

**SINFUL SOULMATES**

written by

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Logline: When a sexually repressed man with a violent dissociative disorder goes on the run with the woman who loves him, their attempt to heal through radical sexual freedom turns into a media spectacle.

THRILLER ROMANCE      FAST-PACED, SEXUAL, SCANDALOUS

MANUSCRIPT & SCREENPLAY / 3 show-off roles for big stars:

KEVIN BRANDT (40+) Vulnerable Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde.

RENE MILLER (25+) Obsessed with Kevin (not only in life, but in the afterlife!).

TRUDY TRULY (65+) Riveting, shocking, pushy, compassionate, scandalous, wise.

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FADE IN:

**EXT. BAGHDAD - NIGHT - PRESENT DAY**

SUPER: BAGHDAD, IRAQ 2026

In the dark sky BOMBS EXPLODE. Between ARMY TENTS, PRIVATE RENE MILLER (25+, blonde, sexy, in U.S.A. FATIGUES) watches, trembling. A tall SHADOWED MAN creeps behind her, grabs her, covers her mouth to silence her scream. She tries to hit and kick him - until she sees it is muscular perfect-looking U.S.A. COLONEL KEVIN BRANDT (40+, FATIGUES WITH MANY MEDALS).

RENE

Kevin! Don't scare me like that.

She kisses him, clutches onto his FATIGUES.

KEVIN

Sorry. I came to relax you.

RENE

You're my Captain America. My Luke Skywalker.

They kiss passionately, lower their cargo pants.

RENE (CONT'D)

Spank me, Luke Skywalker.

KEVIN

Only if you Lois Lane my balls.

RENE

Seargent Fury my scared pussy.

They have fun, quick, passionate sex on the sand. In the afterglow, they lay and watch bombs EXPLODE in the skies.

RENE

I'd go crazy without you here.

KEVIN

You're already crazy.

Another SHADOWED MAN crosses by. They notice.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

(whispering to Rene)

Oh shit. I think that's Captain Grant.  
Go to your barracks.

They leave in opposite directions.

**INT. USA WOMEN'S ARMY BARRACKS - NIGHT - BAGHDAD**

Scared Rene tiptoes to her COT, opens her LAPTOP COMPUTER.

**ON THE SCREEN:** Screensaver photo of lovers Rene and Kevin. A POP-UP MESSAGE offers "BAGHDAD UPDATES."

Rene shakes her head and types "WHAT'S HAPPENING BACK IN BROOKLYN?"

**ON THE SCREEN:** Seated MARGE, an overweight Brooklyn talk show host, interviews TRUDY TRULY (60+) in wild pink hair and make-up. Trudy shows off her LEOPARD LEOTARDS, ZEBRA SNEAKERS and a WHITE LED ROBOT BLOUSE WITH MOVING LIGHTS.

MARGE

Doesn't Trudy Truly look amazing  
for her age?

SOUND OF ONE PERSON CLAPPING. Trudy pulls Marge to stand.

TRUDY

Audience, doesn't Marge look  
tantalizing as a full-figured woman?

MARGE

Girl, I'd lose weight if I could.

TRUDY

It's impossible!

MARGE

Carbohydrates make me fat. Cheese,  
corn syrup, chemicals. Look how  
fat I am. Help me be skinny, Trudy.

TRUDY

You're fat because you keep shoveling  
food in your mouth. But you can't help  
it. You were pre-programmed, sweetie.  
You -- that gorgeous body. Your whole  
mind. Everything you think you think -  
- was programmed into you by genetics,  
parents, ancestors and societal  
influences. And sure, our medicines  
dictate behaviors, too. And this  
poisoned food they create which is so  
delicious you can't stop eating it.  
It's not your fault.

Trudy walks to a TABLE with a STOREBOUGHT CHEESECAKE, eats a bite. Like a hammy mime, she pretends to wrestle the cheesecake slice away - loses as it goes down her mouth. The DOZEN AUDIENCE MEMBERS LAUGH, APPLAUD.

**IN THE BARRACKS:** The laptop dies. Rene carries it out.

**EXT. USA AMMO TENT - NIGHT - BAGHDAD**

Dark. Rene approaches the tent.

**INT. USA AMMO TENT - NIGHT - SAME**

Kevin works at a desk doing INVENTORY PAGES of AMMO BOXES.

RENE (O.S.)  
(bad Cockney accent)  
Master, my computer crashed again.

Rene enters, hands him her laptop computer. He examines it. She kisses his sexy neck.

KEVIN  
(bad Cockney accent)  
Not where anyone can catch us, lass.  
"Sex is especially forbidden  
between superiors and subordinates."

She takes her shirt off. He puts it back on, fixes the laptop.

**ON THE SCREEN:** Trudy pretends to wrestle away cheesecake.

KEVIN  
Who is the electric shirt lady??  
I know her from somewhere.

RENE  
Trudy Trudy or something.

KEVIN  
Ah!! Trudy Truly. She had a hit song  
years ago. She and my dad did.

RENE  
Your dad is a singer?

KEVIN  
More a piano player. Song called,  
what was it? "Fantasy Bride."

RENE

I love that ear-worm oldie.

(singing)

*... how would I get by, without you  
by my side, my fantasy, fantasy,  
fantasy bride, my fantasy bride...*

Rene shimmies, pulls him up to dance with her.

KEVIN

About thirty years ago. Trudy went  
to the same church as my parents.  
My dad left my mom for this wacko.

RENE

So this weird lady is your step-mom??

KEVIN

I don't know if they ever married.

RENE

How could you not know?

KEVIN

What is that show?

RENE

Some Brooklyn podcast I watch when  
I get homesick.

KEVIN

Maybe Brooklyn is where my dad ran  
off to? If he and Trudy are still  
together.

**ON THE LAPTOP SCREEN:** Trudy comically pretends to fight  
off the cheesecake. Drooling Marge tastes a piece.

MARGE

Are you saying we have no free will?

TRUDY

Someone has to have the balls to  
say it! We humans are now pre-  
conditioned robots like this dog!

Trudy takes out a ROBOT-DOG which walks around them.

MARGE

Come on. We're not robots. You said  
we were instinctive, like animals.

TRUDY

The only animal-ness left in us,  
is our genitals, which want to fuck  
everything that walks because that's  
our last animal instinct!

The audience BOOS.

TRUDY (CONT'D)

It's how we survived as a species,  
people! So you see, even there, our  
sexual instincts, they overpower us,  
too -- so again, we have no free will.

(more boos)

Your booing proves I'm right, people!  
You were programmed to resist or boo  
against things threatening your  
comfort zone! So boo your hearts out!

Marge holds up a BOOK: EVOLUTION'S TRAP BY TRUDY TRULY.

MARGE

Trudy, where is your book available?

TRUDY

Everyone here gets a free one and  
tell your friends my only book-signing  
is at Brooklyn Books in two days.

MARGE

You're not doing a national tour?

TRUDY

I wish. You're the only show that  
will interview me. Rumor has it I'm  
an irrelevant has-been, so fuck 'em!

(improvising singing)

*Fuck them. Fuck them. Fuck them...*

**ON KEVIN AND RENE WATCHING:**

KEVIN

She will do anything for attention.  
Wore a halter top to church. Classy.

RENE

I kinda like what she says -- about  
no free will around carbohydrates.

KEVIN

I don't buy it.

RENE

What I buy - is cigarettes.

She pulls a CIGARETTE and LIGHTER from her sock. Lights it.

KEVIN

Rene! No! Not in an ammo tent!!

She GIGGLES, smokes, rips off her shirt. He wrestles to grab the cigarette - which flies near an ammo box!

GRANT (O.S.)

Kevin! Rene! You two are discharged!

CAPTAIN GRANT (50) stomps out the cigarette flame.

KEVIN

I was just fixing her laptop, sir.

GRANT

I saw you fuck between tents. How many times?? I ignored it. I can't ignore you endangering our lives. Pack your things. That's an order.

Grant steps outside.

**EXT. BARRACKS - NIGHT - MOMENTS LATER**

Bombs explode in skies. In front of Grant, Kevin kneels.

KEVIN

You can't take away my pension after twenty years in the service.

GRANT

There will be trial courts to decide if you can keep your pension. It doesn't look good.

Kevin rises, hides his face in his hands. Rene comes out.

KEVIN

It wasn't my fault! It was Rene's!

Kevin sees Rene glare at him, feeling betrayed by him. He stomps away, then beats the sand with his fist. After a guttural tantrum he looks back to see Rene clutching Grant, kissing him - until Grant pushes her away. Then she starts slugging Grant until he easily restrains her fists.

**INT. AIRPLANE - NEXT DAY**

On a consumer flight, sitting by a window is Kevin building a house with PRETZEL STICKS on his tray table. He does not see Rene WHISPER to the MALE PASSENGER sitting next to him to swap seats. The man agrees. She sits.

KEVIN

Hey -- we're not supposed to talk until court.

RENE

Like I follow rules?

She bats her eye-lashes. He holds his throbbing head-ache.

KEVIN

You were fucking Grant all this time?

RENE

No! I was pleading with him to kick me out... and keep you enlisted.

KEVIN

Bullshit. You were kissing him.

RENE

For you! I'd do anything, have sex even with him, for you. To help you.

KEVIN

You are such a whore.

RENE

(playful French accent)  
Your naughty whore, Mister Mailman.  
Or do you wanna play Mister Fireman?

She GIGGLES, kisses his neck. He shifts away, straightens his pretzel house, wants nothing to do with her anymore.

KEVIN

No more firehose for you. You're too reckless. You ruined my career!... I need to find a stable job and a stable wife... maybe a stable log cabin... There's a woman named Sherry on the Virgins Dating Site. Catholic.

He shows the CRUCIFIX on his neck.

RENE  
There's a Virgins Dating Site??

KEVIN  
There's a dating site for everything.

RENE  
You went to dating sites today??

KEVIN  
No, I've been checking it for years.

Furious, she EATS his pretzel cabin. He loses his temper, shoves another pretzel in her mouth. She chokes, spits them out, catches her breath.

RENE (CONT'D)  
See? You can't keep your hands off me.

She GIGGLES. He shakes his head, looks out the window.

**EXT. LAGUARDIA AIRPORT - THAT MORNING**

Kevin exits below a sign reading LAGUARDIA AIRPORT. Rene follows. They both carry ARMY DUFFLEBAGS.

KEVIN  
You got family picking you up?

RENE  
(playful Scottish accent)  
What family? Like I have family! You got family picking you up?

KEVIN  
(playful Scottish accent)  
No, but I guess my dad's in Brooklyn.

RENE  
That's where I'm going. Let's find an airport bus to take us to that subway.

She points to an AIRPORT BUS, grabs his hand, pulls him.

**INT/EXT. AIRPORT BUS / STREETS - LAGUARDIA - MOMENTS LATER**

Kevin and Rene in the backseat. She sexily slaps him then pretends to handcuff him - then grabs his crotch.

RENE  
I get you sooooo hard, slave boy.

KEVIN  
 (suddenly angry)  
 Sherry's the only woman I think of  
 now! If she looks like her photos.

Hurt, Rene moves away to a front seat - but keeps glancing back to him. He focuses on his CELL PHONE.

**INT. BROOKLYN SUBWAY - DAY**

Pretty, vulnerable Rene rides, desperately looking for Kevin. He's hiding rows back, reading a MINI POCKET BIBLE.

**EXT. BROOKLYN SUBWAY STATION, STREET - DAY**

Rene exits onto the street, stops, depressed. Kevin runs up behind her, lifting her in the air as she SCREAMS then LAUGHS realizing it's him. PASSERSBY watch. They pass BROOKLYN BOOKS store.

KEVIN  
 Here it is! Trudy has her book signing  
 here tomorrow so maybe my dad will be  
 here?... Maybe he'll loan me money  
 since Trudy's family is loaded.

She pulls him up the street. He points to a LOST LITTLE BOY crying by a tree. Kevin moves gently to him, crouches down.

KEVIN (CONT'D)  
 Hi there. Are you lost?

The boy nods, wipes his weeping eyes. Kevin lifts him on his shoulders and yells.

KEVIN (CONT'D)  
 Heyy!!!! Who lost their kid??!!

COMMUTERS turn to look, but none claim him.

Kevin carries the boy high up a FLAT MODERN SCULPTURE.

KEVIN (CONT'D)  
 Heyyyy!!! Lost boy!! Lost boy!!!"

A WOMAN IN A SUNDRESS with bags comes running.

WOMAN IN SUNDRESS  
 Tony! Antonio!!

The boy smiles, reaches down to her. Kevin climbs down, reuniting them. Rene APPLAUDS. Others APPLAUD.

RENE

Well done. You'd be a great father.

KEVIN

I'd suck at being a dad. My parents were the worst.

Rene points to NEAL'S DINER. He follows her to it.

RENE

Here's where I use to work. I so don't want to sling hash... You'll stay with your dad tonight?

KEVIN

Maybe tomorrow. He hasn't cared for twenty years if I was alive or dead.

RENE

I'm so sorry. You deserve so much better, with your medals and looks and what a nice guy you are, Superman, any parent would be proud.

She looks around. Across the street is a MICRO HOTEL.

RENE (CONT'D)

(bad Cockney accent)

I might have to sleep in a box in that hotel tonight. So if you can't find a room, look me up, studman.

KEVIN

Rene, we're just friends now. You're just a friend. Who ruined my life.

He hugs her good-bye. Her heart breaks as he shuffles away.

**EXT. PARK - BROOKLYN - DAY - LATER**

Kevin watches SEXY WOMEN jog. He dials his CELLPHONE.

**INT/EXT. JERSEY HOTEL - DAY - SAME**

SHERRY (35, pretty, red head, MAID UNIFORM) knocks on a DOOR.

SHERRY

Housekeeping.

She answers her RINGING CELL PHONE.

SHERRY (CONT'D)

Hello?

**EXT. PARK - BROOKLYN - DAY - SAME**

Depressed Kevin hears Sherry's voice but hangs up his phone.

**MONTAGE - BROOKLYN STREET - NIGHT:**

-Kevin spies on as Rene and a TALL MAN enter the MICRO HOTEL.

-Sad Kevin looks at HELP WANTED SIGNS in CLOSED STORES.

-Kevin falls asleep on a BUS BENCH clutching his bag.

-The rising morning SUN wakes Kevin.

END OF MONTAGE.

**EXT. MICRO HOTEL/NEAL'S DINER - MORNING**

Rene and the tall man exit the hotel. Kevin jumps in front of them, grabs the man's hand, sees he has a WEDDING RING.

KEVIN

You vowed fidelity to your wife!

The man jumps into a BUS which leaves. Rene hugs Kevin.

RENE

Kevin, you're spying on me?! Look how jealous you are, daddy!

KEVIN

I'm not jealous!

RENE

You're here. Not with that virgin.

KEVIN

Waiting for Brooklyn Books tonight.

He gently pries her hands off of him. Rejected, she opens the door to NEAL'S DINER and goes inside.

**MONTAGE - BROOKLYN AREA:**

-Kevin paces outside the diner, spies on Rene waiting tables.

-Rene peeks out diner windows but can't find Kevin anymore.

-In a CHURCH pew, Kevin looks at a PORN SITE on his phone -

and deletes it. He kneels to pray.

-Kevin hides, spying, as Trudy and Butch park their TESLA.

END OF MONTAGE.

**EXT. BOOKSTORE - BROOKLYN - NIGHT**

Kevin watches from afar as a FEW WOMEN stand in line with BOOKS to be signed by Trudy sitting at a table (in her trademark blinky shirt and animal leotards). On another chair sits BUTCH (60+, long sideburns, muscular, tattoos) flirting with the women and offering VEGETABLE PLANT SEEDLINGS.

TRUDY

Free cookies. Butch makes them. No sugar, flour or oil. He uses oats, dates we grow, squash we grow, flax. Write it down.

Trudy smiles, offering a plate of cookies. The women take some and leave. Trudy eats one and feeds one to Butch.

TRUDY (CONT'D)

I only sold eight books so far.

BUTCH

More people will show up. Be patient.

TRUDY

I need to do more podcasts, or start one on my own? I need publicity, Butch.

BUTCH

Just take out more ads, Trude.

TRUDY

Kids today don't read ads, they follow celebrities... or scandals. We need a good scandal.

She presses a button on her electric shirt to STROBE.

TRUDY

Free seedlings to grow your own squash and tomatoes!

**UP THE STREET:** Kevin spies, dials his cell phone.

**INT. JERSEY HOTEL - NIGHT - SAME**

A TEEN BOY cruises maid Sherry as she stops cleaning the

room to speak into her BUZZING CELL PHONE.

KEVIN (V.O.)  
Guess where I am? In Brooklyn.

SHERRY  
Kevin!! You're not overseas??

KEVIN (V.O.)  
Out of the force.

SHERRY  
Oh no -- are you injured?

KEVIN (V.O.)  
No. It's a long story but now we  
can finally meet. I can't wait.

INTERCUT PHONE CONVERSATION:

KEVIN  
Guess who I am looking at right now?

SHERRY  
Who?

KEVIN  
My father. He looks so old, tired.

**IN THE HOTEL:** The boy undresses in front of Sherry.

TEEN BOY  
I'm gonna take a shower.

SHERRY  
Go ahead. It's already clean.

TEEN BOY  
Can you bring me in a fresh towel?

She rolls her eyes.

**OUTSIDE THE BOOKSTORE:** Kevin spies on Butch and Trudy.

KEVIN  
Sherry? Who is that?!

SHERRY  
Just a teenager who wants a towel.  
I'm at work. You told me your mom  
worked at a convent but you never  
mentioned your dad?!

KEVIN

Was that boy coming on to you?

SHERRY

I'm not interested in him!

KEVIN

You have to report him.

SHERRY

I'm not going to report some teen for asking me to bring him a towel.

KEVIN

I want you to keep away from him.

TEEN BOY (O.S.)

The trash needs to be emptied!

SHERRY

I have to get back to work. I'll call you on my break.

KEVIN

My phone may not be charged.

SHERRY (V.O.)

Are you at your dad's? What's his number?

KEVIN

I don't know. But Trudy Truly might be listed. Like Truly Pharmaceuticals. I can't wait to meet you.

He hangs up, depressed.

JOY KYONG (35, sexy, Chinese, enormous breasts) gets her book signed by Trudy then walks up the street toward Kevin. Pink sequins on her tight shirt spell TRY-SEXUAL.

JOY

Are you a real soldier?

KEVIN

Real. A colonel.

JOY

Want to go and get a burger?

KEVIN

I don't think that's appropriate.

She points to her parked BMW.

JOY  
Appropriate to check my battery?

KEVIN  
Yeah, okay, sure, I can do that.

She leads him to the BMW. He opens the hood.

KEVIN (CONT'D)  
How long is her book signing?

JOY  
Two more hours supposed to be.  
(winks)  
We got time, hunky.

Kevin CHUCKLES at her audacity.

KEVIN  
I'm starving. Buy me that burger?

JOY  
I buy you anything, soldier of love.

**INT. NEAL'S DINER - NIGHT - MOMENTS LATER**

Kevin, eating a BURGER, positions his FRENCH FRIES in a perfectly straight line, then glances out the window to spy down the street at Butch and Trudy. Joy eats her BURGER. Kevin looks through Trudy's book.

JOY  
Maybe she's right I don't have will  
power. I will power me not to want  
sex with strangers -- but I still do.

She gropes his thigh. He nervously looks around, sees only a busy OLD WAITRESS. Joy's fingers wander up to Kevin's muscular chest. He has a MOOD SWING, HYPNOTIZED BY SEX. HIS MOUTH LOWERS, SALIVATES, HIS EYES RELAX.

KEVIN  
You have naughty fingers.

JOY  
(growls)  
You're an animal like me.

KEVIN

I'm trying to be a good boy and start a new life. There's this girl named Sherry. I don't know, maybe I'll marry her, and stop the dirty sex shit - which fucked up my career.

(helpless to his lust)

But I can't stop wondering what you look like without that shirt.

Hiding behind a MENU, she flashes a breast at him.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

That's so huge it can't be real.

JOY

A doctor made it. It feels real.

She takes his hand to it. He likes it. From her purse she pulls out TWO HUNDRED DOLLAR BILLS then grabs his crotch.

KEVIN

That's what my wife is for.

JOY

I don't see a wedding ring. It's what two hundred dollars is for. Let's take this to my BMW.

He drools, nervously looks out the window - just as Rene enters in her uniform. Rene sees Joy, looks jealous, then disappears in the kitchen. SOUND OF DISHES BREAKING.

**EXT. BOOKSTORE - STREET - MOMENTS LATER**

Butch and Trudy spread out books and seedlings on the table, waving over PEDESTRIANS - who ignore them.

**INT/EXT. BMW - STREET - BOOKSTORE - NIGHT - HOUR LATER**

Groggy Kevin wakes in the BMW passenger seat, sees down the street Trudy and Butch preparing to leave Brooklyn Books. He's shocked to see Joy in the driver's seat UNCONSCIOUS, BLOOD ON HER CHOKED NECK. He's stunned to see BLOOD ON HIS HANDS. He feels her pulse, slinks down to hide, confused.

KEVIN

You're alive... I'll get you help. I didn't choke you. Someone choked you and is trying to frame me??... Who would do this??

Paranoid, he quietly opens the car door, scanning for suspects, noticing a MENACING MAN who hurries away. Then he sees Rene smoking outside Neal's Diner! Their eyes meet. She rubs out her cigarette in anger, goes inside.

KEVIN  
 (to himself)  
 No? Crazy Rene did this??

Kevin walks away, dialing his cell phone.

KEVIN  
 (whispers into phone)  
 Nine one one... There's a woman  
 unconscious in her BMW parked by  
 Neal's Diner. Brooklyn.

**EXT. BOOKSTORE - NIGHT - MOMENTS LATER**

Kevin swings his army bag, marches to Butch and Trudy.

TRUDY  
 That handsome soldier looks familiar.

KEVIN  
 My daddy! And Trudy the church whore!

TRUDY  
 On my god! Is that cute little Kevin?

Kevin pulls out an ARMY RIFLE and BLOWS THEM TO BITS.

FLASHBACK:

**EXT. SAINT LUKE'S CHURCH - COLUMBUS, OHIO - DAY - 1996**

SIGN on the church: 'OHIO'S BEST CATHOLICS PRAY HERE.'

**INT. SAINT LUKE'S CHURCH - DAY**

Kevin (11, in BLUE SUIT), and his conservative mother, MAGNOLIA (40, in MATCHING DRESS), wait near CONFSSIONALS. Trudy (40+) in a HALTER TOP exits one. Awkward silence.

MAGNOLIA  
 Enjoy you in choir, Trudy.

TRUDY  
 Oh, thank you, Magnolia... We all  
 enjoy your bake sale goods... Your  
 husband... said he'd teach me  
 the piano. Such a charitable man.

Kevin marches to Trudy and HITS her.

KEVIN  
 (to Trudy)  
 Mom says you're a sex demon.

Magnolia points him toward the confessionals.

MAGNOLIA  
 Kevin! Now you get in there and tell  
 Father Mike how you sinned. My perfect  
 boy! Shame on you hitting a woman,  
 even if she a home-wrecking whore.

**INT. CONFESSIONAL - CONTINUOUS**

Young Kevin peeks through the black curtains.

FATHER MIKE (O.S.)  
 Hurry. Some of us have to take a crap.

Kevin GIGGLES, closes the curtain, relieved to see the  
 profile of FATHER MIKE.

KEVIN  
 I hit that whore Trudy and I used  
 the Lord's name in vain.

FATHER MIKE  
 Kevin, the Lord's name is special,  
 not to be used in vain. How do you  
 think you should make it up to God?

KEVIN  
 Five minutes of *Hail Mary's*?

FATHER MIKE  
 Deal.

KEVIN  
 I masturbated again.

FATHER MIKE  
 If God sees you, he'll throw lightning  
 at you and burn your penis off.

KEVIN  
 I... can't help it.

FATHER MIKE  
 Don't let God see you doing that.  
 Ten minutes of *Our Father's*. Go now.

**EXT. TRUDY'S CONDO - BROOKLYN HEIGHTS - DAY**

Upscale brick building with elegant iron deck rails.

**INT. TRUDY'S CONDO - BROOKLYN HEIGHTS - DAY**

Indoor FRUIT TREES and VEGETABLE gardens. A GRAND PIANO is flanked by ROBOTS DRESSED IN ANIMAL MASKS. Conservatively-dressed Sherry touches a robot, accidentally triggering it to embrace her. She SCREAMS, moves away, disgusted at what's on the wall - MOUNTED IMAGES OF TRUDY AND BUTCH IN S&M COSTUMES WITH VARIOUS OTHER WOMEN ON THE COUCH SWING.

But now - on the couch swing - is Kevin, semi-conscious. Butch and Trudy, very much alive, tuck pillows around him. (KEVIN DID NOT SHOOT THEM. IT WAS ONLY HIS DELUSION.)

KEVIN

I... killed you... both.

BUTCH

Killed us? What do you mean?

TRUDY

He means subconsciously, buried us metaphorically.

KEVIN

No, I mean with my gun. M-sixty.

BUTCH

You didn't have a gun.

TRUDY

Look, Sherry's here, sweetie.

KEVIN

Can you stop the room from spinning??

Sherry grips the sofa chains to stop movement.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

(dizzy, in head pain)

Sherry. You look just like your pics.

SHERRY

Kevin, you look like a basket case.  
You screamed we took your pension??

KEVIN

I did?? There was a mistake... I was discharged... But it's bullshit.

Sherry kneels in front of Kevin, pleading into his eyes.

SHERRY

Oh you poor thing. What happened?

KEVIN

In a couple months I'll convince a jury that I didn't cause danger. It was totally the private's fault.

TRUDY

You are going to stay here with us until everything is settled.

Sherry rises, paces, examines blooming vegetable plants.

SHERRY

What are you going to do, Kevin? You can't stay at my place. My asshole roommate won't allow guests.

BUTCH

You don't have a choice then. You have to stay here.

TRUDY

Trudy Truth number one. No one really does have a choice. We have been so programmed by relatives and schooling and advertisers and we may think we grab a new option out of thin air, but the few options were already brainwashed into our brains.

BUTCH

Trudy thinks we're half robot and half animal.

Trudy flips switches, making two robots comically MOAN as they simulate sex. Sherry steps away, disgusted.

TRUDY

Humans are partly sexual animals, controlled by sexual instinct.

Sherry picks a PINK SEQUIN from Kevin's hair.

SHERRY

Why are there sequins in your hair?

KEVIN

Sequins?

He shakes his head, rises, stumbles to the window.

TRUDY

In any case, Kevin, you used your instincts to sniff your way back to your father. Bravo!

Trudy high-fives sad Kevin, opens the window, faces him.

TRUDY (CONT'D)

Kevin, your father had no choice but to leave your mother. His testosterone was hard-wired to carry on his species by distributing sperm.

KEVIN

Sherry, my dad left my devout Catholic mother to marry sexpert Trudy. Should have been the other way around, right?

Trudy smiles, holds Kevin sweetly by his ears.

TRUDY

We never married... You have no choice but to feel attacked and challenged and lash out. Understandably.

Sherry inches over, grips Kevin's hand.

SHERRY

I need some air. Kevin, let's go out and get a bite.

KEVIN

Sure. Where do you want to go?

SHERRY

You mentioned Neal's Diner several times. Let's go there.

KEVIN

I did? What did I say?

Kevin stumbles, dizzy. Trudy searches her phone.

TRUDY

You just repeated it... Here's the address. Hey, it's by Brooklyn Books.

BUTCH

The other side of Brooklyn. Thirty minutes away. No, let me cook dinner.

KEVIN

(remembering, tense)

Way too far. Sherry and I will walk to some place down the street.

BUTCH

I have a whole salmon marinating in olive oil and lemon in the fridge! I'll curry fresh tomatoes as a side.

Kevin pulls Sherry away to the door.

TRUDY

We are not going to deny Kevin the food of his subconscious after all those years of army food! Butch, we don't always have to eat so healthy.

BUTCH

Aha! So you're saying we have a choice!

TRUDY

No choice. The deli beckons us.

KEVIN

You guys stay here, Sherry and I will just find a cafe close by.

Kevin and Sherry exit - but Butch and Trudy follow them.

**INT/EXT. TESLA - STREET - NIGHT**

Trudy drives, Sherry is passenger. Butch and Kevin in back look out opposite windows.

KEVIN

So... is mom still alive?

BUTCH

I don't know.

KEVIN

You just erased us?

BUTCH  
I'm sorry. I figured you both were  
better off without me.

Suddenly emotional Kevin hugs Butch - but Butch freezes  
until Kevin withdraws. Awkward.

**INT. NEAL'S DINER - NIGHT**

Trudy, Butch and Sherry enter, sit at a booth. Kevin  
follows sheepishly, relieved he doesn't see Rene, but we  
see that Rene is working in the background.

JUMP CUT:

They finish eating (Kevin's French Fries are aligned  
straight) and then Trudy shows her phone:

TRUDY  
Our city park accuses me of guerilla  
gardening! Guerilla gardening!

**ONSCREEN PHONE:** Image of PARK GUARDS watching Trudy plant.

TRUDY (CONT'D)  
I grow vegetables to feed homeless!

BUTCH  
Public parks have rules, zoning.

TRUDY  
Fuck rules when people are starving!

Butch cruises a waitress across the diner - Rene! - who is  
flirting back. Kevin finally notices her, too - and tries  
to duck out of her eyeline. Rene sees Kevin. She's startled  
- and in love - and stumbles over.

KEVIN  
Shit! Here comes my waitress from  
The other day. She was crazy so she  
may say something bonkers.

RENE  
Hello Kevin. This must be the  
virgin then? Sherry?

Kevin glares at Rene in anger. Sherry smiles.

SHERRY  
Nice to meet you. And you would be?

RENE

(bad Cockney accent)

Pretty Kitty. Kevin, Captain America,  
used to call me that in Baghdad.  
Didn't he tell you we were discharged?

SHERRY

You were the one that caused danger?

Rene massages Kevin's shoulders. He cringes.

KEVIN

Rene is a loose cannon. Nice one  
minute. The next, she'll strangle you.  
Or strangle someone out of jealousy.

Rene massages Sherry's shoulders. Kevin protectively pushes  
Rene's hands away. Sherry rises, mad. Kevin pulls her down  
to sit. Rene massages Kevin's shoulders.

RENE

Sherry, he doesn't want me anymore.

BUTCH

I'm Butch.

Rene massages the shoulders of Butch who MOANS in pleasure.

TRUDY

Trudy Truly.

RENE

Yes, I know. Captain America and I  
watched you on Marge's show.

TRUDY

Kevin didn't tell me you saw that.

BUTCH

So that's how Kevin found me?

RENE

Excuse me. I have to sing for a birthday.

TRUDY

Happy Birthday? Not without me.

BUTCH

Trudy is such an extrovert. She'll  
invade anyone's space.

Trudy follows Rene to a table of CUSTOMERS where another

WAITRESS puts down a BIRTHDAY CAKE WITH CANDLES and begins to sing "Happy Birthday." Rene and Trudy join in.

ON KEVIN, BUTCH AND SHERRY: watching.

SHERRY

Why the hell bring me to Rene, Kevin?

KEVIN

Hey. I adore you. Already. Rene and I had a thing. To pass time. It's over.

SHERRY

Don't play me for a fool!

Sherry rises, mad. Kevin rises, kisses her.

KEVIN

I'm not a perv like Daddio. I'm not. I adore everything about you. She's a wacko that got me discharged.

Trudy returns, maneuvers Sherry to sit, then sits as well.

SHERRY

But Rene didn't come after you tonight. You brought us to her.

KEVIN

I didn't want to come here!

TRUDY

Your subconscious did.

Rene's back with a DESSERT TRAY.

TRUDY (CONT'D)

And Rene's subconscious, too.

RENE

You guys want free dessert? We throw away these samples every night and since you're the last table...

KEVIN

No thanks.

TRUDY

Ooooh. I can't resist cheesecake. Sounds perfect. Thank you, sweetie.

RENE  
I get a bite.

Trudy takes her fork, feeds Rene a bite.

BUTCH  
I'll take the cupcake. Thanks.

Butch holds the cupcake to Rene's lips. She bites it sexily, to make Kevin jealous. EMBARRASSING AND AWKWARD for all.

BUTCH (CONT'D)  
So you know Kevin?

RENE  
(between chewing)  
Kevin has a way of turning bombs  
into fireworks.

She winks at Kevin, leaves, COUGH-CHOKING on her cupcake.

KEVIN  
Classy. Like you, Trudy.

TRUDY  
Similar vibrations attract each other.  
Trudy Truth number five. No matter  
where you go, what is on your mind  
will show up there.

JUMP CUT:

DESSERT PLATES stacked on the table. Rene puts down the CHECK. Kevin searches his WALLET, surprised to find TWO HUNDRED DOLLAR BILLS. He blushes, throws them at Rene.

KEVIN  
Keep the change.

SHERRY  
Kevin, we need that cash.

TRUDY  
Sherry's right. I'm paying.

Trudy hands Rene CASH and a handful of SEEDS.

BUTCH  
Trudy insists we share our seeds.

TRUDY  
Kale is easy to grow indoors, Rene.

KEVIN

Tip her good, too, okay?

RENE

Aw, Clark Kent still cares about Lois.

KEVIN

I don't want Rene to have to do anything unethical for a place to sleep tonight like with the tall married guy she banged last night.

RENE

You should have seen how jealous Kevin got -- screaming at him.

Rene smiles - until Kevin caresses Sherry's hand.

KEVIN

I screamed that he vowed fidelity to his wife. "If a man commits adultery with another man's wife -- both the adulterer and the adulteress must be put to death." Leviticus Twenty-Ten.

RENE

I don't believe a white-bearded God in the clouds cares who I fuck. Maybe I'm Pantheist or Pagan or Wiccan where sex doesn't get you cooked on some red-horned devil's barbecue grill.

Kevin rises, pulls out his mini Bible from his pocket, sticks it in Trudy's purse. She scans through it.

TRUDY

Kevin has been rude to me and Butch. "If a child curses his father or mother, then his blood will be on his head. He must be put to death." Leviticus Twenty-Nine something.

KEVIN

You got me. Let's go find stones and get this over with.

TRUDY

Let's discuss all the religions.

SHERRY

The Bible is the only one.

TRUDY

There are about ten-thousand religions  
and over two-thousand gods -- and I  
have studied them all.

SHERRY

Which god do you believe exists??  
There's only one!

TRUDY

They all exist. Who am I, or you,  
to take away anyone's god??

Trudy pages through the Bible, reads.

TRUDY (CONT'D)

Are you really a virgin? If not, this  
says if you're not and marry I need to  
get more stones to kill you.

SHERRY

Of course. I saved myself. For  
marriage.

Kevin nods, kisses Sherrrie's cheek. Rene is hurt, jealous.

KEVIN

Rene never saved herself for anyone.  
She just gives herself to everyone.  
Like Covid.

Rene is too hurt to speak. But does.

RENE

Kevin wants sex twice a day. And he  
likes role play. Do you even know  
what that is? He also likes being tied  
up and watching me fuck someone else.

Rene lights a cigarette from her apron, puffs dramatically.  
Kevin blushes, angers, and kneels, grabs Sherry's hands.

KEVIN

Men do crazy things in war they later  
regret. Sherry, will you marry me?

Confused Butch and Trudy look on as Sherry glows.

SHERRY

Marry you? On our first date?

KEVIN

We've been talking online a year. You know my heart. I know your heart.

SHERRY

I was hoping down the line you'd ask me. This is crazy fast -- but yes, if you stay away from women like Rene.

KEVIN

I only want one woman. You, Sherry.

Ruined Rene walks to the kitchen. SOUND OF DISHES BREAKING.

**EXT. NEAL'S DINER - NIGHT - MOMENTS LATER**

Kevin, Sherry, Trudy and Butch exit.

TRUDY

The Bible says not to sleep with Sherry on her period or both of you must be cut off from your people.

KEVIN

Please cut me off from my people.

Trudy notices an UNHOUSED WOMAN, walks over, sits by her. Butch taps the deli window, smiling at Rene, spying.

BUTCH

Rene?! Need a place to stay tonight?!

KEVIN

Excuse me, pop! You already have guests in the guestroom!

BUTCH

Rene stays in Trudy's and my room!

SHERRY

I can't believe what I'm hearing.

Disgusted Kevin pulls disgusted Sherry toward the car. Rene presses her firm bosom against the glass:

RENE

I'll make do on my own tonight! But thank you! Nice meeting you all!

Kevin comes back to pull Butch toward the car. Trudy gives the unhoused lady a hug - then money - and seeds.

**INT/EXT. TESLA - STREETS - BROOKLYN BOROUGH HALL - NIGHT**

En route from the diner. Butch drives. Sherry passenger. In the back, Kevin. And Trudy, reading the mini Bible.

TRUDY

"There she lusted after her lovers,  
whose genitals were like those of  
donkeys."

Kevin grabs back the Bible.

KEVIN

My little princess didn't come here  
for you to contaminate her -- ya got  
that? You and all your pervy Chinese-  
freaks keep your paws off Sherry.

Kevin points out the window.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

Stop here. What is this? City Hall?

BUTCH

Brooklyn Borough Hall.

KEVIN

Sounds good. Sherry come with me.

SHERRY

For what?

KEVIN

Let's get married.

Sherry GIGGLES, glows. Butch breaks, pulls to the curb.

BUTCH

Isn't this a bit rushed?

KEVIN

Why would we ask for your approval?

TRUDY

You need a license to get married.  
Without it, they might offer commitment  
ceremonies. Maybe. In the day. When  
they open. But don't rush this, honey.

Kevin smiles lovingly at Sherry.

KEVIN

Then let's have our commitment ceremony right now. Sherry, I want the bad in my life to end. I want to start a good life, a pure life, with only you. What do you say?

Sherry blushes, grins, stares at him in awe.

SHERRY

Kevin, you come on so strong and I love it. You're such a man. A man to take care of me. And I will take care of you. Let's start this new life.

He wipes a tear, then leans to her. They kiss.

**EXT. CONDO PAKING LOT - BROOKLYN HEIGHTS - LATER - NIGHT**

The Tesla parks. They unload. Suddenly a CAB pulls up. Rene gets out with her barracks bag.

BUTCH

That can't be Rene, is it?

TRUDY

She's got balls, I'll give her that.

Kevin heads for the condo, tugging Sherry with him.

**INT. GUEST ROOM - CONDO - BROOKLYN HEIGHTS - NIGHT**

Vegetables bloom in pots. Kevin slams the door, locks it.

KEVIN

I am so sorry we came here.

SHERRY

Me, too. They are disgusting. I can see why you stayed away from them.

KEVIN

We can hide in here.

SHERRY

I suppose that's fine but no sex until we get officially married.

**MASTER BEDROOM**

Tomato plants climb the windows. Rene, holding a MARTINI, and Butch sit on the bed.

RENE

I'm not a prostitute anymore, if  
Kevin said I was, I'm not.

BUTCH

Forget about Kevin. He and Sherry had  
a commitment ceremony in the car.

Rene is devastated, holds back tears, chugs her drink.  
Trudy hands Butch his MARTINI, then a CONDOM, then sits at  
her desk, typing at her COMPUTER. Butch kisses Rene.

RENE

This is so wild. Trudy at her desk.

TRUDY

Oh sweetie, I've got important writing  
to do. Just pretend I'm not here.

Butch kisses Rene's breast as Trudy turns to her computer.

**ON TRUDY'S COMPUTER SCREEN:** "Advanced perspective on sex."

Butch undresses. Rene puts her ear against the wall.

RENE

So weird Kevin is just a wall away.

#### **GUEST ROOM**

Sherry lights a candle, then lays in bed next to Kevin who  
stares at the ceiling, secretly turned on by Rene's sex  
noises and orgasm.

KEVIN

Rene's a whore.

SHERRY

It's gross you ever touched her.

KEVIN

Agree. I need a little whisky.

He kisses her, gets up, stares at her, smiles.

SHERRY

No, don't go out there.

KEVIN

You're so gorgeous. I can't sleep.

He takes Trudy's book and his phone from the nightstand.

SHERRY

You can read that in here to me.  
We can both make fun of it.

KEVIN

Shhh. You go to bed.

She stares at the closing door, concerned.

**HALL**

Kevin eavesdrops at the master bedroom door but can't hear.

**MASTER BEDROOM**

Butch snores. Rene puts on her underwear. Trudy hides her jealousy as she watches from her chair.

TRUDY

Can I give you some money, sweetie?

RENE

Well, my credit card might not have enough to pay for a cab and a hotel.

Trudy rises, gives Rene MANY HUNDREDS, fastens Rene's bra.

RENE (CONT'D)

This is so much! I'll pay you back.

TRUDY

Don't you dare. My family has too much money.

RENE

How nice. Good luck on the book tour.

TRUDY

I wish. I haven't found a way to impress bookstores. Or a publisher. I had to self-publish.

RENE

Not sure if they are open-minded enough for you. For us.

TRUDY

I rented a tiny theater off off off off Broadway. Not tomorrow night but next night. You should come. I need you to come actually. It's contingent on at least sixty ticket sales.

Rene pulls on her waitress uniform.

RENE

If I'm not slinging hash I'll come.

TRUDY

Good. Why don't you get some sleep?  
The sofa swings, you know.

Rene puts on her shoes.

RENE

Never thought I'd turn down a swinging  
sofa, but I can't look anybody in the  
face in the morning. Especially Kevin.

TRUDY

Don't beat yourself up! You're a sensual  
female animal with a broken heart. You  
were discharged from a job and you are  
craving acceptance and validity while  
you scramble for new footing.

Rene hugs her tightly, then pulls back, teary-eyed.

TRUDY (CONT'D)

I am glad Butch could give you value  
and attention and intimacy which you  
so deserve. You have a beautiful young  
body and are a very beautiful spirit.

Trudy walks to her CLOSET, hands Rene several OUTFITS.

TRUDY (CONT'D)

You need clothes, don't you? I never  
wear these anymore and your figure  
would look darling in them.

RENE

Trudy! These are beautiful! Thank you!

Curious Rene touches a PUFFY PINK SLEEVE in the closet.

TRUDY

Oh, you want my old Roller Skate  
Queen dress?

RENE

No, but you can pull it off. Thanks  
for the others! I don't know what to  
say. Can't believe you're not jealous.

Trudy goes to sleeping Butch, tucks sheets around him.

TRUDY

Jealous? I selected this adorable soul  
as my significant other many years  
ago. I love him more than anyone else  
in the world. I want him to be happy.  
You made him happy. Thank you.

RENE

That's so unusual. Most women would --

TRUDY

Repress their significant other, choose  
that he suffer -- which turns into secret  
hate -- and divorce -- or even murder.

Trudy rises, follows Rene to the door.

TRUDY (CONT'D)

Call if you need more money. Promise?

RENE

Really? You're amazing! Thank you.

Rene lights a cigarette, grabs her barracks bag.

TRUDY

You be careful out there. It's New  
York. Not all fun and games like Iraq.

Rene shows off her martial arts moves. Trudy playfully  
karate kicks back, falls, LAUGHS. Rene helps her stand.  
Trudy reaches for her phone.

TRUDY (CONT'D)

I'm calling you a cab. Get a juice  
from the fridge on your way out. Butch  
blends mango with hemp seed, sea weed.

#### **MAIN ROOM**

Kevin, drinking, drunk, hides in the dark. Robot-animals  
creep out Rene as she opens the fridge and drinks JUICE.

#### **EXT. CONDO BUILDING - BROOKLYN HTS - NIGHT - MOMENTS LATER**

Rene runs across the street to the arriving CAB. A shadow  
intercepts her. She SCREAMS - gets ready to karate-kick -  
a MAN IN A BEAR MASK, wearing fatigues.

RENE

Kevin?! I'll kill you. I will.

The creature grabs her. She KICKS, WRESTLES FREE AND DIVES INTO THE CAB, SLAMMING THE DOOR. The animal takes off his mask. It is Kevin, drunk. She rolls down the window.

KEVIN

Where are you heading off to?

RENE

That stupid box hotel. I should have kicked your lights out, Batman.

KEVIN

(bad Cockney accent)

My lights are going off and on, Batgirl. I keep seeing flashes of my childhood mixed with weird violent stuff. Like I'm going Joker crazy.

RENE

You went Joker crazy! Having some commitment ceremony on a first date?!

KEVIN

You fucked my dad! What a nasty, sleazy girl! World's biggest whore.

RENE

I know. I'm a lost cause. I just wanted to get close to you. Any way.

Her face wrinkles in pain. Until Kevin smiles, hypnotized by lust, forgetting his monogamous pledge to Sherry.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

I'm hard as a rock, Catwoman.

She grins, opens the door. Dizzy, he grins, gets in.

**INT/EXT. CAB BACKSEAT - STREETS - NIGHT**

Rene closes her eyes, collapses into Kevin's shoulder. He battles a migraine, looks out the window. She takes his hand, puts it on her breast. In the passing lights, his drunk face CHANGES FROM OVERWHELMED JEKYLL TO PSYCHO HYDE / his evil alter we see for the first time.

**EXT. MICRO HOTEL - NIGHT**

Rene pulls dizzy Kevin from the cab, into the motel.

**INT. MICRO HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT**

Rene turns, unbuttons her shirt, flashes her breasts. Battling his lust, Kevin moves away, sweating. She follows him, drops to her knees, reaches for his zipper. HE PUSHES HER AWAY, SCRAMBLING.

KEVIN

No, we can't do this anymore.

She removes her shirt. He FORCES it back on. She reaches inside his pants. He SWITCHES PERSONALITIES, CHOKES her --

KEVIN (CONT'D)

You know I'm getting married!

RENE'S POV: SLOW-MO: Kevin strangling her... then BLACKNESS.

MONTAGE: HEAVEN

-Rene's TRANSPARENT SPIRIT BODY spins up through a TUNNEL.

-a small LIGHT appears. It spins. It grows HUGE.

-suddenly it's a BRIGHT HEAVEN with CLOUDS, SPIRITUAL MUSIC.

RENE (O.S.)

Where am I??

FEMALE HEAVENLY VOICE (O.S.)

Rene, it's not your time.

RENE (O.S.)

Who are you?

FEMALE HEAVENLY VOICE (O.S.)

No, Rene, you have to go back.

SLOW-MO: The music and tunnel evaporate.

END OF MONTAGE.

**IN THE HOTEL ROOM:**

On the floor, Rene's dead head comes back to life. She opens her eyes, PUSHES evil alter Kevin so hard that he FALLS making him awake from his evil alter personality.

KEVIN

What happened? Did I pass out?

RENE

You killed me! I went to the other side, you creep! You killed me!!

He rises, dizzy. GASPING FOR AIR, SHE KNEES HIM IN THE CROTCH, FORCING HIM TO BOW OVER, ELBOW-SLAMMS HIS BACK, FLIPS HIM TO THE FLOOR, STANDS OVER HIM KICKING HIS SIDE.

**INT. HALL - TRUDY'S CONDO - BROOKLYN HEIGHTS - NIGHT**

Sherry knocks on the master bedroom door.

SHERRY

Kevin, you better not be in there!

**BUTCH AND TRUDY'S ROOM**

Butch answers the door, ties on a ROBE.

BUTCH

You can't find Kevin?

SHERRY

No! Where did he go??

Sherry turns on the light switch to search their room.

ON THE BEDROOM LIGHTBULB - Glaring.

DISSOLVE INTO:

**EXT. DOWNTOWN BROOKLYN - MORNING**

The SUNRISE glares on traffic. Kevin in fatigues aimlessly walks in traffic. CARS BEEP at him. He wanders in a daze.

**EXT. BROOKLYN BRIDGE - SUNSET**

Butch and Trudy lean out the Tesla windows, searching for Kevin, handing money and seeds to UNHOUSED PEOPLE by TENTS.

**INT. TRUDY'S CONDO - BROOKLYN HEIGHTS - NIGHT**

Sherry combs her hair as she speaks into the phone.

SHERRY

(into the phone)

My fiancé's missing... No, not twenty-four hours yet... Don't hang up!

Sherry slams down the phone. Butch and Trudy enter.

SHERRY (CONT'D)  
Anything?

TRUDY  
Not yet. You look pale.

SHERRY  
I'm Irish.

Trudy feels Sherry's forehead.

TRUDY  
Are you eating anything? Butch, whip her up your fabulous vegan chili.

Trudy presses a button and a ROBOT pours her a VODKA.

SHERRY  
The police aren't going to search until he's missing twenty-four hours. Somebody could've run him over. I'm going back out there.

BUTCH  
I'll drive you. Come on, Trude.

TRUDY  
I'll stay here in case he calls here. I got work to do on my new web site.

Sherry exits. Butch exits, too.

**INT/EXT. TESLA - STREETS - NIGHT**

As Butch drives Sherry, he can't ignore his lust for her.

SHERRY  
Don't leer at me.

BUTCH  
I can't help it.

She SLAPS HIM.

SHERRY  
Oh, I couldn't help it.

SHE SLAPS HIM AGAIN. He looks away, gulping in guilt, his low self-esteem crashing lower.

**EXT. HIGHWAY - NIGHT**

Hitchhiking Kevin looks up and reads the I-78 WEST HIGHWAY SIGN: HARRISBURG: 85. PITTSBURGH: 370. COLUMBUS: 533.

A PINK PORSCHE stops. Depressed Kevin gets in.

**INT/EXT. PORSCHE - HIGHWAY - NIGHT**

Kevin hardly looks at the driver, skinny SARA KELLEY (30, pretty, immature, pigtails) as she drives.

SARA

I got a part in a show. Community theater in Harrisburg. I play a witch.

Kevin scans the RADIO, settles for a HAUNTING ARIA.

SARA (CONT'D)

What's your hometown and the name of the loudest girl in kindergarten?

KEVIN

Columbus. Clara.

SARA

That's your Broadway name. Columbus Clara. Columbus? -- as in Ohio?

KEVIN

Yep.

SARA

We're headed in that direction. Is that we're you're going?

Kevin stares out the window.

SARA (CONT'D)

Could you be any more quiet?

KEVIN

Quiet is a good thing.

SARA

Who told you that?

KEVIN

Magnolia. My mother the martyr. Fine without anyone but God and penguins.

SARA  
Penguins?? You grew up in Alaska?

KEVIN  
Magnolia called the nuns "penguins."  
She worked at a convent.

SARA  
I dated a minister once. Best sex.

KEVIN  
Why'd you break up?

SARA  
His wife.

Kevin is off in thought... remembering:

FLASHBACK:

**INT/EXT. CONFESSIONAL - ST. LUKE'S CHURCH - OHIO - 1997**

Kevin (12, combed hair, in an orange suit) kneels.

KEVIN  
It's me, Kevin.

FATHER MIKE  
I know. What are your sins?

KEVIN  
My pe... I'm not supposed to say it.

FATHER MIKE  
Say what?

KEVIN  
My penis... wants more attention.

FATHER MIKE  
That's bad.

Kevin nods in shame.

FATHER MIKE (CONT'D)  
Let me see it.

KEVIN  
What?? My penis?

FATHER MIKE  
Let me see it.

Terrified Kevin stands. As he unzips and takes it out, Father Mike's hand reaches through the partition and SHOVES KEVIN OUT OF THE CONFESSIONAL THROUGH THE DOOR. Kevin falls onto the church floor, trying to tuck his penis back in his pants. Horrified Magnolia (wearing matching orange) sees him and spansks him relentlessly.

KEVIN'S POV: Frightening distorted view of PEOPLE LAUGHING at him, with RELIGIOUS STATUES in the background.

Father Mike steps out and shouts.

FATHER MIKE (CONT'D)

You show your penis to one person!  
A wife! Now zip up before God or the  
Devil sees it.

KEVIN'S POV: Religious statues TURNING TO LOOK, JUDGE.

Humiliated Magnolia walks away as Kevin zips up and races to hold her hand. She reacts as if his hand is poison.

**INT. KITCHEN - HOUSE - COLUMBUS, OHIO - NIGHT**

TWO-FOOT CRUCIFIX on the wall. Standing, Magnolia slops down STEW on Kevin's plate. Seated, meek Butch avoids their eyes.

MAGNOLIA

Tell your son he's going to Hell.

Henpecked Butch looks down, tries to chew the tough meat.

BUTCH

Why don't you let me try to make  
this stew next time.

MAGNOLIA

Men don't cook! Butch. Tell. Your son.  
He's going. To Hell.

Guilty Kevin's hand shakes trying to eat. Magnolia gets the crucifix statue off the wall, puts it by Kevin's plate.

BUTCH

Thought I'd teach Kevin the piano.

MAGNOLIA

You will do no such thing! Nor will  
you teach it to that Trudy whore.  
Tell your son he's going to Hell.

Empathetic Butch avoids their eyes, eats quietly.

FLASH-FORWARD TO:

**EXT. HOTEL HARRISBURG - PENNSYLVANIA - NIGHT**

NEON VACANCY SIGN flashes.

**INT. HOTEL HARRISBURG - PENNSYLVANIA - NIGHT**

In the dark, Kevin masturbates to sleeping Sara. He orgasms then SWITCHES PERSONALITIES TO MEAN MR. HYDE.

KEVIN

Deuteronomy. "She has slept with a man before she was married. Get rid of that evil person."

Kevin looks for a rock then opens the door and searches outside. He finds a LARGE STONE and reenters. He POUNDS IT ABOVE HER HEAD - AND INCHES FROM HER SIDES. AS HE AIMS FOR HER HEAD, SHE FIGHTS HIM OFF. THEY WRESTLE MORE. SHE SCREAMS. Panicked, he grabs her keys and runs out.

**EXT. HOTEL HARRISBURG - NIGHT - MOMENTS LATER**

Kevin steals Sara's Porsche, peels out of the parking lot, confused, slowly awaking from his evil personality.

KEVIN

Why am I in this car?... Where am I going? What happened with Sarah?

He pulls over, holds his throbbing head, until he hears a POLICE SIREN - then he presses the gas and drives away.

**INT. TRUDY'S CONDO - BROOKLYN HEIGHTS - MORNING**

Anxious Sherry walks two FRUMPY FEMALE POLICE OFFICERS out the front door.

SHERRY

As of this morning, Kevin's been missing now thirty hours.

POLICEWOMEN

We'll put out another APB.

The officers leave. Sherry SLAMS the door.

**INT/EXT. CONDO DOOR - BROOKLYN HEIGHTS - CONTINUOUS**

As the lady cops leave, a NEW YOUNG MALE COP arrives.

POLICEWOMAN #1  
We already answered her call.

NEW YOUNG MALE COP  
A lady by the name of Trudy Truly?

POLICEWOMAN #1  
No. A Sherry Nelson.

NEW YOUNG MALE COP  
I'm here to question a Trudy Truly.

From the stairs, Trudy approaches with a BOX and BAG.

TRUDY  
I'm Trudy.

NEW YOUNG MALE COP  
Can I ask you a few questions?

TRUDY  
(joking)  
I only stole the olives.

He CHUCKLES. The lady officers leave.

TRUDY (CONT'D)  
Come on in and have some hot olives.

**INT. GUEST ROOM - CONDO - BROOKLYN HEIGHTS - MOMENTS LATER**

Sherry is packing. Butch enters with BREAKFAST PLATES.

BUTCH  
Trudy insists you try my Omelet de  
la Mere Poulard. Eggs, creme fraiche  
using yogurt, mushroom, lardons. Then  
we can call and check your apartment?

SHERRY  
I just called there.

Trudy enters with a CASHMERE SWEATER, tears off PRICETAG.

TRUDY  
It's the same color as your eyes.

She smiles, hands it to Sherry.

SHERRY  
This is beautiful! It's cashmere!

TRUDY

Kevin will love it on you... Another officer just questioned me. He asked if I saw anything the night of my book signing. Not far away a woman was found unconscious in her BMW. She's in a coma and may die... I think Kevin's involved. A Chinese woman.

BUTCH

Why do you think Kevin had anything to with that?

SHERRY

Of course he didn't!

TRUDY

This woman, Chinese. Kevin talked about Chinese perverts. He wasn't going to let them contaminate you.

BUTCH

You're convicting Kevin of attempted murder because he mentioned "Chinese?"

Butch's hands drop the plates on a NIGHTSTAND.

TRUDY

Kevin's fingers were reddish, remember? Maybe from blood? He mumbled incoherently and fainted.

BUTCH

Probably ketchup from Neal's Diner.

TRUDY

Hair his color was found in the car. And semen. So it was a man.

SHERRY

There are a million people with Kevin's hair color in this city.

Sherry shoves the sweater in her purse. Trudy picks up a pink sequin from the carpet, shows it to her.

TRUDY

She was wearing pink sequins. I told the officer we didn't see anything.

BUTCH

Well we didn't. And we didn't strangle people because they didn't buy books! You better not have mentioned Kevin!

TRUDY

I didn't. But not to leave any stones unturned, I asked the cop about other attacks in the city.

BUTCH

In Brooklyn?? There must be hundreds.

TRUDY

Dozens. And I listened to each one.

Aggravated Sherry walks to the door.

TRUDY (CONT'D)

Outside Neal's Diner in Brooklyn, a bloody duffel bag registered to the U.S. army containing fatigues and a waitress uniform was found. The waitress is missing, they think dead.

Butch is in disbelief. Sherry shakes her head in denial.

**INT/EXT. PORSCHE - HIGHWAY - DAY**

HIGHWAY SIGN reads: PITTSBURGH: 285 MILES, COLUMBUS: 448.

Driving past is the Porsche, drunk Kevin chugging WHISKEY.

**EXT. NEAL'S DINER - DAY**

Trudy, Butch and Sherry walk to the door as a cop, ERNIE JONES (60, African-American) exits.

ERNIE

I know you from somewhere.

TRUDY

Yours truly, Trudy Truly.

ERNIE

You're that sexy singer! My wife bought your book and tried to return it. Hi. I'm Officer Ernie Jones.

TRUDY

Shame about that diner waitress -- heard it on the news.

BUTCH

She was from the army?

ERNIE

Recently discharged. We thought the blood was from overseas but it is just a day old. We haven't found a body.

TRUDY

Oh. Excuse me. This is my partner, Butch. And Sherry. Officer Jones.

SHERRY

What was the waitress's name?

ERNIE

Rene Miller. Do you know her?

They shake their heads no and walk away to Trudy's car.

SHERRY

I hate I have to ask. What happened that night with you guys and Rene?

BUTCH

We had sex like adults.

TRUDY

Butch and Rene had sex. Then she left. That's all.

SHERRY

I need to get away from you sinners.

Sherry turns, vomits. Butch caresses her shoulders.

BUTCH

We have to stick together. You're part of the family now.

SHERRY

No. Don't touch me. Eww.

TRUDY

We're a pack. Animals stay in packs.

SHERRY

Eww. We're different species. I'm going back to Jersey. Kevin will call me and explain where he went and we'll laugh at your absurd accusations.

TRUDY  
You can't ignore facts.

SHERRY  
The facts are you and Butch were the last people to see Rene Miller. Maybe you killed her?

TRUDY  
Why would we kill her?

BUTCH  
We had a good time, left as friends.

TRUDY  
We all left empowered.

SHERRY  
You people are deranged.

Trudy tries to give Sherry MONEY and seeds.

TRUDY  
Anyone can grow tomatoes. The money will get you to Jersey.

SHERRY  
No thanks! I'll charge it. Kevin didn't kill Rene! Maybe Rene killed Kevin?? She has stalker energy.

BUTCH  
Maybe. Kevin said Rene acts sweet but could strangle a person a minute later. We don't have a clue.

TRUDY  
We do have clues. A bloody bag. And Kevin missing. And pink sequins.

Sherry flips the bird, gets into a CAB and it drives away.

**INT/EXT. TESLA - BROOKLYN STREETS - DAY**

Trudy drives Butch.

BUTCH  
Are you going to lecture tonight?

TRUDY  
Don't you limit me! Do I limit you?!

BUTCH

I'm just saying last month they cancelled. You didn't have sixty.

TRUDY

So many people are suffering today! They need my wider perspective on life and relationship advice, you bastard!

BUTCH

If you call me names, are you really an expert on relationships?!

TRUDY

Most couples last four years! We've got almost thirty because of me. My unconditional love for you. Empowering you to be happy, how you wish, and you empowering me to be happy, in my book and lectures! We don't limit each other like most couples. They resent each other because they're being limited.

BUTCH

Let's get a beer somewhere.

TRUDY

I don't have the patience today to empower you through a hook-up with some young tart with daddy issues.

BUTCH

A drink will get my mind off Kevin.

TRUDY

You need to keep your mind on Kevin.

BUTCH

You can't tell the police. This is all a misunderstanding. They'll shoot him.

TRUDY

Maybe we have to tell the police.

BUTCH

No way. Why?

TRUDY

If he killed a person? He said he thought he killed us.

BUTCH

My dear, we are alive. All you have is  
conspiracy circumstantial evidence.

Her cell phone RINGS. She answers.

TRUDY

Hello?

AGENT (V.O.)

Sugar, they canceled tonight's  
lecture. Not enough reservations.

TRUDY

(into phone)

They can't cancel me again! Did you  
tell them the world needs me?!... Who  
are they going to get to replace me  
at this last minute!

AGENT (V.O.)

They got some teen influencer.

She hangs up, mad, turns to see TENTS and UNHOUSED PEOPLE.

TRUDY

Butch, I'm not smart enough for sixty  
New Yorkers to listen to me? Straight  
A's. Roller Skate Queen, ran the  
college newspaper. Butch, we had a  
number one song!

She accidentally CRASHES INTO ANOTHER CAR.

**INT/EXT. PORSCHE - OFF-RAMP - EL SALVADOR RESTAUR. - DAY**

Kevin drives the pink Porsche. His phone RINGS. He answers.

KEVIN

Hello?

RENE (V.O.)

Kevin?

KEVIN

Who is this?

RENE (V.O.)

It's Pretty Kitty.

KEVIN

Rene?

**INT/EXT. STATION WAGON - HIGHWAY - DAY - SAME**

Rene (wearing clothes Trudy gave her) with a BRUISE on her face and arm, drives, smokes and speaks into a phone.

## INTERCUT PHONE CONVERSATION

KEVIN

Rene? What happened? I remember you kicking the shit out of me in that box hotel -- and then I blacked out?

RENE

You killed me -- I told you! Where are you? Sounds like you're driving?

KEVIN

A pink Porsche. How could I kill you? You're not dead.

ON KEVIN: He pulls over to an EL SALVADOR RESTAURANT.

RENE

How did you get a Porsche?

KEVIN

I don't know. I woke up driving it and then I heard cop sirens so I kept driving.

RENE

That doesn't make any sense.

KEVIN

None of it makes any sense!! I don't know what is happening to me!!

RENE

Where are you going?

KEVIN

I don't know. Going home to Columbus? Currently, El Salvador?

RENE

El Salvador?

KEVIN

Where are you?

RENE

Trying to find you. I rented a cheap old station wagon. We'll sit and figure all this bad shit out.

KEVIN

No way. You're a bad influence. I'm trying to get away from all the bad.

Nervous, paranoid, petrified, he hangs up.

**EXT. BROOKLYN STREET - DAY**

A tow-truck pulls the TOTALED CAR away leaving Trudy's Tesla slightly dented. An OFFICER fills out an accident report. Trudy and Butch, still numb, stand on the sidewalk as a mass of SCHOOL CHILDREN pass the unhoused and tents.

TRUDY

I have to call a press conference for tomorrow.

BUTCH

A press conference for hitting a car??

TRUDY

About Kevin.

BUTCH

Don't you dare!

He grabs her by the arms.

TRUDY

Somebody has to help Kevin, Butch!

She breaks free. The children's CHAPERONES stop, eavesdrop.

TRUDY (CONT'D)

Someone has to help these precious children.

Trudy stares at the naïve young children's faces, then holds her heart in pain. She kneels in front of an ANGELIC GIRL, touches her hair. Trudy helps the little girl button her coat. Trudy sneaks her arms around the girl and pulls her into a soft embrace. The chaperones pull the girl away.

Trudy rises, YELLS at them.

TRUDY

You squeeze these young impressionable minds into an adult capitalist puzzle system rigged against their freedom and happiness! They need my help to survive your destructive poisoning!

Trudy hears PLANES, points at the STRATOSPHERIC AEROSOL INJECTION. A passing UNHOUSED MAN injects himself with drugs.

TRUDY (CONT'D)

Pollution from the air! From grass and water faucets and processed foods and drugs and political narratives! And school bullying and endless wars for profit!! What do these angels have to look forward to?? They'll never be able to afford a cute little house!

The chaperones hurry the kids away, but Trudy follows.

TRUDY (CONT'D)

Elect Trudy Truly as world leader and every human gets a free dirt lot, and seeds to grow vegetables and fruit trees!

Trudy kneels, finger-digs in dirt and plants seeds.

TRUDY (CONT'D)

Then their entire lives wouldn't be working to pay expenses. But the greedy corporations don't want these kids to be free to spend their lives in bliss!! -- They need them to be needy. Need, need, need, need, need!! I know. My family owns one of those corporations. Why are eight billion people on this Earth all needy when we should all have a free small dirt plot of land -- and seeds? Seeds are free! The earth makes seeds!! Healthy food has zero cost. It grooowws!!

Fighting a breakdown, she throws dirt at the airplane.

**INT. EL SALVADOR RESTAURANT (PENNSYLVANIA) - DAY**

Deserted. Every inch is lit STERILE BRIGHT LIKE AN EXAMINATION ROOM. Kevin sits and straightens out a CORK

BOARD so all the thumbtacked BUSINESS CARDS are perfectly even. Latin waiter LUIS drops the check.

KEVIN

I straightened these for you.

Awkward. Luis nods.

LUIS

Why did you do that?

Kevin looks at him, dumbfounded, like "duh, things should be in order."

KEVIN

You're welcome. How much do I owe?

LUIS

Ah... Fourteen-nineteen -- make it fourteen dollars even.

He hands the waiter a HUNDRED, WITH PINK GLITTER.

KEVIN

Just give me eighty back.

LUIS

Thanks.

Luis does. Kevin points to a card with a MILITARY HOTEL.

KEVIN

What's this?

LUIS

A Pittsburgh hotel that gives like fifty percent off for military.

Kevin studies the card and exits.

**INT. MAIN ROOM - TRUDY'S CONDO - BROOKLYN HEIGHTS - DAY**

Trudy stares at PHOTOS of herself in younger years: COLLEGE NEWSPAPER EDITOR, CHEERLEADER, ROLLER SKATE QUEEN. She answers her RINGING phone. Listens.

TRUDY

(into phone)

In front of City Hall... well I can postpone it an hour, would that help?... I see. What if -- hello!?

She slams down her receiver and goes to the PRESS CONFERENCE LIST on her laptop - then deletes five of five TV stations. Butch passes holding a shirt and an IRON.

BUTCH

You can't mention Kevin at your press conference. We don't know he had anything to do with anything. If a reporter shows up, tell them we're bringing back our nightclub act.

She points to a pink sequin on her desk. He storms out.

**HALL**

She runs after him with the sequin, but he ignores her. Her finger forces the sequin on his arm. He blows it away.

**INT. JERSEY HOTEL - NEW JERSEY - DAY**

Sherry is a hotel maid again. Her cell phone RINGS. A HEAVY HOTEL MAID turns off the VACUUM.

HEAVY HOTEL MAID

Don't answer. They could fire you.

SHERRY

(into phone)

Kevin??

**EXT. GRAFFITI ALLEY - PENNSYLVANIA - DAY - MOMENTS LATER**

Behind a GARBAGE CAN, Kevin talks into the phone.

KEVIN

Hey. I've been blacking out a bit  
But when I can I'm coming to get you  
and take you away to our dream cabin.

INTERCUT PHONE CONVERSATION

SHERRY

Trudy says you attacked and killed Rene.

KEVIN

Rene's not dead! She just called me.

SHERRY

You didn't go with that crazy witch  
anywhere that night, did you?

KEVIN

I chose you to be my wife.

SHERRY

I love you, Kevin! I want our cabin.

Overwhelmed, he hangs up, leaving her cold.

**GRAFFITI ALLEY**

TWO PROSTITUTES pass dazed Kevin. LAURA eyes him sexily.

KEVIN

You'd fuck a groom on his honeymoon,  
wouldn't you?

LAURA

Sure. Is that you?

KEVIN

It doesn't matter, right?

LAURA

Not my problem.

Eye contact. Lust.

**EXT. EL SALVADOR RESTAURANT - PENNSYLVANIA - NIGHT**

Rene's wagon speeds past, breaks, reverses, parks. She runs out, waving her arms.

RENE

El Salvador! Kevin said El Salvador!

**INT. EL SALVADOR RESTAURANT - PENNSYLVANIA - NIGHT**

Rene shows her phone to waiter Luis.

PHONE IMAGE: She and Kevin in fatigues, in love (long ago).

RENE

Did my man come in here?

LUIS

A nice guy. Are you two soldiers?

RENE

We are.

LUIS

Aww. And you're married?

She hides her ringless ring finger.

RENE

Yes. Did he say where he was going?

LUIS

No, I don't think so.

She's crushed, shuffles to the door, defeated.

**EXT. EL SALVADOR RESTAURANT - NIGHT - HOURS LATER**

Luis closes the restaurant, walks to his car passing Rene asleep in her station wagon driver seat. Hearing his car rev and leave, Rene wakes, dials her phone.

RENE

Come on, Kevin! Pick up, damnit!

She keeps trying - and trying - until she falls asleep.

**INT. SHERRY'S APARTMENT - NEW JERSEY - MORNING**

Emotional Sherry drinks COFFEE, looks at Kevin's online DATING PHOTO. From the kitchen, her FEMALE ROOMMATE enters.

FEMALE ROOMMATE

Did you steal my creamer?!

SHERRY

No!!! Good fucking morning!!

**EXT. BROOKLYN BOROUGH HALL - BROOKLYN - DAY**

Trudy in animal leotards and electric shirt, carries her books and a STANDING MICROPHONE up twenty stairs to Brooklyn Borough Hall. Down by the heavily trafficked street is Butch at their dented Tesla.

BUTCH

No one came to your press conference!

She looks away and sees COLLEGE GIRLS exit Brooklyn Borough Hall GIGGLING at her outfit. She forces a smile at them, fluffs her hair, tucks in her belly.

TRUDY

I'm doing the best I can with my age!  
You ladies, however are gorgeous!

They ignore her. Trudy smiles at PASSERS-BY who ignore her.

BUTCH

Hey, isn't that the cop from Neal's  
Diner? You called him?!

Officer Ernie Jones exits a POLICE CAR and waves.

BUTCH (CONT'D)

It's not too late for us to revive our  
cabaret act, Trude! Ask him if he  
knows a small business foreclosing.  
You can buy it!

TRUDY

I'll ask him if I can do splits on his  
glass coffee table!

BUTCH

You can't do splits anymore!

Angered, she descends the stairs slowly. Twenty steps from  
the street, she stops, holds her head, dizzy - almost  
faints - of "lifetime failure."

ERNIE

Did I miss your press conference?!

TRUDY

(lying)

Yes! Reporters loved it!

So defeated, she barely has the strength to move. Ernie  
holds up the 2001 FANTASY BRIDE C.D..

ERNIE

I want your guys' autographs!

Finally some acknowledgment. She grins, steps down, signs  
the C.D.. Butch is right behind her, signs it, too.

BUTCH

Officer, isn't there a Taco Bell on  
Sixth Street that's up for lease?

ERNIE

I don't know.

TRUDY

That Taco Bell on the third floor?  
You want us to convert that tiny...  
Taco Bell into a piano bar?

(MORE)

TRUDY (CONT'D)

Ernie -- would your boss promote you if you brought in a lead on the man who put Joy Kyong in a coma?

BUTCH

Trudy! Stop this! Nothing is forcing you to say anything. You have choices!

TRUDY

I'm not saying anyone's name.

BUTCH

You're killing someone to sell a book.

Butch glares at her. Blood drains from his face.

TRUDY

Rene -- had sex -- with my lover -- Butch here -- the night she was murdered. But he didn't kill her.

Butch feels betrayed and walks away.

ERNIE

Can you repeat that on camera? My body camera is broken. I have to turn on the siren for the camera.

Ernie turns on the FLASHING SIREN, automatically propelling the camera. Trudy puts on more lipstick, eager to have the spotlight.

TRUDY

(too loud)

Little darlings, it's Trudy Truly, author of EVOLUTION'S TRAP. I have obtained evidence to suggest a certain young male, in his forties, is connected to the battery of Joy Kyong and the disappearance of Rene Miller! I'll release info tomorrow from my brand new Trudy-Truly-dot-com podcast.

ERNIE

Trudy, let me drive you back to the station to fill out a report.

TRUDY

Charmed.

ERNIE

Butch, you too. Come over here.

BUTCH

I had nothing to do with Rene's disappearance! I want nothing to do with you. Nothing to do with Trudy!

Butch walks away as Ernie glares. Trudy grabs Ernie's arm.

**INT/EXT. POLICE CAR / STREET - DAY - MOMENTS LATER**

Trudy, in the back seat of Ernie's police car, smiles wistfully, grimacing at man-made clouds through her cracked window. She ignores Butch in the Tesla pulling next to them. Ernie hands Trudy a bag of POTATO CHIPS.

ERNIE

I'll give you the star treatment.

TRUDY

Oh they have ridges. I feel like the Queen Of Sheba.

ERNIE

I could make you feel like the Queen Of Sheba every day.

TRUDY

What would your wife say about that?

ERNIE

Honestly, she just wants my happiness.

TRUDY

That's the way it should be!

He winks to her. She talks into her phone camera.

TRUDY (CONT'D)

Trudy Truly is being arrested by a very sexy black cop. Stay tuned for more info and follow my new channel and post it everywhere!

**INT. POICE DEPARTMENT - BROOKLYN - DAY**

All seated on a BENCH, Ernie and a HANDSOME LIEUTENANT face Trudy who turns on her phone camera to air live.

TRUDY

I can't give you his name.

HANDSOME LIEUTENANT

What the fuck are you talking about!?

TRUDY

I'm just saying there may possibly be a connection between the two events.

ERNIE

Tell him what you told me.

TRUDY

Rene Miller may be alive since you have not found a body.

HANDSOME LIEUTENANT

Where is she?!

TRUDY

He probably did not kill her because he did not intentionally want her dead. Subconsciously he may have -- but not consciously.

HANDSOME LIEUTENANT

Lock this lunatic up!

He turns off her phone camera, handcuffs her, stands, winded. Her fingers grab his wrists.

TRUDY

Sit back down, okay? I have to tell you something.

He sits. Trudy pleads into his eyes.

TRUDY (CONT'D)

Your pulse is going way too fast, you're close to a heart attack. Cayenne pepper oil can stop a heart attack. Keep this on you.

She removes CAYENNE PEPPER OIL from her purse and hands it to him. He shakes his head, uncuffs her.

HANDSOME LIEUTENANT

Get your crazy ass out of here.

**EXT. EL SALVADOR RESTAURANT - DAY**

Luis knocks on Rene's car window, waking her. She opens the door, groggy.

LUIS

I just remembered I told your husband  
about this Pittsburgh military hotel.

Luis hands her the business card - giving her renewed life.

**INT. MAIN ROOM - TRUDY'S CONDO - BROOKLYN HEIGHTS - DAY**

Trudy watches the TV play her **NEWS SEGMENT**. In the KITCHEN  
background, Butch picks lettuce for a salad bowl.

BUTCH

Tikka Masala Chicken! With roasted  
garlic cauliflower and broccoli curry!

TRUDY

I thought you left me?!

BUTCH

I'm leaving after dinner. I hate you,  
my dear, for your choice to hunt Kevin!

TRUDY

I had to! I did it for Kevin!

BUTCH

You did it for you!

**ON THE TV:**

NEWSCASTER

Singer and author Trudy Truly of  
Truly Pharmaceuticals was questioned  
today on the assault of Joy Kyong and  
missing soldier waitress Rene Miller.

TRUDY (V.O.)

Show my book -- there it is!!

(clapping)

National channels! Oh my god they're  
even playing "Fantasy Bride" in the  
background! Listen!

Her cell phone RINGS. She answers, listens.

TRUDY (CONT'D)

It's Sherry.

(into phone)

Hold on. I have another call... hello?

(MORE)

TRUDY (CONT'D)

Javier Del Rio? I've watched your show for thirty years!... Yes! Yes, I'd be happy to be a guest!

(hangs up. Speaks to Sherry)

That was the Javier Del Rio show!! La di da -- national talk show!

Butch enters, mixing a bowl of salad.

BUTCH

They'll be hunting for my son all over the country if you talk more.

TRUDY

Javier will lead us to him first.

BUTCH

Kevin hangs up when I call.

TRUDY

Leave him a message that I will be on Javier. We can get him info through that talk show. You can't leave me. We have to help him, Butch.

She fluffs her hair in the mirror, hums.

**EXT. MILITARY HOTEL - PITTSBURGH - DAY**

Rene looks for a pink Porsche, finds it, then puts her ear against the nearest room door.

**INT/EXT. ROOM 34 - MILITARY HOTEL - DAY**

Curtains closed, Dark except for a LAMP and TV. On the hotel bed, Laura is lying lifeless - bruised neck, eyes closed - adjacent to fidgeting (evil alter) Kevin.

**ON THE TV:** Trudy and JAVIER (a Geraldo Rivera type) sit:

TRUDY (ON TV)

I believe a forty-something year-old man had sex consensually with Private Rene Miller after she left our home.

JAVIER (ON TV)

After she had sex with your husband?

TRUDY (ON TV)

My "partner." Butch and I never married. We have an open relationship.

(to audience BOOS)

People! Not all animals are meant to be monogamous. Lions, elephant seals, bonobos, many birds are not.

**ON KEVIN:** Startled to hear a KNOCK on the door.

**ON THE TV:** Trudy rises, speaks to the LIVE AUDIENCE.

TRUDY

This young man gets dizzy, forgets things. I've seen him collapse.

JAVIER

So he kills in a daze?

TRUDY

The Chinese woman is not dead.

JAVIER

Joy Kyong died earlier today.

**ON KEVIN:** wincing.

KEVIN

Rene killed Joy! Not me!

**ON THE TV:** Trudy sits, looks down.

TRUDY

Oh, damn it. I didn't know that.

JAVIER

Tell your friend to turn himself in!

TRUDY

(hesitantly, to camera)

Kevin, please turn yourself in.

JAVIER

His name is Kevin?

TRUDY

Kevin Brandt. Colonel Kevin Brandt served with Rene Miller in Iraq. They were discharged together.

**ON KEVIN:** Furious, kicking the TV.

**ON THE TV:** Trudy lifts her book, shows it.

JAVIER

This is quite a scoop. Private Rene Miller is missing. Colonel Kevin Brandt had sex with both these women? And then attempted to kill them?

TRUDY

No! I don't think he is trying to kill anybody - but his brain wrestles with his extreme religious views condemning extra-marital sex and all "sins."

JAVIER

He is trying to kill the evidence of his extra-marital sexual conquests?

TRUDY

He's not married. He just got engaged.

**ON KEVIN:** He wakes up bruised Laura.

KEVIN

Get out of here.

He throws her clothes at her. She dresses, confused, frightened. MORE DOOR KNOCKS. Laura inches toward the door. He races her to it, suddenly grabs her neck as he becomes his evil personality, choking her, as:

TRUDY (O.S.)

My guess is Kevin's brain is misfiring anger out of early repressed trauma -

JAVIER (O.S.)

Was he wounded in the head in Iraq?

TRUDY (O.S.)

Um, maybe he has post traumatic stress disorder, on top of his abusive childhood. Butch, his father, did not abuse him. But his ultra-religious mother was a monster.

**OUTSIDE:** Rene tries to open the window.

**INSIDE:** Laura COLLAPSES TO THE FLOOR. Kevin snaps out of his evil personality trance, looks at her, then at his hands, then overwhelmed, FAINTS.

TRUDY (O.S.)  
 Maybe Kevin's scary religious  
 conditioning conflicts with his  
 animalistic sexual urges?

**ON THE TV:** Trudy paces. Javier follows.

JAVIER  
 Is he going to continue killing? Can  
 you say something to him to stop it?

TRUDY  
 I don't know.

**IN THE HOTEL ROOM:** Kevin wakes up. Laura is gone.

TRUDY (O.S.)  
 Kevin, you have to reverse or change  
 your past programming!

JAVIER (O.S.)  
 With what? A lobotomy?

**ON THE TV:** Trudy pleads to camera:

TRUDY  
 Kevin, you have to change your past --  
 your beliefs -- maybe trick your brain  
 into a more productive past -- like a  
 self-hypnosis -- reset your triggers.

**ON KEVIN:** Dizzy, rises, remembers:

FLASHBACK:

**INT. KITCHEN - CHILDHOOD HOME - OHIO - DAY - 1988**

Kevin is a three year-old in a HIGH-CHAIR, joyous -  
 drumming his SPOON to his BOWL. Butch SLAPS the table.

BUTCH  
 Stop the noise!

Magnolia SLAPS the table.

MAGNOLIA  
 It isn't just noise! It was a song!  
 I like it! Keep drumming!

Kevin is afraid. His mother's hand FORCES HIM to DRUM. His  
 father's hand FORCES HIM to STOP. Kevin wants to cry.

BUTCH

Now don't you cry like a little girl!

Little Kevin holds back tears as his mother forces him to DRUM and as his father BANGS his hand on the table.

FLASH-FORWARD TO:

**MILITARY HOTEL ROOM:**

Rene BANGS on the window. Kevin hides in the bathroom.

TRUDY (O.S.)

From what I gather, he is trying to force change who he is, who he was, from a sexually promiscuous man to a committed fiancé. Even for such an intelligent man with many medals, that may be frustrating if not impossible.

Rene opens the window, climbs in, waving a KNIFE, looks for Kevin, who is not in sight. She's stunned to see Trudy on TV.

**ON THE TV:** Trudy holds her head, concentrating.

TRUDY

Maybe he feels if he kills the evidence of infidelity he can erase it? Or that he is required to erase the "sin" -- something like that?

**IN THE HOTEL ROOM:** Rene turns off the TV, HEARS MOVEMENT in the closet, opens the door, sees terrified Laura.

LAURA

Don't stab me. Pleeeeease!!

Dizzy, Kevin walks out of the bathroom.

KEVIN

Rene! Don't kill her like you killed Joy!

RENE

Who is this girl?? Who is Joy?!

KEVIN

Chinese. You saw Joy blowing me.

RENE

What are you talking about?!

KEVIN

You strangled her in her BMW!

RENE

What the hell you are talking about?!

LAURA

Please don't kill me. I didn't know he had a wife.

RENE

Well he has! Me!

LAURA

Your deranged husband choked me.

Laura bolts out of the room. Rene lights a cigarette, smokes.

KEVIN

I don't remember choking Laura.

RENE

That hooker? You don't remember choking me and beating me, either!

KEVIN

I never choked you.

RENE

Why would I lie to you? I love you.

KEVIN

(emotional accountable)

How can you love me if I choked you??  
And choked that hooker and... killed  
the Chinese lady??

RENE

I honestly don't know why I don't  
knife your heart out right now.

KEVIN

Stab me. Go ahead.

Kevin raises his hands and lies on the bed. Rene jumps on the bed, stands over him, full of emotion, pointing her knife down at his face.

RENE

I want us to be like it was before  
Sherry.

KEVIN

Rene. You and I had great sex... but  
it wasn't going to be more.

RENE

It was more.

He shakes his head no.

RENE (CONT'D)

(bad Cockney accent)

It is more.

He turns to lie on his stomach, hiding a SOB. She puts  
down the knife and she hugs him from behind.

KEVIN

I never wanted to hurt you. Or Joy.

RENE

You become this crazy man! Nice  
one minute then a maniac the next!

KEVIN

I don't remember.

RENE

Of course you remember!

KEVIN

I don't.

He CRIES. She maneuvers around him, crawling under him,  
squeezing her cheek against his. She wipes his tears. Long  
silence. She gently kisses his cheek. Long silence.

RENE

(little girl voice)

You older muscular dangerous man!  
And I'm just a young little virgin,  
never been kissed before. I hope you  
don't rape me. Please don't rape me.

KEVIN

I'm engaged.

He hugs her, shuts off the lamp. In darkness, they listen  
to each other breathe. She pets him. He pets her. She  
kisses his neck. He doesn't resist. She slowly undresses,  
then slowly undresses him. Like passionate animals, they  
make love. He ejaculates then (his evil alter) SCREAMS.

KEVIN

I have to stone you to death!

She quickly grabs her knife in self-defense. She turns on the light. He freaks.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

Turn it off! Turn it off!!

Emotional, he collapses on the floor, in a ball, SLUGS the wall - until Rene turns off the light.

RENE

The light makes you freak out?

KEVIN

The light has to be off.

RENE

Why?

KEVIN

So... they can't see.

RENE

See what?

KEVIN

What we did.

RENE

Who can see?

He points at invisible creatures.

RENE (CONT'D)

Who? No one is there.

KEVIN

You can't see them but they see us.

RENE

Who?

KEVIN

The devil. God... Mary. Jesus.

ON RENE: Skeptical. She kneels next to him.

RENE

There's no devil or god or Jesus.

KEVIN

You'll rot in Hell for saying that.

RENE

Maybe they're real but I never seen  
'em. They're not in this room.

She holds him. Exhausted, his hand inches ominously - but not to the knife - to the light - turning it off just as he crashes into sleep. She pets his head lovingly.

RENE (CONT')

We can't sleep here. That Laura might call the cops... And we need to get away from that pink Porsche, right?

**INT/EXT. STATION WAGON / HIGHWAY - BEXLEY, OHIO - NIGHT**

The wagon is parked on a quiet street. Laying in back, Kevin and Rene watch his phone.

**ON THE PHONE:** Trudy airs live from her condo.

TRUDY

We don't have to kill in war or slaughter animals or swat mosquitos. These are learned, accepted behaviors programmed into us. Previously I would have said we can't fight the programming -- but maybe we can?

**IN THE CAR:** Kevin shuts it off.

KEVIN

What do you think?

RENE

Well that part makes sense.

KEVIN

I wish I could hear from other people... people like me. Killers.

RENE

You're not a killer, you say you don't remember.

KEVIN

(bad Cockney accent)

Am I... a... split personality?

RENE  
 (bad Cockney accent)  
 Like Dr. Jekyll and Mister Hyde?

KEVIN  
 I guess. How did Jekyll deal with it?

RENE  
 He wasn't real. Was he?

Kevin turns on his phone, searches "JECKLE AND HYDE. REAL?"

RENE (CONT'D)  
 (reading his phone)  
 "No, the strange case of Dr. Jekyll  
 and Mr. Hyde is a fictional story."

Kevin searches "SERIAL KILLERS."

**ON THE PHONE:** The serial killer's photo, nameplate and  
 victim count is split screen with their quotes.  
 Occasionally a CRIMINOLOGIST speaks onscreen.

SUPER: Albert De Salvo: Boston Strangler, killed 13.

ALBERT  
 Once I stabbed her, I couldn't stop...  
 Later it hit the news on TV. I knew it  
 was me who did it... but why I did and  
 the else I don't know...

**ON KEVIN:** looking scared.

**ON THE PHONE:**

SUPER: Jeffrey Dahmer, killed 17.

CRIMINOLOGIST  
 Dahmer would inebriate himself to the  
 point of unconsciousness. He massacred  
 in Ohio, Wisconsin, and even abroad in  
 West Germany where Jeffrey had been  
 assigned briefly while in the army...

**ON KEVIN:** Sweating like crazy.

**ON THE PHONE:**

SUPER: Richard Speck, killed 8.

CRIMINOLOGIST

His brain stopped developing at twelve years. He was the epitome of a loser.

**ON KEVIN:** Perspiring more.

RENE

You're not a loser!

**ON THE PHONE:**

SUPER: John Gacy, killed 33.

CRIMINOLOGIST

At eleven, he was hit in the head with a swing and consequently suffered dizzy spells. But did this alter his mind to that of a killer?

**ON KEVIN:** Shaking his head no.

RENE

Were you hit as a kid?

KEVIN

Yeah -- but wasn't every kid?

**ON THE PHONE:**

SUPER: Charles Starkweather, killed 10.

CHARLES

The salesman just happened to be there. I didn't put him there and he didn't know I was coming...

SUPER: Ted Bundy, killed 20.

TED

I feel like a vampire.

SUPER: David Berkowitz: Son of Sam, killed 6.

CRIMINOLOGIST

He was born a bastard. His mom gave him up for adoption. Her abandonment led him to lash out at females...

**ON RENE:** studying Kevin.

RENE

You lashed out on females.

Overwhelmed Kevin hides his face.

**ON THE PHONE:** SUPER: Henry Lucas, killed 300+.

CRIMINOLOGIST

His mother, a prostitute, kept him  
in the room during tricks...

**ON KEVIN:** Disgusted.

KEVIN

She probably deserved it then.

RENE

No one deserves to die.

**ON THE PHONE:**

CRIMINOLOGIST

Henry never had any father nor bonded  
with anyone period. Every one of us,  
to Henry, was expendable...

SUPER: Edmund Repmek, killed 20+.

CRIMINOLOGIST

He killed his wife with a hammer and  
shoved her larynx down the disposal.

**ON KEVIN:** Shutting off the phone.

KEVIN

In Baghdad I kill two Iraqis and I get  
a medal. And I feel crappy about doing  
it. In New York I kill one Chinese and  
I'm going to be killed now by cops.  
And I don't even remember killing her.

He hyperventilates. Rene holds him.

RENE

We need to find a safe place to hide  
out. A little cabin somewhere?

KEVIN

Me and Sherry wanted a little cabin.

RENE

Sherry probably hates you by now.

KEVIN

No -- she wants our cabin.

RENE

When you had sex with Sherry, did you keep the lights on?

KEVIN

We didn't have sex.

RENE

But if you did, if you were married, will the devil or god or Jesus watch you fuck Sherry?

KEVIN

They wouldn't watch me fuck Sherry.

RENE

(bad Cockney accent)

But God and Jesus and Mary watch us fuck? Dear boy, that sounds bonkers.

KEVIN

It's a fact.

RENE

Prove it. Point out them watching us.

KEVIN

They don't want to be pointed at.

RENE

Listen as if you were me. What you're saying, what you believe, you can't prove. You gonna believe things I say without proof? Like Marilyn Monroe's ghost tells me how to fold my laundry?

Kevin takes that in, his forehead nearly bursting.

**EXT. TRUDY'S CONDO - BROOKLYN HEIGHTS - NIGHT**

In trademark outfit, Trudy is thrilled the PAPARAZZI follow her to her door, snapping pics. She poses.

**INT. TRUDY'S CONDO - BROOKLYN HEIGHTS - NIGHT**

Trudy, alone, walks in, grinning.

TRUDY

Butch? Did you leave? Butch? We have to stay together for Kevin!

Trudy checks her phone for voice mail:

OFFICER ERNIE (V.O)  
It's Ernie. I look forward to our  
date.

She hangs up, looks for Butch. Her computer phone RINGS.

**BEDROOM:**

Trudy answers the VIDEO CALL on her big computer monitor.

**ONSCREEN:** her WEALTHY FAMILY'S LIVING ROOM: father  
THEODORE TRULY (80+), mother DIANA TRULY (80+), brother  
THOMAS TRULY (60+) and sister TINA TRULY (60+).

TRUDY

What have I done to deserve the  
family call?

INTERCUT VIDEO CONVERSATION

DIANA

You're anything but stupid, Trudy,  
and we won't stand for you to further  
humiliate us.

THEODORE

Your silly charades over the media  
have my associates even questioning  
further corporate involvements. You've  
turned the Truly family name into a  
lowly joke.

TRUDY

Father, you're red in the face. I want  
you to take that cayenne pepper and  
clean your veins. And nicotine gum.

THOMAS

You are free to live your life as a  
riddle with sour punchline, sis, but  
we have adult obligations.

TINA

You absolutely must pledge this instant  
you will put a stop to your embarrassing  
public rants --

TRUDY

I will do no such thing!

DIANA

You certainly will or you will be  
swiftly disinherited.

TRUDY

Mother, you're getting hunched over.  
I sent you that inversion table.

THEODORE

Promise us now or your trust checks  
will be canceled immediately.

TRUDY

That soldier needs me on TV.

Diana closes down the video, leaving Trudy frustrated.

**INT. STATION WAGON - MORNING**

Kevin wakes up in the car to find Rene gone. He's frantic.

**EXT. RED LIGHT DISTRICT - TRIBECA - DAY**

Dazed Butch in the dented Tesla follows a PROSTITUTE.

**INT. BEDROOM - TRUDY'S CONDO - BROOKLYN HEIGHTS - DAY**

Ernie undresses and plays his CD of Trudy's hit song,  
FANTASY BRIDE - as Trudy, DRUNK, undresses and sings:

TRUDY

(singing)

*Feel my heart flutter like a  
butterfly, never floated in clouds  
this high, you are my soulmate, well  
worth the wait, don't ask me why...  
how would I get by, without you by...*

She dances then tries to do the splits, but WRETCHES in  
pain, SCREAMS.

TRUDY

Ohhhh!! Damn it! I pulled a muscle!

She LAUGHS, hops around in pain as he takes over singing:

ERNIE

(singing)

*... how would I get by, without you  
by my side, my fantasy, fantasy,  
fantasy bride, my fantasy bride...*

**INT. CHEAP MOTEL - TRIBECA - DAY**

Butch lies on the bed getting a blowjob from a HOOKER - bored out of his mind, staring at a GLARING LIGHTBULB.

**INT/EXT. STATION WAGON / STREET - BEXLEY, OHIO - DAY**

The BRIGHT SUN out the car window is being stared at by Kevin, who fights a migraine. He searches for Rene.

KEVIN

Rene?! What did I do to Rene??

Outside his window, from a TREE a BLUE BABY BIRD falls to the grass. Kevin goes to lift the bird up into it's nest.

RENE (V.O.)

That was so sweet!

Rene carries COFFEES and MUFFINS as she approaches.

KEVIN

I almost drove off! Why didn't you tell me where you were going??

RENE

You needed sleep, Prince Charming.

From behind her, TWO POLICEMEN reach in. Rene SCREAMS. Kevin jumps out and runs. One officer chases him. Pervy OFFICER PAULO grabs Rene. She kicks him. He FIRES HIS GUN near her.

OFFICER PAULO

I like feisty women. But I'm boss.  
You be nice to me, I'm nice to you.

He cuffs her, searches her, fondles her, as she resists.

**INT. SHERRY'S APARTMENT - JERSEY - NIGHT**

Anxious Sherry watches Javier and guest Trudy on TV.

**ON THE TV:**

JAVIER

Trudy Truly is my guest again tonight.  
Trudy, have you spoken to Rene, who was released, or Kevin, presently behind bars in Bexley, Ohio?

TRUDY

No but I hope he somehow has access to see me now. Today I researched methods on how Kevin might reprogram his brain so he stops his violence...

**ON SHERRY:** Catatonic watching the TV.

**INT. PRISON CELL - BEXLEY, OHIO - NIGHT**

Kevin has no TV. He sits in his cell, reading mini Bible.

**INT. CHEAP MOTEL - TRIBECA - NIGHT**

Butch pushes aside FAST FOOD CONTAINERS and watches TV.

**ON THE TV:**

JAVIER

People wonder if soldiers that kill overseas are more likely to kill here? Do you support the war, Trudy Truly?

TRUDY

I am damn against every fucking war. So sue me for being honest! People kill when they feel powerless. It is that simple. And unnecessary!

Javier holds up the EVOLUTION'S TRAP book.

JAVIER

America should sit by while foreigners burn our skyline?

TRUDY

Terrorists burned the Twin Towers because they felt powerless -- America went to war because we felt powerless. Every country justifies war murders as self-defense, don't they? Kevin Brandt is killing in self-defense. Fighting against vicious demons we can't see.

**INT. KEVIN'S CELL - BEXLEY, OHIO - NIGHT**

Kevin reads the Bible in his cell. Officer Paulo appears, CELL KEYS clipped to his belt.

PAULO

My girlfriend's here to see you.

KEVIN  
Your girlfriend?

Paulo yanks uncuffed Rene into view.

PAULO  
My girlfriend.

He grabs her butt.

PAULO (CONT'D)  
Prisoners can't get visitors in the middle of the night, but I can. Anyway, my gal wanted to tell you to fuck off. You got five minutes.

Paulo leaves.

KEVIN  
You set me up??

RENE  
What?

KEVIN  
You and your boyfriend who's a cop??

RENE  
Of course not! I just met this jerk when he arrested us. I don't want you locked up, Romeo. I want you out here, with me. And I'm going to get you out.

KEVIN  
Yeah, right.

RENE  
I have that cop wrapped around my finger. Wanna bet your Juliet couldn't undress him and hand you the keys?

KEVIN  
I can't escape a whole police station.

RENE  
There's only two other cops here at this hour. I'll screw him right here for you, I sneak you the keys, we knock him out and shazam, run fast I guess.

KEVIN  
You're insane.

RENE  
Well it was my cigarette that got  
you kicked out of the army. It was  
my fault.  
(calling loudly)  
Officer Paulo!!

KEVIN  
No, don't! Don't risk your freedom  
for me. Don't ruin your life.

RENE  
You are my life.

Paulo steps in, brushes up against her.

RENE  
Kevin is a loser. I deserve better.

PAULO  
I'm a step up.

Paulo rams her body from behind.

RENE  
Not so rough. No need to force me.

She turns to Paulo and kisses him.

RENE  
Prisons turn me on. I want to be  
naked here with a naked cop. And  
we'll make stupid Kevin watch.

She unbuckles his pants.

PAULO  
You're a wild one, aren't you?

KEVIN  
You have no idea.

Rene removes her pants and shirt, wiggles seductively in  
her underwear, stunning both men. Paulo reaches for the  
CEILING CAMERA to turn it away. She removes her panties  
like a stripper, gets on knees and lowers Paulo's pants.

PAULO  
I like this.

RENE

I want to see every inch of naked cop. Making loser Kevin see it, too.

She unties Paulo's shoes.

RENE (CONT'D)

Sexy! I'm into feet.

PAULO

What's so great about feet?

RENE

Are you kidding? Man cop toes, man cop soles, naked man cop ankles. I bet you have hairy man cop ankles?

He nods, grins, removes his shoes, then pants, then socks. She kicks the pants, keys JINGLING, toward Kevin. Kevin secretly reaches for them as naked Paulo lies on naked Rene. She sees Kevin can't grab the keys so she maneuvers, her foot inching the cop pants to Kevin, who gets the keys and unlocks his cell. Paulo sees. RENE FLIPS PAULO ON HIS BACK. PAULO PUNCHES HER. KEVIN PUNCHES PAULO UNCONSCIOUS.

RENE

Put on his uniform.

**INT. BEXLEY POLICE STATION - MORNING**

Rene distracts the DESK OFFICER as Kevin in police uniform sneaks out the door.

**INT. BEDROOM - TRUDY'S CONDO - BROOKLYN HEIGHTS - MORNING**

Butch vacuums. Sleeping Trudy wakes up, turns off vacuum.

TRUDY

I thought you left me?! You couldn't find another Sugar Mommy like me?!

He turns back on the vacuum. Her phone RINGS. She's trying to talk into it. Butch doesn't care. She gets up, holding her crotch in pain, pulls the cord out of the wall.

TRUDY

That was your son who just called me!

BUTCH

What did he say??

TRUDY

He escaped! And wants us to meet him  
in Bethel Park, Pennsylvania.

BUTCH

He escaped?!

TRUDY

I guess! We have to go. Start packing.

Phone RINGS again. She picks it up.

INTERCUT PHONE CONVERSATION:

**EXT. ALLEY - BETHEL PARK, PENNSYLVANIA - DAY**

Wearing police uniform, Kevin paces, whispers in his phone.

KEVIN

I don't know what I'm going to do  
with you, Trudy. You were the first  
woman I ever masturbated to, you  
know. Maybe you're to blame?

**INT. BEDROOM - CONDO - BROOKLYN HEIGHTS - DAY - SAME**

Trudy is speechless. Kevin hangs up.

BUTCH

What did he say? He didn't threaten  
us, did he?

Trudy types on her phone.

TRUDY

Let's get to Bethel Park -- I know  
a cop who can track his phone.

BUTCH

The one who fucked you so hard you  
can't walk today??

TRUDY

We didn't get to sex -- I pulled  
my groin muscle doing splits.

He LAUGHS. She throws pillows at him.

**EXT. NIGHTCLUB - BETHEL PARK - NIGHT**

The dented Tesla slows outside a rundown NIGHTCLUB between  
miles of evergreens. Trudy and Butch run out of the car.

**INT. NIGHTCLUB - NIGHT - SAME**

STROBE LIGHTING. Trudy and Butch rush through the bar, notice a man ahead that looks like Kevin from the back.

TRUDY

Butch? Did you ever...

(whispering)

... abuse him when he was a boy?

He stops, faces her, insulted. The strobe-lights magnify his torment.

She taps the hair of the STRANGER - who turns around. It's not Kevin. They don't see:

**ACROSS THE BAR:** the real drunk Kevin in police uniform on a barstool makes a cabin out of MATCHSTICKS. He gets up, walks to the men's room - there's a line - so he walks outside back.

Trudy shows a photo of Kevin to the BARTENDER who points to where Kevin was sitting.

BARTENDER

The cop was right here.

TRUDY

Cop??

BARTENDER

Drunk on duty, in his uniform.

Rene exits the lady's room, sees Trudy and Butch. Rene pulls a lighter from her purse and BURNS KEVIN'S MATCHSTICK CABIN.

TRUDY

Rene! So good to see you!

Rene hugs Trudy then Butch awkwardly (their last encounter was sex). The bartender uses a bar hose to put out the FIRE.

BARTENDER

We reserve the right to refuse service to arsonists. You guys are kicked out!

RENE

Fine. Where did my man go?

BARTENDER

I think he went outside the back.

**EXT. BAR - WOODS - SAME**

Rene, Trudy and Butch exit to see drunk Kevin zip his pants.

KEVIN

I had to pee.

TRUDY

So good to see you, Kevin. Your father was so worried about you.

Seeing dirt, Trudy kneels and from her pocket plants seeds.

BUTCH

What's with the police uniform?

Kevin, like a little boy, hugs Butch. Butch is caught off-guard and can't hug him back.

TRUDY

We'll figure it all out. It's gonna be easier now, Kevin.

Kevin SOBS holding onto Butch for dear life, but Butch freezes - so Trudy pushes Butch's fingers into Kevin's back so Kevin feels his father's touch/love. A police SIREN SCREAMS in the distance. Terrified Kevin flies into the bar. They chase him inside.

**INT. BAR - NIGHT - SAME**

Drunk Kevin runs through and out the front door. THUNDER.

**EXT. BAR - PARKING LOT - NIGHT - SAME**

Kevin jumps in the station wagon. Rene, Butch and Trudy race to the parking lot. A cop's SIREN in the distance.

BUTCH

Where'd Kevin go??

THUNDER. LIGHTNING. RAIN.

RENE

He's in my station wagon! Follow our car before the cops get here!

Rene gets in the wagon as passenger. Trudy and Butch jump in the Tesla, follow the wagon as it drives away.

**EXT. HIGHWAY - CEMETERY - NIGHT**

HEAVY RAIN. The wagon turns off its lights and spins off the highway shoulder into a CEMETERY. The Tesla follows.

**INT/EXT. TESLA - CEMETERY - NIGHT - MOMENTS LATER**

Butch drives. Trudy is silent. THUNDER.

BUTCH

You shouldn't have got your cop to track him!

TRUDY

Shut up! We had to find him!

The Tesla gets stuck in the mud. Butch does not see Trudy turn on her camera phone to AIR LIVE ON THE INTERNET.

TRUDY (CONT'D)

Now you got us stuck and we lost sight of Kevin.

Butch presses the accelerator all the way but the car won't budge. He beats the dashboard. LIGHTNING.

BUTCH

Do you think I ever touched him inappropriately when he was a kid?

**ON THE TIRES:** SPINNING AT 100 MPH until they unstick and splash into deeper mud.

**ON BUTCH:** glaring at the religious TOMBSTONES belted by rain in the darkness outside.

TRUDY

No. It's not your fault...

BUTCH

I know that! You stole me away from his mother.

She rolls her eyes to the camera, which he has not seen.

BUTCH (CONT'D)

What was it like with the cop? You kissed at least?

TRUDY

Magnolia's screwed-up conditioning on Kevin killed Joy Kyong.

BUTCH  
I can't believe my son killed.

TRUDY  
Like he didn't in Iraq?!

BUTCH  
That's not the same thing!

Trudy speaks into the camera.

TRUDY  
They aren't human beings?!

Butch sees the filming camera, shuts it off.

TRUDY (CONT'D)  
Butch! This exposure can help people!

BUTCH  
Help you sell a book!

TRUDY  
We need money since my family cut  
off the checks.

BUTCH  
They cut off your checks?

TRUDY  
We don't need their handouts anymore.  
I'm trendy or trending or whatever  
they say.

Angry, he shifts the car into reverse.

#### **WIDESHOT**

THE TESLA SLOSHES, PARKS. THE STATION WAGON, LIGHTS OFF,  
ALSO PARKS IN THE MUDDY CEMETERY - just far enough away  
for it to be invisible.

#### **INT/EXT. STATION WAGON / CEMETERY - NIGHT - SAME**

Drunk driver Kevin holds passenger Rene's hand. Rene is  
silent, confused. He opens his car door.

RENE  
You'll get soaked!

KEVIN  
I'm just going to their car.

RENE

Let's drive there instead.

KEVIN

No, we'll get stuck in the mud.

He takes the keys, and locks her inside. She panics, hurriedly dials her cell phone.

Ankle-deep in mud, he stumbles past LIGHTNING-LIT TOMBSTONE ANGELS AND GARGOYLES all the way to the Tesla, squats next to Butch's door, listens.

**IN THE TESLA:** Butch hides his head in his hands. Trudy frowns in the rearview mirror. They don't see the cell phone BUZZING.

TRUDY

This isn't a game anymore. No more leotards.

BUTCH

What are you talking about?

TRUDY

Leslie Stahl pantsuits from here on out. The media will now take me seriously. I have "arrived."

Silence. Kevin's rainy face is frighteningly pressed against the outside soaked window. They don't notice.

BUTCH

I can stop sex with strangers.

TRUDY

Don't you dare repress on me.

BUTCH

There is no thrill for me anymore. It's become routine. I may as well just have sex with you.

TRUDY

Poet.

BUTCH

What if we got married?

She's shocked and secretly turns on her phone camera, maneuvering it to secretly focus on Butch.

TRUDY

You're asking me to marry you out of desperation, feeling powerless. Your son... it's overwhelming for you. I know you need me there and I'll be there for you. But marriage? A day ago you wanted to leave me.

BUTCH

I did abuse him.

Butch CRIES into his hands.

**MONTAGE: STRANGERS WATCHING TRUDY'S LIVE VIDEO**

-an emotional COUPLE in an APARTMENT.

-a LAUGHING GROUP OF TEENS in a HOUSE.

TEEN 1

That's the killer's dad, right?

-PEOPLE at a bar riveted to the BAR TV SCREEN.

BAR PATRON

Kevin the killer is outside his dad's window! They don't see him!!

-JAPANESE PEOPLE watching a DUBBED TV SCREEN. They SCREAM.

JAPANESE WOMAN

Han'nin wa madobe ni iru!!

END OF MONTAGE.

In the Tesla, Butch CRIES. Unseen Kevin spies on.

BUTCH

I beat him with a spoon. At his highchair. When he banged his spoon.

TRUDY

You lost your temper. We all do.

BUTCH

I was such a bad dad. I found a porno magazine in his room and told Magnolia. She ripped out Bible pages to put in between the porn pages. He didn't throw it out. As time went on, she put photos of Satan in it.

TRUDY  
 (mugging to camera)  
Photos of Satan??

BUTCH  
 From movie posters and albums and who  
 knows. She found lotion in his room,  
 probably what he jacked off with, and  
 she put hot sauce in it. And glue.  
 And bleach once. She was so proud of  
 herself. She was batshit looney.

**MONTAGE: STRANGERS WATCHING TRUDY'S LIVE VIDEO**

-the GROUP OF TEENS in a HOUSE LAUGHS, APPLAUDS.

-the PEOPLE at a bar riveted to the BAR TV SCREEN.

BARTENDER  
 Round of drinks on the house for Kevin  
 not throwing out the porn!

-JAPANESE PEOPLE watching a DUBBED TV SCREEN. They SCREAM.

JAPANESE WOMAN  
 Han'nin wa madobe ni iru!!

END OF MONTAGE.

**IN THE TESLA:**

Trudy continues to secretly video emotional Butch.

BUTCH (CONT'D)  
 But your asinine book says she  
 couldn't help the way she was and --  
 thus -- I couldn't and -- thus -- I  
 hit Kevin and -- thus -- Kevin can't  
 help killing people! That's bullshit!  
 I'm tired of pretending we don't have  
 choices. We make choices every second.

TRUDY  
 (looking at her phone camera)  
 I know! I was wrong! I'm an idiot!  
 No one should buy my stupid book.

Butch sees the camera, turns it off. Something jumps  
 across their hood. They SCREAM. It's only a wet POSSUM.  
 Trudy notices Kevin, so shocked she can only point. Butch  
 sees, SCREAMS.

TRUDY

Get him in here! He's soaked!

As Butch opens the door, Trudy secretly turns on her camera again, aiming at Kevin who squeezes in the driver seat.

TRUDY (CONT'D)

Kevin, darling. You're freezing.

She grabs a BLANKET from the back, puts it on him.

TRUDY (CONT'D)

Hug him, Butch! He wants his father!

BUTCH

But he's all wet.

TRUDY

Hug Kevin! It's not easy for a big muscular army colonel to reach out to the father that deserted him!

Trudy forces Butch to hug Kevin, who leans into him, SOBS.

**MONTAGE: STRANGERS WATCHING TRUDY'S LIVE VIDEO**

-the emotional COUPLE in an APARTMENT wipe tears.

-the GROUP OF TEENS in a HOUSE nod and APPLAUD.

-the PEOPLE at the bar high-five each other.

-the JAPANESE PEOPLE watching DUBBED TV SCREEN smile.

END OF MONTAGE.

**INT/EXT. TESLA - CEMETERY - NIGHT - MOMENTS LATER**

From the Tesla, Kevin stumbles back into the dark storm. He trips, falling into a HUGE TOMBSTONE OF MARY HOLDING BABY JESUS, accidentally crashing it to the mud, on top of him. LIGHTNING, THUNDER. HE STRUGGLES TO ESCAPE THE SUFFOCATING LIFE-THREATENING WEIGHT OF THE HEAVY STATUE.

POLICE CARS WITH SIRENS pass on the highway.

Drunk muddy Kevin reaches the station wagon, enters.

**INT/EXT. STATION WAGON - CEMETERY - NIGHT**

Kevin takes Rene's phone from her hand.

KEVIN  
Did you call the cops??

RENE  
No! I'll never call the cops.

He throws her phone out the window.

KEVIN  
You got that right. Whore.

Shivering, her cold, trembling fingers light a cigarette.

**INT. BATHROOM - HOTEL - NIGHT - LATER**

Drunk Kevin showers. Rene paces in the bathroom. THUNDER.

KEVIN  
My dad really hugged me! He was  
holding on like I meant something!

RENE  
You do! You mean everything to us!

He soaps up, rinses, peeks his head out, smiles.

KEVIN  
All this time I thought he hated me.  
Maybe my Mom cares, too? Should we  
try to find her?

RENE  
No, we need to escape to Canada.

KEVIN  
Okay. Tomorrow.

RENE  
Tonight. Before anyone catches us.

He drunkenly steps out, nude, wet, wipes with a BLACK TOWEL. She takes his wet towel, drapes it over her head like black hair, becomes a bossy dominatrix slapping his ass. Turned on, he LAUGHS, but drunkenly yawns.

**HOTEL BED AREA**

SOUND OF RAIN. In the dark, she wears the towel wig and tries to seduce him but he's sound asleep.

**EXT. BETHEL PARK STRIP MALL - MORNING**

Kevin in police uniform and Rene park the station wagon as Butch and Trudy exit a RESTAURANT.

RENE

Let's go eat with them. One last time.

KEVIN

You just want to fuck my dad again?

RENE

No baby. I just did that to get you.

KEVIN

(sarcastic)

Aw, what a good friend you are to me.

Rene YELLS, waves her arms, but the Tesla drives away.

**INT. WALMART - DAY - BETHEL PARK - MOMENTS LATER**

Rene pulls Kevin to an aisle with SUNGLASSES and puts a pair on herself and Kevin. She throws LUNCHMEAT and CHEESE into a CART. He adds a VODKA BOTTLE. She wrestles it back onto the shelf.

Dazed, he fixates on THREE POOR OLD LADIES marveling at a PILLOW.

Then he spies on a SHOPLIFTING WOMAN stealing JEWELRY.

Then he follows an OLD HOMELESS MAN grabbing a bunch of BANANAS but putting all but one back when he sees he only has ONE DOLLAR in his pocket. Kevin reaches into his own wallet, hands him his last DOLLARS. Rene watches from a distance, moved.

TWO SMALL BOYS run by Kevin, playing guns with their fingers. Kevin chases them around the store, eventually restraining them by their collars.

KEVIN

Put your guns down.

The boys show their empty hands.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

I said put your guns down!

The boys make gun fingers, lower them to point to the ground. Battling a nervous breakdown, Kevin releases them.

**EXT. LARGE STORE - DAY - MOMENTS LATER**

Kevin SPRAY-PAINTS the station wagon white as Rene switches their LICENSE PLATE with another CAR's. Then Kevin reaches for his phone.

RENE

Don't call anyone. They'll trace us.

**INT. CONVENT - DAY - COLUMBUS, OHIO - SAME**

An OLD NUN answers the RINGING PHONE.

OLD NUN

St. Luke's.

INTERCUT PHONE CONVERSATION

KEVIN

Listen, a Magnolia Brandt used to work there years ago. Do you know anything about her? When she died?

OLD NUN

Magnolia? If she's dead I'm going to beat her with a wet rag. She's scheduled in for the morning shift.

ON KEVIN: Heart skipping a beat, falling to his knees.

**INT/EXT. TESLA - HIGHWAY - DAY - SAME**

Butch drives. Trudy hangs up her cell phone, HUMMING.

TRUDY

My agent can get me the three-hundred seat lecture hall at Brooklyn Borough Hall. Maybe an ongoing gig.

Trudy adjusts her make-up then searches her phone.

TRUDY (CONT'D)

Butch! We have four million views!

BUTCH

What?? From what??

TRUDY

I am making the best of a bad situation. Best for all of us.

BUTCH

You exhaust me. I can't drive all  
the way home. Let's nap at a motel.

**EXT. PINER'S INN (COLUMBUS) - DAY**

A dive by the freeway. Trudy and Butch enter a motel room.

**INT. ROOM 108 - DAY**

Butch watches PORN. Trudy staggers in from the shower.

BUTCH

Here's that woman pleasuring over nine  
hundred men in a day. Making a record.  
Breaking limits -- then you think --  
wait a minute -- she's trapped in her  
limits because that's all she knows  
how to do. So maybe your book is right  
after all. We're trapped right where  
we are. Cheap thrills until we die of  
heart-attacks.

(sad)

Pass me the lube.

She does.

BUTCH (CONT'D)

You never get mad I watch porn?

TRUDY

You can't help it.

BUTCH

I can, damn it!

He throws the lube, shuts off the porn.

BUTCH (CONT'D)

I'm a loser partner and loser dad  
because you expect that from me.

TRUDY

I don't expect anything from you.

BUTCH

Maybe it's time you did!

He pulls her onto the bed, stares at her wantingly. She  
sits up, shocked. He tenderly pulls her back down. Long  
searching eye-contact. They gently make love.

TRUDY

I didn't think we... you... could  
be so present. This intimate.

BUTCH

People can change.

TRUDY

You're not an animal, I was so stupid  
to think you were a programmed robot-  
animal, a programmed fool. But I'm the  
fool. We can agree you and I have free  
will. Which means Kevin does. I have to  
help him change. We have to help him.  
We're a team, Butch. Dysfunctional or  
functional, we've always been a team.

BUTCH

I'm not going to leave you - no matter  
what crazy shit you ever do.

Their aging faces smile with loyalty known to only a few.

**EXT. COLUMBUS FLATS - OHIO - NIGHT**

Graffitied trees guard the entrance to LOW-INCOME FLATS.  
Magnolia (now 60+) nears, sees Kevin and Rene by her door.

KEVIN

Nuns gave us your address.

MAGNOLIA

What do you want?

KEVIN

Mom. It's me.

She stares at him, confused.

RENE

I'm Rene. Hi there.

MAGNOLIA

I seen you both on the news.

She doesn't smile or hug them.

**INT. KITCHEN - MAGNOLIA'S APARTMENT - COLUMBUS - DAY - LATER**

Magnolia prepares TEA in her kitchen and dials her PHONE.

MAGNOLIA

(whispers into phone)

Kevin's here. Are you still in my area?... Good, we got work to do.

**LIVING ROOM**

Kevin shows a PHOTO ALBUM to Rene.

ON THE PHOTO ALBUM: Kevin (12) innocent.

Magnolia brings them in TEA. Her hand shakes, serving.

MAGNOLIA

Don't think I didn't try to find you when you first ran away. I did. Then I had to tend to the penguins.

RENE

How long you been working for penguins, Mrs. Brandt?

MAGNOLIA

Penguins make a mess everywhere.

She hands Kevin tea, who drinks it.

KEVIN

Thanks.

MAGNOLIA

It don't need sugar.

KEVIN

I need some clarification.

MAGNOLIA

Shoot.

KEVIN

Do you think people who have sex, outside marriage, should be killed?

MAGNOLIA

Like that nasty face Trudy? Yes, but I ain't gonna do it. Leave her to the Lord or Satan.

KEVIN

And they will kill her?

MAGNOLIA

When they find time. Do you have any  
idea how many whores there are?  
Millions and millions.

Magnolia shakes her head, walks to the kitchen.

MAGNOLIA (O.S.)

Kevin, ask Rene the whore to leave my  
house. You can stay. Get her out.

Kevin freezes like a hypnotized child afraid to move.  
There's a KNOCK on the door. Magnolia opens it to reveal  
Sherry who walks in, somber. Flustered Kevin walks to her.

KEVIN

Sherry!... I don't know what to do.  
I do want our pure life away from bad  
things. And speaking of bad things,  
Rene... sacrifices everything for  
me... she gets me on another level.

He looks at both women lovingly. Rene paces, wipes a tear.

RENE

I love you, Kevin. You're my soulmate.  
Without you, I'd die. But I already  
died and it was great so I'm okay to  
die. I want you to be happy. If you  
dump me for Sherry again, that's cool.  
Honestly. I want you to be happy.

SHERRY

I don't want to marry a killer.

Sherry slaps Kevin, then takes Magnolia's hand. They  
kneel, eyes closed. Rene backs away.

SHERRY (CONT'D)

I came here to pray for your soul.  
My church helped me find your mother.

She and Magnolia MUMBLE prayers. Kevin kneels, bowing his  
head. Rene shakes her head, paces in frustration.

**MONTAGE - MAGNOLIA'S APARTMENT**

-Sherry and Magnolia swing Rosarie beads over Kevin laying on  
the sofa. Rene watches from a corner.

-Sherry and Magnolia baptize Kevin in the bath.

-As Kevin finishes dressing, he is hit in the back of the head by Magnolia swinging her crucifix statue. Rene flies in and wrestles the crucifix away. Sherry fights off Rene but Rene manages to push Sherry out the front door.

END OF MONTAGE.

DISSOLVE TO HOURS LATER:

**BEDROOM**

Magnolia has fallen asleep kneeling, praying by her bed.

**LIVING ROOM**

Rene turns off the light, kisses frozen Kevin. He resists.

RENE

Okay whatever. Hey, check the web.  
See what Trudy is up to.

Dazed Kevin scans his phone.

**ONSCREEN:** Trudy speaks into camera. Behind her, Butch plays the piano. Her book rests on the piano.

TRUDY

Kevin, Magnolia raised you to feel she had all the power and you had zero power. Surrender and the courts will understand she created an abusive god chasing you for natural sexual urges.

**ON RENE:** Leaning on Kevin's chest.

RENE

Don't surrender. They'd lock you up!

**ONSCREEN:** Trudy speaks to camera.

TRUDY

You are acting out of self-defense. She made you become her idea of perfect. You don't have to straighten your French Fries anymore. People, throw away my book! I'm an idiot! I was wrong! You have choices! Kevin, you don't have to act out of your programming -- you have free will. Go see your mother and stand up to her! Show her she does not control you!

Trudy grabs her book and angrily RIPS PAGES TO BITS.

TRUDY (CONT'D)

You are the boss of your new life! She says sex is sick. You can say sex is beautiful! Sex is beautiful, honey! Sex doesn't hurt anyone!

**ON KEVIN:** Frustrated, exploding, PUNCHING THE WALL.

**BEDROOM**

Magnolia wakes from the NOISE.

MAGNOLIA

I told you two to scat! You're rotten!

**LIVING ROOM**

Rene turns off the light and kisses Kevin. He resists, then surrenders. The sex gets passionate. He MOANS AS LOUD AS POSSIBLE, DELIBERATELY ANGERING HIS RELIGIOUS MOTHER.

**BEDROOM**

Magnolia listens, BANGS the wall.

MAGNOLIA

You're not my son!!

**LIVING ROOM**

Kevin turns on the light and continues loudly making love to Rene. They ORGASM. Kevin is not the least bit violent.

KEVIN

I didn't become the angry personality.

RENE

He's gone! Is Mister Hyde gone??

KEVIN

I don't want to kill you!

RENE

Shh! She's gonna hear that, too!

KEVIN

I'm not angry inside tonight. Because she heard everything. Did you hear me fuck Rene, Mom?!

MAGNOLIA (V.O.)  
You'll burn in Hell!

He holds Rene tenderly.

KEVIN  
(bad Cockney accent)  
I'm going to Hell, Mom! And Rene just  
sucked my big fat hairy cock, did you  
hear her?!

MAGNOLIA (V.O.)  
"Our Father, who art in Heaven,  
Hallowed be the name! Thy kingdom  
come, they will be done..."

Kevin dresses noisily.

KEVIN  
It's time for me to leave this house!

Rene dresses. Kevin straightens the room, the cushions,  
pillows, coffee table.

RENE  
Such a perfect little boy. Just  
like your mom trained you to be.

Kevin absorbs that, then messes everything and THROWS A  
CHAIR AT MAGNOLIA'S BEDROOM DOOR.

**INT. FIELD - DAY**

In a sunny field, Kevin and Rene strip off their clothes  
and run naked. Kevin finally feels freed/free.

**INT. TV STUDIO - NEW YORK - NIGHT**

Trudy once again is a guest on Javier. She passes out  
COOKIES to the audience.

TRUDY  
My partner makes these. No sugar,  
flour or oil. He uses oats, dates,  
squash, flax seed. Write it down.

JAVIER  
(reading teleprompter)  
When killer Kevin Brandt's mother  
talked to authorities, she said she  
was frightened for her life.

TRUDY

(eating a cookie)

Please reread that. She said she was not frightened for her life.

JAVIER

I am sorry. Is that correct?

TRUDY

She told the police she was humiliated but not afraid.

JAVIER

But her son ravaged her home.

Trudy THROWS A CHAIR. Javier is shocked.

TRUDY

He threw a chair. Did I ravage the studio because I threw a chair? No. I talked via phone to Kevin and Rene.

JAVIER

This is a scoop! Why are they still together? The mother said Rene was not a hostage.

TRUDY

Rene's in love with Kevin. Kevin's a very likeable, lovable man.

JAVIER

Since when are killers lovable?

TRUDY

As are people that kill spiders and cheat on their taxes -- and cheat on their wives.

Trudy points to Javier and purses her lips to her finger to "shush." The audience LAUGHS.

TRUDY (CONT'D)

All of us works-in-progress are lovable. I vote twice every election.

JAVIER

A killer and his girlfriend, discharged soldiers, are on the loose. When does he strike again?

**EXT. FIELD - BEDFORD COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA - NEXT DAY**

Hiding out in a field, Kevin and Rene pick APPLES.

RENE

It was my neighbor. He was the first.

KEVIN

That molested you? I'm so sorry.

RENE

It got easier.

KEVIN

Where does he live? Should we go there?

RENE

And what, punish him?

KEVIN

No. I don't have rage against him.  
I don't want anyone else to die.

RENE

Me neither. What's done is done.

KEVIN

It freed me to fuck you in front of  
my mother.

RENE

We made love. You needed to be freed.  
You were misfiring. I'm not misfiring.  
Let bygones be bygones. I don't want  
to fuck you, make love to you, in  
front of my neighbor, or anyone.

KEVIN

I do. In front of everyone.

She studies him, perplexed.

KEVIN (CONT'D)

I do. I can't explain it. I have to.

He bites an apple, takes in the surroundings, then her  
pretty, loving face. He smiles, falling IN LOVE WITH HER.

**INT. TRUDY'S CONDO - BROOKLYN HEIGHTS - SAME**

Trudy is writing on the computer. Butch is bored.

TRUDY

The lines are tapped so if he calls they'll find him. I didn't tell them to tap the lines. They tapped the lines.

BUTCH

I know. Because you're so important.

She writes passionately.

**INT. BANK - BEDFORD COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA - DAY**

In sunglasses, Kevin and Rene nervously enter a bank.

RENE

Are you ready?

Kevin looks around, nods, unzips his pants as she lowers her skirt.

KEVIN

Showtime, Jessica Rabbit.

As fast as possible, he makes passionate love to her in front of the shocked BANK CUSTOMERS, then they run out.

**INT. TV STUDIO - NEW YORK - THAT NIGHT**

Javier plays the BANK CAMERA SEX FOOTAGE. Trudy grins.

JAVIER

Fornicate in a Pennsylvania bank?

TRUDY

I thought you'd never ask.

The audience LAUGHS as she pats Javier's hair.

JAVIER

Why would they fornicate in a bank?

TRUDY

Because it is taboo. That's the only reason I imagine. It can't feel good fucking on deposit slips. Although the banks have fucked us for years.

The audience LAUGHS, APPLAUDS.

JAVIER

Why didn't they just rob the bank?

TRUDY

Maybe they are sick of being judged and repressed and shamed -- so they are shoving sex in our faces? Sexually rebelling?

AUDIENCE MEMBER (O.S.)

They're perverts! You're a pervert!

TRUDY

Sex is natural, people! Repression is not natural. Repression is dangerous.

JAVIER

Sex is not natural in a bank!

TRUDY

Says who?!

JAVIER

People never have sex in banks.

TRUDY

Banks bring up stress and money issues could certainly be relieved by sex.

JAVIER

It's insane. What's next for Kevin?

TRUDY

I am sorry anyone was offended by sex in a bank, but he didn't kill anyone - - don't you see a healing, people?

JAVIER

How can that be healing? I'm horrified.

TRUDY

And what right do you have to judge anyone for having sex?

JAVIER

What next, Trudy? A post office?

**INT. POST OFFICE - GUERNSEY COUNTY, OHIO - NEXT DAY**

Rene and Kevin, in dark glasses, wait in line, undressing. Then they make love. Disgusted CUSTOMERS leave.

**INT. TV STUDIO - NEW YORK - THAT NIGHT**

Trudy, on Javier.

JAVIER

America is abuzz and they're not  
sure what to think. This is the  
underwear left at the post office!

On Kevin's BRIEFS, reading "Clyde" in marker. On Rene's  
UNDERWEAR: "Bonnie."

TRUDY

He's rebelling his childhood shaming.

JAVIER

People don't want to see sex at the  
post office.

TRUDY

I wouldn't mind. It would make the  
wait more tolerable.

**ON THE AUDIENCE:** some nodding, APPLAUDING.

**INT. GROCERY STORE - MUSKINGUM COUNTY, OHIO - NEXT DAY**

Shocked SHOPPERS watch Kevin and Rene make passionate love  
on a grocery CONVEYOR BELT then race off naked.

**INT. TRUDY'S CONDO - BROOKLYN HEIGHTS - NIGHT**

Butch and Trudy finish love-making. He lights a JOINT. She  
watches him, adoringly.

BUTCH

Where is Kevin going to turn up next?

TRUDY

I wish I knew. Ohhhh! What is today?

BUTCH

Saturday.

She jumps out of bed, starts dressing.

TRUDY

I know where he'll be tomorrow. Get  
dressed. It'll take eight hours to  
get there. He's going to need us.

BUTCH

For the drive I'll make watermelon-  
feta skewers with Cajan lime splash.

TRUDY

You take such good care of me.

BUTCH

Because I love you, my darling.

**INT. CHURCH - NEXT DAY**

A young PRIEST speaks to crowded pews. Magnolia sits.

PRIEST

I know you all join St. Lukes in taking pride that a portion of the offertory collection will go to our recruitment charity aimed at bringing in more diversity.

The CONGREGATION doesn't know what to make of the MOVEMENT UNDER THE BLANKETED ALTAR, next to HOLY STATUES OF MARY AND JESUS.

PRIEST (CONT'D)

So nice to see so many shades of hair color and skin color in the pews, and even if we can't see the other diversities, we do appreciate any new bisexual, homosexual and trans brothers joining us today. Or should I say sisters?

**ON THE PEWS:** Some LAUGH, some scowl. Magnolia scowls.

PRIEST (O.S.)

We are grateful for members of the addiction community gathering amongst us, as well as the wide array of handicapped individuals -- some of us mentally handicapped. Like me.

Some people in the pews LAUGH.

**UNDER THE BLANKETED ALTAR:** Naked Rene rips off the altar blanket that hid her and naked Kevin.

**IN THE CHURCH:** The congregation is horrified, rising, LAUGHING, pointing, JEERING.

PRIEST

What are you two doing up here?!

Some of the disgusted congregation hurry to exit. Trudy in

PANTSUIT rises from a pew, rushes toward the altar.

TRUDY

No one has to leave! People, do not  
shame the naked body! We all have been  
naked! Naked is not naughty!

Rebels Kevin and Rene stand, displaying their nakedness.

RENE

(bad Cockney accent)  
And this is me first time in a church.

KEVIN

(bad Cockney accent)  
And me last time in one.

The priest directs some ANGRY MEN to approach the altar.

RENE

Let's get out of here quick.

KEVIN

I can't leave. You go.

RENE

Not without you. I love you!

KEVIN

I love you, too. With my total heart.  
But I can't go. I don't know why.

Rene kicks the men who grab for Kevin. Trudy rushes up to intercede, waving her phone camera to air live. As she speaks, she removes her jacket, unbuttons her shirt.

TRUDY

Is nakedness such a crime you will  
assault a man in your house of God??

She throws off her shirt and bra as Butch plays the ORGAN.

BUTCH

Who's in the mood for a little cabaret?

Topless Trudy helps Rene push the men away from Kevin.

TRUDY

Take your hands off Kevin! You never  
saw naked people before?! We're all  
adults here! Tell them, Kevin.

Butch plays melodramatic ORGAN MUSIC.

KEVIN

I have a right to be naked!

TRUDY

This very church shamed Kevin for his natural feelings and he is now attempting to reverse that programming!! Help him heal, people!

Kevin fondles the Virgin Mary statue as Butch plays MUSIC.

MAGNOLIA

Shame on you, Kevin!!

TRUDY

No! We don't shame people in church!

MAGNOLIA

Don't shame me for shaming you, you nasty old witch!!

Trudy steps behind the podium, speaks into the microphone.

TRUDY

Didn't the priest talk about diversity and welcoming everyone in God's house? The addicts? The mentally handicapped? All sexualities are welcome here but you're going to condemn a person who touches parts of the body that makes you uncomfortable! Because you were programmed to think it was naughty!! No part of the body is naughty!

KEVIN

I stopped killing! I'm not angry anymore!

TRUDY

Bravo! You are amazing, Kevin! Bravo!

Men cover Kevin and Rene with CLOTHS and restrain them. Trudy, dressing, speaks to PEOPLE holding PHONE CAMERAS.

TRUDY (CONT'D)

This tortured man was healing from being shamed all his life but now you shame him, hiding him behind cloths!

Rene and Kevin kick and chop free of the cloths and men. POLICE enter. Rene and Kevin run down the aisle naked, hands in front of them for protection.

MAGNOLIA

Shoot him! He's a devil! Shoot him!!

TRUDY

Don't shoot him! Kevin is healed!

A POLICEMAN shoots Kevin who falls, convulses. Rene kneels over dying Kevin.

RENE

Kevin! Wake up! Talk to me!

KEVIN'S SLOW-MO POV: Rene weeping... then fuzziness... then BLACKNESS... with BASS OMINOUS SOUNDS...

**MONTAGE: HELL**

-Kevin's spirit is sucked into a DOWNWARD TUNNEL.

-FLAMES appear everywhere.

-DEMONS fly and SATAN flashes by with PITCHFORK.

END OF MONTAGE.

**IN THE CHURCH:** Rene cries as Kevin dies, his last words:

KEVIN

I'm in Hell.

RENE

No! Kevin! Come back.

She wipes her eyes, rises, hits the cop who shot Kevin.

RENE (CONT'D)

Asshole! He wasn't going to hurt anyone anymore!!

Trudy reaches for Rene but Rene glares at the cops and kicks at them, SCREAMING.

RENE (CONT'D)

Shoot me! I have to be with Kevin!!

She BEATS one cop bloody.

TRUDY

Rene! Violence never solved anything!

Rene beats the bloody cop until he finally SHOTS her.

TRUDY (CONT'D)

You people are insane! There's no  
reason to kill!... Rene? Rene??

RENE'S SLOW-MO POV: Trudy holding her - then fuzziness -  
then BLACKNESS.

**MONTAGE: HEAVEN**

-Rene's spirit is sucked up a LONG BRIGHT TUNNEL.

-a TINY LIGHT.

-more tunnel and HOLY MUSIC.

-the GALAXY OPENS UP and an ENORMOUS LIGHT appears.

-RADIANT FEMALE ANGELS appear.

END OF MONTAGE.

**INT/EXT. HEAVEN/HELL - DAY/NIGHT**

Rene's SEE-THROUGH BODY/SPIRIT projects dialogue from her  
essence, not from a moving mouth.

RENE

Kevin?? Kevin, where are you??

An ANGEL floats to Rene.

RADIANT ANGEL

His vibration is too low to be here.

RENE

Where is he?

RADIANT ANGEL

He can't see or hear us.

Rene's SPIRIT BODY backs up, REVERSES HER FLIGHT away from  
the light and galaxy, back into the tunnel with diminishing  
light - into BLACKNESS.

RENE (V.O.)

Kevin?? Kevin??

SOUND OF SATAN LAUGHING. Rene's spirit searches through CAVES (pulsing orange, reflecting FLAMES).

RENE

Kevin? It's me!! Rene!

SLOW-MO: Rene DROPS LOWER and sees FLAMES.

RENE

Romeo?!

She can't see Kevin. We see him SPINNING in AGONY.

KEVIN'S POV: the spinning Hell.

RENE

Romeo?! Where the fuck are you?

KEVIN

Juliet?

RENE

Yes! I can hear you! I can't see you!  
Can you see me??

KEVIN

I can't see you.

RENE

Try! Let's get out of here!

KEVIN

We're in Hell.

MAGNOLIA (V.O.)

Tell. Your son. He's going. To Hell.

RENE

We don't deserve Hell, Kevin. Think  
about things we did that helped  
people. The time we saved a village.

KEVIN

I can't remember that, Pretty Kitty.

RENE

Think about finding that lost kid  
and climbing the statue and yelling  
to find his mom.

KEVIN

That was me?

RENE

That was you! A hero!

MAGNOLIA (V.O.)

Shoot him! He's a devil! Shoot him!!

KEVIN

I'm a killer.

SHERRY (V.O.)

Go rot in Hell, Kevin.

RENE

You're a hero. You gave your last dollar to that Walmart guy for bananas.

KEVIN

Homeless guy?

RENE

Hungry guy, needing food. Think how we helped others -- how you helped me! You changed my life, from the moment I met you, you, Captain America, saved me from bombs, you know what I mean?

KEVIN

You're such a stalker. You even stalked me into the afterlife.

RENE

You saved that blue baby bird, remember? Lifting him up to his nest in that tree branch.

Kevin sees a TINY LIGHT.

KEVIN

I remember that! I see a little light.

RENE

Follow it! Go towards it!

SOUND of a HARP playing.

KEVIN

I can only spin in a circle.

RENE

Think about the light and how much I love you.

The harp plays HIGH-VIBRATION NOTES. The light grows.

KEVIN

The lights growing. But I'm still kinda stuck. I'll think about something else. I'll think about how much I love you.

SLOW-MO: EXPLOSIVELY Kevin stops spinning and moves towards the light, which gets even BIGGER, BRIGHTER.

Suddenly Rene's SPIRIT HAND GRABS KEVIN'S SPIRIT HAND and PULLS HIM UP A TUNNEL - then to another TINY LIGHT - then more TUNNEL - then to a BIGGER LIGHT - then the GALAXY OPENS UP and merges into an ENORMOUS LIGHT.

SLOW-MO: Rene pulls Kevin to RADIANT ANGELS under a BLUE SKY with DRAMATIC CLOUDS and HEAVENLY MUSIC.

Kevin sees JESUS appearing.

KEVIN

Jesus! You're real!

Rene is confused because she does not see Jesus.

JESUS

Whatever you believe is real in the afterlife. Just as whatever you believe is real on Earth.

KEVIN

Naw, that's not how it is.

JESUS

Humans don't understand the power of their consciousnesses. You shape your Earth reality by what you believe.

KEVIN

That's not what I was taught.

RENE

Kevin, who are you talking to?

KEVIN

Jesus. Don't you see him??

Rene tries to see.

RENE'S POV: A being of light emerges. A RADIANT GODDESS.

RENE

Oh wow. It's a beautiful goddess!

Rene hugs the goddess.

KEVIN'S POV: Rene is really hugging Jesus.

Jesus turns to Kevin.

JESUS

(bad Cockney accent)

Dear boy, you want me to have a Cockney accent? You want a Cockney Jesus?... You see it doesn't matter the package, it's what's inside, mate. The essence.

DISSOLVE TO:

**EXT. PARK - BROOKLYN - DAY**

ON A NEWSPAPER HEADLINE: "JEKYLL, HYDE, CRUCIFIED. BONNIE, CLYDE, DOUBLE HOMICIDE."

The NEWSPAPER is being held by Trudy, who ROLLER-SKATES slow in the park, contemplative. She wears her 1970'S SPARKLING SKATING DRESS matching her pink hair. She places the newspaper and underneath COOKIE TIN on a BENCH. She skates and spins fast, lowering into a squat, holding her toe like an Olympian! APPLAUSE comes from HIGH SCHOOL KIDS playing VOLLEYBALL. Trudy stops and bows.

TRUDY

I was Roller Skate Queen fifty years ago! Hey I want to play volleyball! Count me in next game!

A BLOND HIGH SCHOOL BOY slowly approaches her. The sky above is striped by planes and their STRATOSPHERIC AEROSOL INJECTIONS.

TRUDY (CONT'D)

My partner Butch tells me to throw this dress away. Am I too sexy?

She LAUGHS, opens the cookie tin, offers cookies.

TRUDY (CONT'D)

You have to taste Butch's cookies. No sugar, flour or oil. He uses oats, dates, squash, flax. Write it down.

A JOCK runs toward her, littering a PAPER CUP.

TRUDY (CONT'D)

Hey!! Pick that up! This Earth isn't  
your garbage can!!

He CHUCKLES, picks it up, throws it in the trash then  
takes a cookie. A PASSING ADDICT INJECTS DRUGS.

JOCK

You're Trudy Truly.

TRUDY

You've seen me on the news? -- and  
had a good laugh? Look, what I say  
goes over kids' heads.

JOCK

I love you!

TRUDY

You love me?

Trudy beams. Other JOCKS and TWO GIRLS run over.

JOCK

Of course! I don't want to go to  
war! I don't want to kill a stranger  
because my president says to. I  
don't want to die.

BLOND HIGH SCHOOL BOY

Make love, not war. Make love in the  
post office, no kill in war.

GIRL #1

Nudity shouldn't be shamed! So sick  
you tore your shirt off in church!

GIRL #2

Your book said all gods exist... it  
just made me think... why do I have to  
have the same god as my grandparents?  
Why can't I be god?

TRUDY

You can be god for your life, but you  
can't be god for anyone's else's life.

GIRL #1

Someone finally makes sense.

GIRL #2

My mom doesn't get you, but all of my school does.

TRUDY

The students get me? What do the teachers think?

GIRL #2

Who cares. The teachers are robots.  
(pointing at the planes)  
They tell me planes aren't making clouds, when we see they are.

JOCK

You're the one who gives us hope.  
And cookies without poison.

JOCK #2

And you're right - no one should have to pay for food. It grows!! We were given seeds! Free seeds grow into free food!

Overjoyed, Trudy stands, hugging them.

TRUDY

Let's all meet here tonight before dawn, before security can see us, and we'll plant food for the world!  
(pointing to them)  
You, tomatoes. You, peppers. You, potatoes, You, cabbage, You, apples. You, kale. You, squash.

**EXT. PARK - BROOKLYN - NIGHT**

Trudy supervises the students illegally planting seeds.

**EXT. PARK - BROOKLYN - DAY - MONTHS LATER**

SUPER: MONTHS LATER

VEGETABLES BLOOM EVERYWHERE! A TV REPORTER films them.

TV REPORTER

No one knows who turned this park into a vegetable garden and Brooklyn Heights is still conflicted on what to do about it.

Unhoused people (previously seen) eat kale and tomatoes. Trudy's guilty-looking students group together and turn, watching Trudy in a WHITE WEDDING GOWN WITH BLINKING LED LIGHTS walk a dirt path to Butch, in a WHITE TUXEDO, under a tomato trellis. Trudy winks, hands a BAG OF SEEDS and her streaming phone to a student.

TRUDY

(to camera)

Marriage is not for everybody, but hey, it is for us, right now.

BUTCH

I had to ask her ten times.

TRUDY

I didn't feel I was your... priority.

BUTCH

You... are... my... priority.

TRUDY

Poet.

She lowers her hand. Butch slides a DIAMOND RING on her finger. Then he points to the students, who HUM and CLAP rhythm to their old hit, "Fantasy Bride."

BUTCH

*(singing)*

*Feel my heart flutter like a  
butterfly, never floated in clouds  
this high, you are my soulmate, well  
worth the wait, don't ask me why...  
How would I get by, without you by my  
side, my fantasy, fantasy, fantasy  
bride, my fantasy bride...*

Trudy blushes, in love. The TV reporter is filming. Supportive guests include Officer Ernie Jones, Handsome Officer, podcaster Marge, Javier, even Sherry, smiling. The familiar church priest finishes his homily.

TRUDY

I do.

BUTCH

I do.

They kiss. Trudy winks to the students.

TRUDY  
Throw rice on us.

The students throw seeds on them (and all over the dirt).

Butch and Trudy have their happy ending, as soulmates - and the lyrics remind us of Rene and Kevin's happy ending, as soulmates. Trudy walks to her Maid Of Honor which is their tiger-masked robot - wearing Rene's clothes that Trudy had given her. The Best Man is their wolf-masked robot - in Kevin's fatigues adorned with his many medals. Trudy pushes buttons so the Rene/Kevin robots face each other and slow dance.

TRUDY  
*(singing)*  
*Never floated in clouds this high, you  
are my soulmate, well worth the wait...*

Pan up to the clouds. THUNDER. LIGHTNING. Rain.

THE END