been someone else.

CLOSE ON: Bridget as she watches the paramedics lifting Beth's lifeless body. Bridget looks around, searches the crowd for Amy's face.

EXT. MALL - DAY

Gerry drops Bridget off in an '02 Ford Escape.

BRIDGET

I'll see if Stephen can give me a ride home.

EXT. MALL BOOKSTORE - DAY

SIGNS on the front windows scream "GOING OUT OF BUSINESS SALE" and "EVERYTHING UP TO 75% OFF"

INT. MALL, BOOKSTORE - DAY

Bridget heads to the back of the looted-looking store. JASMINE, mid-20's, overweight loner sitting behind the cash register, lowers her US Weekly.

JASMINE

What are you doing here so early?

BRIDGET

I'm going to change clothes in the back.

Bridget excitedly holds up a yellow, Forever 21 bag.

BRIDGET CONT.

I'm going across the street to visit a friend in the hospital!

Bridget heads to the back room and the US Weekly goes back up in front of Jasmine's face.

INT. HOSPITAL - DAY

Bridget, hair done, wearing mascara and lip gloss, cautiously enters Jeff's room.

Jeff's head, completely shaved, is only partially bandaged now. He's awake but still weak.

BRIDGET

Hey, Jeff.

JEFF

Ah, hey Bridget. What are you doing here?

BRIDGET

I heard you were awake. I wanted to say 'hello.'

JEFF

Oh. You look... Good.

Bridget BLUSHES.

BRIDGET

I know we're not really friends or anything but we used to be, when we were little. Remember?

JEFF

Yeah, I know.

Bridget half-smiles.

JEFF

I'm sorry about that squirrel thing. That was pretty shitty.

BRIDGET

Thanks.

Neither knows what to say.

BRIDGET
I brought some pictures.

She takes out her phone, shows him the screen.

BRIDGET
Remember the horse, Chester, that you
used to ride?

JEFF
Yeah.

BRIDGET
Well, Chester has a son, Charlie.

She shows Jeff pictures of Charlie.

JEFF
He looks exactly like Chester.

BRIDGET
I know, right?

JEFF
That's so cool that you guys still have
horses.

Giant awkward pause.

BRIDGET
Are you going to get out soon?

JEFF
I hope so. I'll know more in the next day
or so.

BRIDGET
How did you fall?

JEFF
I don't know. Before I fell in the
shower, I felt this strange sense that
someone was there, like right behind me,
you know? But I turned around and no one
was there. And then a second later, the
water became scalding hot and I slipped
on a bar of soap that came out of
nowhere.

BRIDGET
Weird.

JEFF
 (blurts)
 I had a crush on you in the fourth grade.

BRIDGET
 Really?

JEFF
 Yeah. You were different than the other girls.

BRIDGET
 Oh.

JEFF
 I mean that in a good way. You were nice.
 And smart.

He touches her hand and then holds it. Bridget is frozen in the moment.

JEFF
 I want to kiss you.

Bridget, still not believing this actually happening, doesn't respond.

JEFF
 I look like Frankenstein, right? Probably pretty scary. Sorry.

BRIDGET
 No. You still look... Good.

JEFF
 Come here.

Bridget slowly leans in and Jeff puts his hand -- arm still attached to an IV -- on her face, and kisses her.

And he keeps kissing her until it turns into French kissing and a total make-out session with Bridget leaning over his hospital bed.

And in the hallway, Vanessa watches. BEYOND PISSED. She pulls out her phone and SNAPS A PICTURE before she stalks off.

Still kissing, Jeff takes Bridget's hand and guides it to his erection. Bridget, curious, feels Jeff up for a moment before-

BRIDGET
 (abrupt, embarrassed)
 I have to go to work.

JEFF

Will you come back? I really don't get any visitors, especially with everything that's happened. I'm going to miss Mark and Beth's funerals.

BRIDGET

Sure. I'll see you later.

Grinning, she's not sure if she should kiss him goodbye or what so she just gives him a quick wave as she nearly trips over her own feet while leaving his room.

EXT. WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

Establishing.

INT. COACH JENNY'S OFFICE - DAY

Coach Jenny spaces-out at her desk. Her hair looks dirty, her clothes rumpled. She's a mess. She hears someone laughing...a girl. She gets up and opens her door. No one is outside her office. She closes the door, looks up at her wall of photos where all she sees are Beth and Amy looking back at her.

An ANNOUNCEMENT comes over the PA.

PRINCIPAL KELLER O.S.

Attention students. There will be a mandatory assembly during first hour. Please go -

EXT. HALLWAY, BRIDGET'S LOCKER - SAME

Bridget arrives at her locker as the announcement ends.

PRINCIPAL KELLER O.S. CONT.

- directly to the gym.

She tries her combination. It doesn't work. She tries again, this time concentrating more. It won't open. Fuuuck.

The hallway is clears out as kids make their way to the -

INT. GYM - DAY

Double-wide gym. A partition in the middle has been pulled open.

EIGHT HUNDRED HORMONALLY-CHALLENGED TEENAGERS find seats on bleachers on all four sides.

The SOUND IS DEAFENING.

In the CENTER, a grim podium.

Other students trickle in late, among them Kurt whose phone buzzes with a TEXT from Vanessa: "Meet me at our place."

Kurt shakes his head, turns around.

Stephen saves a seat for Bridget with his backpack. He looks around the gym for her.

EXT. HALLWAY, BRIDGET'S LOCKER - SAME

Alone in the hallway, anxious, Bridget finally gets her locker open. She shoves her lunch inside, freezes when she hears POM POMS SHAKE behind her.

Bridget whips around but no one's there. The only thing near her in the hallway is a GARBAGE BIN.

Her phone DINGS. She has a TEXT from Stephen: where r u?

She quickly types: Lockr. brt

Bridget's locker SLAMS SHUT behind her. She JUMPS. She opens the locker back up, grabs her backpack.

Bridget closes her locker, turns around, startled to see -

- the GARBAGE BIN is now UPSIDE DOWN.

She backs away then hurries towards the gym.

EXT. GYM, HALLWAY

Bridget gets to a set of gym doors, they're locked.

BRIDGET

What the hell?!

INT. GIRL'S LOCKER ROOM - SAME

Kurt cautiously enters the girl's locker room. He doesn't see anyone.

He takes a few more steps, stops, looks around curiously at the lockers.

KURT

Vanessa?

Nervous, he walks in a few feet more, to the next row of lockers, looks around.

KURT

Hello?

Heart beating a little faster now, he takes a few more steps, looks to his right, left, checks behind him.

Kurt hears: The SHAKE SHAKE SHAKE sound of POM POMS.

He smiles.

KURT

(excited)

I hear you.

SHAKE SHAKE SHAKE. He follows the noise.

Kurt walks through the empty locker room, turns a corner, expects to see Vanessa but NO ONE is there.

The smile fades from his face. Anxious, he looks around, tries to figure out where she is, if she's even here...? He checks his phone. Nothing.

He walks further in, towards the showers. From a few feet away, he looks into the shower room, doesn't see anyone. He hears WATER DRIP.

He slowly walks closer, is nervous, confused.

KURT JUMPS when -

KURT

Ahh!

Vanessa LEAPS OUT!

VANESSA

GO WESTLAKE!!!

RED POM POMS in the air above her head reveal bare tits and that she's naked except for a red g-string.

She brings the POM POMS down in front of her chest and SHAKES them slowly for Kurt.

INT. GYM

Principal Keller, Coach Havlen and JANE BELDING, 30's, sexy, an overweight emotional eater/school counselor, walk over to the podium. Principal Keller takes the microphone, addresses the crowd -

PRINCIPAL KELLER

Good morning.

The din only dies down somewhat.

PRINCIPAL KELLER (CONT'D)

(louder but still feeble)

Good morning, students.

Coach Havlen blasts a fierce shut-the-fuck-up WHISTLE. The kids comply.

PRINCIPAL KELLER (CONT'D)

Thank you. Myself, Coach Havlen and our District Counselor, Jane Belding, called you here this morning to talk about the condition of our friend and fellow student, Jeff Williams and the tragic deaths of Mark Lopez and Beth Wallace.

A HATER claps.

PRINCIPAL KELLER

I'm happy to report that Jeff Williams has come out of his coma and is on the road to recovery.

EXT. GYM, HALLWAY - SAME

Bridget has her ear pressed up against the locked gym doors.

INT. GYM - SAME

PRINCIPAL KELLER

The Westlake Police are looking into Jeff's accident as a routine matter. If anyone saw anything suspicious near or in the locker room, they are urged to come forward.

Jokes are clearly going around the gym. GOTH GIRLS snicker.

INT. HALLWAY

The LIGHTS FLICKER ON AND OFF. Bridget turns around, sees -
 AMY BRACKEN. Her cheerleading outfit is a little dirty but
 otherwise she's the confidant, pretty girl we've seen in
 pictures.

BRIDGET

Amy?

AMY

You can see me, can't you?

Bridget nods that she can. Amy smiles.

AMY

You're 'the Creeper' right?

BRIDGET

My, my name's Bridget.

Amy DISAPPEARS. Bridget tries to comprehend this and then -

Amy is SUDDENLY STANDING RIGHT IN FRONT OF BRIDGET!

Bridget, frozen in place, frightened.

Amy's FACE TWISTS into a hideous, ROTTING CORPSE.

AMY

Go away, *Bridget!* You don't want to be
 the next one to die, do you?

Bridget backs up, turns and RUNS down the hall. Amy does a
 BACKFLIP, lands RIGHT IN FRONT OF BRIDGET. Amy's face is back
 to normal and she walks Bridget backwards towards a wall of
 lockers.

AMY

I'm not really interested in you. No one
 is -- you're gross. Although you seem to
 be the only one who can see me, which I
 guess is cool. But it's "*my friends*" that
 I'm after.

BRIDGET

Why? What are you going to do to them?

Amy's smiling face FLITS BACK-AND-FORTH between PRETTY
 CHEERLEADER and an angry, HORRIFIC CORPSE.

AMY

I'm gonna keep killing them. You think I'm gonna let *them* have what everyone knows is the best days of your life, high school, while *I'm dead*?

BRIDGET

I don't think high school is supposed to be the best days of your life.

AMY

Of course you don't.

BRIDGET

But how can you...hurt people if you're...dead?

AMY

I don't know, I just can. And as long as I'm here at school, I have power, and I can feel myself getting stronger every day. So watch out, Creeper!

Bridget backs into a wall, Amy's two inches from her.

BRIDGET

(scared)

How...did you die?

AMY

Tragically. Brutally. And I shouldn't be the one who's DEAD. I was the most popular girl at this school! And NO ONE is going to be more popular than I was. Ever.

Amy turns theatrically, prances away and as she does, she VANISHES.

Bridget remains standing against the wall, heart beating through her chest.

INT. COACH JENNY'S OFFICE - SAME

Coach Jenny takes a piece of paper out of the printer.

CLOSE ON: her RESUME.

She places it in front of her on her desk, begins to proofread it.

The industrial-style, fluorescent light box that hangs above her FLICKERS. She looks up at it.

The light goes out for a moment. She's in the dark, about to get up and open her door when the LIGHT COMES BACK ON.

Agitated, she goes back to her desk but JUMPS when her iPod dock suddenly starts blaring TEENAGE DREAM by Katy Perry. She lunges over to turn it off but it won't turn off. She rips the plug out of the wall.

She's on her way back to her desk when she sees her RESUME IS GONE. She looks around, can't find it. She looks in the trash, where she finds it crumpled-up.

Truly frightened now, she goes to the door, tries to open it but it won't open. She pulls at the handle, it's like someone's -

FROM ABOVE, AN ALMOST-FISH-EYE VIEW as we see (what Coach Jenny doesn't): Amy holds the door shut, smiles as she watches Coach Jenny struggle.

Jenny goes from the door to the phone, picks it up, shaky fingers dial and then -

A JUMP ROPE is pulled around her neck and tied by invisible hands.

WE SEE (what Jenny doesn't): Amy does an unnatural feat of gymnastics to get up to the light box, pull the rope through and -

CLOSE ON: Coach Jenny's petrified face as she pulls at the rope around her neck.

In one quick movement, Jenny's body is jerked up and she's HUNG from the light box.

As Jenny chokes, the last thing she sees before she loses consciousness is a can of hair spray miraculously moving out of her gym bag to meet a lighter that flies out of her purse.

The hair spray is sprayed, the lighter lit and -

WE SEE: Amy sets Coach Jenny ON FIRE.

INT. GYM - DAY

Assembly still in progress. Jane Belding takes the mic.

JANE BELDING

Having a friend or fellow student pass on can cause sadness and confusion. I encourage every one of you to discuss what's happened to Mark and Beth with your family, your clergy and/or a counselor.

The audience fidgets. A KID next to Stephen says -

KID

Smells like smoke.

STEPHEN

(looks around)

Yeah, totally.

Stephen looks around.

INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE OF GYM - SAME

Bridget, alone, frightened, PULLS THE FIRE ALARM.

INT. GYM - SAME

The ALARM BLARES as smoke begins to fill the gym. Coach Havlen takes the mic again.

COACH HAVLEN

It appears there's a fire in the building. Everyone remain calm and exit single file through the nearest exit.

Stephen stands, watches as KIDS RUSH for the doors, crushing those in the front, including a -

GIRL

They're locked! Who has a key?!

The smoke thickens, kids start to cough.

COACH HAVLEN

What's going on? Why aren't the doors opening?!

A MASS OF BODIES clamor to get out. A few fall and are trampled.

Coach Havlen works his way through the crowd, opens one set of doors with a key.

The sprinklers come on but don't completely combat the smoke.
Stephen pulls his shirt over his nose so he can breathe.

COACH HAVLEN
Everyone calm down! Help each other. SLOW
DOWN so that everyone can get out SAFELY!

Coach Haveln makes it to another set of doors, OPENS them.

EXT. GYM, HALLWAY - SAME

The hall fills with smoke. Flames threaten to jump beyond the
now BLAZING boy's locker room.

Russ arrives on the scene with his keys, starts unlocking
doors as fast as he can.

INT. GYM

COACH HAVLEN
Cover your nose and eyes! Crawl if you
feel overwhelmed by the smoke!

Students duck under the smoke that now fills the gym.

Principal Keller coughs violently, is caught up in the throng
of students.

Stephen is almost at the door when he's roughly pushed aside
by a LARGE JOCK.

EXT. WESTLAKE HIGH, PARKING LOT - LATER

The fire has been extinguished. Fire trucks, ambulances, and
local news crews are on the scene. POLICE direct traffic as
PARENTS throng to the school to pick up their kids.

In the chaos, Bridget finds Stephen.

STEPHEN
That was so fucking scary. *Where were
you?*

BRIDGET
I couldn't get into the gym. First my
locker wouldn't open and then the gym
doors were all locked. Stephen, I saw Amy
Bracken. I think she started the fire.

STEPHEN

What?

BRIDGET

And then she...disappeared.

STEPHEN

Disappeared?

BRIDGET

Stephen, she's... She's a...

His expression DOES NOT look open to wild possibilities.

BRIDGET

...ghost. She's dead but she's...

STEPHEN

A ghost.

BRIDGET

I know it sounds crazy but-

STEPHEN

I think your mother's Jehovah Witness
crap has gone to your head.

BRIDGET

I SAW her. She talked to me. And she is
not...*normal*. I mean, she's not human and
she wants to kill her friends.

STEPHEN

I'm sorry but you sound crazy. Tell the
police that you saw her. I was just
locked in the gym while the school was ON
FIRE so I don't really feel like talking
about ghosts right now. I'll see you
later.

Stephen turns and walks away.

BRIDGET

Stephen!

He doesn't turn around.

INT. WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL, COACH JENNY'S OFFICE - SAME

Detectives McConnell and Foster stand next to the FIRE
INSPECTOR. They all look up at -

A CHARRED BODY that hangs from the light box.

FIRE INSPECTOR

Looks like this is what started the fire.

DETECTIVE MCCONNELL

And this is the office of the only adult unaccounted for - Coach Jenny Flemming.

EXT. BRIDGET'S HOUSE - DAY

Establishing. The leaves have begun to fall off the trees, giving everything a cold, deadly appearance.

INT. BRIDGET'S BEDROOM - SAME

Bridget is on her laptop.

QUICK CUTS of CREEPY PEOPLE from various YOUTUBE VIDEOS:

*"There are individuals known as **sensitives** -- those who can sense an unearthly presence when it comes near them. Some sensitives may see a presence and at another time only feel its presence."*

*"Often this type of activity is created by a **negative, angry ghost** who is caught on the astral plane."*

*"Make sure you're centered or you'll open yourself up to the risk of **possession**. Carry a **talisman** with you at all times."*

*"Utilize the Light. **Spiritually protect yourself by visualizing a bright, white Light.**"*

*"Sprinkle **salt** in doorways or around people to protect them."*

GERRY

Bridget?

Bridget JUMPS. Gerry has snuck-in so quietly that Bridget didn't hear her. She stands behind Bridget, looking at what's on her screen.

BRIDGET

Why don't you knock!

GERRY

(serious, concerned)

Why are you watching this demonic stuff?

BRIDGET

Don't go getting all freaked-out. It's just some, some research for school.

GERRY

They're teaching you about demons in school?

BRIDGET

It's not...demonic. It's, it's just about ghosts.

GERRY

There's no such thing as ghosts. There are demons and you need to pray to Jehovah if you think one is terrorizing you?

Bridget just looks at her, not knowing who's crazier.

GERRY

Well?

BRIDGET

I'm not being terrorized by a demon, mom.

GERRY

But you'll pray if you are? At least say Jehovah's name out loud. That will make them go away.

BRIDGET

Yes. Okay. Fine. I will.

GERRY

I'll pray for you, too. I pray for you every day. And stop looking at that stuff online. That's what attracts them. Put that stuff out of your head. I don't want you ending up like your grandma, seeing people who aren't there.

BRIDGET

Okay. I know. I won't.

Bridget remembers her grandma, gets a sinking feeling.

Gerry heads into her bedroom, talking the whole time -

GERRY

I'm going to give you this Watchtower article on ghosts.

(MORE)

GERRY(cont'd)

It's nothing but Satan's tricks and the further you stay away from that stuff, the better.

Gerry returns with a Jehovah's Witness's Watchtower Magazine which is a twenty-page, paper magazine. Bridget takes it.

BRIDGET

(lies)

Thanks. I'll check it out. Will you drive me to work in an hour?

GERRY

Isn't that a little early?

BRIDGET

Yeah, I need to pick some stuff up at the mall first.

GERRY

(sighs)

I guess I have no choice.

Gerry leaves. Bridget goes over to a drawer, pulls out a box, opens it.

Inside is an old photograph of a five-year-old Bridget sitting next to her GRANDMA on a couch. Bridget is looking at her Grandma, who looks away, as if at something Bridget can't see.

Also in the box is a gold NECKLACE with a SMALL, ROUND MEDALLION on it. Camera pans to the picture where we notice Grandma wears this necklace.

Bridget puts the necklace on. She sits down cross-legged and closes her eyes.

WHAT BRIDGET IMAGINES: The whole room is covered in a bright, white light that desaturates everything.

On Bridget: Nothing has changed. She's just sitting with her eyes closed.

WHAT BRIDGET IMAGINES: The light becomes brighter. A white light shoots out of her third eye.

On Bridget: A glimmer of a white light slowly covers her. Bridget opens her eyes. The light stays with her. She stands up, as if in a trance, concentrating. A NOISE comes from downstairs and Bridget loses her concentration. The light quickly fades.

INT. HOSPITAL - DAY

Bridget, apprehensive, nervous, giddy, enters Jeff's room. He sits cross-legged in bed, engrossed in something on his iPad. He looks markedly better.

BRIDGET

Hey, I thought I'd come by and see how you're doing before I went to work.

JEFF

(slightly uncomfortable)

Oh, hey. I heard about the fire. And Coach Jenny. It's horrible.

Bridget senses something's off with Jeff.

BRIDGET

Yeah. It was really scary. Did you...like Coach Jenny?

JEFF

She was okay, I guess.

Knowing what she knows, Bridget waits for more. Jeff doesn't offer anything. After an excruciating pause -

JEFF

Listen, about before...I really need to focus on a full recovery and getting back into the game.

Bridget feels a knife going into her -

BRIDGET

Oh. So...?

JEFF

I probably shouldn't really hang out with you. I mean, things are good between us, it's just, you know?

Bridget is gutted.

BRIDGET

Yeah, sure.

Bridget feels herself turning to stone. Any gushy-sweet feelings she had for Jeff two minutes ago are swiftly locked in a box in the far recesses of her head.

JEFF

Thanks for coming by to see me. I go home tomorrow so -

BRIDGET

I get it. I'll leave you alone.

JEFF

I didn't mean it like that, I just meant -

BRIDGET

(cold, dead)

Whatever. I just wanted to warn you. I saw Amy Bracken. At school.

JEFF

What do you mean?

BRIDGET

(matter-of-fact)

She killed Mark and Beth. I think she killed Coach Jenny. Amy's a ghost. Someone killed her.

Jeff is floored.

BRIDGET

I know I sound totally crazy but it's the truth. I saw her at school before it was set on fire. I think I'm a 'sensitive', someone who can see ghosts.

JEFF

(you're crazy but -)

Ooooookay. Why would Amy kill her friends?

BRIDGET

She seems really mad at everyone. She said you were all "two-faced liars." I think she's also really pissed off about being dead.

Jeff is speechless.

BRIDGET

I don't think she has any power beyond the school for some reason. I've been researching ghosts and I emailed a ghost hunter for advice. I don't know what's going to happen or how I can make her go away or whatever. I just wanted to warn you. I have to go to work.

Bridget walks out, her face the definition of pain.

INT. MALL, BOOKSTORE - DAY

About three CUSTOMERS browse the half-empty shelves. Jasmine is in her usual spot but now reading *People*.

Bridget sits across from her, sulking, half-reading a book entitled "*Real Life Ghost Hunters*."

JASMINE

That's what you get for messing around with a jock. They have "asshole" engineered into their DNA.

Bridget just shakes her head.

JASMINE

What are you reading about?

BRIDGET

Ghosts. It says in here that ghosts "can move objects around" and that "the stronger the ghost, the more powers they have to interfere with the living."

JASMINE

My uncle had a ghost in this old house they lived in out in Farmington. They thought it was in the baby's room and that the baby, my cousin Tina, could see it. One night, my uncle found Tina, who could only crawl, *walking* around the house.

BRIDGET

What did they do?

JASMINE

They moved.

Bridget flips to another chapter.

BRIDGET

It says "ghost possession is likely to occur in people who are depressed or otherwise distraught."

Jasmine shrugs.

JASMINE

The baby was probably upset. Hungry or something, and the ghost slipped right in there.

Bridget looks up, sees Stephen at the front of the store. She puts her book down, goes over to him.

STEPHEN

Hey, I got your message. What's up?

BRIDGET

We haven't talked in like two days?

STEPHEN

I've been doin' stuff. Busy. I had to come to the mall to pick something up for my mom.

BRIDGET

What are you doing later?

STEPHEN

I'm going to that party in the Mulberry subdivision.

BRIDGET

(stung)
Oh, yeah?

STEPHEN

Yeah. I guess Vanessa and some other kids want some pot, so...

BRIDGET

Stephen, you shouldn't hang out with them.

STEPHEN

Why? What are you jealous?

BRIDGET

No. Go ahead and be besties with Vanessa Regan for all I care. It's just that...Amy...

STEPHEN

Oh my God, Bridget. Please don't start with the Amy Bracken stuff again. You sound coo-coo.

BRIDGET

Look, I know you don't believe me but just think about all of the weird things that have happened at school. Jeff, Mark, and Beth? All from the popular crowd. Coach Jenny might as well have been one of them. It's all Amy.

STEPHEN

And Amy's a ghost? Who killed Amy then?

BRIDGET

I don't know how she died.

STEPHEN

(sarcastic)

Well why don't you ask her?

Bridget sees she's getting nowhere.

BRIDGET

Just be careful. Please.

He nods, turns to go -

BRIDGET

Hey. Could I go? To the party?

Stephen gets an "oh shit" look on his face.

STEPHEN

Sure. I mean, it's not my party...

BRIDGET

Will you get me after work?

STEPHEN

I can't. I have to take this home to my mom and then go. I already told Joe I'd be there around eight.

Stephen can see Bridget's feelings are hurt -

STEPHEN

Get Jasmine to drive you over. I'll take you home.

She brightens.

BRIDGET

Okay. I'll see you there!

He nods, walks out already regretting inviting her.

Bridget, worried, watches him go.

WESTLAKE POLICE DEPARTMENT, MCCONNELL' OFFICE - DAY

Foster stops in the doorway.

FOSTER

Forensics found pictures of Coach Jenny and Jeff Williams on her computer. I got a warrant to search her house. Tomorrow morning good for you?

MCCONNELL

Yep.

FOSTER

Looks like she and Jeff were definitely having some kind of inappropriate relationship.

MCCONNELL

You think she pushed him in the shower?

FOSTER

Could have been angry at him for something. Or maybe he was going to tell on her? Thought she'd kill him to shut him up? Who knows. I checked and he was definitely in the hospital when she was killed.

MCCONNELL

So it still doesn't add up.

FOSTER

No. And I'm sure his parents are going to lawyer-up for any questioning.

On McConnell -- frustrated.

EXT. MULBERRY SUBDIVISION, ENTRANCE - NIGHT

A Ford Escort pulls up.

INT. ESCORT - SAME

Bridget turns to Jasmine, who's behind the wheel.

JASMINE

I'd drive you in but I'm afraid of getting lost back there.

BRIDGET

That's okay. I can walk from here. Thanks for the ride.

EXT. MULBERRY SUBDIVISION - CONTINUOUS

Bridget, backpack on, gets out of the car.

A few square miles of woods have been cleared to make way for upscale, new houses that all look, in one way or another, alike. Towards the back, nearest the woods, fifteen houses are in various stages of construction.

It starts to RAIN as Bridget walks towards the creepy, half-built houses.

INT. PARTY HOUSE, MULBERRY SUBDIVISION - SAME

About FIFTY TEENS are drinking, smoking pot and having a good time in one of the nearly-finished houses.

Bridget enters, is a social nobody who no one says anything to, searches for Stephen, sees him over near the POPULAR KIDS, including Vanessa and Kurt.

Kurt leans over, drunk, whispers sloppily in Vanessa's ear -

KURT

Let's go upstairs.

Vanessa grimaces at the stale beer breath that just wafted into her face.

VANESSA

That's all you ever want to do and it was only 'okay' last time.

KURT

I'll make it up to you.

As Vanessa rolls her eyes, she catches site of Bridget.

VANESSA

(to the group)

WHAT is the Creeper doing here?

Kurt looks over.

KURT
 (to Vanessa)
 Let it go. She's so not worth it.

VANESSA
 No but seriously, WHAT is she doing here?

Stephen looks over and sees Bridget, doesn't wave her over, isn't sure what to do, wants to disappear into a hole.

STEPHEN
 Oh, she's -- not that bad...

Bridget walks over to them.

STEPHEN
 (uncomfortable)
 Hey.

Before Bridget can say anything, Vanessa holds up her phone with the picture of Bridget kissing Jeff, says LOUD, so everyone can hear -

VANESSA
 What kind of SLUT kisses a guy, who's not even into her, while he's in a HOSPITAL BED with IV's coming out of him and bandages on his head?

POPULAR HANGER-ON
 So pathetic and DESPERATE.

VANESSA
 Do you really think that Jeff Williams *likes you*? He must be high on painkillers or something because you're like the DREGS of our school.

Bridget's eyes fill with tears but she also becomes ANGRY.

BRIDGET
 You're just jealous because Jeff doesn't want you back because you're boring and shallow. And if you didn't know it, now you do.

Vanessa looks on the verge of a catfight but there's an edge to Bridget that keeps her at bay.

Bridget looks to Stephen for support but he looks away.

BRIDGET
 Stephen? Will you take me home?

Wishing she would just go away -

STEPHEN

I just got here?

Like a robot programmed to walk away, Bridget turns and walks straight out of the party and into the rain.

VANESSA

(to Stephen)

I don't know how you can be friends with her. She's so lame.

He shrugs and then quickly lights a joint, passes it to Vanessa.

EXT. MULBERRY SUBDIVISION - CONTINUOUS

Bridget walks quickly, wipes away tears. She's almost at the entrance to the subdivision.

BRIDGET

(mimics Vanessa)

...really think that Jeff Williams *likes* you?.

AMY walks right behind her.

AMY

You just made Vanessa SO jealous!

Bridget whips around. No one's there. She turns back around and now Amy's in front of her, her face switching between CORPSE and CHEERLEADER.

AMY

Vanessa has been angling to get Jeff back for like six months.

Bridget feels for her talisman, the necklace, under her coat.

BRIDGET

(scared)

I thought you were only at school?

AMY

I'm branching out. I can't do everything I can do at Westlake for some reason but I feel like I'm getting stronger.

BRIDGET

What are you doing here?

AMY

Don't worry, Creeper, *for now*. But I can't promise the same for your friend, Bene-like-dick-Arnold back there, 'cause Vanessa's next.

BRIDGET

Don't hurt Stephen. Please. He just wants to be popular.

AMY

Popularity comes with a price. Trust me.

And Amy's GONE.

Bridget RUNS back towards the house to warn Stephen.

INT. PARTY HOUSE - SAME

KURT

(low to Vanessa)

Come on, let's go upstairs.

VANESSA

Uck. No. Why don't you just go jerk-off in the bathroom or something? Two of our friends DIED this week? And Coach Jenny? I mean?

KURT

That doesn't stop you from being at a party?!

VANESSA

I'm trying to get my mind off of it.

KURT

Fine. I'm outta here.

Kurt leaves.

VANESSA

Have fun walking home in the rain!

Kurt doesn't turn around, puts up his middle-finger in response.

EXT. PARTY HOUSE - NIGHT

Wobbly from drinking, Kurt comes off of the porch and into the rain, pulls his hoodie over his head. He staggers across the front lawn, onto the lawn of the dark empty house next door. He sees someone coming towards him in the darkness.

KURT
Hey! Who is that?

No answer.

KURT
Yo!

The person gets closer. They're smaller than Kurt so he's not too worried but still a little anxious, as well as pissed because whoever the fuck it is, they're not identifying themselves.

Finally, Bridget comes into view. She's upset, winded.

KURT
Why didn't you say who you were? Are you trying to live up to being a Creeper or somethin'?

BRIDGET
No. Don't call me that. I wasn't sure who you were.

Kurt relaxes but not in a comforting way. He gestures to the porch on the abandoned house.

KURT
Come over here for a sec, out of this rain.

BRIDGET
I can't. I'm going back to the party.

He takes her by the arm. He's twice her size.

KURT
They don't want you in there. Trust me on this one.

He's trying to keep it light-hearted as he guides her over to the dark porch, under the awning. There's no door in the front doorway, just a black hole.

BRIDGET

Let me go. I need to go back to the party.

KURT

Just give me one minute to charm you. I can be VERY charming. I promise.

BRIDGET

(sarcastic)

I'm sure you're a real awesome guy but I GOTTA GO.

She tries to pull away but he won't let her.

KURT

You're pretty cute, you know that?

He puts his big hand all over her chest, accidentally RIPS OFF HER NECKLACE which falls to the ground. Bridget sees the necklace fall, goes to get it but Kurt pulls her into the dark house.

KURT

(whispers)

I just want a blowjob.

BRIDGET

What?! Get away!

Bridget, totally taken off-guard, fights him off. As she struggles, a SHADOW FILLS the doorway.

BRIDGET

Amy?

Kurt looks around in the darkness. No one's there.

KURT

You're trippin'.

AMY

(only Bridget can hear)

Looks like you could use some help. And as a matter-of-fact, so could I...

And now we're SEEING THE WORLD THROUGH AMY'S EYES, IN AWESOME FULL-COLOR NIGHT-VISION.

AMY POV: *Amy can see everything in the room crystal clear, and in vivid color, even though it's dark. Visually, it's remarkable, disturbing.*

Amy sees Kurt overpowering Bridget, groping her, the twisted look on Bridget's face.

Amy moves lightening fast towards Bridget, goes INTO BRIDGET'S BODY.

Once inside Bridget, possessing her, Amy's looking at Kurt through Bridget's eyes. He has both hands on Bridget's arms and is trying to kiss Bridget's neck. His body is thrust up against Bridget's, pinning her.

All of the sudden, Bridget's body language changes. She goes from rigid and resisting to relaxed and welcoming.

BRIDGET
(Amy's voice)
Mmmm, I forgot what a big guy you are.

The hairs on the back of Kurt's neck stand up. He loosens his grip on Bridget.

KURT
(wtf?)
What?

Amy/Bridget runs her hand up his arm, feels his muscles.

BRIDGET
(Amy's voice)
Remember when we stole that beer from CVS
and then had sex in your dad's Range
Rover?

KURT
(freaked)
No that was...that was with...Amy.

All of the sudden, BOARDS and NAILS start flying around the room! It's chaos.

BRIDGET
(Amy's voice)
So sweet that you remember!

He steps away from her, sober now, alert, scared and shocked by the flying nails and boards. He's about to ESCAPE when -

A LONG NAIL stabs him in the arm.

KURT
Owe! Oh, shit!

And then ANOTHER NAIL to the leg. He tries to get away but MORE NAILS attack him! One-by-one the NAILS FLY INTO KURT and he's NAILED TO THE WALL in a hundred different places.

The pain is palpable until the LAST ONE, 6 INCHES LONG, zips THROUGH HIS HEART, killing him.

BRIDGET

(Amy's voice)

I REALLY liked you, Kurt. We coulda so gone to prom together.

The RAIN GUSTS in through the window. LIGHTENING puts a spotlight on nailed-to-the-wall, dead Kurt.

Amy/Bridget walks to the front doorway where she collapses oddly into a passed-out lump on the floor.

INT. PARTY HOUSE, UPSTAIRS BEDROOM - NIGHT

Vanessa and Stephen, stoned, giggle.

VANESSA

How many cheerleaders does it take to change a lightbulb?

STEPHEN

A hundred?

VANESSA

None. A cheerleader can always get someone to do things for her.

A huge BOLT OF LIGHTENING FLASHES, then a CLAP OF THUNDER and the POWER CUTS OUT.

STEPHEN

Whoa. Let's get out of here.

INT. HOUSE NEXT DOOR - SAME

Bridget wakes up, stands, walks out of the house like she just awoke from a deep sleep. She picks up her NECKLACE, puts it in her pocket. Shaken, confused, she heads to the dark party house.

She TEXTS Stephen: Where r u?

She asks a KID on the front porch -

BRIDGET
 (her own voice)
 Hey, have you seen Stephen and Vannssa
 Regan?

GUY
 I saw Vanessa a while ago. Upstairs. She
 might've left, though.

BRIDGET
 Thanks.

INT. PARTY HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

KIDS mess with each other in the dark. Bridget, frightened,
 nervous, looks around and then heads -

INT. PARTY HOUSE, UPSTAIRS - CONTINUOUS

Bridget moves from one DARK ROOM TO THE NEXT but can't find
 Vanessa and Stephen.

Scared, looking behind and around her, holding onto her
 necklace, Bridget reluctantly makes a call.

BRIDGET
 (into phone)
 Mom? I need you to come get me.

EXT. PARTY HOUSE, DOWNSTAIRS - SAME

Two GIRLS giggle and drink beer. All of the sudden, SMASH!
 Kurt's body comes FLYING THROUGH THE WINDOW, CRASHES into the
 middle of the party!

The Girls SCREAM! Everyone scatters.

Bridget comes running down the stairs, see's Kurt's bloody
 body on the floor, teens running for the exits. She walks
 over and looks down at him as if trying to remember
 something... She doesn't know what it is... She hurries out.

INT. PT CRUISER - NIGHT

The windshield wipers flap back-and-forth. Music plays.
 Vanessa talks -

VANESSA

We used to all go to parties in Amy's car. If you didn't get a spot in the car, you didn't go to the party.

Stephen's phone lights up. He has 3 TEXTS from Bridget. He puts his phone away.

STEPHEN

That's stupid.

VANESSA

Totally. Amy was such a bitch.

EXT. PT CRUISER - SAME

We're with AMY as she FLIES over the car, twisting mid-air and going from window-to-window, not getting wet.

WE SEE the car below and the nighttime, suburban world around it from Amy's POV - extreme wide angle, almost fisheye, vivid colors.

WE HEAR the distant-sounding but audible, echo-ey way she hears Stephen and Vanessa.

EXT. PARTY HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Police lights flash and an ambulance and fire truck sit idle.

McConnell and Foster get a statement from Bridget.

MCCONNELL

How long were you gone before you came back to the party?

BRIDGET

(shaken)

Not long. I walked to the front of the sub and it started raining harder. I got nervous so I came back.

MCCONNELL

Why didn't you call your mother right away?

BRIDGET

I knew I'd be in big trouble if she had to come and get me. I thought if I asked Stephen again, he would give me a ride.

MCCONNELL
And when you got back?

BRIDGET
I couldn't find him. He still hasn't
texted me back.

MCCONNELL
Wouldn't he have seen you walking through
the subdivision?

BRIDGET
I didn't stay on the streets. I just kind-
of cut through...

FOSTER
Did anyone see you?

Bridget thinks about Kurt for a moment but her memory is
foggy. She's confused.

BRIDGET
I don't know. I don't remember.

Foster and McConnell look at each other.

Gerry pulls up, clearly alarmed by the police presence.

BRIDGET
My mom's here. Can I leave?

MCCONNELL
(nods)
We'll probably have more questions for
you later.

Bridget walks over to her mom's car, gets inside.

GERRY
Are you okay?

BRIDGET
Not really.

GERRY
What are you doing here?!

BRIDGET
(mumbles)
There was a party.

Bridget pulls out her phone, checks her texts. Nothing. She
texts Stephen one last time: DON'T GO TO THE SCHOOL.

INT. PT CRUISER - NIGHT

STEPHEN

I'm hungry. Wanna go through the Burger King drive-through?

VANESSA

Sure.

Thunder! Lightening! On the second lightening strike we see Amy now sits in middle of the backseat, leaning forward as if she were part of the fun.

VANESSA

Can we turn on the heat? I just got a chill.

Stephen turns the heat on.

AMY

(they cannot hear her)

Oh look, it's Vanessa the boyfriend stealer. Every boy I've ever liked from the third grade, you tried to take. You're nice to my face and a backstabbing bitch when I'm not around. Look at you. You're even stealing The Creeper's gay boyfriend because she kissed Jeff! Your boyfriend-stealing days are about to be over.

Amy turns to Stephen, puts her mouth next to his ear.

AMY

Nice of you to send your friend out into the rain. Asshole.

STEPHEN

(to Vanessa)

Maybe we should go back...get Bridget?

VANESSA

You're kidding, right?

AMY

(to Stephen)

Well?

STEPHEN

Yeah, never mind.

AMY

I thought so.

CUT TO:

BURGER KING DRIVE-THRU - NIGHT

Stephen and Vanessa GIGGLE as they receive a shit-load of food from the WEIRDO NIGHT CASHIER at the drive-thru.

STEPHEN

Where should we go to eat all this?

VANESSA

Let's go to the faculty parking lot behind the school! I've always wanted to park there!

EXT. WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL FACULTY PARKING LOT - NIGHT

THE KILLS "Satellite" PLAYS.

Rain engulfs the PT Cruiser, makes the light that falls in circles from the parking lot lamps diffused and scattered.

INT. PT CRUISER - SAME

Stephen scarfs down his burger. Vanessa picks at hers like a skittish bird.

VANESSA

(over music)

I'm not going to be able to eat for like three days. So tragic. What is this music?

STEPHEN

(now subconscious with mouthful of burger)

It's 'The Kills'. Do you like it?

VANESSA

It's okay. Can you turn the heat up?

He turns the heat up and the music down, starts scrolling through his iPod.

STEPHEN

What do you want to listen to?

VANESSA

I don't care. I usually listen to whatever's on the radio.

He nods. This is so not the awesome time he was hoping for.

VANESSA

I can't believe they're going to have school on Monday after the fire.

STEPHEN

Yeah. (beat) Sorry about Coach Jenny.

VANESSA

Yeah, it's really sad. Do you have any Rhianna?

STEPHEN

I think so.

He puts on "WE FOUND LOVE", looks miserable.

The HEAT goes up FULL BLAST. Stephen tries to turn it down but can't.

VANESSA

Wow, that's hot.

Even though it's raining, she goes to roll down the window but it won't go down.

VANESSA

Is there something wrong with your car?

STEPHEN

No. I don't know what's going on.

The windows quickly FOG UP. Both look at the fogged windshield as "YOU'RE NEXT, CHEER CAPTAIN" is written.

VANESSA

What the...?

She goes to open her door, to escape the car but the DOORS LOCK. Stephen tries his door, same thing.

Stephen tries turn the car off, he pulls the key out but the car is still running.

STEPHEN

I can't turn it off!

And then, a RIPPING SOUND.

VANESSA

What's that?!

The FLOOR IS BEING RIPPED OFF of the car. They both look down in horror as the floor of the car is SLOWLY, LOUDLY, EERILY PEELED OFF.

In fight-or-flight mode, Vanessa SCRAMBLES over the seats to the back of the car, tries frantically to get out the back door. She KICKS the back window with both feet. The window starts to CRACK but then -

The car is THROWN INTO REVERSE and THE GAS PEDAL GOES DOWN! Going backwards, the car picks-up speed.

VANESSA

(shrieks)

What are you doing?!

STEPHEN

I'm not doing anything! It's...the car or something!

The car is going backwards faster, 40, 50 mph...

Vanessa looks out the window as -

THE CAR PLOWS BACKWARDS TOWARDS THE SCHOOL.

She now hurries to get to the front of the car, climbing over the seats, jumping into the front seat as -

THE CAR CRASHES INTO THE SCHOOL!

Stephen's HEAD SLAMS into the steering wheel as the AIRBAGS BLOW UP everywhere. Vanessa is thrown ass first into the windshield and then -

The car SHIFTS INTO DRIVE and is about to plow into the woods when the STEERING WHEEL TURNS HARD TO THE LEFT and the car does a few DONUTS on the wet pavement before-

- it SPINS UP INTO THE AIR.

STEPHEN

Oh my God!

VANESSA

What's happening?!

The roof of the car SMASHES INTO THE LAMPOST knocking out the light and sending GLASS SPEWING everywhere.

The car is now suspended thirty feet in the air and Stephen and Vanessa are looking down through the non-existent floor.

Vanessa SCREAMS, grabs onto the roof handle! Stephen white knuckles the steering wheel.

Their seats suddenly disappear as the bottom frame of the car DROPS to the ground below with a heavy CRASH.

Both of them DANGLE in the wind and rain. Vanessa is more athletic and manages to get her feet up on the arm rest on the door. Stephen is about to lose his grip of the steering wheel when the car starts moving forward and then CRASHES DOWN INTO WOODS.

Stephen is thrown from the car and killed instantly.

The car rolls, flips on it's side and finally comes to a stop.

The passenger side window is smashed out and Vanessa is barely alive when she's DRAGGED, semi-conscious, out of the car and over to the rain-drenched parking lot by unseen hands.

WE SEE (but Vanessa doesn't): Amy drags her.

AMY

I know we were Brownies together. And we went to dance and gymnastics together. We even hooked-up with the same boys. But that doesn't mean that you get my life!

Amy stops, let's Vanessa go. Vanessa has no idea what's going on but instinctively tries to CRAWL away.

Amy walks along side her, unseen (except by us).

AMY

You thought you could replace me as the most popular girl at Westlake, didn't you? Even when I was alive, you were always scheming against me. You stole Jeff from me and then somehow convinced Coach Jenny to make you Cheer Captain? You always made things hard for me.

Amy leans over, close to the bloody, struggling Vanessa.

AMY

And yet, you were my bestie.

Amy breaks Vanessa's neck.

WIDE SHOT as rain pours down on the mangled bodies of Vanessa and the PT Cruiser.

EXT. BRIDGET'S HOUSE - DAY

Cloudy. Gray. The kind of day where you can't tell what time it is by looking outside.

INT. BRIDGET'S BEDROOM - DAY

Bridget is in a pair of sweatpants and a mismatched sweater. Her face is puffy. She's on the phone.

BRIDGET

Okay, thanks Mrs. Weintraub. Let me know if...you need anything. Bye.

Bridget clicks off, starts to CRY. On her bed is the morning newspaper with the gruesome DETAILS Kurt's MURDER.

On another page are details about Stephen's CAR CRASH. We see the words "MARIJUANA MIGHT HAVE PLAYED A ROLE IN PUZZLING CRASH."

Bridget blows her nose. She crawls off of the bed, sits on the floor with her legs crossed. She touches her grandmother's necklace (now fixed) and closes her eyes. Bridget concentrates.

She sits perfectly still, takes DEEP BREATHS.

CLOSE ON: Bridget's face relaxes, becomes calm.

A bright, white light slowly envelopes Bridget. The light is strongest on her temple, her third eye.

A calm, slight smile comes over her mouth.

Bridget slowly opens her eyes, the light is still around her. She stands up, the light moves with her.

EXT. WESTLAKE POLICE DEPARTMENT - DAY

Establishing.

INT. WESTLAKE POLICE DEPARTMENT - DAY

McConnell and Foster are unshaved and have barely slept. McConnell flips through a file -

MCCONNELL

I keep going back to Amy Bracken's case file. This all starts with her. We've interviewed every teacher, done background checks...

FOSTER

Maybe it's time to call in some outside help?

McConnell leans back in his chair, at his wit's end.

MCCONNELL

Let's see if we get a match on DNA found on either Coach Jenny or Kurt first.

FOSTER

You still thinking about Bridget Vance?

MCCONNELL

Despite the size of the boys, I still haven't ruled it out. She says she wasn't in the woods when Mark was killed but the kids think they saw her. She was made fun of by Jeff the day he was pushed in the shower. She was at the party last night but left and came back. She doesn't fit the physical profile but if she was working with someone else? I don't know.

FOSTER

Her only friend seems to be Stephen Weintraub, also now dead...

They look at each other for a beat.

MCCONNELL

We have to handle this delicately but I want to keep an eye on Bridget Vance.

EXT. BRIDGET'S HOUSE - DAY

Jeff steps onto the front porch, rings the doorbell. After a moment, Bridget opens the door.

BRIDGET

Hi, Jeff?

JEFF

Hi. Can I talk to you?

BRIDGET

Sure. My mom's at work. Come on in.

INT. BRIDGET'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Bridget and Jeff sit on opposite sides of the couch. Uncomfortable.

JEFF

I can't believe Kurt and Vanessa are dead.

BRIDGET

And Stephen.

JEFF

All of them.

BRIDGET

What did you want to talk about?

JEFF

I believe you. About Amy. And you said something about getting rid of her. Do you think you can do that? 'Cause I'm afraid to go back to school.

BRIDGET

Yeah. I think I know how to get rid of her. I need to find out who killed her and where she's buried. It must be somewhere at school.

JEFF

What makes you think that?

BRIDGET

She seems...tied there somehow.

JEFF

But what about Kurt?

Bridget thinks back to the night before, to the party and what she remembers before she passed out.

BRIDGET

I think Amy's getting stronger. I don't know how she...killed Kurt.

JEFF

So what's next?

BRIDGET

I'm going to find out how she died. And then I need to get her spirit to the other side, to the spirit world. I need to make sure her body gets a proper funeral so that her soul has closure with the dimension of the living. If I can do all of that, Amy will be laid to rest and won't haunt Westlake High School anymore.

JEFF

But if she can kill people, why wouldn't she kill you?

BRIDGET

I can see her and I know how to protect myself. I'm gonna go to the school, find her and talk to her, try to get her to go to the other side on her own but force her if she won't go.

JEFF

How are you going to force Amy?

BRIDGET

I've read how to do it and this woman, a ghost hunter, emailed me. I feel strong enough, especially because of Stephen. I need to do this for him.

JEFF

It seems really dangerous.

BRIDGET

Amy has no reason to hate me. I just have to stay calm and let my positivity banish her negativity.

JEFF

No offence, but *your* positivity?

BRIDGET

I'm positive. If you knew me better, you would know that but you or your friends never really gave me a chance.

Both are surprised that Bridget is sticking up for herself to Jeff.

JEFF

You're right. I'm sorry. Do you want someone to go with you?

BRIDGET

No. You couldn't see her anyway and she tried to kill you once already so...

JEFF

Good point. Still...it doesn't seem safe. Remotely.

BRIDGET

I have to do it.

JEFF

Will you call me...when it's over?

Bridget brightens a little. Maybe things aren't over with Jeff after all?

BRIDGET

Yeah, sure.

EXT. SUBDIVISION - DAY

Bridget walks through the subdivision into the WOODS BEHIND WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL.

She hasn't seen an unmarked -

EXT/INT. UNMARKED POLICE CAR - SAME

A COP makes a call -

COP

Hey, I've got Bridget Vance going into the woods behind Westlake High School.

EXT. WOODS BEHIND WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL - MOMENTS LATER

Bridget makes her way through the woods quietly repeating "be positive, white light" to herself.

INT. WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

Bridget climbs through a window that was broken during the fire.

INT. WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL, HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Bridget walks down the hall. The LIGHTS FLICKER ON as she walks.

BRIDGET

Amy?

The third hand of a CLOCK on the wall starts going around BACKWARD. The clock stops. And then the hand turns quickly FORWARD.

Bridget rounds a corner, looks down the hall at the dark area that's taped off because of fire damage.

BRIDGET

Amy?

Bridget TOUCHES HER NECKLACE. She heads towards the fire damaged area. The lights don't come on.

Bridget ducks under the yellow tape, walks cautiously.

Bridget looks behind her and then -

A FAINT NOISE from further in front of her, near the charred girl's locker room.

Bridget listens, hears: POM POMS SHAKE.

INT. WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL, BROKEN WINDOW - SAME

Jeff silently climbs through the same broken window Bridget snuck in through.

INT. WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL, HALLWAY - SAME

A LIGHT is improbably on in a fire-charred classroom. Bridget walks slowly towards the open doorway, looks inside.

INT. WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL, CLASSROOM - CONTINUOUS

Amy, pretty cheerleader face, sits at a desk.

AMY

School's out. I guess because of all of the TRAGEDIES that have happened recently, huh? What are YOU doing creeping around here?

BRIDGET
Looking for you.

Bridget cautiously walks into the classroom.

AMY
Let me guess, you're mad because your two-
faced friend got killed.

Bridget swallows, endeavors to keep her cool.

BRIDGET
(sympathetic)
Amy, what happened to you? Who...killed
you?

AMY
(angry)
You really want to know?

Bridget nods, she does.

CUT TO:

FLASHBACK

EXT. WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

Hazy, hot summer day. No cars in the parking lot. School is
out. There's a CONSTRUCTION SITE next to the main building.

AMY (V.O.)
It was back in July. On a Sunday.

CLOSE ON: SIGN IN FRONT OF CONSTRUCTION SITE READS "WESTLAKE
HIGH SCHOOL DANIELI MEMORIAL GYMNASIUM COMING THIS FALL."

CUT TO:

INT. WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL, CAFETERIA

Rapid-cut images of RED POM-POMS, skirts almost showing
asses, faces, legs, bouncing boobs, pyramids, flips and high-
kicks.

AMY (V.O.)
We had cheer practice in the cafeteria
because they were building the new gym.
After, I went to talk to Coach Jenny but
she had already left.

(MORE)

AMY(cont'd)

I ran into Jeff in the hall. He had waited around after football practice.

INT. WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL, COACH JENNY'S OFFICE

Amy's in her cheer outfit and she and Jeff are alone in the office having a heated exchange.

AMY

I've worked my ass off to be Cheer Captain and Coach Jenny isn't going to just give it to Vanessa!

JEFF

Amy, please. Look, I haven't told this to anyone but my dad lost his job and I need a football scholarship for college. If this goes on my record, my dad will stroke out!

AMY

No one's going to know except for us and Coach Jenny.

JEFF

Amy, that's crazy and you know it. She's not going to let you get away with blackmailing her.

Jeff's becoming increasingly angry. His FISTS tighten into a ball.

AMY

What choice does she have?! You're a minor! She could go to jail!

JEFF

(starting to crack)

Amy, no one wants you to do this.

AMY

You mean you told people?

JEFF

(desperate)

Maybe. It's not going to look good for you if people know you blackmailed Coach Jenny to be Cheer Captain.

AMY

I'm done talking about this. I'm going to do it!

Jeff's anger is boiling over.

AMY BRACKEN

I'm gonna do it and if I don't get what I want, this whole school's gonna know!

She's half-smiling like she knows she has the upper-hand. Amy is used to having the upper-hand.

BAM! A TROPHY SLAMS HER IN THE SIDE OF THE HEAD! AND THEN AGAIN! In a BLIND RAGE, Jeff bludgeons Amy with the trophy until she goes down, not moving, smile gone.

After a few quiet moments, Jeff tries to revive Amy. Nothing.

Jeff paces. He BANGS HIS FIST on the desk.

Jeff sits at the desk, calm now, almost in tears.

Jeff DELETES THE EMAILS WITH THE PICTURES on Amy's phone.

EXT. WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL, CONSTRUCTION SITE - NIGHT

Jeff DIGS A HOLE in the dark, behind the sign telling us about the new gym.

INT. WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL, HALLWAY - NIGHT

Jeff DRAGS Amy's body through the dark halls of Westlake High School.

INT. WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL, CONSTRUCTION SITE - NIGHT

Jeff drops Amy's body into the hole.

INT. WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL, COACH JENNY'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Jeff cleans up the office, turns out the light, shuts the door.

CUT TO:

EXT. WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

A CEMENT TRUCK pours the concrete foundation for the new gym over what is now Amy's grave.

END FLASHBACK

INT. WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL, BURNED-OUT CLASSROOM - PRESENT DAY

Amy's cheerleader face is sad.

BRIDGET

It was *Jeff*?

AMY

I told you, my "friends" were all backstabbers. And Vanessa KNEW I wanted to be cheer captain. She copied everything I ever did and then kissed Coach Jenny's ass!

Amy's face changes to CORPSE and she's suddenly CLOSE to Bridget's face.

AMY

(maniacal)

'Friends' is just fiends' with an 'r.' They were all *fiends*. They all either wanted to be like me or they wanted to hook-up with me.

Amy skips a little away from Bridget, her face goes back to CHEERLEADER.

AMY

And don't worry, Jeff will get his. I was just toying with him in the shower. I plan on drawing that out for a while.

Bridget attempts to put a little distance between the two of them.

AMY

I'm over it. Coach Jenny, everyone at this school, this pathetic place, they're all getting what they deserve for being so lame.

BRIDGET

No one deserved to die. Stephen didn't deserve that!

AMY

Do you have any idea what kinds of things people said about me? They called me a slut. Guys who have had WAY MORE SEX WITH GIRLS than I've had with boys, called ME a slut. They said I was stupid. Hello?

(MORE)

AMY(cont'd)

I've been on the honor roll on-and-off since like seventh grade? Someone said I was FAT. I mean? Really? I'm five-eight and a size six!

BRIDGET

I know, it sucks. I hate it when they call me Creeper.

AMY

Well, you kind-of deserve that. Look at you. Why do you dress like that? And you're not good at any sports? It's like you have zero self-esteem. It's really negative and annoying. You're not social at all. Do you spend hours in your room, staring up at the ceiling and listening to My Chemical Romance, or what? What do you expect?

Bridget's lost her "positive" vibe. FURIOUS NOW -

BRIDGET

My mom can't afford to buy me a ton of clothes which is why I work twenty hours a week at the bookstore so I can buy my own stuff. I read, I work, I help out around the house. I don't have time for sports and don't understand them because no one ever taught me how to play or took me to any kind of game. And yeah, sometimes I get depressed and listen to music for HOURS so fuck you, you spoiled bitch! You've been taking dance lessons since you could walk. Big deal! You're an idiot! I'm not the only one at this school who thinks you're a spoiled, mean, asshole! You think everyone's jealous of you and maybe they are but it's not because you're a good person!

AMY

Are you yelling at *me*, Creeper?

BRIDGET

You need to leave here and go to the other side where you belong.

AMY

You're so jealous. You're another jealous, popular-wannabe just like every other loser at this school.

BRIDGET

No. I don't want to be like how you WERE.
You're not the most popular girl at
Westlake High School anymore, Amy. YOU'RE
DEAD!

Amy's face goes from sad cheerleader to ANGRY CORPSE who's
going to HAPPILY MURDER Bridget.

AMY

I am. And you're gonna join me.

Amy HURLS A DESK at Bridget, Bridget jumps out of the way but
one of the desk legs nails her shoulder. It's PAINFUL and
sends her against the wall.

A GLOBE comes next! Bridget moves but not quick enough and
the globe pegs her in the forehead, causing a huge gash which
starts to BLEED.

Bridget RUNS out of the room into the dark hallway.

INT. WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL, BURNED-OUT HALLWAY

Amy laughs at Bridget's feeble attempt to get away and takes
her time walking out into the hallway.

Bridget tries to calm herself. She touches her necklace,
imagines the white light around her, protecting her but she
has trouble concentrating as she runs down the hall.

Amy stands in front of her.

AMY

Your worst nightmare is about to come
true, Creeper. You're going to be stuck
in high school -- FOREVER.

BRIDGET

You need to go! You don't belong here
anymore!

AMY

Oh yeah?

Amy moves towards Bridget, about to finish her off.

But something stops Amy, she can't get closer than a foot
away from Bridget.

AMY

What are you doing? What is that?

A bright white aura now surrounds Bridget.

Feeling weightless, Bridget focuses all of her energy on Amy. The white light expands, travels towards Amy, envelopes her.

BRIDGET

(calm, firm)

Go, Amy.

AMY

I need to be here! I need to show everyone that I was the best and they should all like me and miss me!

Amy's face goes from rotting corpse to pretty, cheerleader Amy.

AMY

(sweet)

Please, Bridget. Let me go.

Bridget feels for her, is conflicted for a moment, but then changes her mind.

BRIDGET

No.

Amy's face changes to HORRIFIC ANGRY CORPSE -

AMY

You're going to regret this!

Amy takes all of her energy and tries to get out of Bridget's white light. She nearly succeeds, is inches from clawing Bridget's eyes out. Bridget focuses harder, sweat coming down her forehead.

BRIDGET

GO!

Bridget doesn't see him, but JEFF is peeking around the corner, watching. He CAN SEE what's happening.

Piece by piece, Amy's 'body' breaks apart and FLIES back into another dimension. First an arm, then a leg, another leg, the bottom half of her torso.

AMY

Stop! Stoppit! Let me go you stupid loser!

Bridget concentrates harder and Amy's head EXPLODES, reels back into the white light. Finally, there's nothing left of Amy Bracken.

The white light that was around Amy fades. Bridget's aura also fades and she collapses onto the floor.

Jeff runs over to her. She looks up at him, weak and frightened.

JEFF

You did it. You got rid of her. Thank you!

BRIDGET

You saw? You were... here?

JEFF

Yeah. I believed your crazy story because I knew Amy was dead. I had to see if you were right about Amy's ghost 'cause I knew I'd be next.

BRIDGET

I won't tell anyone. It can be our secret.

Bridget slowly, cautiously stands up.

JEFF

I don't really want to take any chances.

Bridget starts moving backwards, Jeff tracks with her. She tries to convince him -

BRIDGET

You know I'd do anything for you, Jeff. I've like you since...forever.

JEFF

(cold)

I know.

She turns to run but he quickly catches up with her, spins her around, puts his hands around her neck and starts to STRANGLE Bridget.

JEFF

Sorry, but I can't let this ruin my life.

Bridget KICKS AND FIGHTS but he's twice her size.

Suddenly, a FIST SLAMS SQUARELY INTO JEFF'S BACK. Stunned, Jeff stops strangling Bridget and his hands are roughly pulled into handcuffs by... Detective McConnell.

Bridget, heaving to get her breath, looks up at McConnell, surprised that he's there and by his concerned tone -

MCCONNELL

Are you okay? Through the window I saw...

BRIDGET

It was Amy. Did you see her?

MCCONNELL

I just saw you but I... Never mind.
(lies) I didn't see anything.

BRIDGET

Amy Bracken's buried under the gym. Jeff killed her. You need to get her out of there, make sure she has a proper funeral.

McConnell nods.

CUT TO:

MONTAGE: A TECHNICIAN rolls a Ground Penetrating Radar Device over the gym floor. Hooked-up to a computer, the device REVEALS: a body. The gym floor is crushed by a bulldozer and dug up. POLICE dig with shovels.

Amy's rotting body is found.

CUT TO:

EXT. CEMETARY - DAY

BRIGHT, LATE FALL SUN shines down on tombstones and dead trees.

A poster-sized photograph of Amy is propped on a stand. Amy's FAMILY and a few FRIENDS sit in chairs, listen to the end of a PASTOR's sermon.

Bridget, confidant, dressed stylishly in black, sits alone.

Sermon over, everyone walks by the casket to drop a flower or pay their last respects.

Bridget lays a rose on the casket and sprinkles a dusty concoction over it. She whispers an incantation.

Detective McConnell watches from a distance.

The MOURNERS head for their limos and cars. Bridget walks behind them.

She gets a chill. She turns, listens.

In the leaf-less trees, Bridget hears the SHAKE SHAKE SHAKE
SOUND OF POM-POMS.

FADE OUT