

PLAN Z

Written by

Walt Palmer

215-435-8327
walter.palmeriv@gmail.com

INT. CHURCH - REC ROOM - NIGHT

White walls.

Fluorescent lighting.

The smell of coffee. Bad coffee.

We're in a depressing AA-style meeting.

HAROLD (65), a gruff, mustachioed Texan, speaks to a small crowd.

HAROLD

And so I'm just waiting now.
Painting a bit. When I can. He
would have liked that I guess.

(sigh)

Anyway. That's all I got.

MS. CLOVER (34), clears her throat, retaking control. She's stout, with glasses, and kindergarten teacher energy.

MS. CLOVER

Thank you so much for opening up to
us, Harold. Anyone else want to
share?

Ms. Clover looks out at the crowd. Crickets.

MS. CLOVER (CONT'D)

Maybe someone who hasn't spoken
yet?

(still no takers)

Dani?

She locks eyes with DANI ORTEGA (17), our hero. A messy mop of brown hair wrapped in Kurt Cobain flannel, Dani's the kind of girl who laughs at funerals and holds nothing sacred.

And she really, really doesn't want to be here.

Dani sighs. Nods.

DANI

Hi. I'm Dani.

(beat)

And I'm a zombie apocalypse
survivor.

CROWD

Hi Dani.

INT. DANI'S ROOM - MORNING - BEFORE THE WHOLE ZOMBIE THING

Dani wakes with a smile and stretches.

SUPER: 3 MONTHS EARLIER

DANI (V.O.)
*What sucks is that this all started
right when I was getting my life
back on track.*

Outside her window, flowers bloom. Doves sing. It's a beautiful day.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL CLASSROOM - FLASHBACK

9th grade Dani sits at a desk as a school shooting ensues.

DANI (V.O.)
Because it's been just year...

INT. HIGH SCHOOL CLASSROOM - FLASHBACK

10th grade Dani sits at a desk. Face covered in an N95 MASK.

DANI (V.O.)
After year...

INT. HIGH SCHOOL CLASSROOM - FLASHBACK

11th grade Dani watches as Texas TEXTBOOKS are handed out.

DANI (V.O.)
After year of shit.

A TEACHER writes "DINOSAURS: SATAN'S BIG LIE" on the board. She slams her head into the desk.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL CLASSROOM - DAY

12th grade Dani. A happier one. Ready to seize life.

DANI (V.O.)
*But this one stung the most.
Because it was my senior year. And
NOTHING was going to stop me from
having the Best. Time. Ever.*

Dani gets a PING on her PHONE. All the students do. They check and see:

**BREAKING NEWS:
Extremely deadly virus detected in Texas.**

DANI (V.O.)
But I guess life had other plans.

All the STUDENTS start panicking.

The TEACHER tries to calm things down. Dani SIGHS and stands.

DANI
Well...we tried.

She leaves, stealing a RANDOM KID'S VAPE on the way out.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Dani puffs her vape as scared STUDENTS scurry about.
PRINCIPAL AIKIN (43) tries to herd the cats back to class.

PRINCIPAL AIKIN
Back to class everyone.
(to Dani)
Ortega. No vaping. Class. Now.

DANI
No fucking way. What if someone's
sick? What if YOU'RE sick? You're
very sweaty.

PRINCIPAL AIKIN
It's glandular.

DANI
(calling out)
We got patient zero over here!

PRINCIPAL AIKIN
That's it! Go to the counselor's
office.

DANI
(vaping)
Or what?

He snatches her vape.

PRINCIPAL AIKIN
Or I'll hold you back. And you'll
be here again next year. With me.

Dani huffs, beyond pissed. It's checkmate.

INT. COUNSELOR'S OFFICE - DAY

Dani slams down into a chair.

Across from her sits the counselor, who you may recognize as MS. CLOVER from before.

MS. CLOVER

What now, Dani?

DANI

Where do I even start? The planet is melting. The country is scary as shit. And now there's some new mystery virus. I mean SHIT IS FUCKED!

(looks at phone)

Dude, since I've been in this room the Supreme Court gave guns the right to vote and Mark Wahlberg died.

MS. CLOVER

Wait, really?

(checks phone)

Oh my God. He did die. Nooooo. I love him.

DANI

Well, you shouldn't. He committed a bunch of hate crimes in the 80s.

Ms. Clover Googles it. Finds it's true.

MS. CLOVER

Oh my God.

DANI

SEE!

MS. CLOVER

Ok. Calm down. Why don't you focus on the aspects of your life that you can actually control? The things that you're good at. What might that be?

DANI

I'm good at getting fucked up.

MS. CLOVER

No.

DANI

And partying. I guess you could say I'm good at enabling shithead behavior.

MS. CLOVER

No.

DANI

Wait a minute. I see what you're saying, doc. It's all over, but who cares! I should live fast, and die young. Like Lana Del Rey, but actually commit to the bit. If I can't control it, fuck it! Just drink till you drop!

MS. CLOVER

I can not emphasize enough how far that is from what I'm trying to communicate to you.

DANI

Thanks, Ms. Clover. You're the best!

And she's gone. Ms. Clover sighs.

MS. CLOVER

(sotto)

These kids are so fucked.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - CAFETERIA - DAY

We glide through a tense cafeteria scene. Students gossip about the virus, the future, their fears.

Dani jumps up on a table.

DANI

Hey! Can I have your attention?

Everyone looks. Silence. WTF does this girl want?

DANI (CONT'D)

I'm sure you've all heard about the new catastrophic life event we're being forced to live through. And you're over it, as am I. But look at what this shit is doing to us, guys. None of us even know each other anymore.

(MORE)

DANI (CONT'D)

Grace Prenders, we used to be best friends. What happened?

We see GRACE. She looks saddened.

DANI (CONT'D)

And Larry Wargo. Everyone used to think you were gonna be the next school shooter. Lockdown Larry! Remember guys? But why even murder us now?

All eyes on LARRY. He shrugs, agreeing.

LARRY

I don't have a compelling reason.

DANI

That's on us, guys. But we can change it. This is senior year. We should be doing drugs and having weird sex like the kids in *Euphoria*, Goddamnit! Let's forget the shit hand we've been dealt and get really, really fucked up, together!

Total silence. Did she just bomb?

One kid from the nerd table stands. IAN KUO (17), shy, sheltered, you always say his whole name for some reason.

IAN KUO

(beat)

LET'S FUCKING RAGE!

The cafeteria EXPLODES with cheers.

MATCH CUT TO:

INT. IAN KUO'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Ian Kuo does a keg stand. Rager all around him. COUNTING. FIFTY-ONE. FIFTY-TWO. FIFTY-THREE.

He stops, spitting up beer. Dani grabs his hand.

DANI

Give it up for Ian Kuo, everybody!

The party GOES WILD.

IAN KUO
 Dani, this was the--
 (beat)
 Oh, God. Hold on.

Ian Kuo turns green and pukes.

His friend JAKE (17) steps in to help. This is the love interest, so get cozy. Jake's a painfully positive nerd with a lanky build, green eyes, and short sandy hair.

DANI (V.O.)
This fucker right here is the reason it all went to shit. Jake Moore. I went to school with him since first grade, but we never really crossed paths.

INT. AMBIGUOUS CORK WALL - DAY

CU on a PHOTO of Jake's happy family.

DANI (V.O.)
I knew his parents were divorced.

Two hands rip the photo in half. The Dad half is tacked to a MAP of Texas over Amarillo. The Mom half is in Houston.

DANI (V.O.)
And he split his time between here and Amarillo.

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD - DAY

Jake smiles and waves to camera in full football gear.

DANI (V.O.)
I knew his dad was a big football star at Texas Tech.

Jake gets absolutely ass blasted by a LINEMAN.

DANI (V.O.)
But it didn't run in the family.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - CAFETERIA - DAY

Jake chums it up with Ian Kuo and other nerds. They pretend to have a lightsaber battle.

DANI (V.O.)
*And I knew he split his time
 between the nerds...*

Jake parries a swing, crossing camera as we --

CUT TO:

INT. HIGH SCHOOL - THEATRE - DAY

Where Jake flurries in medieval garb, practicing stage combat.

DANI (V.O.)
And the theatre kids.

INT. IAN KUO'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Back to the party.

DANI (V.O.)
*What I didn't know was that he was
 an insufferable goody-goody and
 that he would one day ruin my life.*

Jake helps a drunk Ian Kuo as he pukes into a HOUSE PLANT.

JAKE
 Shit, man. Your mom just repotted
 this thing.
 (to crowd)
 Hey, can we turn the music down a
 bit? Maybe get some air in here?

Everyone looks at Jake and Ian Kuo, concerned. An EMO GIRL reaches for the AUX. Dani grabs her hand.

DANI
 Don't.

EMO GIRL
 What the hell, Dani?

DANI
 This is a party.
 (to Jake)
 Just...put him to bed. Let him
 sleep it off.

JAKE
 How you doin' bud? You feelin' ok?

Ian Kuo gives a meek thumbs up. Everyone CLAPS.

Dani CRANKS the music.

DANI

Cool. Yeah. Now let's get this party restarted!

There's a SHATTERING sound from the kitchen. A kid wearing those weirdly long shorts...fuck it, LONG SHORTS pops in.

LONG SHORTS

Yo! Colin Bowers is eatin' a raw fuckin' steak in here!

JAKE

Shit.

Jake exits. The PARTY follows.

DANI

Guys. Come on. The fuck!

She looks around. All alone. She GRUNTS. And enters--

INT. IAN KUO'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Where she finds a JOCK in a letterman's jacket tearing through the fridge. Making a mess.

JAKE

Hey, man. Cut it out.

The Jock turns. He's chewing on RAW MEAT. His eyes are white. He looks sickly. One might even say *zombified*.

JAKE (CONT'D)

Now I know for a fact that Mr. Kuo was very excited about that steak. It's an A1 wagyu. Have some God damn respect for the marbling and Put. It. Back.

CROWD

Fight! Fight! Fight! Fight!

DANI

No. No fighting. We're all havin' a fun time.

JAKE

(to Jock)

Hey, I'm talkin' to you, man!

The Jock LUNGES at Jake. Tackling him to the ground. The Crowd CHEERS!

The Jock BITES into Jake's hand. Jake SCREAMS.

JAKE (CONT'D)

The fuck!

Jake bucks him off and KICKS the Jock against the fridge. He takes a tacky karate pose.

JAKE (CONT'D)

I'm warning you, dude. I have stage combat training. I can and will neutralize you.

Dani rolls her eyes.

The Jock CHARGES. Jake punches him in the chest with his good hand. It does nothing.

JAKE (CONT'D)

(shaking it off)

Ow. Shit.

The Jock locks Jake in a headlock. He bears his teeth, about to bite into Jake's jugular, WHEN--

DANI

You're fucking up my party!

Dani pulls the two apart. A little too hard. The Jock flies off Jake and SLAMS his head against a kitchen island.

CROWD

Oooooooooowww!

Dani turns back to the crowd.

DANI

Ok. Now can we PLEASE get back to having a good time?

She looks around. Everyone is staring at the Jock.

EMO GIRL

Dani. What did you do?

Dani looks. Yikes. There's a bloody gash on the Jock's head.

DANI

Huh? Oh, he's fine. Really.

EMO GIRL
Is that his brains?

Dani looks down, spots something brain-like on the floor.

DANI
Nope.

She kicks it under the fridge. The Crowd GAGS.

DANI (CONT'D)
Really. He's good.

The Jock suddenly stands, startling everyone.

DANI (CONT'D)
See! He's just gotta walk it off.
Somebody pour some shots, let's--

A geyser of BLOOD sprays from the wound all over the CROWD.
Everyone SCREAMS. They run for the exit.

DANI (CONT'D)
Guys! No! Come on, we're havin' fun
here!

The Jock stumbles out with the rest of the party. Leaving
Dani and Jake alone. Party over.

INT. IAN KUO'S HOUSE - BATHROOM - NIGHT

Jake sits on the tub, wrapping his hand in bandages.

KNOCK, KNOCK, KNOCK.

JAKE
Come in.

Dani enters with a frozen bag of peas.

DANI
Here you go.

JAKE
Thanks.

Jake takes the peas. Dani slumps down on the toilet.

DANI
You know people do weird shit at
parties, dude. That's the fun part.
You didn't have to pick a fight.

JAKE
I can't tolerate someone
disrespecting Ian's house. Not
after the renovation.

DANI
Whatever.

JAKE
Plus, you're the one that ruined
the party. You killed a guy.

Dani lets out a sob. Tears start rolling down her cheek.

JAKE (CONT'D)
Ah. Shit. I'm sorry.

She starts balling.

DANI
(hysterical)
You're right. I did ruin the party.

JAKE
No, you didn't.

DANI
(hysterical)
I did. I killed Colin.

JAKE
No. He walked away.

DANI
(hysterical)
Yeah, with half his brain hanging
out.

JAKE
They say you only use ten percent.

DANI
(hysterical)
He's gonna go to the police and
report me and I'm gonna go to jail
and I can not pull off orange AT
ALL!

JAKE
No. Guys like that get hit in the
head all the time. For fun.

DANI
(softening)
Really?

JAKE
Totally. You watch. One day that guy is gonna be forty-five. And his CTE is gonna make him snap and kill his whole family. And everyone's gonna say "guess it was the football." They're not gonna remember this.

DANI
You really mean that?

JAKE
Totally.

DANI
Ok. Thanks. That makes me feel better. I'm sorry about all this. I just wanted to have one normal night of fun. One party. But I guess I'm just cursed.

(beat)
I knew should have tipped that psychic better.

JAKE
We can still have a party. We've got the beer. Music. And I even snagged this off of Colin in the fight.

Jake pulls out a little baggy of pills.

DANI
Are those drugs?

JAKE
I think they're drugs.

DANI
Fuck yeah! Let's do drugs!

They both do drugs!

DANI (CONT'D)
Thank you. I really needed this. I was starting to think my life might be eternally fucked.

JAKE

No way. Prepare for the best night
of your life!

(beat)

We will need to clean up all that
blood, though.

INT. IAN KUO'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

Dani and Jake mop up blood. Tripping balls.

Everything softens. Lightens. The blood changes colors. Like
a rippling rainbow. They dance and mop the rainbow around.

The little chunk of BRAIN crawls out from under the fridge.

DANI

Woah. Look.

They both look. The CHUNK OF BRAINS has little claymation
arms and legs and cute googly eyes. He waves at them.

CHUNK OF BRAINS

Hey! Remember me!

JAKE

Hey little guy.

Dani and Jake wave back.

CHUNK OF BRAINS

Don't forget to dispose of the
evidence!

Dani scoops up the CHUNK. He gives her a little kiss. She
giggles and throws him in the trash.

They go back to dancing and cleaning as the room shimmers.

Spinning around each other. They lock eyes.

JAKE

Hey. Can I ask you something?

DANI

Go for it.

JAKE

Would it be super corny if I said I
think you're beautiful?

DANI

Yes. In the morning I'll think
that's lame as fuck.

(beat)

But it's really working right now.

She dives on him, furiously making out.

The music swells as we do one of those old-timey iris fades.

INT. IAN KUO'S HOUSE - GUEST ROOM - DAY

Dani wakes. The sun blinds her. She rips the curtains shut,
notices an open box of CONDOMS on the bedside table. *Nice.*

JAKE (O.S.)

Oh good, you're up.

She turns and spots Jake at the door with a full breakfast-in-bed spread. It's sweet. Too sweet.

JAKE (CONT'D)

I made you some breakfast. Got
Waffles. Bacon. Fresh squeezed
orange juice--

DANI

Woah, woah, woah. Easy there,
fella. What's your angle?

JAKE

My angle?

DANI

Yeah. Because this is how every
thriller starts. You hook up with
some nice, Timmy Chalamet-lookin'
fucker, and then next thing you
know he's making cold cuts out of
your butt cheeks. Shit, is this
your cannibal kill room?

JAKE

What the--no. This isn't even my
house. Remember?

DANI

Even worse! Second location.

JAKE

I was just trying to do something
nice. We had fun last night, right?

DANI

Yeah. I'm just not really looking for anything serious. I'm saving myself. For college. Where I'm gonna fuck a lot of dudes that aren't you. So...

Dani quickly dresses and rushes out of the room.

JAKE

But--

DANI

See ya at school.

She leaves. Then comes back. Takes all the bacon. And leaves for real.

JAKE

(heartbroken)

See ya.

Ian Kuo enters in a really spectacular robe eating toast.

IAN KUO

What's her problem?

EXT. DANI'S HOUSE - FRONT LAWN - DAY

Dani sneaks up to her house. She stealthily opens a window and climbs inside.

INT. DANI'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

She falls flat on her face. GROANS. And rises. A painting of JESUS stares back at her. Judging.

DANI

The fuck you looking at?

DANI'S MOM (O.S.)

Daniella? That you?

Shit. Dani enters--

INT. DANI'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Where DANI'S MOM (46) watches the news. She's a stout Mexican-American woman. A little too religious for Dani's taste.

And it shows. The house is full of crosses, Jesuses, and enough "Live Laugh Love" B.S. to furnish a 2.3-star Airbnb.

DANI'S MOM

I've been up all night, just worried sick!

DANI

Uh. I can explain. I was *Taken!* It was those damn Eastern Europeans mom, you were right about buying all that dip at the farmers market--

DANI'S MOM

What? I'm talking about the news.

DANI

Oh.

DANI'S MOM

Here, come look at this.

Dani does. On TV, an ANCHOR speaks over a BREAKING NEWS banner. Shaky-cam footage of pandemonium in the background.

DANI'S MOM (CONT'D)

The whole state is already locked down. You know Jesus warned us about this. **Judgment Day...**

Dani tries to drone out her Mom's rant and focus on the news.

ANCHOR

--*The virus is caused by--*

DANI'S MOM

--*Sinners. This country has strayed too far from the light, and now--*

ANCHOR

--*Victims experience death and reanimation followed by--*

DANI'S MOM

--*Eternal damnation! We need to pray, or it will--*

ANCHOR

--*Spread indiscriminately, by blood contact, or a bite.*

DANI
 (shushing)
 Wait. Mom. What did they say about
 a bite?

DANI'S MOM
 Oh, by the way, school called.
 You're goin' back on Zoom. Sorry,
 hun.

DANI
 You don't say...

INT. DANI'S ROOM / JAKE'S ROOM - MORNING

In a time-lapse, Dani sets up a sweet homeschool rig. Cozy chair. Big TV. Snacks. Sodas. Lots of weed.

DANI (V.O.)
*Honestly, virtual school kinda
 fucks. You literally do whatever
 you want all day, every day. And I
 know some people say "oh, but you
 don't really learn anything", and
 to those people I say shut the fuck
 up, I learned a lot about lying and
 if that isn't an American education
 then I don't know what is.*

Dani logs on to Zoom. It's just Jake and her. Awkward.

JAKE
 Hey. Listen, can we talk?

No response. Dani just looks down at her notebook.

JAKE (CONT'D)
 Look. I get it, you're not looking
 for anything or whatever...but
 there's something else...

Jake rubs his bitten hand. It's wrapped in athletic tape.

No response from Dani.

JAKE (CONT'D)
 Dani?

DANI (O.S.)
 What? Were you saying something?

REAL DANI pushes a TV aside. She had it set up as a decoy.

DANI (CONT'D)

Oh. You.

JAKE

Hi. Got a sec?

DANI

Look man, I'm right in the middle of an epic Sims session. I got a dude in the pool with no ladder and I don't wanna miss seeing him drown. So.

JAKE

I just--

The whole class logs on, drowning Jake out.

Dani pushes the TV in front of the laptop and turns back to the Sims. She snickers sinisterly as her NPC drowns.

When a GURGLING erupts from her stomach.

She turns pale, suddenly nauseous, and jets from the room.

INT. DANI'S HOUSE - BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

Dani barely makes it to the toilet and pukes. A lot. She finally finishes, wipes her mouth, and turns to leave.

OUCH!

She bends down and picks up something sharp from under her foot. It's small. Metal. And strangely corroded.

DANI

Is that... is that my FUCKING IUD?!

The IUD crumbles to dust like Thanos snapped it away.

DANI (CONT'D)

Shit. Shit, shit, shit.

Dani sprints out of the bathroom.

INT. JAKE'S ROOM - DAY

Jake sits on his bed, a look of terror on his face. His bitten hand is engulfed in black veins.

KNOCK KNOCK.

JAKE
Shit. One sec, Mom.

He wraps the hand in tape. Looks up to see Dani entering.

JAKE (CONT'D)
Oh. How'd you get in here?

DANI (O.S.)
Jolene let me in. Yep. We're on a first-name basis. Your Mom is SO hot, by the way.

JAKE
...Thanks?

Dani takes in his room. Lots of toys. Walls covered in posters. Han Solo. Indiana Jones. James Bond. Heroes.

DANI
Jesus. Nerd alert!

JAKE
So I like things. What's wrong with that?

DANI
Nothing.

Dani pokes at a Lego Millennium Falcon.

DANI (CONT'D)
As long as they're adult things.

JAKE
That one is for eighteen and up. So. Joke's on you.

DANI
Whatever. Let's cut the shit young Sheldon. Something weird is happening to me. First I puked. Like really vomited. And I almost never puke. One time I ate a bunch of old ass clams casino and then watched something with Lin Manuel Miranda in it and I STILL didn't puke from that shit.

Jake slyly covers a Hamilton playbill with a book.

DANI (CONT'D)

Then my IUD fell out. It was just out. It's supposed to be in, and then it was out. You don't think--

JAKE

The bite. I was worried about that, too. But I wore a condom. So.

DANI

Right. So I'm probably ok?

JAKE

Oh yeah. I mean those things are like 99% effective. Safe sex!

He tries to high-five her. She doesn't go for it.

DANI

What about you? Are you gonna like--
(bad zombie voice)

Brains!

(beat)

Shit. Is that kinda zombie racist?

JAKE

I'm just stayin' positive. I mean I feel fine.

Dani notices Jake's hand. It doesn't look fine, but before she can push, Jake gets a FaceTime from IAN KUO. He picks up.

JAKE (CONT'D)

Ian. Kinda in the middle--

IAN KUO

(over Facetime)

DUDE! WHAT THE FUCK!

JAKE

What?!

IAN KUO

(over Facetime)

Look at this. Look at this.

ON FACETIME, Ian Kuo walks over to a bedside trash can.

With gloves on, he pulls out a CONDOM. The tip is seared through. Steaming. Like it had acid in it.

JAKE

What the hell?

IAN KUO
 (over Facetime)
 No LOOK!

Ian moves the phone toward a trash can.

The bottom is melted out. Whatever *it* was burned through three floors. Still steaming like Xenomorph acid blood.

DANI
 Is that...

IAN KUO
 (over Facetime)
 CUM! IT'S CUM! How much fucking
 pineapple juice did you drink?

JAKE
 A normal amount!

DANI
 You got a car?

JAKE
 My mom does.

DANI
 JOLENE!

INT. HOSPITAL - EMERGENCY ROOM - DAY

Dani and Jake run through the sliding doors.

People in HAZMAT SUITS mill about.

It's gettin' a little apocalyptic up in here.

They march right up to a RECEPTIONIST decked out in PPE.

DANI
 I need to see the vagina doctor. I
 don't remember what it's called.
 (beat)
 NOW!

INT. HOSPITAL - ULTRASOUND ROOM - DAY

Dani lays back as NURSE SUE (45) ultrasounds her. Curly strawberry blonde hair. A Crackle Barrel in human form.

NURSE SUE

Well. You're lucky. The IUD took the brunt of the acidic ejaculate. I've seen some girls come in her split crack to crack. Just melted right through.

DANI

(sotto)

...Holy fuck.

NURSE SUE

Anywhoo. Let's have a look-see.

Sue spins the screen so Dani can see. The black-and-white image flickers back at her.

Dani sits up. Looks closer. Searching...

When something SLAMS into the screen.

Dani SCREAMS. Jumps back.

Startled by the sight of a horrific FETUS.

Writhing. Rotting. Bulbous eyes and mangled teeth.

It is 1000% a ZOMBIE BABY (aka a ZOMBABY).

DANI

Oh my God.

NURSE SUE

That's right. It looks like you're about three months along with a beautiful baby boy.

DANI

What? Three months? This just happened.

NURSE SUE

Well, we don't know the full effects of the virus yet. There's been a few reports of accelerated pregnancies. And fatalities.

DANI

Fatalities?

NURSE SUE

Given the timetable, I'd say you have about one or two days until this 'lil cutie rips right on out.

DANI

Nope. No. I want an abortion.

NURSE SUE

Oh, sweetheart. You can't do that.
A life is a life.

DANI

EXCEPT NO! IT'S FUCKING NOT! IT'S A
FUCKING ZOMBIE!

NURSE SUE

Language!

DANI

I'm sorry. I just--tell me what I
can do. Where can I go to get an
abortion?

NURSE SUE

Nowhere. It's illegal in Texas and
the state is locked down.

DANI

So you're telling me that I have to
give birth to a zombie, and there's
literally nothing I can do about
it?

NURSE SUE

Mhm. Isn't it wonderful?

Dani sits in shock.

INT. HOSPITAL - WAITING ROOM - DAY

Jake enters a room full of BITE VICTIMS. He walks to a
RECEPTIONIST behind bulletproof glass.

JAKE

Hey. Is this where you go if you've
been bitten?

RECEPTIONIST

Take a number and we'll be right
with you.

JAKE

Thanks.

Jake takes a number and sits.

He looks around. Everyone is on their phones, zoned out. Stale waiting room music plays in the background.

DOCTOR
Number fifty-seven!

A BUSINESSMAN peels away from his phone and walks over.

BUSINESSMAN
How long is this gonna take?

DOCTOR
Not long, sir.

They leave, but Jake spies on them through a frosted window.

The two blurred forms settle. Conversing.

When there's a bright FLASH and the muffled PEW.

Wait. Was that...

Was that a fucking silenced GUNSHOT?

The Doctor re-enters. The legs of the Businessman barely visible beyond the door. A pool of BLOOD forms at his feet.

DOCTOR (CONT'D)
Number fifty-eight.

Jake gets the fuck out of there.

INT. CIVIC - DRIVING - DAY

Jake drives. Dani pulls at her hair.

JAKE
Wha--what are we gonna do?

DANI
What can we do? WE'RE FUCKED!

JAKE
Don't say that. There's gotta be something.

DANI
Jake. I'm a day away from having a zombie burst from my stomach *Alien* style. They literally SHOT people that have whatever is wrong with you. We are so completely beyond FUCKED.

JAKE

Wait. What if we post about this online?

DANI

Huh?

JAKE

I'm thinkin' we make a video about the whole situation and just blast it out to the world. Someone is bound to see it and send help, right? Like Obama. What's he doin'?

DANI

(sigh)

Listen, dude. If you want to opt out at this point, be my guest. I don't think you, like, owe me anything. Most guys would be gone by now.

JAKE

Well. I'm not like most guys.

DANI

And this whole "nice guy" bit isn't gonna work, either. I know you're just saying that because you want to--

JAKE

Hey. Look at me.

She does.

JAKE (CONT'D)

I'm sayin' it because I wanna stay. And I wanna help. I got you into this. I'm gonna get you out. Ok?

He smiles. Meaning it. And with that look, Dani's cold heart cracks just enough for a few butterflies to flutter in.

DANI

Fuck it.

INT. JAKE'S ROOM - DAY

CU of Dani sitting in a chair staring at her PHONE on a tripod. Jake adjusts a ring light. Gives a thumbs up.

Dani takes a deep breath and hits RECORD.

DANI

Hi. My name is Dani Ortega. And I am seriously fucked right now.

INT. JAKE'S ROOM - LATER THAT DAY

Jake edits the video on a LAPTOP. Dani paces behind him.

DANI (V.O.)

I'm pregnant, and if I don't get an abortion in the next forty-eight hours, I'm gonna explode. Or be eaten alive. Or both.

INT. JAKE'S ROOM - NIGHT

Dani lays on Jake's bed with her head hanging off the side. She loads the finished video to TikTok.

DANI (V.O.)

So just get an abortion, right? Well, I live in dumb-fuck Texas where that's a no-go. And I can't leave because zombies are a thing now.

Dani posts the video. Jake posts to YouTube.

INT. HOUSTON CORNER STORE - NIGHT

A YOUNG GIRL licks a lollipop and watches Dani's TikTok as her DAD fend off bad customers in their family store.

DANI (V.O.)

This should be SO EASY. How the fuck did we get this so wrong?

The Dad comes over and watches over his daughter's shoulder.

INT. RICH PERSON'S HOUSE - NIGHT

A TEENAGE GIRL watches Dani's video while the two BOYS she's babysitting have a food fight behind her.

DANI (V.O.)

And why does it feel like I'm the only person that cares? For a second it felt like we weren't going to accept any of this bullshit. Where did that go?

INT. DANI'S ROOM - NIGHT

Dani watches her own video from bed.

DANI (V.O.)

Because I am seventeen years old. I should NOT have to die like this. NO ONE should have to suffer because of some shit a virgin wrote down two thousand years ago! I'm not asking for help. I'm telling you that this is fucking unacceptable. So if you're hearing this, wake the fuck up and do something about it!

Dani taps out of the video.

DANI

Ugh. It's so cringy. This was a bad idea.

JAKE

(on Facetime)

It's already got like a hundred views on YouTube. Just give it a chance. I mean it's not like it's gonna make things worse.

DANI (V.O.)

Things got significantly worse.

CUE MONTAGE OF MEDIA SHITSTORM:

A TUCKER CARLSON look alike--

NOT TUCKER CARLSON

To think of using this time for pro-choice propaganda, well it's just depraved--

A GREG ABBOTT knockoff--

NOT GREG ABBOTT

Not only is what this girl trying to do wrong, it's illegal, and I encourage every Texan to do their part to stop her--

A President that totally isn't JOE BIDEN--

NOT JOE BIDEN

C'mon! You can't--you gotta vote! No magic wand!

(MORE)

NOT JOE BIDEN (CONT'D)

If I had a--see the toast is softer
on the brown side...c'mon!

INT. DANI'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Jake turns the TV off.

Dani pulls at her hair as she watches the video. 100m views.

JAKE

Ok. No way anyone *really* cares.

Dani walks to the window, pulls back the curtains, revealing
a horde of furious PROTESTERS outside.

These are not LITERALLY zombies, but they act the part. They
scream, claw at the walls and each other. They're ravenous.

DANI

Looks like some people care.

JAKE

Like twenty people. Fifty. No more
than a hundred for sure.

They scan the crowd. Dani notes one Protester's sign.

DANI

Some of these signs just make no
sense to me. "*What if you were
aborted?*" Like, yeah. Yes, please.

JAKE

So many Minions, too. What's with
that? Is there like a pro-life
message to those movies? I don't
know the lore.

DANI

GOD. How fucking STUPID was I to
think someone in this world would
actually want to help us.

JAKE

Any calls?

Dani shows him her phone. It's currently RINGING. There are
5000 missed calls.

DANI

Yeah. And thanks for putting my
number in the video, by the way.
Great call.

JAKE

Answer it. Maybe it'll be good news.

DANI

Oh yeah. You think? Let's see.

She answers the phone. Puts it on speaker.

MALE CALLER (O.S.)

I hope your dog gets AIDS--

Dani hangs up.

DANI

Don't even have a dog.

The phone BUZZES again. New number.

JAKE

One more.

DANI

No dude!

JAKE

Just one more. Come on. Have a little faith in humanity.

She sighs. Answers it.

PRIYA (O.S.)

Hello? Dani?

DANI

Yeah...

PRIYA (O.S.)

Dani! Listen, my name is Priya Patel. You can Google me, I'm a real person, and I think I can help you.

DANI

Wait...seriously?

PRIYA (O.S.)

Yes. Now listen, can you get to the Sacred Heart Hospital in Amarillo?

JAKE

What are they saying?

DANI

Uh. Yeah, I think so. My friend has a car.

Dani looks at Jake. Notes his bite.

DANI (CONT'D)

But he's been bitten. Can you help him, too?

PRIYA (O.S.)

No. No, Dani, listen. There's no cure.

DANI

Oh.

PRIYA (O.S.)

He'll get sicker and sicker over the next twenty-four hours, and then he'll turn. Best thing to do is to tell him the truth and let him enjoy the little time he has left.

DANI

(beat)

Ok.

PRIYA (O.S.)

Sacred Heart. Tomorrow. I have to go.

BEEP, BEEP, BEEP. The line goes dead.

JAKE

Well. What did they say?

Shit. *Should she tell him?*

DANI (V.O.)

Now I know what you're thinking. I should have told Jake that he was fucked.

INT. JAKE'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Jake hugs his MOM, crying.

DANI (V.O.)

Let him say his goodbyes.

INT. JAKE'S ROOM - DAY

Jake plays with an unreal Lego Star Wars setup.

DANI (V.O.)
*And do a bunch of fun, stupid shit
 before he kicked the can.*

BACK TO PRESENT

Jake looks on, waiting.

DANI (V.O.)
*But I needed a ride. So I didn't do
 that.*

JAKE
 Well?

DANI
 Yyyyyeah! We're good to go.

JAKE
 Oh, thank God. See, told you things
 would work out!

DANI
 Yeah. Now we just gotta get past
 them...

They look to the window, where the mob of PROTESTERS swarm around Jake's red Civic hatchback.

DANI (CONT'D)
 I've got an idea.

EXT. DANI'S HOUSE - FRONT LAWN - DAY

The CROWD continues to SHOUT and JEER. Then they spot something. It's DANI in the upstairs window.

TRUCKER
 Look y'all. It's her!

CAT LADY
 The hell's she doing?

Dani flips the crowd off. Their anger intensifies.

Then she holds up a painting of JESUS. The crowd CHEERS. Appeased.

Until she starts...oh God. She's face fucking Jesus.

CROWD
BOOOOOOO!

The Crowd goes INSANE, naturally, egging the window and banging on the walls.

But the Dani in the window is on a TV.

The REAL Dani and Jake sneak out the back. They're both decked out with BACKPACKS, CAMPING GEAR, and BROOMSTICKS.

JAKE
Where'd you learn that?

DANI
School.

There's a SHATTERING sound back at the house.

Dani looks.

The window is broken. The TV is toast. And the Protestors are on the hunt. Sniveling. Sniffing. They spot Dani and Jake.

DANI (CONT'D)
Oh shit.

The Protesters CHARGE.

One rams right into Jake.

She swings at him.

When Dani SLAMS the menace with her broomstick.

She takes Jake's hand and pulls him towards the car.

But Protestors keep coming.

Dani and Jake SWAT them away. One by one.

DANI (CONT'D)
Start the car!

Jake does as he's told.

The engine CRANKS and CRANKS. But won't turn over.

One PROTESTOR is on Dani.

Spitting and SCREAMING in her face.

They RIP her broomstick from her hands.

And tackle her to the ground.

SCREAMING. Rabid. Clawing at her.

A mob forms on top of Dani. Piling on top.

Trapping her.

The light fades. She can't breathe. It's all over.

Jake pops the passenger door and reverses.

The door SWIPES the pile of people off Dani. Freeing her.

She hops up and climbs in the car, PANTING.

And swings the door shut.

Just as more PROTESTERS slam into the windows.

HAROLD (PRE-LAP)

When do the actual zombies show up?

INT. CHURCH - REC ROOM - NIGHT

Back in the church, Harold scowls. Arms crossed.

MS. CLOVER

Harold, I think what Dani might be getting at is a bit more nuanced. Maybe the people sort of are the metaphorical zombies of this story--

HAROLD

This is a zombie apocalypse survival group. We all lost people to this crap, so are there zombies, or not?

DANI

Yes, Harold. There will be zombies.

MARGOT (30), a short-haired mousey hipster, chimes in.

MARGOT

Does Jake die? Because I can't handle that.

DANI

I promise you, Jake does **not** die. So can I just get back to the story now? Ok, GREAT. Now, where was I...

INT. CIVIC - DRIVING - DAY

DANI (V.O.)

We actually got super lucky with the roads and were making pretty great time...

Jake drives. Dani studies her phone.

DANI

So I think we're gonna need to spend the night somewhere. But we're also gonna need to avoid the whole...population of Texas. So...

JAKE

Uhh. Well, I could ask my Dad. He still lives in Amarillo.

DANI

Oh yeah. Ok. You sure you wanna do that?

JAKE

Yeah. Why not?

DANI

I don't know. You just never know with divorce. I guess I just--

JAKE

Me and my Dad are still cool. I mean sure, we don't exactly love all the same stuff...

EXT. CITY PARK - FLASHBACK

JAKE'S DAD throws JAKE a football. It slams into his chest. Hard. Jake is not having fun. But his Dad keeps pelting him.

AGAIN. AND AGAIN. AND AGAIN.

JAKE'S DAD

NO CRYING!

BACK TO PRESENT

Jake fidgets.

JAKE

But we get by.

DANI

Ok. 'Cause your body language is kinda tellin' a different story.

JAKE

No. It'll be fine. Really. He's a cool guy. Just different. Kinda like a cowboy, you know? Eats big steaks. Owns big guns. Even has a boot and saddle store in the Lone Star mall.

DANI

Cowboy. Ok. Kinda sounds like your dad's a dilf.

JAKE

What? I don't know--
(noticing the dash)
Ah shit.

DANI

What?

JAKE

We gotta grab some gas. Do you have money?

DANI

Like twenty bucks.

Jake nods and takes an exit off the highway.

EXT. GAS STATION - PARKING LOT - DAY

The Civic pulls into a gas station. A hellacious mob packs the pumps. SCREAMING and HONKING at each other.

They park and get out.

JAKE

Well, on the bright side, this baby has a real small tank. So.

DANI

Sure. Why don't you take the money and go grab us something to eat?

JAKE

What about the gas?

DANI

I'll handle it.

JAKE
Cool. Ok. Be right back.

He walks off.

Dani waits till he's out of sight. She pulls her backpack from the car and sneaks over to a BLACK TRUCK.

INT. GAS STATION - DAY

Jake enters a Texas-sized gas station. EVERYONE is in panic mode. Scrambling for toilet paper and necessities.

And yet the restaurants are still somehow operational.

There's a Starbucks.

A Long John Silvers.

A Burger King.

A Subway (eat fresh)

Jake weighs his options carefully.

INT. GAS STATION - LONG JOHN SILVERS - CONTINUOUS

He chooses the absolute worst option. *Long John Silvers*.

A CASHIER who cannot FUCKING believe she still has to work rings him up.

CASHIER
That'll be seventeen-fifty.

JAKE
(hands over cash)
Here ya go.

CASHIER
You can wait over there. NEXT!

Jake heads down the line. A MAN approaches.

This is ROLAND (age unclear). He has leathery hot-dog skin, bright Pit Viper sunglasses, and gigantic muscles.

ROLAND
Hey, little man, let me ask you something.

Roland pulls out a BOUNTY POSTER with a very familiar face.
It's Dani.

ROLAND (CONT'D)
She look familiar to you?

Jake tries to play it cool.

JAKE
No. Never seen her.

ROLAND
You sure? You're all red.

JAKE
Nope. I'm good.

ROLAND
Kinda twitchy. And you're sweating.
Like a lot.

JAKE
I...gotta poop.

ROLAND
I never poop. Poop is strength
leaving the body.

JAKE
I don't think that's right.

ROLAND
No it is. Google it.

JAKE
I will. I'll look into it.

ROLAND
So you haven't seen her?

JAKE
No.

ROLAND
FUCK.

JAKE
What'd she do?

ROLAND
She's using all this fake news
virus crap to try and get herself
an abortion. Shit makes me SICK.
(MORE)

ROLAND (CONT'D)

But jokes on her, because the governor put a bounty on her ass bigger than the bull testicle I ate for breakfast. And pappa's gonna collect.

CASHIER (O.S.)

Number thirty-four!

Jake takes his order.

JAKE

(beat)

Well. I gotta go. See ya.

Jake hurries away. Roland lowers his sunglasses. Suspicious.

EXT. GAS STATION - PARKING LOT - DAY

Jake runs up to the Civic.

JAKE

Dani?

She's nowhere to be found. He looks around. Hears a DRAINING sound. Like water filling a kiddie pool.

Jake walks over to the TRUCK and finds Dani stealing gas.

DANI

Oh good, you're--ah fuck! Long John Silvers?

JAKE

What're you doing?

DANI

What does it look like I'm doing?
I'm stealing gas.

JAKE

Jesus. So we're criminals now? What if they come back?

DANI

Then...I don't know. That would suck.

JAKE

You didn't think about that at all, did you?

DANI

Nope.

JAKE

Great.

(beat)

Alright. Well. I'm gonna keep watch. But for the record, I don't like this.

DANI

Cool. Don't care.

Jake heads to the other side of the truck, which is plastered with violent pro-gun and "Don't Tread On Me" bumper stickers.

JAKE

(sotto)

Holy fuck.

Jake looks over and sees Roland leaving the gas station.

JAKE (CONT'D)

Shit. Of course it's him.

(to Dani)

He's coming!

DANI

Thing is, I accidentally drank like a LOT of gas.

(burp)

So I'm gonna need more time. Can you take him?

CLOSE ON Roland. This guy could fuck up The Rock.

JAKE

Yeah...but I'd rather not resort to violence.

Dani looks up. Spots Roland.

DANI

Dude. In what world? That guy's gonna rip your asshole out through your mouth and make you wear like a bow-tie.

JAKE

Then let's just go!

DANI

I'm not done. You're gonna have to distract him.

Roland gets within earshot.

ROLAND
Hey brother. What's up?

JAKE
Oh. Hey. Uh. This your truck?

ROLAND
Sure is.

JAKE
I was just admiring your, you know.
Your stickers.

ROLAND
Thanks. You a gun nut?

JAKE
'Course. You kidding? Nuts for
guns. I mean I don't have literal
nuts for guns.
(beat)
But I'd be into it.

ROLAND
Shit man. If I was a twiggy fucker
like you I'd for sure be packin'. I
mean I got three pieces on me right
now.

Roland produces an entire Grand Theft Auto arsenal of guns.

ROLAND (CONT'D)
I got my Clinton-Clipper. The
Pelosi-Popper. And my favorite. The
Bernie-Boomstick.

Jake tries to act unimpressed.

JAKE
That it?

ROLAND
No. Got the AOC-RPG in the truck.
(beat)
Anyway. Better be gettin' to it.
Holler at me if you see that chick.

He moves, almost spotting Dani.

JAKE
WAIT!

ROLAND

What?

JAKE

Uh. I was meaning to ask you. You ever wonder what's in tartar sauce? Like, is it mayo based? I just don't know. Sometimes I think I taste lemon.

ROLAND

Look man, I don't wanna be a dick but my doctor says I can't talk to dudes with low-T for too long. So.

JAKE

Hang on--

Roland pushes right past Jake and spots Dani by the Civic.

ROLAND

Hey! That's the girl!

Jake SLAMS his food in his face. Sauce right in the eyes.

ROLAND (CONT'D)

AHH! FUCK! THERE IS LEMON!

JAKE

START THE CAR!

Dani starts the car, throws the passenger door open.

INT. CIVIC - DRIVING - CONTINUOUS

Jake dives in. Slams the door shut. Dani peels out. Tires SCREECH on the pavement.

Roland chases them. SHOOTING. Poorly. He misses every shot. Eventually, he gives up. And fades into the distance.

DANI

Holy shit! That was awesome!

JAKE

That was not awesome. That was not awesome at all. Why were we stealing in the first place?

DANI

Uhhh. I don't know. Maybe because we needed gas.

JAKE

We could have just asked somebody for help. You know, like normal, decent people.

DANI

Did you like have a stroke and forget that the entire state of Texas is trying to kill me?

JAKE

Not everyone is like that.

Jake looks outside. The highway is full of burning cars. People fighting. Truck beds full of loot and gas.

JAKE (CONT'D)

Look! There's a guy helping out an old lady.

OUTSIDE

We see a PLUMBER helping an OLD LADY. Wait. No. He's stealing from her. Laughing to himself as he runs away.

Until the Old Lady pulls a GLOCK and smokes his ass.

JAKE (CONT'D)

(sotto)

Damnit.

DANI

I don't know what kind of Southern hospitality bullshit you grew up on, but we are not in that world anymore. Stop worrying about everyone else, because no one out here is worried about you.

JAKE

That's a pretty dark worldview.

DANI

I'm just trying to help you out. I don't wanna see your naive ass get taken advantage of--

Shit. That's exactly what *she's* doing.

DANI (CONT'D)

Forget it. I'm hungry. You hungry? Let's eat.

Dani pulls over.

EXT. JUNKYARD - BY THE CIVIC - DAY

Metal scrap. Piles of tires. Tetanus. Dani sits on the hood of the Civic, staring at her coconut shrimp in disgust.

Jake paces, on the phone. We hear the BEEP of a voicemail.

JAKE
(into phone)
Hey dad, it's me. Listen, call me
back when you can. Ok...bye.

Jake hangs up and sits next to her.

JAKE (CONT'D)
Didn't pick up.

DANI
Shit. I'm sorry.

JAKE
I'm sure he's fine. Probably just
doesn't have his phone charged or
something.

Dani gives an *"I think he's probably dead but don't want to say that"* nod. Jake starts chowing down on his shrimp.

DANI
Can I ask you a question? Why gas
station seafood? You know we're
like thousands of miles from an
ocean, right?

JAKE
It was the best option.

DANI
What were the other options?

JAKE
I don't know. Starbucks. Burger
King. Subway.

DANI
Literally all better options.

JAKE
Oh my God! You are such a brat.

DANI
I'm not a brat!

JAKE

You are. You're probably one of those kids that goes to nice restaurants and orders chicken fingers.

DANI

Nothing is better than chicken fingers and I'm tired of pretending that's not true.

JAKE

Just try one.

Dani grimaces. She picks up a shrimp. Dips it in the sauce and takes a bite. Chews. Her eyes light up.

DANI

Holy shit, it's good.

JAKE

Yeah. Of course it's good. It's coconut shrimp. It's like a Jimmy Buffet concert for your mouth.

DANI

(mouthful)

So where are we gonna sleep tonight?

JAKE

Well. I think we're gonna have to...

CUT TO:

EXT. CAMPSITE - NIGHT

DANI

Camp?

Dani stands as Jake fills her arms with camping gear.

They're at a state-run campsite. A few CAMPERS plot the land. Not happy campers, though. More like apocalyptic refugees.

JAKE

Yeah. It'll be fun!

DANI

But it's so cold.

JAKE
We can build a fire.

DANI
We don't have any wood.

JAKE
We're in the woods. Where wood
comes from. Plus we can just ask
them for some.

Jake points to some OLDER CAMPERS with a fire going.

DANI
DUDE! Have you learned nothing?

JAKE
Chill out. It'll be fine. Can't
hurt to ask, right?

DANI
It very much can hurt when they
chop us up and eat us.

JAKE
What's with you and cannibals? I
feel like you really overestimate
the cannibal population of America.

DANI
Whatever. Maybe they won't eat us.
But they definitely won't share.
Not in this economy.

JAKE
Alright, how 'bout this? Whoever
collects less wood has to put up
and take down the tent.

Dani extends a hand.

DANI
Deal. But don't say I told you so
when you start hearing the banjo
music.

They shake on it.

EXT. CAMPSITE - WOODS - NIGHT

Dani trudges through the woods without grace. She stumbles.
Swats twigs and branches aside. Clearly not an REI member.

But she won't give up. She finds a sapling and tries to break off a twig.

The sassy sapling snaps back and SMACKS her in the face.

DANI

FUCK!

Dani kicks the tree, frustrated.

She looks over and spots Jake hamming it up with some CAMPERS. They smile, sharing their wood.

Dani SIGHS.

EXT. CAMPSITE - FIRE PIT - NIGHT

Jake builds a big fire.

JAKE

How ya hangin' back there?

He looks to see Dani putting the finishing touches on the TENT.

DANI

Just...about...done!

She smiles. Steps back and waves her hands "ta-dah" style.

Until the tent completely collapses.

JAKE

Looks good.

DANI

You win. We get it.

She sits on a LOG next to Jake. Notes his bitten hand.

DANI (CONT'D)

Does it hurt?

JAKE

Nah. Not really. I think it's getting better, actually.

She reaches for Jake's hand. He flinches.

DANI

You're so full of shit. Come on. I'll redress it for you.

Jake relents. Dani redresses the wound.

JAKE

Thanks.

She holds his hand gently. Tenderly re-wrapping the wound. Jake likes it but doesn't like the pain it shows.

He tries to pull away--

DANI

Slow down. I'm not done. Your sad lil' hand looks like blue cheese.

JAKE

Well, that's a great cheese. One of the best.

DANI

No. Not good. Look how sad she is.

Dani forms his hand into a little mouth.

DANI (CONT'D)

How ya feelin' hand?
 (pretending to the hand)
 Please. Just kill me.
 (back to normal)
 Wow. That bad, huh? I think you need a little makeover.

Dani pulls two bottles of nail polish from her backpack.

DANI (CONT'D)

Pink or a pinkier-pink?

JAKE

I like pink.

DANI

Good choice.

She starts painting his nails.

DANI (CONT'D)

You know you don't have to be mister positive all the time. It's ok to admit you're in pain. Or maybe a teeny-tiny bit overwhelmed by the colossal fuckedness of our situation.

JAKE

I'm good. Really, you're nailing the doom and gloom thing all on your own.

DANI

Sorry I have feelings. Like a human.

JAKE

Human is a stretch. You're more like if Eeyore fucked the Grinch, had a kid, and then let the Joker raise it.

DANI

Wow. Well, at least I'm not a walking, talking Lexapro.

JAKE

I just think in general, staying positive isn't a bad thing. Like what, you wanna just sit back and be sad till you die?

DANI

Now we're talkin'.

JAKE

I don't buy that. Everyone has something keeping them going.

DANI

Nope. Not me.

JAKE

What about ice cream?

DANI

Too melty. Try again.

JAKE

Really good potato salad?

DANI

The fuck? Ew. No.

Dani blows on Jake's nails.

DANI (CONT'D)

Cute, right?

JAKE

There you go. Nail polish.

DANI

Nah. Mostly in it for the high.

She aggressively HUFFS the nail polish fumes.

JAKE

Ah hah! Drugs. Yeah. You seemed pretty happy the night we did drugs. You're a drug addict. Aw. See. We found your thing!

DANI

Even that is but a fleeting vice.

JAKE

Well, something made you happy that night.

He smiles at her. She smiles back.

DANI

Yeah. I guess something did.

The fire CRACKLES. They're so close to kissing, guys! It's gonna happen! When Jake COUGHS. Pulling back. FUCK!

DANI (CONT'D)

Are you alright?

JAKE

Yeah. I'm good.

She spots blood in his palm.

DANI

Dude. You're bleeding.

JAKE

No really. I'm fine. Maybe we should hit the hay?

DANI

Ok.

JAKE

Well...goodnight.

Jake sets out a sleeping bag. Still COUGHING a bit. Dani stares into the fire. Guilt plastered all over her face.

INT. TENT - DAY

Sunlight beams Dani's eyes. She feels next to her for Jake, but he's not there. She sits up. Looks around.

A sudden SHOCK of pain. She looks down and sees she's developed a full baby bump.

DANI

Fuck.

EXT. CAMPSITE - CONTINUOUS

Jake stands by the car.

He slowly pulls the athletic tape away, revealing his zombified arm. Black veins up to the elbow.

He touches it. It violently LURCHES at him. Out of his control.

He takes a DEEP BREATH. In and out. In and out. The arm calms. He regains control.

DANI (O.S.)

Jake?

Jake turns. Re-wrapping his arm.

JAKE

Yeah. You ready to rock n' roll?

DANI

I just felt it--OH FUCK!

Dani grabs her stomach.

Jake looks and spots a tiny HAND pressing against her skin from the inside.

DANI (CONT'D)

What do we do? What do we do?

JAKE

Ok. Uh. You're gonna be ok. We're pretty close. Everything's gonna be just fine.

EXT. DOWNTOWN AMARILLO - HOSPITAL - DAY

Dani and Jake get out of the car. They do not look like happy campers.

JAKE

Crap.

We flip around to face the hospital and see why.

It's surrounded by a giant far-right protest. PEOPLE march down the street. SCREAMING about masks. Lockdowns. Vaccines.

JAKE (CONT'D)

What are we gonna do?

DANI

We're gonna have to blend in.

She looks around. Where there are protesters, there's swag.

She spots some GRIFTERS selling some and smiles.

QUICK CUTS OF:

-- DANI DAWNING A MAGA HAT.

-- JAKE PULLING ON A MINIONS SHIRT.

-- DANI SLIDING ON A BLUE LIVES MATTER MASK.

The two of them stand at the brink of the crowd, ready to enter the horde.

JAKE

You stole all this, didn't you?

DANI

It was just so easy.

The MOB writhes before them. Like mindless zombies.

JAKE

You ready?

She nods. They clasp hands. And enter the horde.

IN THE CROWD

They bump through the PROTESTERS as they snivel and BARK. Trying not to touch them. Trying not to be seen.

A WOMAN depthroating a hotdog looks over. Sniffs Dani. Almost recognizing her. Dani looks away. Keeps pushing.

The woman returns to her frank.

JAKE (CONT'D)

I can see the door. We're almost there.

Jake pushes past a man in full PUNISHER garb.

PUNISHER

Hey, watch it!

He yanks Jake. Ready to punch. Then spots the *Minions* swag.

PUNISHER (CONT'D)

Sorry. I didn't know you were cool like that.

Dani steps in. Pats Jake on the shoulder.

DANI

He's a little jumpy.

JAKE

Yeah.

PUNISHER

No worries. Which rally are you guys here for?

JAKE

Uhhhh.

DANI

5G. Can't stand it.

PUNISHER

You don't say? I didn't know you guys were here. I'm here with the Proud Boys.

(shouting)

Hey Ninja! Get over here!

NINJA walks up. He's a prepper dork with body armor and guns.

NINJA

What's up?

PUNISHER

These guys are here to protest 5G. Is that even on the agenda?

DANI

Oh yeah, it's on the agenda, alright. This guy right here.

(points to Jake)

(MORE)

DANI (CONT'D)

5G made him gay. You might wanna step back. 'Cause he'll suck ya.

NINJA

That happened to my cousin!

JAKE

Well, we really gotta find the others. So.

PUNISHER

Hey, what's with the mask? I mean, I'm all for backin' the blue. But come on.

NINJA

Yeah, take that fuckin' face diaper off.

DANI

Uh. I'd rather keep it on.

NINJA

Come on. Take it off.

Ninja lunges for the mask. Dani jerks back.

DANI

Nah, I'm good. We better find the others. So--

Punisher grabs it. Rips it off. They GASP.

NINJA

It's her!

PUNISHER

It's the girl!

JAKE

RUN!

Jake shoves Punisher aside. They book it through the Crowd.

But the Protestors stir as the news spreads.

Activated like dormant zombies smelling brains.

Dani and Jake reach the steps of the hospital.

They run through the doors.

And look back. The horde SPRINTS towards them.

INT. HOSPITAL - LOBBY - CONTINUOUS

A MALE NURSE pulls Dani and Jake inside.

He slams the door behind them. GUARDS barricade it up.

MALE NURSE
You're Dani?

DANI
Yup.

MALE NURSE
Priya is waiting for you in
surgery. It's down that hall.

SMASH! A BRICK flies through the window.

Angry hands from outside claw their way in.

People SCREAM and pour inside.

MALE NURSE (CONT'D)
GO!

Dani takes Jake's hand. They run off.

INT. HOSPITAL - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Red emergency lights flash. An ALARM blares. Medical staff scramble about.

Dani and Jake run down the hall. They come to an intersection.

DANI
Look.

Dani points. Down the hall we see a sign marked: **SURGERY**
They head towards it. When a door BUSTS open ahead of them.
PROTESTORS pour through. Jake pulls Dani into a side room.

INT. HOSPITAL - LAB - CONTINUOUS

They hide. And listen. Army boots CLOMP outside.

It sounds like they're passing.

Dani peaks through a window and sees a number of MEN. All with big guns. One, we'll call him MUTTON CHOPS, has a DOG.

DANI
Fuck.

JAKE
What?

DANI
They have a dog.

JAKE
Aw. Is it cute?

DANI
No, it's not cute. It's a big scary
mean dumb dog.

JAKE
You don't like dogs?

DANI
I don't. I really don't.

JAKE
Wow.

DANI
What?

JAKE
Nothin'. Just feel like I'm
starting to get the full picture.

Dani peeks again.

DANI
(whispering)
Fuck. They're comin' in. Move!

Dani pulls Jake behind a lab table.

Just as the MEN enter the room, guns at the ready.

MUTTON CHOPS whistles.

MUTTON CHOPS
Here Sookie.

He lets the dog sniff Dani's discarded mask.

The dog catches the scent, heads toward Dani and Jake.

They close their eyes. Bracing for the inevitable.

When something slides into the room.

A puck-sized PORTABLE SPEAKER.

It settles right in front of the dog and BLASTS music.

A great pop song. Top 100 *but affordable*.

The dog runs away, scared. The MEN raise their guns to shoot.

When a WOMAN slides in. She drops one guy. Then another.

Like fuckin' Swayze in *Road House*.

Before roundhouse kicking Mutton Chops THROUGH A WINDOW.

DANI

Holy shit! That was awesome!

JAKE

Are you Priya?

Yup. This is PRIYA (35), a headstrong, badass doctor. She's the confident, cool older sister you always wished you had. Blue scrubs and great glasses. Jet black hair. Kinda toned.

PRIYA

Yeah. Come on. We gotta move.

Priya heads towards the exit. Dani and Jake follow.

INT. HOSPITAL - LOBBY - DAY

Armed Protesters mill about the lobby.

TEN COMMANDOS enter. Gas masks. Silenced guns. Scary.

One protestor, PIGGLY WIGGLY, approaches them.

PIGGLY WIGGLY

Don't worry, boys. We got this under control.

The Commando leader, FOXTROT, pulls out a SCANNER DEVICE.

He holds it up to Piggly Wiggly's eyes.

FOXTROT

You been bitten?

PIGGLY WIGGLY

Shit yeah. All of us have. So?

The Protestors LAUGH. The scanner SCREECHES and flashes red.

FOXTROT

Drop em.

PIGGLY WIGGLY

Wait. What--

POP POP POP! The Commandos SHOOT EVERYONE.

FOXTROT

Alright. I want this place swept. Medical staff get EVACed. Drop the rest. Assume they're infected.

COMMANDO 1

What are we calling them, by the way? Chompers? Jumpers? Maybe nibblers?

COMMANDO 2

I like walkers.

COMMANDO 1

Kind of played, don't you think?

FOXTROT

This a bit? You guys doing a fucking tight five right now?

COMMANDO 1

What? We're just--

FOXTROT

They're God damn zombies. Zombies. That's the name.

COMMANDO 1

Alright. Jesus.

FOXTROT

Move out. NOW!

INT. HOSPITAL - SURGERY WARD - DAY

Priya holds the door open for Dani and Jake. They enter the dark, cold room.

PRIYA

I'm gonna need a minute to prep. Take a seat.

She gestures towards a SURGICAL TABLE in the middle of the room with STIRRUPS and a menacing OVERHEAD LIGHT.

Dani looks around. Spots medical TEXTBOOKS. All open to horrific images of C-Section surgery.

She closes a book and finds a name tag hidden underneath:

"NURSE PRIYA"

DANI

Wait. You're a nurse?

PRIYA

Correct.

DANI

Have you ever done this before?

PRIYA

Yes. Well. No. Not on a human.

DANI

Not on a human?

PRIYA

I know exactly how the procedure works, ok. I've been studying, as you can see.

DANI

But...why? I mean, no offense. But I don't know you. How do I know you're not trying to steal my organs or some shit?

JAKE

Oh boy.

Priya looks at Dani, confused.

PRIYA

Because...I want to help.

Dani looks at Jake.

DANI

Can I talk to you?

They huddle up. Priya turns back to prepping.

DANI (CONT'D)

Maybe this wasn't a great idea.

JAKE

I know it's scary, but this is kind of our only option.

BUZZZZZ!

Dani looks over to see Priya with a SURGICAL SAW.

PRIYA
Alright. Time is of the essence.

DANI
Uh. Ok. Give me one second...

Dani backs out of the room towards the exit.

JAKE
Dani. Wait!

He follows her out into--

INT. HOSPITAL - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Dani runs down the hall. Jake and Priya chase after her.

She spots an EXIT sign. Takes a corner.

And stops dead. Sneakers SCREECH on the linoleum.

Right before her stand six COMMANDOS.

COMMANDO 1
Contact! Contact!

Dani turns on a dime and runs back. Past Priya and Jake.

DANI
Come on!

They see what she means and follow. Priya BLASTS past them.
Dani PANTS.

DANI (CONT'D)
How's she so fast?

Priya reaches a door. Holds it open.

PRIYA
In here. Hurry!

INT. HOSPITAL - MRI MACHINE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

They enter a dark room with an MRI machine in the middle.
Priya locks the door behind them.

PRIYA
Do you have anything metal?

DANI
Phones.

PRIYA
Give them to me. Now!

BOOM!

The door is kicked open. FOXTROT enters with other Commandos. They raise their guns.

When Priya hits a BIG RED BUTTON.

The MRI machine WHIRS to life. The Commandos' guns fly from their hands. Magnetized to the MRI machine.

PRIYA (CONT'D)
RUN!

Foxtrot knocks Priya out.

Jake takes Dani's hand and pulls her towards the exit.

EXT. HOSPITAL - PARKING LOT - DAY

Dani and Jake burst from an emergency exit. Mayhem all around them.

Protesters battle with Commandos. Screaming. Fighting. Shooting.

Ahead they see the Civic. They make a break for it. Almost there. Fifty feet. Twenty. Ten.

BOOM!

Something wraps around Dani. She falls to the ground. Jake looks back. Sees she's wrapped in a NET. He goes to help.

BANG!

A net wraps him, too. They writhe on the ground like freshly caught fish.

As ROLAND the bounty hunter walks up. NET GUN slung over his shoulder. Shit-eating grin ear to ear.

DANI
Ahhh. Fuck.

INT. ROLAND'S TRUCK - DRIVING - DAY

Roland handcuffs Dani and Jake and throws them in the back seat. He climbs in, starts the car, and drives off.

DANI
Let us go or I'll shit my pants
RIGHT NOW.

ROLAND
Is she for real?

JAKE
No. Right? No.

DANI
Yes! Pull over or I pull the
trigger!

ROLAND
I'll kill you for real if she shits
my truck. I'm not playin'.

DANI
LET'S ROLL THE DICE MOTHERFUCKER!

JAKE
WAIT, WAIT, WAIT. I've been bitten!

ROLAND
So?

DANI
So, he's infected! He could turn
into a zombie and eat you at any
second!

ROLAND
Have either of you actually seen a
zombie?

DANI
(beat)
Well. No.

ROLAND
And why do you think that is?

Dani thinks. Unsure how to answer. It is kinda weird.

ROLAND (CONT'D)
Because it's all bullshit. They're
just telling you zombies are real
to hide what's *really* going on.

DANI

Which is?

ROLAND

Look, the elites want us distracted and they do that by getting us to fight each other. That's how they control us.

DANI

Huh. Ok that's actually...yeah I actually kinda buy that.

(beat)

Wait, by elites you mean?

ROLAND

Jews.

DANI

Ah, there it is.

JAKE

Look at my arm, man. How do you explain that?

ROLAND

Well, you're obviously sick because you have a sub-primal immune system. Only big huge pussies get sick. Like you.

Jake frowns. Feeling the sting of a small truth.

DANI

Fuck you, dude! Don't talk about him like that.

ROLAND

Uh, it's a fact. We've got an epidemic of unmasculine men. 'Bout time God did something about it.

Roland pulls over. He looks at a DELI outside.

ROLAND (CONT'D)

Gonna go grab some raw liver. BrB.

Roland gets out. SLAMS the door.

DANI

Get me a pickle!

(beat)

I don't think he heard me.

EXT. WILLY'S DELI - CONTINUOUS

Roland waltzes up to a run-down roadside deli. A good sandwich hasn't been spotted in these parts in years.

He eyes a NOTE taped to the store's door:

**BEEN BIT? NO SERVICE!
ALL CUSTOMERS MUST WEAR A MASK!**

Roland turns red.

ROLAND
You gotta be shittin' me.

Roland barges in--

INT. WILLY'S DELI - CONTINUOUS

And marches up to the counter. SLAMS on it. The CASHIER ignores him. Back turned.

ROLAND
Hey! That shit outside, that's
discrimination. There's no mask
mandate, so I don't gotta wear shit
if I don't--

The Cashier spins around. Snarling. Flesh rotting and dripping to the ground. Very clearly a bona fide ZOMBIE.

ROLAND (CONT'D)
Shit.

Roland fumbles over his many guns.

But the Cashier charges. SCREAMING like a banshee.

It pounces on Roland.

He falls to the ground. Struggling for his life. Meanwhile...

INT. ROLAND'S TRUCK - CONTINUOUS

Dani and Jake watch from the car.

DANI
Holy shit, Karma fucking throated
that guy.

JAKE

Shit. He's coming back. This thing is locked right? It's probably locked.

It's not locked.

Roland runs back to the car and jumps inside. Just before the Cashier Zombie can get him.

It RAMS into the window. Clawing and gnawing at the glass.

In the front seat, Roland bleeds out from multiple bites. Choking on his own blood. He slowly fades. And...

JAKE (CONT'D)

Is he...dead?

DANI

Hey fuck face! You dead?

Yeah. He's dead.

BAM!

A new ZOMBIE slams into the car. Then another. And another. Let's just call it a ZOMBIE HORDE.

SLAMMING on the windows. Surrounding the car.

DANI (CONT'D)

Shit.

Roland twitches. SNARLS.

JAKE

What--uh. What's he doing?

DANI

I don't know.

He's rising from the dead, that's what he's doing.

JAKE

How is he doing that already?

DANI

I don't know! I don't fucking know.

JAKE

He shouldn't be turning so quickly! The zombie logic here is fucked!

Dani looks in the back seat.

DANI
There's a bunch of guns back there.
I'm just saying, we could...you
know.

She makes a "blow our brains out" motion.

JAKE
Shoot our way out?

DANI
Or that, yeah.

JAKE
What about the cuffs?

Dani thinks.

DANI
Wait, your cum!

JAKE
What?

DANI
Your acid cum!

JAKE
Ah. I don't know.

DANI
You gotta cum, dude.

JAKE
It's hard to just...do that, you
know? Believe me, I've tried.

DANI
And?

JAKE
It hurt. I popped my belly button
from an innie to an outie and it
never went back.

Roland's hand CRACKS. Jerking to life. He's slowly
reanimating.

DANI
If you don't cum right now we are
going to die!

JAKE
 ALRIGHT, ALRIGHT! Fuck.
 (deep breath)
 You can do this Jake. It's just
 like *Star Wars*. But the lightsaber
 is your dick...wait. No, the force
 is your dick. And the lightsaber is
 my...balls? That doesn't seem
 right.

DANI
 Dude.

JAKE
 Ok, ok, ok.

He closes his eyes. Takes a deep breath.

Don't worry. We're not gonna see anything graphic. Just the
 face of a young man trying to bend reality with his brain.

DANI
 Is it working?

JAKE
 Quiet! I need absolute silence!
 Just me. And my thoughts.

DANI
 Aw. Are you thinking of me?

JAKE
 Shh!

DANI
 This is sorta hot.
 (beat)
 Wait, it's me, right?

JAKE
 (the slightest whisper)
*I'd love a pop-tart, Sydney Sweeney. You're my favorite
 babysitter.*

DANI
 ...What?

JAKE
 I'm doing it. This is incredible.
 I'M DOING IT!

Jake...you know what, you get it.

There's a SIZZLING sound from the cuffs melting.

DANI

Ew. Why does it smell like waffle
batter?

Roland jerks up. Fully zombified

He lunges at Dani. She braces for death.

BANG!

Dani's sprayed with blood.

She wipes it away to see Jake. With a shotgun, barrel
steaming. Roland in the front seat. Head exploded.

DANI (CONT'D)

(shaken)

Th-thanks.

Jake smiles.

SMASH!

A window shatters in.

Then another.

The ZOMBIE HORDE is clawing through.

Scratching and SCREAMING.

Jake searches Roland's pockets for keys.

JAKE

Hold them off!

Dani picks up the gun and starts shooting.

BANG! BANG, BANG!

She's kind of fucking it up, though. She sucks at this.

DANI

I don't really know how to do this!

JAKE

I got the keys!

Jake jumps in the front seat.

A zombie RIPS OFF the backseat door.

DANI

START THE CAR!

JAKE
I'M TRYING!

It revs once. Twice. And it starts!

Jake floors it just before the zombie bites Dani.

And they're off. Safe. For now.

They sit in silence. Dumbfounded. Until Dani starts to laugh.
Jake too.

They're in hysterics.

Crying laughing. Then they settle and stop.

Jake looks down.

JAKE (CONT'D)
I need new pants.

EXT. AMARILLO STREETS - DUSK

Dani and Jake drive down a gnarly road.

The world outside has gone to hell.

Blood red sky with bruises of black smoke.

ZOMBIES tear animals and people to shreds.

Cars burn. People loot.

They pull into the lot of looted WALMART and head inside.

INT. WALMART - DUSK

Jake searches the ransacked Walmart.

He holds up a pair of jeans. Tries them on. They actually
look pretty good!

JAKE
(calling out)
Found some. Ready to go?

No response.

Jake searches the cavernous space. Totally destroyed.

Emergency lights flash. Exposed wiring sparks.

But no Dani.

JAKE (CONT'D)

Dani?

He heads further into the depths of the store.

INT. WALMART - LIQUOR AISLE - CONTINUOUS

Jake finds Dani sifting through leftover booze.

DANI

Dude. Look at this. I mean, yeah,
it's not the hits. But I can
totally make...

(reading)

"Bacon-flavored vodka" work.

JAKE

Gross. Why don't we just hit the
road?

DANI

Just one drink. *Come on.*

JAKE

I'm gonna grab some food and stock
up the car. Meet you there?

Jake heads off. Dani sighs and follows him outside.

EXT. WALMART - PARKING LOT - DUSK

Dani spots Jake leaning against the truck. Exhausted.

DANI

Come on, man. You should rest.

Jake COUGHS. He looks at his hand. Blood. He wipes it off on
his new jeans.

JAKE

Nope. I'm good. Really.

Dani points down to his now blood-stained jeans.

JAKE (CONT'D)

Crap.

(beat)

Think that will wash out?

DANI
You're not good.

JAKE
What are you talkin' about? We just
need to find another hospital--

DANI
Jake.
(beat)
It's over.

JAKE
It's not. We didn't come this far
to give up. We're gonna get you an
abortion and get me cured--

DANI
There is no fucking cure!

Silence.

JAKE
What?

DANI
There's no cure.

JAKE
Are you just being a dick? Because
it's not funny.

DANI
I wish I was.

JAKE
So...no.

DANI
Fuck dude...

JAKE
(realizing)
You needed a ride.

DANI
Yeah but--shit I don't--I didn't
think you actually believed me. I
mean have you heard literally
anyone else talk about a cure? I
didn't think you took me seriously.

JAKE
Yeah, you did.

DANI

(beat)

Let's just go back inside. We can get drunk, and--

He climbs in the car and SLAMS the door.

DANI (CONT'D)

Jake. I'm sorry--

JAKE

You know if you had just been straight up and asked for help, I would have helped. You act like everyone is this fucked up monster out to get you, but it's actually just you. You're that person.

DANI

I know how massively fucked up it is, and I'm so sorry. And I'm scared. And I know you are too, even if you don't wanna admit it. So let's just be scared and sweet with each other until it happens.

JAKE

Give up if you want. But I'm gonna go find my Dad. Maybe he'll know what to do.

(beat)

Good luck, Dani.

Jake drives off. Dani stands alone. She suffocates a cry.

INT. WALMART - APPLIANCE DEPARTMENT - NIGHT

SMASH. Dani takes a baseball bat to the appliance department. Slugging "Bacon Flavored Vodka".

DANI

(off the drink)

Holy shit that's tough.

She swings the bat and DESTROYS a blender. Smiling sinisterly.

She WHACKS a refrigerator to death.

She enters another aisle and SMASHES toaster after toaster.

Then LIGHTS blind her. She puts her hand up to block the light, hearing SOMEONE coming inside.

DANI (CONT'D)

Shit.

Dani walks towards the front of the store to investigate and spots a MARAUDER sifting through supplies.

She tries to sneak up on the Marauder by ducking behind some shelves. Dani comes up behind them.

Readies her bat. Ready to KILL. When the Marauder swings around and pins her to the ground.

DANI (CONT'D)

Ow! What the hell, man!?

MARAUDER

Dani?

DANI

Huh?

The Marauder removes their *Mad Maxified* motorcycle helmet to reveal PRIYA.

DANI (CONT'D)

What are you gonna do to me?

PRIYA

What?

DANI

You're back for revenge or--

PRIYA

Holy shit! Are you really this much of a brat!?

DANI

Second time with this note. Unreal.

PRIYA

I'm not here for you. I don't care about you! Trying to help you was the biggest mistake of my life. THANKS A LOT!

DANI

Fuck, I'm sorry, alright. I panicked. I guess I just didn't think people...I don't. Did shit like that.

PRIYA

What? Helped people?

DANI
Yeah. I guess.
(beat)
Drink?

Dani offers the vodka. Priya takes it. Swigs.

PRIYA
Ugh. God. That's awful.
(looks around)
Where's your boyfriend?

DANI
He's not my boyfriend...it's sort
of--

PRIYA
Speed it up. Speed it up. Not as
interesting as you think.

DANI
Right. I just feel like it might
help you understand. 'Cause we've
got kind of a cute "will they won't
they" thing goin' on.

PRIYA
Holy shit!

DANI
He's gone. He got sick of my shit
and left. So now I'm drinking alone
till I die.

PRIYA
Well. You don't have to die alone.

Priya holds up her hand. Showing off a zombie BITE.

DANI
Shit. How did that happen?

PRIYA
After we got separated, the
military arrested me...

FADE TO:

INT. MILITARY TRUCK - DRIVING - FLASHBACK

Priya sits with other DOCTORS and NURSES. All terrified.
Heavily armed COMMANDOS surround them.

The truck stops. The Commandos look around, concerned.

PRIYA (V.O.)
Then the cannibals attacked...

BULLETS FLY through the truck. Taking out the Commandos. A man in a DUSTER climbs into the truck, licking his lips.

EXT. SHANTY TOWN - FLASHBACK

Priya roasts on a stake over a fire as DUSTER and his MINIONS prepare a surprisingly competent mise-en-place.

She leans over to talk to a fellow CAPTIVE.

PRIYA (V.O.)
While I was there, I got talking to this girl who said her cousin Luis stopped the infection by chopping off his bitten arm. I was about to ask for more details when...

There's a SCREAM far off.

DUSTER looks up, alarmed.

A HORDE OF ZOMBIES attack, ripping everyone to shreds.

Priya gets loose.

Takes a KNIFE. JABS IT THROUGH DUSTER'S EYE and escapes.

She SPRINTS. Running for her life.

When a ZOMBIE jumps out and tackles her to the ground.

Priya fends it off, but it bites into the flesh of her hand.

She SCREAMS. Then stabs the zombie right in the brains.

INT. WALMART - PRESENT

PRIYA
And that's how it happened.

DANI
Wait, but you think there may be a cure? I mean, is that true?

PRIYA
I don't know...

Priya takes another swig of vodka.

PRIYA (CONT'D)
Wanna find out?

Dani smiles, hope slowly returning.

INT. WALMART - KITCHEN SUPPLIES - NIGHT

Dani holds Priya down. She bites on a wooden spoon. Bracing.

Because Dani has a BUZZ SAW at the ready.

Priya gives the signal.

Dani bites her lip. Turns on the saw. And presses down!

SCREAM!

INT. WALMART - KITCHEN SUPPLIES - CONTINUOUS

Priya holds her stump. Pale, but not bleeding.

The black veins have halted. She's cured.

IN THE SPORTS SECTION

Dani arms herself with DAGGERS -- pulls on FOOTBALL GEAR -- CINCHES a headband.

PRIYA
You really wanna do this?

Dani turns. Spots Priya.

DANI
Yeah. I have to try.

PRIYA
Alright. Well. I guess this is
goodbye then.

DANI
Yeah.
(beat)
Look. I know I fucked this all up,
and you probably hate me. But I
really like this dude, and I kind
of want to have a happy ending for
once.

(MORE)

DANI (CONT'D)

So if you leave, I won't judge, but
if you stay and help us, it would
mean the world to me.

Priya weighs her options.

PRIYA

I'll think about it. Good luck,
Dani.

DANI

You too, Priya.

Dani smiles and heads out. Ready for battle.

EXT. AMARILLO STREETS - DAY

A zombie sniffs about. Angry. GROWLING. Hunting for brains.
When Dani BLASTS the business end of a blade through its eye.
STAB. STAB. STAB.

On the last go, the knife sticks into the zombie's skull.

DANI

Fuck.

She puts her foot down and pulls. Blood SPRAYS her face.

DANI (CONT'D)

Ugh! Yuck! GODDAMNIT. I had SO many
guns before.

She trudges onward. Sneaking and ducking behind cars.
Avoiding roaming zombies. Until she spots it.

DANI (CONT'D)

Bingo.

We flip around and see THE LONE STAR MALL. A 90s stucco
megastructure with a giant COWBOY STATUE out front.

INT. LONE STAR MALL - DAY

Dani tip-toes through the mall. It's a three-story open
structure with a ceiling skylight and rafters.

Totally abandoned. But also free of zombies. *Nice.*

She finds the mall map. Searches and searches and finds "Big
Boots & Saddles".

DANI
That's gotta be it.

She heads off.

DEEPER IN THE MALL

Dani finds herself in an interior courtyard. A dry fountain flanked by escalators.

VOICE (O.S.)
Be careful.

Dani startles. Searches. But no one's there.

DANI
Who said that?

VOICE (O.S.)
Watch where you step. There's traps.

DANI
Come on! Show yourself!

VOICE (O.S.)
I'm telling you, there's traps.

DANI
Where?

VOICE (O.S.)
Just stop walking.

DANI
SHOW YOURSELF--

Dani steps on a ROPE. It snares her foot and HOISTS her up into the rafters above. She hangs upside down.

VOICE (O.S.)
I told you there was a trap.

Dani wiggles around to see NURSE SUE hanging beside her.

DANI
What the fuck are you doing here?

NURSE SUE
Well. It's the darnedest thing.
Turns out I'm pregnant with a
zombie baby, too!

DANI

What? How?

NURSE SUE

Oh, don't be dense, hun. Anyway, I was on my way to New Mexico to get an abortion when I--

DANI

Wait. Just hold the fuck on. YOU were trying to get an abortion? I thought you were pro-life.

NURSE SUE

I am. I think it's wrong and you shouldn't do it.

DANI

But you're trying to do it.

NURSE SUE

Well, this is different.

DANI

How?

NURSE SUE

Well...it's me.

DANI

(beat)

Jesus Christ.

INT. LONE STAR MALL - BIG BOOTS AND SADDLES - DAY

Jake trudges through the mall holding his bitten hand.

Before him sits his Dad's storefront, entirely barricaded.

He leans against it. Listens. CHEERING and PARTYING can be heard from within.

Jake searches and finds a makeshift METAL DOOR.

He goes to open it. Then stops. Noticing something.

His PINK NAILS.

He pulls a QUARTER from his pocket and scrapes the pink away. Blowing on the specs.

Nails back to normal, he pushes his way inside.

INSIDE THE STORE

MEATS smoke over an open fire.

STRIPPERS dance on makeshift poles. It's an all-out rager.

Holding court from a throne of Bud Heavies sits his Dad, ANGEL (45). He has the cowboy swagger of a *Walking Dead* lead.

Angel's surrounded by BUDDIES, a bunch of tough types straight out of a *Mad Max* movie.

JAKE

Dad?

The party STOPS. Guns are drawn. Jake flinches.

JAKE (CONT'D)

Woah, woah! Hey! It's me!

ANGEL

Jake? Jesus, you startled us, man. Wasn't expecting you. The hell you doin' here?

JAKE

Sorry. I tried to call.

ANGEL

What did I say about saying sorry?

JAKE

Shit. Sorry.

ANGEL

Christ. Get over here.
(beat)
Come on, don't be *shy*.

Everyone SNICKERS at Jake.

ANGEL (CONT'D)

I want to introduce you to my friends.

Jake steps over to the fire.

ANGEL (CONT'D)

Jake, this is Bone Splitter.

BONE SPLITTER: Full gimp suit. Basically a Cenobite.

ANGEL (CONT'D)

Slippery Pete.

SLIPPERY PETE: Big duster. Thousands of knives.

ANGEL (CONT'D)
Rick Led.

RICK LED: Bullet belt. Bullet clothes. Bullet everything.

ANGEL (CONT'D)
Sheriff Tits.

SHERIFF TITS: Small boobs. HUGE ass. Confusing.

ANGEL (CONT'D)
And Danny Trejo.

DANNY TREJO: Just Danny Trejo.

ANGEL (CONT'D)
Guys. This is my son, Jake.

They all GRUNT a "hey".

JAKE
Hi.

ANGEL
So what's up? Pretty sure it ain't
my weekend.

Everyone LAUGHS like hyenas. Everyone but Jake.

JAKE
I wanted to see you.

BONE SPLITTER
(unintelligible)
Quit mumbling, kid!

JAKE
Is he...is he talking to me?

ANGEL
What are you *really* doing here,
son?

Jake sighs. He unwraps the tape and shows his maimed hand.
Fighting back tears.

JAKE
I don't know what else to do.

Angel walks over to him. Menacingly. He doesn't seem above
killing his own son, and Jake's face shows it.

He GRABS Jake by the shoulder.

ANGEL
Boys, my son's a man!

Everyone CHEERS.

JAKE
What?

ANGEL
You fought a biter and lived to
tell the tale. We got respect for
that here.

JAKE
Oh. Cool.

There's a RATTLING from a homemade alarm system of tin cans.

BONE SPLITTER
(muffled through latex)
Looks like we got a live one, boss.

JAKE
...Can you guys understand this
dude?

ANGEL
You're gonna really like this, son.
Just follow my lead.
(to group)
Alright, y'all. Let's move out!

Angel and his crew pile into HUMMER covered in sheet metal
and spikes.

Jake squeezes in between two Strippers.

The barricaded door opens, and the Hummer drives out.

INT. LONE STAR MALL - DAY

The Hummer drives through the mall. Then settles. Jake gets
out with everyone. Looks around.

JAKE
What are we doing here?

ANGEL
Catching dinner.

Bone Splitter cuts a line. DANI and NURSE SUE drop. SLAMMING into the ground.

DANI
Ow!

JAKE
(sotto)
Dani.

DANI
Jake!

DANNY TREJO
Shut up!

Danny Trejo gags the girls and hoists them up to eye level.

JAKE
What is this? What are you doing with them?

ANGEL
Eating them! We eat people now!

DANI
(muffled)
SEE! CANNIBALS! I TOLD YOU!

JAKE
What? Why? I feel like we got to the *Mad Max* point of this apocalypse way too quickly.

ANGEL
Look around you! The world is fucked. It takes a strong man to survive in this kind of chaos. A man willing to do anything to get by.

Angel holds out a DAGGER.

ANGEL (CONT'D)
Now be a man. And do what needs to be done.

Angel hands the dagger over to his son.

CROWD
KILL! KILL! KILL! KILL! KILL!

Jake locks eyes with Dani. She shakes her head "no". Jake raises the KNIFE.

And THROWS it at Angel.

Slow-mo as the knife flips end over end over...AND.

Just bounces off Angel's chest. Zero harm done.

JAKE

Damn. It usually...fuck, that just kinda works in the movies.

ANGEL

Take him.

Slippery Pete grabs Jake. Angel walks over. Holding the knife to his son's throat.

ANGEL (CONT'D)

This is the problem with the world today. NO MEN. You've always been too fucking nice, son. Too much of a pussy to do what needs to be done. What a fucking disgrace.

DANI (O.S.)

You're wrong!

They all look. Dani chewed off her gag because of course she did.

ANGEL

What did you say?

DANI

Maybe he is too nice. But that's ok. He's the sweetest person I've ever met, and he deserves WAY better than you! Or me. I just wish-

NURSE SUE

I don't feel so good.

DANI

Bitch. I was right in the middle--

NURSE SUE

Oh no.

Nurse Sue's stomach LURCHES forward. Something within is trying to escape.

ANGEL

What the fuck was that?

NURSE SUE
I think...oh lordy.

Nurse Sue's stomach EXPLODES.

The ZOMBABY erupts out.

It's a small, wet, ghoulish-like entity.

Everyone SCREAMS.

They shoot Nurse Sue about five thousand times, but the ZOMBABY leaps onto Bone Splitter.

BONE SPLITTER
(muffled through latex)
GET IT OFF ME! OH JESUS, GET IT OFF
ME!

ANGEL
What is he saying!?

It rips out Bone Splitter's jugular and goes for Angel. Angel catches the ZOMBABY and throws it to the ground.

ANGEL (CONT'D)
Shoot it! Shoot it!

Every shot misses as it zigs and zags and scurries off through the mall, SMASHING through a window.

Silence again.

Then a MUMBLING from outside the mall. A HISSING. It grows louder and LOUDER until.

A horde of zombies SMASH through the mall doors.

ANGEL (CONT'D)
FUCK!

All hell breaks loose.

Jake steps on Slippery Pete's foot and knees him the balls, escaping.

The rope holding Dani snaps. Dani flies back up into the rafters, no longer counterweighted by Nurse Sue.

DANI
Jake!

Jake spots her. Zombies below clawing and HISSING at her.

He searches for a solution. And spots the Hummer.

BACK WITH DANI.

As she struggles. Then stops. Realizing the rope is tearing.

She jerks down. The zombies are almost able to reach her.

And then the rope snaps!

She falls in SLOW MOTION. Straight toward the zombies.

When the Hummer takes them all out.

Dani SLAMS onto the roof. Dazed, but ok. She climbs through the sunroof into--

INT. HUMMER - CONTINUOUS

Where Jake sits behind the wheel.

JAKE
Are you ok?

DANI
I think so.

The ZOMBIES pounce on the hood.

SMASHING the window. Jake and Dani SCREAM.

Jake floors it. Blasting through zombie after zombie.

And CRASHING out of the mall.

INT. HUMMER - DRIVING - DAY

Jake drives through the havoc of Amarillo.

JAKE
Where are we going?

DANI
Back to the Walmart. I think I
found a way to stop your infection.

JAKE
Really? Like a vaccine?

Dani looks at his arm. The black veins encroaching almost to his shoulder. Realizing he'll lose it all.

DANI
Yeah. Something like that.

Dani winces. Like a JOLT of electricity shot through her.

DANI (CONT'D)
Ah. Fuck.

JAKE
What is it?

DANI
The baby. I think it's coming.

Jake puts the pedal to the metal.

INT. WALMART - DAY

Jake helps Dani inside. She's in a cold sweat.

DANI
Please be here, please be here,
please be here.

JAKE
Who?

PRIYA (O.S.)
Hey.

They both turn and see Priya, her arm now in a sling.

DANI
You stayed!

PRIYA
Yeah no shit, now get over to the
patio furniture section. I've got
everything set up there.

Jake does as he's told.

Priya smiles. Hanging back. Then she looks out the front door. A look of terror erupts on her face. And we see why.

A horde of ZOMBIES are descending on them.

PRIYA (CONT'D)
Shit.

She pulls the doors shut, but they won't hold for long.

INT. WALMART - PATIO FURNITURE - CONTINUOUS

Jake lays Dani on a patio table. FINGERS press against her stomach from the inside, like a hand under a sheet.

DANI

Fuck!

Jake holds Dani down. Dani hears something IGNITE.

She looks over Jake's shoulder and see's Priya heating a KITCHEN KNIFE with a BLOWTORCH.

DANI (CONT'D)

Holy shit! I can't do this.

She pushes Jake away and gets up. Limping away. Jake chases after her. Grabbing her wrist.

JAKE

What are you doing?

DANI

I can't do this.

JAKE

You can.

DANI

No dude! Just be real with me for once. It's not gonna be ok.

JAKE

Ok. You're right. It won't.

DANI

I'm scared.

(starts crying)

What if it doesn't work?

She CRIES into his shoulder. Jake holds her.

JAKE

Then that would suck. Because I want it to work really badly.

DANI

But why? I was so shitty to you.

He holds her away. Looks her deep in the eyes.

JAKE

Because what would suck way more than anything would be going through all this, everything we've been through the past few days, and still not getting to tap that ass one last time.

Dani snorts a laugh through the tears. She play hits him.

DANI

You asshole.

JAKE

I mean it's just a lot of time put in to not get laid.

DANI

I knew that's why you were doing all this.

JAKE

It was my only motivation.

DANI

'Cause if you actually liked me, you'd never be able to just say it. You'd have to say like the opposite.

JAKE

I don't like you at all.

He pulls her in and they FINALLY kiss. Time seems to slow. It's just them together for a second in eternity.

Then a SHATTERING sound pulls them apart.

JAKE (CONT'D)

They're coming in.

Dani SCREAMS. An electric shock of pain from the ZOMBABY.

JAKE (CONT'D)

Shit.

Jake helps her back over to the table. Lays her down.

Priya holds the knife toward Dani's stomach. Ready to slice.

HISSING and SCREAMING grows louder and louder.

Dani looks over.

The ZOMBIES have breached the sliding doors. It's only a matter of time.

JAKE (CONT'D)
Someone has to distract them.

Dani grips his hand. HARD.

DANI
Don't. Leave.

He looks over.

Zombies are climbing barricaded shelves and appliances. Drooling and BARKING at their soon-to-be dinner.

DANI (CONT'D)
Please.

Jake lets go. Grabs a FIRE EXTINGUISHER.

DANI (CONT'D)
Jake!

He runs right at the horde and sprays them with the fire extinguisher, leading them away from the girls.

JAKE
This way. Come on!

DANI
Jake--

Dani SCREAMS. The blade is in. Slicing across her stomach.

DANI (CONT'D)
FUCK!

Blood. Lots of blood. Priya reaches in and pulls out the ZOMBABY. It sleeps, almost peacefully.

She places it on the table and goes back to sewing Dani up with fishing line.

Priya finishes and pushes Dani's hair back.

PRIYA
You there? Dani? Talk to me.

She slaps her.

PRIYA (CONT'D)
Hey! You there.

Dani's eyes open. She smiles weakly. Gives a thumbs up.

DANI
Yeah. I'm good.

They LAUGH at each other. The kind of excited, dazed laugh only adrenaline can bring. Then settle.

DANI (CONT'D)
Where did it go?

They look over. FUCK! THE ZOMBABY IS GONE.

PRIYA
Shit.

Priya helps Dani, but she can barely move under her own power. Priya gives her the blowtorch.

Together they creep through Walmart.

There's a CLATTERING of metal. They look. Nothing.

The SCURRYING of feet. Still nothing.

DANI
Where the fuck is it?

They keep moving.

The ZOMBABY swings down from the ceiling, wrapping its umbilical cord around Priya's neck.

Dani falls to the ground as Priya is hoisted up.

The ZOMBABY SQUEEZES her neck. Choking her. Priya turns purple. Eyes rolling back in her head.

Dani pulls herself up. Lights the torch and blasts the fucker.

It SCREAMS.

And tosses Priya with incredible strength into a wall.

SMACK. She falls to the ground, out cold. Or worse.

DANI (CONT'D)
NO!

The ZOMBABY looks up. Makes eye contact. And LUNGES for Dani. She braces for death. But it does not come.

She opens her eyes and sees Jake wrestling with the ZOMBABY. Gripping its jaws as the FANGS push towards his flesh.

Dani rises. And BLASTS the ZOMBABY again with the torch.

It SCREAMS and tries to scurry away.

But Jake grabs it by the umbilical cord. He swings it right into a PROPANE GRILL.

Then jumps on the lid. Holding it down.

JAKE
Light it. Fucking light it!

Dani turns on the propane. Hits the gas.

CLICK. CLICK. **FEEEEUM!**

The Zombaby SCREAMS as FLAMES engulf it under the lid.

Jake holds it down. Burning himself. He holds and holds until the squirming stops. Burnt to a crisp. FINALLY dead.

They look at Priya.

JAKE (CONT'D)
Is she...?

Dani crawls over to Priya. Jostles her.

DANI
Hey. Come on. Wake up.

Her eyes open. She lifts herself up.

PRIYA
Did you kill it?

Dani nods. There's a SHATTERING far off. HISSING. SCREAMING. The horde of zombies is on the prowl.

DANI
We gotta go.

Dani tries to stand, but still can't.

She's lost too much blood. Jake and Priya help her up.

And together they move through the aisles. Towards the front.

They're almost there.

When ZOMBIES block their path. Hissing. Clawing for them.

They turn to run the other way.

But more zombies close them in. They're surrounded.

The zombies sprint toward them. Ready for a feast.

Our heroes close their eyes. Ready for the end.

BANG! BANG! BANG!

Dani peeks to see the zombie horde shredded by gunfire.

COMMANDOS enter from all sides. Annihilating the infected.

They drop every single zombie moments before Dani and Co. are ripped to shreds.

Two soldiers step forward, CORPORAL and GHOST.

GHOST
You three alright?

They nod. Still in shock.

GHOST (CONT'D)
Alright. Let's get them outta here.

CORPORAL
Hang on. Scan em.

DOC, a nerdier soldier, steps forward with a scanner device.

He scans Priya's eyes.

BEEP. BEEP. CLEAR.

Then Dani.

BEEP. BEEP. CLEAR.

Then Jake. BEEP. BEEP.

SCREEEEEEETCH.

DOC
We got a live one.

Ghost COCKS a handgun. Points it at Jake. He looks at Dani.

DANI
Wait.

BANG.

DARKNESS.

DANI (V.O.)

They took us to a military hospital after that, and yeah...I just kind of waited the rest of the apocalypse out. I didn't even get to go to the funeral. His Mom offered to FaceTime me in, but that just seemed kinda weird. I guess I'm less mad that it happened, and more upset with myself for getting my hopes up. Now I know better.

INT. CHURCH - REC ROOM - NIGHT

We're back with the grief counseling group. Dani sits, out of jokes to defend herself with. Raw.

HAROLD

Wait...but. You said he lived?

MEREDITH

(tearful)

Yeah, what the hell! Why lie?

DANI

Because I want you to feel what I felt. Everyone's already back to normal, and the only time you ever hear about what happened is on the news when once a month they list the numbers of all the dead, and everyone goes "*awww, that's sad*" and then they just go on with their lives. But he wasn't a fucking number to me. He was a real person that I...fuck.

(beat)

He's dead. And it's not fair. I lied to you because it's not fucking fair.

Silence. Not the note the group wanted to end on.

MS. CLOVER

I think we can stop there for the night. Thanks for sharing, everyone.

EXT. CHURCH - PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Members of the group slowly leave the church. Muttering to themselves. Some joking. Some sad.

But Dani stands alone. Smoking a vape. Old habits die hard. Ms. Clover saunters up.

MS. CLOVER

It was really brave of you to open up like that tonight, Dani. I'm proud of you.

DANI

Yeah. So. I'm done now, right? I don't have to keep coming to these?

MS. CLOVER
 You don't have to do anything.
 (beat)
 Do you need a ride?

DANI
 No. I'm good. See ya.

She walks off.

EXT. HOUSTON STREETS - NIGHT

Dani walks down an empty suburban street lit by yellow streetlights.

Just her and the CHIRP of crickets.

The CHEERS of a nearby little league game.

She slows. And starts to cry.

A Niagara Falls level of tears. She sits on the curb.

Her face is SPLASHED with light. She looks up.

It's HAROLD from the meeting in an old Ford pickup.

HAROLD
 Need a ride?

DANI
 No. I'm good. Thanks, Harold.

HAROLD
 Just get in the damn truck.

Dani hesitates.

DANI
 Alright. But if I get any kinda
 diddle vibes--

HAROLD
 I'm gay.

Dani shrugs. Did not see that coming.

DANI
 Fair enough.

She gets in.

INT. FORD PICKUP - DRIVING - NIGHT

Harold starts driving.

DANI

Thanks. I'm just over on Stafford--

HAROLD

You know, what you did tonight was awful.

DANI

Excuse me?

HAROLD

You heard me. Who the hell do you think is in those meetings? We've all been through the same shit, so where do you get off woundin' your own people?

DANI

Hey man, I don't even wanna go to that shit. Getting an abortion is a crime in Texas. So it was either juvie or mandatory counseling. I chose counseling. It's not my fault that everything is this fucked.

HAROLD

You know what your problem is? You want a reason to keep livin' to just shoot down from the sky and shock ya like a damn lightning bolt. But that ain't how it works. Even your Jake knew that.

DANI

What do you mean?

HAROLD

He didn't just sit back and mope around like you. He took action. He knew that it's not somethin' you feel, it's somethin' you do. And that's why we go to the meetings. We're doing somethin' about it, and we don't need you messing it up.

Dani nods.

DANI

Ok. I'm sorry.

She looks out the window.

DANI (CONT'D)
That was my street.
(beat)
Gettin' diddle vibes.

HAROLD
Calm down. I'm gonna buy ya some
dinner. You look like you just
fought off a bout of ebola.

DANI
Cool. Thanks.
(beat)
Where?

Harold looks over and smiles.

INT. LONG JOHN SILVER'S - NIGHT

Harold and Dani chow down on some COCONUT SHRIMP.

DANI
It's soooo good. Fuck. Thanks,
Harold.

HAROLD
You bet. This is what the group is
really all about.
(beat)
I hope you keep comin', Dani.

Dani smiles. Chewing.

DANI
Yeah. I'll think about it.

Harold smiles back.

INT. PLANNED PARENTHOOD - EXAM ROOM - DAY

Dani sits in a hospital gown, consulting an IUD PAMPHLET. A
DOCTOR sits across the way.

DOCTOR
So you're good to go. Take it easy.
And if there's any intense pain,
come right back. Ok?

DANI
Sounds good. Thanks.

INT. PLANNED PARENTHOOD - WAITING ROOM - DAY

She enters, fully clothed, and SIGHS. Kinda sorta ready to at least attempt to get on with her life.

On her way out she passes JUNE (16), tearing up while talking to RECEPTIONIST.

RECEPTIONIST

Look, I'm sorry. But I could get arrested for just talking to you about this.

JUNE

What am I supposed to do? I don't have a car. I have no way of getting out of state.

RECEPTIONIST

I'm sorry. There's nothing I can do, hun.

(to another person)

Next!

June walks to a chair. Slumps down. And cries to herself.

Dani watches. Saddened.

But not enough to do anything about it.

She pushes onward, through the front door.

Where she spots a MOB or protestors outside. She hesitates.

Back with June.

Quietly CRYING. Dani sits next to her.

DANI

Hey. Need a ride?

June looks up.

A small glimmer of hope in her eyes.

THE END