

"Rusty"

An Original Screenplay

Written By

Scott Robert Donnelly

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Rusty: An Original Screenplay

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RUSTY

INT. MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE CLASSROOM - DAY

We OPEN TO a shot of a student, RUSTY LAKE, sitting at his desk drawing a picture of a dragon on a piece of paper. He is not one of the popular kids for sure - its obvious by the way he is dressed and keeps his distance from other students.

Students begin filing into the classroom. Rusty looks up, then behind him, and stares at a cute young girl - SARAH FALLON. Sarah is sitting near the back of the classroom, close to the science lab. Sarah appears to be popular in the seventh grade.

Rusty shoots Sarah a smile, only for her to ignore it. Discouraged, Rusty continues his drawing. Two male students, ADAM CARVER and JUSTIN WILSON walk into the classroom - books and binders in hand. They are goofing off and laughing, as boys do. They pinpoint their seats right behind Rusty.

ADAM

Hey Rusty. What are drawing? More crap?

RUSTY

(quiet) No.

Adam steals the image.

ADAM

Funny, cause it looks like crap to me.  
(shows Justin) Crap?

JUSTIN

Crap.

Adam and Justin laugh, and toss the paper onto the floor. Rusty stays quiet and shuts his eyes tight. He is obviously bothered by the two boys. Feeling alone and embarrassed, Rusty glances back at Sarah, who is feeling bad for him. Then another young girl enters the frame and sits by Sarah. This is BRITNEY TIMS, and friend of Sarah. They begin to chat.

Rusty's admiring of Sarah is quickly interrupted by Adam flicking his ear. Rusty flinches, and turns back around, facing forward.

ADAM

What were you looking at, the girls?

JUSTIN

That's weird; I didn't know you were attracted to girls.

The boys laugh again, and Adam continues flicking Rusty's ear. The bell rings to start class. The TEACHER enters the room with her books, and shuts the door behind her.

TEACHER

Okay guys, we have labs today. (sees Adam messing with Rusty) Adam Carver, how many times do I have to tell you to keep your hands to yourself?

Adam and Justin sit back in their seats.

ADAM

Sorry.

TEACHER

I need everyone to pair up. The solutions have been pre-measured; so don't touch them until I get back there.

The Teacher goes to her desk to gather her things. The students all stand up and grab a partner before heading back to the lab. Rusty is the last to stand up. When he arrives he glances around but can't find a partner.

The Teacher walks to the back with everyone, and notices Rusty standing alone.

TEACHER

Rusty, who are you pairing up with?

RUSTY

(quiet) There's no one.

TEACHER

Then join a group. Go pair up with Sarah and Britney.

Rusty nervously heads toward the two girls. Sarah gives him a smile, and he returns it. Britney however, is on a different page.

BRITNEY

I guess we're stuck with you, huh?

Rusty's smile disappears, as he stares at Britney.

SARAH

Come on Britney, leave him alone.

BRITNEY

Well, I guess we'll be fine. You're a nerd, right Rusty? You could probably get us an A or something.

RUSTY

(defensive) I'm not a nerd. I get C's and D's.

BRITNEY

Liar.

RUSTY

I don't lie.

BRITNEY

That's a lie right there. Everyone lies.

RUSTY

(frustrated) Not me.

SARAH

(changing the subject) Let's just get to work, guys.

The three pick up their protective goggles, which were laid out on the table. They strap them on, just as Adam and Justin are sneaking up behind Rusty in a comedic stealth walk. Sarah doesn't pay attention, but Britney notices the two boys and holds back a smile. Adam grabs the back of Rusty's goggles strap, pulls it back and lets it slap hard against his head. Rusty grabs the back of his head and turns around quickly, ripping the goggles off and throwing them across the room. Rusty, red with anger, stands up to his bullies. Adam, Justin and Britney are all laughing.

ADAM

What are you going to do about it?

Rusty begins to breathe heavily through his nose.

JUSTIN

Probably going to slap us.

Rusty breathes even heavier.

SARAH

Guys, leave him alone.

ADAM

Oh, what Sarah. Is Rusty your boyfriend now?

SARAH

No.

Rusty continues to steam.

ADAM

Ladies, did you know Rusty's dad was killed? (keeps eye contact with Rusty)

Rusty's eyes open wider with rage.

ADAM



That would make him a bastard. (to Rusty)  
You're a dumb BASTARD.

Rusty loses it. He screams and forcefully shoves Adam in the chest. Adam stumbles backwards, but keeps his balance. Jumping to his buddies aid, Justin pushes Rusty right back. Adam then charges Rusty, tackling him to the floor.

ADAM

(to Justin) HOLD THE FREAK DOWN!

Justin falls onto Rusty, and pushes his knee down hard on Rusty's neck. Rusty can't breathe. He begins to choke, and grab onto Justin's knee, trying to shove it off. Adam then slams Rusty in the stomach a few times, before punching him square in the face.

The classroom is now in a state of panic. Students swarm the brawl, and the teacher rushes in.

TEACHER

ADAM! JUSTIN! LET HIM GO!

Adam continues punching Rusty in the gut and the face as Justin leans harder on his neck. Rusty glances up at Sarah and Britney while getting pummeled. They are both in shock, yet do nothing. Britney still snickers slightly.

RUSTY

(to Sarah)...help.

Sarah stands in shock. Rusty's hope is gone. Justin puts more pressure on his throat, as we hear a CRUNCHING sound. Blood then pours from Rusty mouth, as he coughs and panics.

Justin, realizing what happened, stands up fast. Adam sees the blood, and stands up too. The Teacher breaks through the crowd.

TEACHER

Everyone BACK AWAY NOW!!

Adam is in shock, and moves to the side bumping the science equipment on the lab table. A beaker full of a clear liquid knocks over and spills off the table, and splashes Rusty's face. Students begin screaming in terror and running away as the liquid begins to burn right through Rusty's face. He does all he can to scream, but can't. Rusty begins to violently thrash around on the floor, as the teacher tries to help him. Panic plagues the classroom.

FADE TO BLACK

OPEN TO:

INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY - DAY

A woman, SANDRA LAKE, sits in the hallway with her son, RANDY. Sandra - Rusty's mother - is horrified, and her face is wet from crying. Randy - two years younger than Rusty - sits in silence, close to his mother.

Down the hall, a door opens, and a doctor comes out. He walks down the hall, and stands before the Lake family. Sandra stands up and wipes the tears from her face.

DOCTOR

Ms. Lake, Rusty has suffered severe facial and throat damage. His vocal chords have been almost completely crushed. His face can be repaired with extensive plastic surgery. (check his notes) Your current insurance plan does not cover such an operation, but if you talk to my secretary, we can see if there is something that can be worked out.

SANDRA

He'll live then?

DOCTOR

He will live. But he will need 24/7 care. No more public school. His life is going to be a lot different now.

Sandra begins to cry. Randy stands up and holds on tightly to his mother.

DOCTOR

You may see him now. He wont be able to see or hear you though. We have him under heavy medication, and his face is completely wrapped right now.

The Doctor motions with his hands where to go. Sandra grabs Randy by the hand, and they walk to the door.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

A horrific sight blinds Sandra and Randy. Rusty is laying on the hospital bed, under the covers. His face is completely wrapped in gauze. A couple bloodstains are visible on his facial area. Sandra begins to cry more and Randy sheds a tear. Randy walks up to the bed and kneels down beside his brother. Sandra walks up behind him and looks down at her son.

SANDRA

What the heck is wrong with people?

The continuous beeping sounds from the machines echo.

FADE TO BLACK

CAPTION: 15 YEARS LATER...

OPEN TO:

INT. DARK ROOM - NIGHT

We OPEN TO a CLOSE UP on a woman's eye. It opens. We PULL OUT to reveal a woman in her late twenties laying in the middle of the floor of a very dark and cold room. The only light comes from the moonlight shining through a window with bars across it, high on the back wall.

The woman takes a deep breath, then glances around with her eyes only. Knowing something is not right, she sits up fast, and pushes herself to her knees. She looks around the dark room, not able to see much. This is BRITNEY TIMS - now 27 years old. Another woman's voice slices through the darkness.

FEMALE VOICE

It's about time you woke up.

BRITNEY

Who is that? (pause) Where am I?

FEMALE VOICE

I don't know where we are, and why would I tell you who I am?

BRITNEY

Because, obviously, you know something I don't. Where are you, I can't see.

Through the dull moonlight, Britney can see another woman around the same age walking closer to her. Defensive, Britney stands up and back away.

BRITNEY

Stay back.

The other woman stops and throws her arms up.

BRITNEY

Tell me how I got here.

WOMAN

I don't know how WE got here. I woke up here, just like you, about an hour ago.

BRITNEY

An hour ago? Why didn't you wake me up?

WOMAN

I tried. You were out cold. I tried waking all of you up.

Confused, Britney turns around and is able to make out two other people laying face down on the ground.

BRITNEY

Who are they?

WOMAN

How many times do I have to tell you? I have no idea what is going on, where we are, or who you all are. I want answers too.

BRITNEY

(giving in) My name is Britney. The last thing I remember was....(pause)..opening my front door. Someone was knocking on it. Then, nothing.

WOMAN

Yeah. I was locking up my office. I was the last one there. Then I felt a prick in my neck. I woke up here.

BRITNEY

What's your name?

Silence.

BRITNEY

Come on, I told you mine.

WOMAN

(hesitant) Sarah.

BRITNEY

Well then, Sarah, what are we going to do?  
Are there any lights in here?

SARAH

I don't know. I couldn't find a switch.  
It's too dark.

Britney looks up at the window. The  
moonlight is blanketed by snowfall.

BRITNEY

Is it snowing?

SARAH

Yeah.

BRITNEY

It's freezing in here. (looks at the floor)  
The floor is made out of stone.

SARAH

The walls too. Almost like a cellar.



One of the other people on the floor begins to moan. Britney and Sarah stand by each other cautiously and look down. It's a man. He slowly comes to, and gets to his knees. He looks over and can see the two woman in the dark. He holds his head.

MAN

What the heck is going on here? Who the heck are you?

SARAH

We were going to ask you the same thing.

MAN

Seriously, what's going on?

SARAH

We both woke up here, just like you.

The man stands up and faces the women.

MAN

Where is 'here'?

SARAH

That question is getting very old.

MAN

(getting mad) We'll, I'm sorry, ladies, for joining this program already in progress. Tell me what's going on!

BRITNEY

She just did you jerk. We don't know why we're here, or where here is.

The man looks down at the other person on the floor.

MAN

Who's this guy?

Neither of the girls says anything.

MAN

Jesus, somebody's got to know something!

The man bends down and begins to shake the other body.

MAN

Wake up buddy! (pause) It's time to wake up!

The person slowly comes too.

MAN 2

Stop it.

The man backs away and the second man stands to his feet.

MAN 2

What's going on here?

MAN

Don't ask any questions because none of us have answers.

Man 2 rubs his head.

MAN 2

Man, my head freaking hurts.

MAN

I bet it would.

BRITNEY

What's your name?

MAN

Don't tell her. I don't trust them.

MAN 2

(ignoring Man 1) Justin.

The man gets pissed that Justin didn't listen to him.

BRITNEY

(to the man) Well, you are the only one who hasn't told us your name. Want to join the crowd?

MAN

No I don't, but thanks for asking.

SARAH

His name is Adam.

The man, Adam, stares at her, confused and pissed.

ADAM

How the hell do you know my name?

SARAH

(chuckles in realization) It's simple math. My name is Sarah. This is Britney. (points) Justin. That only leaves Adam.

Adam, Justin and Britney all ponder Sarah's statement.

JUSTIN

(realizes) Oh crap...

ADAM

What the heck are you talking about?

SARAH

Let those four names sink into your skull  
for a second, Adam.

Adam looks around at everyone else.

ADAM

Seventh grade.

SARAH

Yup.

BRITNEY

(to Sarah) Crap! Sarah? Sarah Fallon?

SARAH

In the flesh.

JUSTIN

This is not happening.

BRITNEY

(still remembering) That boy Rusty.  
Rusty...

SARAH

Rusty Lake.

ADAM

Bull. It was an accident. You don't really think we were all here because of that, do you?

BRITNEY

Yeah, I didn't even do anything. (to Sarah)  
Neither did you.

ADAM

Okay, we get it. Justin and I beat the crap out of the kid, you two are innocent. Boo-hoo.

JUSTIN

(to Adam) No, YOU beat the crap out him.

ADAM

Well, YOU crushed his throat. Drop it, or I'll beat the crap out of YOU!

SARAH

Still a jerk I see.

Adam looks towards Sarah, angered.

ADAM

This is twisted.

He turns and walks away. Justin stands there and ponders the situation. Britney stands still, frightened. Sarah glances around.

BRITNEY

So what do we do?

No one answers. Then, out of nowhere, lights pop on in the room. All four of them look around frantically. The room illuminates, revealing a large room - almost like a lobby. The floors and walls are all made of stone. There are three doors. A large metal one sits under the window on the wall. This appears to be a front door. The other two doors are wooden. They are on either side of the room. Everyone's attention is drawn to the large metal door though. Written on the door in red paint are the words: I WILL NOT FORGIVE.

ADAM

Are you kidding me??

JUSTIN

(looking around) Looks like a castle.

Adam pounds on the metal door, and frantically looks for a latch, or something to open it. There is nothing.

ADAM

We're sealed in here. It's locked from the outside.

BRITNEY

Guys!

Everyone turns to Britney, who is standing at one of the wooden doors. There are four envelopes nailed to it. Britney grabs one, and opens it. She pulls out a picture of a little boy.

BRITNEY

It's some kid.

The three others flock to Britney and look at the picture.

ADAM

That's my son! (grabs the picture) Give me that.

BRITNEY

Why is there a picture of your son in here?



Adam stares at the picture, and then flips it over. In black marker, it reads: Tonight, YOUR son becomes a Bastard.

ADAM

This isn't right. This has to be a joke.

He shows the rest of them the note. Sarah tears another envelope off the door. She opens it and pulls out a folded piece of paper that reads: Justin. Sarah hands the paper to Justin. He opens it and reads it out loud.

JUSTIN

You took my voice. I take yours.

Sarah and Britney look at each other, then back to the door. Sarah rips another one down and opens it. It is her seventh grade photo, with a red heart drawn around it. She flips it over and reads it.

SARAH

You were my only hope. My only love. Yet you did nothing.

ADAM

This guy is sick. I thought he died anyway.

JUSTIN

He didn't die. He was messed up real bad. I think his family moved to California or some shit.

SARAH

Montana actually.

They all look at Sarah.

SARAH

I kept in touch with the family because I felt so bad. They moved and I never heard from them again. Any of them.

ADAM

I think it's your turn Britney.

Britney looks nervous and her hand shakes as she rips down the last envelope. She opens it and pulls out two pieces of a torn picture. She flips them over and together they form her seventh grade picture - torn in half at her neck. On the backs of one of the pieces it reads: WHORE.

BRITNEY

Oh my God.

JUSTIN

This is just great. This guy is getting his revenge on us. I already did my time in Juvie. I've moved on. I've got a family.

ADAM

(holds up the picture of his son) So do I! I intend to see them again, so lets find a way out of here.

Adam breaks through the women and grabs the doorknob. He shakes it, but it's locked. He kicks it really hard, but it doesn't budge.

ADAM

Dang it.

He turns to the other door, and head towards it. Britney puts her torn picture in her pocket and he eyes widen.

BRITNEY

Oh my God! I have my cell phone!

She pulls out her cell phone which makes everyone else check their pockets. Sarah also pulls out hers. As does Justin. Adam stops on his way to the other door, and searches his pockets. They all have them. Britney opens hers and sees the screen is dead. She tries to turn it on, but it wont.

BRITNEY

It's not working.

SARAH

Mine either.

JUSTIN

Same.

Adam flips his over and opens the back of it. The battery is gone.

ADAM

No batteries, that's why.

They all check. No batteries.

SARAH

We were stupid to think he'd let us keep our phones in tact.

Adam throws his phone to the corner of the room, and continues towards the door. He reaches for the doorknob, and turns it. To his surprise, it opens. He turns to everyone else.

ADAM

Anyone coming?

Justin jogs over to Adam and walks through the door and into a dark hallway.

ADAM

Anyone else?

Britney shakes her head.

SARAH

I think we're going to stay here. Let us know if you find a way out.

Adam doesn't hesitate to ignore her, then follows Justin down the hallway, closing the door behind him. Britney collapses, crying. Sarah bends down to comfort her.

BRITNEY

(crying) I didn't do anything! It was those guys! We're innocent, Sarah!

SARAH

Obviously, Rusty thinks we all played a part in it.

BRITNEY

(crying) What are we going to do?

SARAH

I don't know.

CUT TO:

INT. DARK HALLWAY - FIRST FLOOR - NIGHT

Justin and Adam are walking through the hall cautiously, side by side.

JUSTIN

What's your sons name?

Adam doesn't answer. He is committed to finding a way out.

JUSTIN

Are you married?

Adam stops and turns to Justin, grabbing him by the shoulder.

ADAM

Listen. When we find a way out of here, I don't want anything to do with you, or the other two, ever again. Mind your own business.

Adam lets go of Justin, who is startled by Adams actions. Adam turns and continues walking. Justin shrugs it off, and follows. Up ahead, they spot a door on the wall with light shining from underneath it.

ADAM

Here!

Adam darts towards the door and Justin quickly follows. Adam reaches for the knob, turns it and pushes it open to reveal a brightly lit room.

INT. BALLROOM - FIRST FLOOR - NIGHT

The room is very large. It has fancy red carpet and a dance floor. Old tables are set up around the dance floor. A few more windows sit high on the walls - also secured with metal bars. Adam trucks it through the ballroom.

JUSTIN

Do you even know where you are going?

ADAM

I'm trying to find a way out of here. I suggest you follow me, because by the sound of those notes I bet we don't have much time.

Justin follows Adam, looking in all directions.

JUSTIN

Do you think he's here? In this place?

ADAM

I don't really care where the heck that little psycho is. If he comes near me, I'll beat the living crap out of him again.

JUSTIN

You haven't changed.

ADAM

(stops) What?

JUSTIN

I followed you in middle school to share the popularity. That doesn't mean I agreed with everything you said or did to people. You were a total jerk. You still are.

ADAM

Look, man, you're just as guilty as I am. We both mangled that kid.

JUSTIN

I did my time. I started a life. I moved on. Did you?

ADAM



I have a life too. I have a son. A son who I intend to see again.

JUSTIN

Wife?

Adam hesitates.

JUSTIN

Look. I want out of here too. But were going to have to work together and be honest here.

ADAM

(hesitant) My wife left me. My son is all I have.

Justin stands there and attempts to sympathize with Adam.

ADAM

Okay, lets get moving.

They continue through the ballroom.

EXT. CASTLE - NIGHT

The large castle sits in the middle of a mountainous valley. Made of stone, it continues to be showered on by a heavy snow.

INT. CASTLE LOBBY - FIRST FLOOR - NIGHT

Sarah and Britney sit up against the wall with their arms around their legs.

BRITNEY

What if this is it? What if he kills us?

SARAH

We can't think like that.

BRITNEY

It's kind of obvious, Sarah. He found a way to get us all here - together - and now he's going to get revenge. Who knows where the heck we are and if anyone even knows we're missing.

The women remain silent.

SARAH

Where did you go?

BRITNEY

What do you mean?

SARAH

A couple weeks after Rusty was put in the hospital you weren't in school anymore. Then I never saw you again. We were friends, right?

BRITNEY

Yeah. We were friends. (Pause) I was torn up about what happened and I got really depressed. I was too young to see something like that happen. My parents pulled me out of school and started me in one a couple towns over. A fresh start. They thought it was best if I didn't contact anyone from the school.

SARAH

It messed me up bad too. (smiles) Rusty always had a crush on me. I knew that - it was so obvious. But being part of the "popular" crowd, I felt like I couldn't talk to him. He was a sweet kid. (pause) He's right though.

BRITNEY

About what?

SARAH

I just stood there. I didn't do anything to stop it. I can still hear him calling for help. I couldn't even think straight.

BRITNEY

It's not your fault. Adam and Justin are the only ones who should be paying for this.

SARAH

He sees it differently.

BRITNEY

He's a twisted lunatic who should have died right then and there.

SARAH

(shocked) How could you say that? He did nothing wrong - ever. He was quiet all the time and never bothered a soul. I don't want to be here right now - at all - but I can understand his anger towards us.

BRITNEY

Jesus, Sarah, you sound like you're on his side.

SARAH

That poor boy didn't deserve any of this. His life was ruined. He had a mother who couldn't raise him like a normal kid; a brother who he couldn't play with growing up.

Britney stands up.

BRITNEY

You're scaring me.

SARAH

I'm not on his side, Britney. I just think we might deserve this.

BRITNEY

So you don't care there is a disturbed psycho, probably somewhere in this... (looks around)... castle, who wants to kill you?

SARAH

Maybe I can talk him down.

BRITNEY

Oh, because he was so much in love with you? You think he'll feel for you? You read the notes. He's a little pissed off right now.

Britney walks across the lobby and opens the door.

SARAH

Where are you going?

BRITNEY

I want to get out of here. You think they are going to come back and tell us they found a way out?

Sarah doesn't answer.

BRITNEY

I'll let you know.

Britney walks down the dark hallway. Sarah remains seated against the wall. She reaches into her pocket and pulls out then envelope, and opens it. She pulls out the picture of her and looks at it, feeling guilty. She then notices there is a second piece of folded paper in the envelope. Curious, she pulls it out and opens it. It's another note that reads: COME FIND ME, BEFORE I FIND YOU.

CUT TO:

INT. LARGE DIMLY LIT ROOM - FIRST FLOOR - NIGHT

A large empty room sits in peace. There is a fireplace inside it. The door to the

room opens, and we see Adam and Justin walk in. Then notice a burning fire in the pit.

ADAM

Okay, so we know someone is here for sure.

They walk into the middle of the room. Adam notices something next to the fireplace, and walks over to it.

JUSTIN

How much time did you serve?

Adam doesn't answer. He grabs a fire poker from against the wall.

JUSTIN

I know you served time. How long?

Adam grips the fire poker and faces Justin.

ADAM

I was tried as an adult. I did six years in the state prison. Two years of probation. I'm clean now. I served my time too. I'm not paying for this again. It's not like we killed him.

Adam storms towards the door.

JUSTIN

Where are you going now?

ADAM

I don't know.

JUSTIN

Lets just get back to the others. This place is starting to give me the creeps.

ADAM

How about YOU go back to the girls. You said you just followed me for popularity and not for my decisions. Be a leader for once, Justin. Not a follower.

JUSTIN

Life advice from an angry guy with a fire poker. Brilliant.

Adam leaves the room in a fit. Justin looks around. He stares into the fire.

INT. HALLWAY - FIRST FLOOR - NIGHT

Adam storms down the hallway, gripping the fire poker in one hand. He walks by a door, stops, and pushes it open. A dark room sits inside. He continues down the hallway. He comes to a second door. He pushes it open. Another dark room. He storms down the hall and comes to the final



door at the end of the hallway. He pushes it open and sees a dimly lit bedroom. He squints to look inside, then holds the fire poker like a baseball bat. He ENTERS the room.

INT. BEDROOM - FIRST FLOOR - NIGHT

Adam enters the bedroom, where red carpet is laid down on the stone floor. A queen size bed sits against the wall, along with a dresser and a desk. A window sits above the bed, secured by metal bars. Adam walks to the side of the bed and peers out the window into the dark, winter wonderland outside. He can't see much of anything. He turns back around and glances around the room. He notices another door on the wall. He slowly walks over to it and puts his hand on the knob.

INT. HALLWAY - FIRST FLOOR - NIGHT

Justin comes out of the room he was in, and begins to walk down the hallway in the same direction as Adam. It's a long, empty hallway that begins to creep Justin out.

JUSTIN

Adam?

Adam doesn't answer.

INT. BEDROOM - FIRST FLOOR - NIGHT

Adam turns the doorknob and cracks it open.

JUSTIN (VO)

Adam?

Adam sighs in disgust from his name being called out loud. He pushes the door, and it creaks open to reveal another pitch-black room. He squints again and takes a step forward.

INT. HALLWAY - FIRST FLOOR - NIGHT

Justin is almost at the end of the hallway. He stops at one of the doors Adam had opened along the way. He peers into the black.

JUSTIN

Adam -

SUDDENLY, a TALL, MASKED MAN breaches the darkness and grabs hold of Justin's neck tightly, and forces him back into the hallway and against the back wall. The MASKED MAN rips out a very badly rusted butchers knife and jabs it deep into Justin's side.

JUSTIN

(in pain) Ahhhh!!!

The knife is torn out of Justin as he grips his side, and he collapses to the ground - bleeding all over the floor.

INT. BEDROOM - FIRST FLOOR - NIGHT

Adam hears Justin's screams from the hallway, and he stops from entering the other room. He swings around with a look of fear plastered on his face.

INT. HALLWAY - FIRST FLOOR - NIGHT

Justin thrashes around on the floor, with blood spilling from his side. The MASKED MAN stands above Justin, well over six foot tall, dressed in black, and covered by a long black trench coat. His face is covered with a roughly made, white plaster mask with eye-holes only. His long, black, stringy hair hangs down over the mask, and touches his shoulders. He stands there, holding the knife, watching Justin. Then the MASKED MAN leans down, grabs Justin by the collar of his shirt, and lifts him off the ground.

JUSTIN

What the heck!

With one clean swipe of the rusted blade, Justin's neck is ripped open. Blood sprays onto the wall behind him, and he is dropped

back down to the floor, where he grabs his neck gurgling blood. The KILLER stands over Justin, and watches him take his last breath. Justin lies dead in the middle of the hallway in a large pool of blood.

INT. BEDROOM - FIRST FLOOR - NIGHT

Adam stands still in the bedroom and notices all the commotion and screaming has finally come to stop. Adam holds tightly to the fire poker and takes a deep breath. He makes his way back to the bedroom doorway.

INT. HALLWAY - FIRST FLOOR - NIGHT

Adam slowly exits the bedroom, and glances down the hallway. The KILLER remained there, standing over Justin's dead body.

ADAM

Oh crap.

The KILLER, hearing Adam's voice, turns to face him. Adam's eyes widen and the KILLER holds out the bloody knife, showing off.

ADAM

CRAP!

Adam turns and darts back into the bedroom, slamming the door shut.

INT. BEDROOM - FIRST FLOOR - NIGHT

Adam books it through the bedroom and into the other dark room, pulling that door shut.

CUT TO:

INT. ANOTHER HALLWAY - FIRST FLOOR - NIGHT

Britney is walking slowly down another dimly lit hallway. There are a few scattered windows on the walls, all with metal bars. The snow outside continues to fall heavily. Something catches Britney's attention at the end of the hallway, and she freezes. It's a quiet rustling sound.

BRITNEY

Adam? (pause) Justin?

There is no answer nor is there any movement. She carefully continues down the hall.

INT. PIANO ROOM - FIRST FLOOR - NIGHT

A room sits in the dark. The only light is coming from about a dozen lit candles around the room. In the center of the room

sits a grand piano. There are two candles sitting on top of the instrument.

The door to the room is open, and we see Britney walk in.

BRITNEY

Hello?

There is no answer. She feels confident enough to continue into the room. She immediately moves towards the piano and is slightly put off by the piano with candles on top, almost like she was meant to come in the room.

She leans closer to the candles and notices they placed on top of newspaper clippings. Britney removes the candles and pulls out the clippings. She uses the candles light to read them. There are two clippings. The first one she reads has a headline of: STUDENT HOSPITALIZED BY BULLIES; REMAINS IN CRITICAL CONDITION.

Britney then reads the second clipping: MYSTERY MAN DONATES \$25,000 TOWARDS SEVENTH GRADERS' RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY.

BRITNEY

Oh my God.

Britney turns and leaves the room in a hurry.

EXT. CASTLE - NIGHT

The cold and snowy night still surrounds the castle. Heavy snow falls around the structure. Above the entrance of the castle is an old, partially rusted sign, which reads: SERPENTINE.

INT. CASTLE LOBBY - FIRST FLOOR - NIGHT

The lobby sits empty. Sarah is no longer there. We hear footsteps racing down the hallway and then Britney dashes into the lobby.

BRITNEY

Sarah?

She sees nobody is there, and then turns and looks back down the hallway.

BRITNEY

Sarah!?

Britney then looks over by the other locked door, and sees Sarah's envelope lying on the floor. She walks over and picks it up, still holding the newspaper clippings. She opens the envelope and pulls out the

picture, as well as the newer note. She opens it: COME FIND ME, BEFORE I FIND YOU.

Then, we hear more footsteps racing down the hall. Britney swings around and gasps as the person gets closer. Then, Adam enters the lobby in a huff. Still gripping the fire poker, he stops and catches his breath.

BRITNEY

What happened??

ADAM

We've got to find a way out of here - FAST!

BRITNEY

(afraid) Why?

ADAM

Follow me!

BRITNEY

WHY!?

ADAM

Justin is dead.

BRITNEY



(eyes widen) WHAT?!

ADAM

Someone killed him.

BRITNEY

Who?!

ADAM

(sarcastic) Well I guess it would be Rusty!

BRITNEY

Well, was it, or wasn't it? What did he look like?

ADAM

I don't know. He had on some kind of mask.

BRITNEY

A mask?

ADAM

Britney, just follow me please. We need to get out of here. Where's Sarah?

BRITNEY

I don't know, I just got back here and she was gone.

Adam notices Britney is holding the clippings. He points at them.

ADAM

What are those?

Adam walks over to her and she hands them to him.

BRITNEY

I think there is something else going on here.

Adam read the headlines, then glances back up at Britney.

ADAM

Lets move.

Adam grabs her by the arm and they both take off back down the hallway.

CUT TO:

INT. KEY ROOM - FIRST FLOOR - NIGHT

Sarah enters a large room, again, very dimly lit. She looks around. There is not much to it. A couple of crates sit against the wall. Two doors on either side of the room. A wooden chest on the floor against the far wall.

Sarah focuses her attention on the chest, and approaches it. She bends down and sees it's unlocked. She lifts the lid and looks inside. It has red velvet lining with a note and a key sitting inside. She picks up both, and reads the note out loud.

SARAH

(reading)

Second Floor. Third Door.

She stares, not understanding. She stands up and looks at the doors in the room, then eyes the key in her hand. She walks over to one door and tries the key. It works, and the door opens right up to reveal a closet. It is completely empty. She then walks across the room and tries to turn the knob on it. It's locked. She uses the key and the door opens. Sarah pockets the key and note, then peers through the doorway. There is nothing more than a staircase.

Sarah takes a deep breath, then walks up the stairs.

INT. SECOND FLOOR HALLWAY - SECOND FLOOR - NIGHT

A door at the end of the hallway opens up, and we see Sarah finish coming up the stairs and into the hallway. She looks down the narrow corridor and sees multiple

doors on either side and what appeared to be the hallway spilling out into a much larger room at the other end.

SARAH

(to herself) Second Floor. Third Door.

She closes her eyes - not knowing what going to happen. She calms herself down. Somewhere down the hall, we hear an old wooden door creaking, then stop. Sarah opens her eyes quick and sees nothing. She takes a deep breath, then slowly walks down the hallway.

She passes a door on her left.

SARAH

One.

She continues walking, and passes a door on her right.

SARAH

Two.

She finally comes to another door on her left. In red paint, the letters: B.M. are written on the door. She gulps, and turns the knob, cracking the door open. She then pushes it open.

INT. B.M. ROOM - SECOND FLOOR - NIGHT

The room is dark. There is a large window on the back wall looking outside into the snow. But it too, is secured shut with metal bars. There is a nightstand, dresser, and a bed in the room. Laying in the bed, is a DARK FIGURE. Sarah stares at the figure, concerned, as she stays put in the doorway.

SARAH

(softly) Hello?

There is no answer from the DARK FIGURE in the bed. Sarah takes one step forward.

SARAH

(slightly louder) Hello?

No answer. She takes one more step forward.

SARAH

Hello?

With the third 'hello', all the lights in the room pop on, making Sarah jump in fear. Laying on the bed is a tall man, wearing a business suit, and tightly wrapped around his head and face are white gauze.

The sight of the man frightens Sarah, and she jumps back and presses herself up against the wall. The person begins moaning, then slowly sits up in the bed. He continues to moan and mumble, but it's too muffled by the gauze to make sense of. Then, the man begins to freak out, and grab his head, feeling what's on it. His moaning grows louder as he tries to rip and pull on the gauze.

The man is then able to viciously tear at the gauze and unwrap his full head. His eyes adjust to the light, and he notices Sarah in the corner. Confused, he gets out of the bed, and begins to walk towards Sarah.

SARAH

Stay away!

MAN

(furious) What have you done to me!

SARAH

Nothing! We woke up here! Stay back!

The MAN stops.

MAN

Where? Where am I?

SARAH

(scared) I don't know. Some kind of castle or something. Were in the middle of nowhere.

Sarah points behind him, at the window. The MAN turns around and sees it snowing outside. He then turns back to Sarah, who is starting to calm down.

SARAH

What's your name?

MAN

(hesitant) Jack.

JACK is about six foot, and appears to be in his thirties. He has a scruffy face and short black hair.

SARAH

I'm Sarah.

JACK

We'll, Sarah, you better start filling me in here.

SARAH

There was an accident when I was in seventh grade, and another student was harmed. Now for some reason, that student gathered the four of us responsible, and brought us here. He left us all notes, and I think he wants to kill us.

JACK

That's crazy. I had nothing to do with anything like that.

SARAH

How old are you?

JACK

35. You? I don't see what that has to do with anything.

SARAH

(sorting her thoughts) I'm 27. The others are 27 too. You're older. You wouldn't have had anything to do with it. (pause) Where did you go to middle school?

JACK

What?



SARAH

Answer the question.

JACK

George Washington Middle School in Texas.

SARAH

You weren't there...

Jack stands there, confused.

SARAH

I don't know why your here. Unless...

JACK

Unless what?

SARAH

Unless there's something we're not seeing here.

JACK

(sarcastic) Great. I wake up here, have no idea where I am, who the heck you are or who brought me here.

SARAH

What's your last name?

JACK

That doesn't matter. It has nothing to do with anything.

SARAH

(frustrated) I'm Sarah Fallon. The others are Britney Tims, Adam Carver and Justin Wilson. Any of those names sound familiar?

JACK

No.

The two stand there in silence.

SARAH

We have to go find the others.

JACK

Look Sarah, Its not that I don't trust you, but I'm not going anywhere with you.

SARAH

Jack, this is no time to be stubborn. We're in danger, and we need to find a way out of here.

JACK

Are the windows all locked up like this one?

SARAH

Yeah, all of the ones I've seen.

JACK

Then we're not getting out of here.

SARAH

What are you talking about?

JACK

This has to be Serpentine Castle. If we're locked in, there's no way out.

SARAH

Serpentine Castle? How do you know?  
What's that?

JACK

Well, I'm going on a hunch that we're still somewhere in upstate Oregon.

Jack waits for a reaction from Sarah.

SARAH

Yeah. That's the last place I remember being.

JACK

Well, then if we are there, there's a large castle near the Washington border - Serpentine Castle. It's in a vacant valley in the middle of absolutely nowhere.

SARAH

How do you know?

JACK

I use to be part owner of this place.

SARAH

Then you would know how to get us the hell out of here!

JACK

Not quite. I went in on this place with a bunch of friends about 14 years ago. We were going to throw big parties and shit. They said it was a fun place when you're drunk because it's very confusing to find your way around in here. The hallways and especially the basement are almost snake-like. Hence, Serpentine. (pause) But the deal ended up falling through before I was even able to see inside. So no, I don't know the way around.

SARAH

Then we have to search. Please come with me. We'll group up with the others and find a way out.

JACK

You've been talking about these 'others' for a bit now. How come you're not with them right now?

SARAH

We all split up to find an exit.

JACK

(laughs) That's smart. (mocking) "Lets all split up in Serpentine Castle, we're bound to find a way out!" (pause) I highly doubt it.

SARAH

Then what's your plan? Just stay here in the room? Cause I'm going to find them, and tell them about you. They're not going like the fact that there is someone else here who actually knows where we are.

JACK

I said it was a hunch.

SARAH

Well, we'll see.

Sarah turns and leaves the room, then quickly arrives back in the doorway.

SARAH

What does B.M. stand for?

JACK

Huh?

SARAH

There is a B and an M painted on the door to this room.

JACK

Sorry, I have no idea what that could possibly mean.

Sarah, mad, leaves again. Jack sits down on the bed.

CUT TO:

INT. HALLWAY - FIRST FLOOR - NIGHT

Adam and Britney are hurrying along. Britney still holds the newspaper clippings, gripping Adam's arm.

BRITNEY

You don't even know where we're going.

ADAM

I'm sorry, do you? This place is a freaking maze.

BRITNEY

There! (points) What's that?

INT. POOL ROOM - FIRST FLOOR - NIGHT

A large room sits with a giant, empty, in-ground pool, in the dark. There is a large glass window on the ceiling, which the snow has fallen on and covered. Adam and Britney dash into the room and stop.

ADAM

This place is too big.

BRITNEY

Come on, we have to keep looking for Sarah.

ADAM

She might be dead.

The two of them move closer to the pool. Adam leans over and looks into it.

BRITNEY

Careful.

There is nothing inside. It's deep and empty. Something catches Britney's eye, and she looks to the other side of the room. There is another hallway branching out and someone is moving in it.

BRITNEY

Adam.

Adam looks up and sees the figure. He stands to his feet. He gets ready with his fire poker and starts moving to the hallway.

BRITNEY

You're going over there?

ADAM

Just stay here.

He approaches the hallway.

ADAM

Who's there? Come out!

SARAH (VO)

Adam?



Adam sighs in relief, and eases up. Sarah comes out of the hallway, and into the pool room.

ADAM

You scared us.

SARAH

I found someone else.

ADAM

Huh? Who?

Britney comes up behind Adam.

SARAH

Someone else is upstairs. He was lying in bed with gauze wrapped around his face. He says he was abducted too.

BRITNEY

Really?

ADAM

Who is it?

SARAH

I don't know. His name is Jack. Do any of you guys know a Jack?

Adam and Britney shake their heads.

ADAM

What's his last name?

SARAH

He didn't say. (looks around) Where's Justin?

ADAM

He's dead.

SARAH

What?!

ADAM

Someone wearing a mask killed him.

Sarah's eyes widen even more.

SARAH

Holy crap...

ADAM

Yeah. This thing just got a little too real, didn't it?

SARAH

It's got to be Rusty, right?

ADAM

(sarcastic) Well, Rusty is the only one who comes to mind right now.

BRITNEY

What do we do?

ADAM

We go talk to this Jack guy, and see what he knows.

SARAH

He was pretty vague about things. I don't know if I really trust him.

They start to walk down the hallway together - Adam leading. Sarah sees the newspaper clippings in Britney's hand.

SARAH

What's that?

BRITNEY

I found them.

Britney hands Sarah the clippings, and she looks at them.

SARAH

Oh my God. Rusty had the reconstructive surgery.

ADAM

See. Everything worked out for him.

CUT TO:

INT. SECOND FLOOR HALLWAY - SECOND FLOOR - NIGHT

Adam leads Sarah and Britney up the stairs and into the hallway.

ADAM

Where is he?

SARAH

Third door. (points) Up there on the left.

They storm to the third door. The door is closed. B.M. stands out on the door.

ADAM

(points to door) What's this?

SARAH

No clue. Jack didn't seem to know either.

ADAM

This is crap.

Adam pushes the door open to an empty room.

INT. B.M. ROOM - SECOND FLOOR - NIGHT

The three of them walk inside. Jack is nowhere to be seen.

ADAM

I don't see a Jack here.

SARAH

I swear he was here. He said he wasn't going anywhere.

BRITNEY

(points to nightstand) What's that?

They all see what Britney saw - a white envelope sitting on the nightstand. Adam charges over to it and picks it up. It says: BRANDON. Adam opens it and finds it empty.

ADAM

I don't think 'Jack' was telling you the truth.

Adam shows the girls the envelope.

SARAH

Brandon?

ADAM

That would be the "B" in B.M. This guy was lying to us.

BRITNEY

He's probably in on it somehow.

SARAH

Does anyone know a Brandon?

They all shake their heads.

SARAH

Me neither.

ADAM

I'm going to look for this guy and kick his butt.

Adam walks to the door.

SARAH

What should we do?

ADAM

Stay here in case he comes back. Just don't leave each others sights. You'll be fine.

Adam leaves, and walks down the hallway.

BRITNEY

We're all going to die.

Sarah doesn't respond, as she is deep in thought.

SARAH

That article says a 'mystery man' donated the money for Rusty's surgery. Reconstructive surgery.

BRITNEY

You think Jack - or Brandon - could be Rusty?

SARAH

He could have changed his name.

They stand there for a moment.

SARAH

No, no. Because why would he be in here with his initials on the door and an envelope with his name on it?

BRITNEY

To throw us off?

SARAH

Why would he want to throw us off, if he's just gonna kill us anyway? None of this makes sense.

INT. LARGE OPEN ROOM - SECOND FLOOR - NIGHT

The room at the end of the second floor hall is dark, but more lit than other ones. There are many windows with bars in this one, and the moonlight shines in, making shadows look more ominous. The room has a very eerie atmosphere - almost Gothic.

Adam walks in, fire poker in hand.

ADAM

Jack? (pause) Brandon?!

There is no answer.



INT. B.M. ROOM - SECOND FLOOR - NIGHT

Britney and Sarah are in the room still. Britney is sitting on the bed, and Sarah is pacing back and forth.

SARAH

Did you see...Justin?

BRITNEY

No. (pause) I can't believe this is happening.

SARAH

We'll get out of here, Britney. I promise. I'm not ready to die.

BRITNEY

What if we don't get out of here?

SARAH

We will.

INT. LARGE OPEN ROOM - SECOND FLOOR - NIGHT

Adam slowly walks around in the heavily shadowed room. Something on the wall catches his attention. He walks over to it. It's a light switch. He flips the

switch and the room lights up by a very large glass chandelier on the ceiling.

Adam is horrified when he looks around the room and sees, painted in red, the phrase: I WILL NOT FORGIVE. It is repeated all over the room. On the walls, floor, ceiling - very "Shining" like.

ADAM

What the heck... (calls back to the hallway) Sarah! Britney! Come here! This is crazy!

INT. B.M. ROOM - SECOND FLOOR - NIGHT

The two girls hear Adam calling. Britney buries her head in her hands.

BRITNEY

(pouts) I don't even want to know.

SARAH

Then stay here. I'll be right back.

BRITNEY

Don't leave me, Sarah!

SARAH

It's okay. He's right down the hall. You can hear him.

Sarah leaves the room.

INT. LARGE OPEN ROOM - SECOND FLOOR - NIGHT

Adam stands in disarray, looking at the repeated phrase all over the room. Sarah comes jogging into the room.

ADAM

Get a load of this crap.

Sarah looks around, as she walks up and stands by Adam.

SARAH

What the heck?

INT. B.M. ROOM - SECOND FLOOR - NIGHT

Britney sits patiently on the bed. She can hear Adam and Sarah talking in the background. It's muffled and kind of hard to hear. She stands up and walks to the doorway, and slowly peeks her head out and looks down the hall in their direction.

INT. SECOND FLOOR HALLWAY - SECOND FLOOR - NIGHT

Britney's head pokes out of the door and looks down the hallway to see Adam and Sarah standing in the large room. Britney turns and looks back down the other end of the hallway - towards the stairs. An AXE slices down through the air and lops off Britney's head.

We get a WIDE SHOT of the KILLER standing against the wall, completing the swing of his AXE. Britney's head hits the ground, and pours blood all over the floor. The rest of her body goes limp and drops to the floor as well. She had no time to react or scream. The KILLER leans the now bloody AXE against the wall and reaches into his coat pocket. He pulls out another newspaper clipping and drops it down on the floor, right next to Britney's decapitated head.

INT. LARGE OPEN ROOM - SECOND FLOOR - NIGHT

Adam and Sarah are still processing the walls.

SARAH

I don't get it. This doesn't make any sense.

ADAM

No it doesn't. But that Jack - Brandon - asshole knows what's going on here. Come on, we have to find him.

SARAH

Hang on, let me grab Britney.

Sarah turns and runs back down the hallway, where she immediately stops.

SARAH

(terrified) ADAM!!!

Adam hears her and swings around. He runs up beside her and they stare down the hallway at the bloodbath.

ADAM

What the heck!!!

He runs down the hallway and Sarah follows him.

INT. SECOND FLOOR HALLWAY - SECOND FLOOR - NIGHT

They run up to the scene. They see the head, the body, the blood, and the axe against the wall.

ADAM

We were right down the freaking hallway!  
How did we not hear this?

SARAH

It happened so fast.

ADAM

Then he's still close.

Adam continues quickly down the hallway and pounds on each of the doors. He runs into a room, then back into the hall. He goes to another door and kicks it open. He goes in and then back out.

Sarah looks carefully down at the crime scene. She cuffs her mouth, after she starts gagging. She then notices the newspaper clipping. She bends down and picks it up.

ADAM

What are you doing?

Adam runs back to her, just as she stands with the paper.

ADAM

Another one?

Sarah looks at it.

ADAM

Read it.

SARAH

(nervously reading) \$25,000 for Students Surgery goes missing. The mysterious donor of the cash claims to be the boys long lost father, Donald Lake. After donating the cash to the local hospital, it was intercepted by an unknown employee and is now missing. Donald Lake, who admits to running out on his family years ago, demands the employee turns over the money, in order for his son, Rusty Lake, to receive the proper medical attention.

Sarah looks up at Adam.

ADAM

I thought Rusty's father was killed?

SARAH

(shakes head) That was a rumor. When I spent time with the family, they told me he had run out on them, like five years before the accident.

They stand in an unnerving silence.

ADAM

You don't think....

SARAH

(finishing sentence) Donald Lake is killing us? (pause) Makes sense.

ADAM

What about Jack? Or Brandon?

Sarah thinks for a moment.

SARAH

Maybe the hospital employee?

ADAM

I don't know. Lets find out.

Adam grabs Sarah by the arm and they head towards the stairwell. Then suddenly, JACK, appears in the stairwell. Adam stops and gets in front of Sarah, gripping the fire poker.

ADAM

Stay back you piece of crap!

Jack enters the hallway, and stops. He puts his arms up in a 'surrender' way.

SARAH

Where did you go, Jack? You said you weren't leaving that room.



JACK

I came to look for you. I want to get out of here.

ADAM

Join the crowd. Who the heck are you?

JACK

My name is Jack. Didn't she tell you that?

ADAM

She told me that. (pause) But the envelope on the nightstand in there says different.

Jack doesn't respond.

SARAH

Your name is Brandon, isn't it?

JACK

(to Sarah) You don't know me at all! I don't have to answer to you!

Adam holds out the fire poker.

ADAM

No, but you have to answer to me!

Adam lifts the fire poker and holds it to Jack's neck. Jack stares back, angry.

SARAH

He knows where we are, Adam.

ADAM

(to Jack) Is that right, Jack? Where are we?

Jack refuses to speak.

SARAH

He said were in Serpentine Castle. Near the state boarder.

Adam and Jack stare at each other - both angry.

SARAH

He was part owner of this place at one time.

Jack doesn't speak, but stares deep into Adams eyes.

ADAM

Huh. I wonder where you ever got the money to be part owner of a castle.

Jack stays silent.

ADAM

Ever work at a hospital, Jack?

He waits for a response.

ADAM

Brandon, maybe? Ever work at a hospital,  
Brandon?

JACK

I have no idea what you're talking about.

ADAM

Maybe you're in on this, huh?

JACK

What?

ADAM

We'll lets see. Justin gets killed  
downstairs, and your somewhere in this  
castle. Then we turn our backs for two  
minutes, and Britney gets her head chopped  
off. Then, you suddenly appear from over  
there. (pause) We know you're behind this!

JACK

You're both crazy. Remember, I woke up here, just like you. I have no idea what's going on either.

Jack eyes Adam.

JACK

You're so full of rage, man. Are you always this big of an idiot?

ADAM

(angry) I bet if I shoved this fire poker through your throat, no one else would get killed tonight. And trust me, I'd love to do that right now.

JACK

You're accusing me of killing your friends?! Look man, I don't have a FREAKING CLUE WHO THE HECK YOU ALL ARE!!

ADAM

You're already a proven liar. I don't trust a WORD that comes out of your mouth.

SARAH

Wait!

Adam and Jack focus their attention on Sarah.

SARAH

Where is your note?

JACK

Huh?

SARAH

The note that was in that envelope next to the bed.

Jack doesn't respond.

ADAM

If you're so innocent, lets see the note.

JACK

(chuckles) Forget this.

Jack turns to walk away. Adam loses it and punches Jack in the back of the head. Jack falls to the ground hard. He stands back up.

JACK

You're dead!

Sarah pulls Adam back, but not before Jack throws a punch at Adam. Adam gets hit in the face, and falls back into Sarah's arms, who has a hard time catching him. He gains balance and swings the fire poker at Jack,

WHIPPING him in the face. Jack spits blood on the wall before hitting the ground. He rolls onto his back, just as Adam swings the fire poker down, hitting Jack square in the chest.

JACK

Ah!

Jack grabs his chest and coughs.

SARAH

(pulling Adam back) Stop!

Adam eases off, and stands there, watching his victim. Jack gains energy, and sits to his knees.

JACK

Fine! I'll tell you what I know.

ADAM

'bout time.

JACK

I did work for the hospital. There was a large sum of money donated to help some kid who needed surgery. No one checked the money in, and at first no one knew where it came from or who donated it. I thought I would take it and no one would ever know. I never had a lot of money, and this was

certainly going to help. I was going to use some of it to buy this castle with some friends.

ADAM

You're a thief.

JACK

I am. I've been in and out of jail since then. I have a hard time controlling my actions.

Adam and Sarah stand there, absorbing what they just heard.

JACK

What's happening?

SARAH

The four of us played a part in sending that kid to the hospital. Obviously he's not forgotten about it, and has some demons. We think he's the one who brought us all here, and he plans to kill us.

ADAM

So you intercepting that money resulted in no surgery for him. You're a part of his misery as well.

SARAH

His father donated that money to help his son. You screwed up bad, Jack. Brandon. Whatever your name is.

JACK

Brandon. Brandon Miller.

Brandon reaches into his pocket and pulls out a folded piece of paper. He hands it up to Adam. Adam opens it.

BRANDON

So this kid is pretty mad.

SARAH

Well, it's got to be either him or his father. Whoever hates us more...

Adam reads the note out loud.

ADAM

(reading) You stole the only chance I would have had at a normal life. I've suffered for 15 years. Now, you'll suffer.

Jack wipes blood from his lips.

BRANDON

Well, it's obviously the kid. Not the father.



ADAM

I would assume his father would be just as angry.

Sarah grabs the axe that sits up against the wall.

SARAH

We have to get moving. We're not safe here - not if who ever did this is still around.

Sarah grips the axe, and Adam grips the fire poker. They walk past Brandon, and down the stairs. Brandon stands up and follows them.

INT. HALLWAY - FIRST FLOOR - NIGHT

The three remaining survivors storm down the hallway.

ADAM

Brandon, did you know anything about this place when you were going to buy it. Exits? Anything?

BRANDON

No. Just that it's called Serpentine Castle because it's very windy and hard to get around in here.

Adam sees a dead end ahead, and stops. He turns to a door on his left and opens it. Inside sits another long, empty hallway.

BRANDON

Point proven.

ADAM

Come on.

Adam walks through and into the hallway. Brandon and Sarah follow.

INT. CASTLE HALLWAY - FIRST FLOOR - NIGHT

They all walk quickly down the hall, and see a glass door at the other end. They can see a dim light from behind it, as well as snow falling.

SARAH

Holy crap! Outside!

Adam, Sarah and Brandon pick up speed and race for the door. When they get there, they notice that the glass door is locked, but they can see outside. They can see trees, a frozen pond, and a few feet of snow on the ground, with more falling.

Adam shakes the door handle to make sure it's locked.

ADAM

This is one locked door that's not going to stop me.

Adam takes a step back, as do the other two. He lifts the fire poker and swings it down at the door. The door shatters into millions of shards. Sarah smiles, and Brandon seems excited too.

ADAM

Lets move!

Adam leads the charge outside, and Sarah and Brandon follow.

EXT. CASTLE COURTYARD - NIGHT

The heavy snow is falling, and it is hard to see. Adam trucks through the snow, which comes up to his knees. Sarah and Brandon are behind him, trying to manage through the snow as well. Adam stops and is able to make out his surroundings. His heart drops when he notices they are in the middle of a courtyard. The castle walls surround them, and all that's in the yard are trees.

ADAM

You've got to be kidding me!

SARAH

What?

ADAM

It's a courtyard. There's no way out!

Brandon looks around.

BRANDON

Maybe we can climb the walls!

ADAM

Ha! Be my guest. You're not getting over those walls. Not with the snow.

Adam looks dead ahead and sees another door, leading back into the castle.

He sighs and makes his way towards the door. The other two follow him. It's another glass door. Adam lifts the fire poker and once again, shatters the door open. Brandon looks around, then back behind them. His eyes open wide, and he gasps at what he sees. Back in the doorway of the castle stands, THE KILLER.

BRANDON

Crap!

Sarah and Adam turn around and sees THE KILLER standing there. Sarah lets out a blood-curdling scream.

ADAM

This ends now!

Adam turns and storms back through the courtyard with his fire poker in hand, fighting the snow, and wind.

SARAH

Adam, don't!

Adam continues dead ahead, as he sees THE KILLER making his way out into the courtyard, toward him.

ADAM

(yelling) Rusty! You bastard, this is gonna end! I'm gonna beat you to DEATH this time!

Adam and THE KILLER continue on path towards each other.

Brandon turns to Sarah.

BRANDON

This isn't going to end good. We should get inside.

Brand pushes Sarah through the doorway, and they both take shelter in the castle hallway.

Adam and THE KILLER approach each other. Adam lifts the fire poker and swings it down at THE KILLER, who moves to the side, dodging the swing. THE KILLER then slams Adam in the side of the head with his arm. Adam stumbles backwards, and loses his balance in the snow. He falls. THE KILLER walks over and kicks Adams hand - the one holding the fire poker. Adam loses grip and lets it go.

ADAM

You bastard!

THE KILLER stand over Adam and reaches into his trench coat. He pulls out the rusted knife, and raises it in the air.

ADAM

I have a son...

THE KILLER stares at him, showing no emotion at all, and plunges the knife into Adam's chest. Adam screams, and blood spews from his mouth and chest. THE KILLER raises the knife again and slams it down again into Adams chest. Adam is now vomiting blood and is starting to lose consciousness. THE KILLER stabs Adam again

and again and again, until Adam lays there - motionless. Blood has splashed onto the mask of THE KILLER, and is pouring off the knife as he stands up and looks across the courtyard. Sarah and Brandon stand there in shock, hands over their mouths. THE KILLER starts walking towards them.

SARAH

Run!

They take off down the hallway.

INT. CASTLE HALLWAY - FIRST FLOOR - NIGHT

Sarah and Brandon race through the hallway, and spot a single door at the end of it. Sarah gets there first and tries to open it. It's locked.

BRANDON

Use the axe!

SARAH

Right.

Sarah swings the axe multiple times at the door, breaking it open, and eventually down. They climb through and leave the hallway.

INT. BALLROOM - FIRST FLOOR - NIGHT

They spill out into the ballroom.

BRANDON

This place has everything.

SARAH

We need to keep moving. I want to try the  
axe on the front door of this place.

BRANDON

Is it wood?

SARAH

No. Darn. We can still try though.

BRANDON

I think we have to face the fact that he's  
not going to let us out of here.

Brandon grabs Sarah and they stop.

BRANDON

We're going to have to kill him. THEN  
we'll find a way out. Were never going to  
find an exit with this guy constantly on  
our tail.

SARAH

You're right. What should we do?



BRANDON

Well, we know he's on his way over here.  
(looks back at the hallway) We should do  
it here. Hide in here somewhere. I'll  
stand by the entrance, and tackle him when  
he walks in. Then come up and get him with  
the axe.

SARAH

Do you really think that will work?

BRANDON

What else are we going to do?

Sarah nods and spins around, looking for a  
place to hide. She ducks behind a bar  
against the wall. Brandon runs back to the  
room entrance and plants himself against  
the wall. They wait.

Nothing is happening, and no one is coming.  
Sarah pops her head over the bar, holding  
the axe with her life. Brandon notices  
her, and motions her to get back down.

We can hear heavy footsteps in the hallway  
now. They get closer.

Closer...closer...THEN we see THE KILLER  
turn the corner and take a step into the  
Ballroom. Brandon immediately leaps  
towards him, and knocks him back to the  
ground. He lands on top of THE KILLER and  
takes a swing, hitting him in the plastered

mask - it cracks. THE KILLER reacts, swinging his arm up and punching Brandon in the side of the head. Brandon falls over onto the floor, and THE KILLER manages to get up to his feet.

From behind THE KILLER, Sarah stands up from the bar and swiftly moves toward him. She gets close and lifts the axe into the air. Brandon notices it, just as THE KILLER pulls out the blood stained knife.

BRANDON

Now, Sarah!

THE KILLER catches on, and turns around moving out of the way, just as Sarah slams the axe down...hitting Brandon in the shoulder.

BRANDON

AHHH!!!

Brandon grabs his shoulder in pain and falls back to the ground, bleeding all over the place. Sarah's face was in frozen in terror. She can't believe what she had just done. She then looks up at THE KILLER who has at least two feet on her. He stares deep into her eyes. She glances quickly back down at Brandon, who is dead, lying in a pool of blood. Sarah looks back up to THE KILLER who takes a step towards her.

SARAH

STAY BACK!

Sarah backs up, and grips the axe. THE KILLER continues to make his way to her.

SARAH

I SAID STAY BACK!!!

THE KILLER finally listens, and stops. They stare at each other for a moment.

SARAH

(crying) Rusty?

THE KILLER doesn't react.

SARAH

(crying and curious) ...Donald?

THE KILLER then takes another step towards Sarah, and she turns and sprints through the room. THE KILLER stops again, and watches her leave the room, and into a dark hallway.

EXT. CASTLE - NIGHT

The nightmare castle stands still in the dead of night, and the snow continues to fall.

INT. CASTLE LOBBY - FIRST FLOOR - NIGHT

The lobby sits empty. I WILL NOT FORGIVE still printed on the main door to the building. One door on the wall is open. The only is still shut. We hear a bunch of commotion in the hallway, then Sarah comes running in, sweating and crying. She holds the axe as she head towards the center of the room. She turns back to the door, completely unstable now. She rushes back to it and shuts it. Then she makes her way to the main door.

She builds her anger, and lifts the axe. She swings it hard against the metal door, but it just forcefully bounces off and thrusts her aside.

SARAH

No!

She moves back into place and does it again with the same result. She has not made a scratch on the door. She looks up at the window above the door, then starts crying. She drops the axe, and drops to her knees.

SARAH

(crying) I just want to get out of here...

She wipes the tears and snot from her face, and looks around for anything. Then she notices the other door, on the other side of the room, in which the four envelopes were nailed to earlier. She stands and picks up the axe, before walking to the door. She reaches out and grabs the knob. It is still locked. Sarah takes a deep breath and backs up a couple of steps. Then with fury, she swings the axe at the door many times, cracking it open and breaking it. The wooden door is chopped into pieces. She looks in.

It is a very dark staircase that leads downstairs into a basement. Sarah remains there, not sure as to what she should do. Glancing back at the door across the room, and then the metal door with: I WILL NOT FORGIVE on it, she knows she is not safe. She then builds up enough courage, and enters the dark staircase.

INT. BASEMENT HALLWAY - NIGHT

We OPEN TO see Sarah walking down the basement hallway, holding the axe tightly. She is very cautious, and is moving at a snails pace. She passes countless other hallways that vine out from the main one she's in. She finally arrives at a dead end with a door. She slowly reaches for the knob, glancing back to make sure THE KILLER isn't following her.

Sarah continues to turn the knob, and then pushes the door open. It creaks loudly until its fully open. She looks in and sees a wide open room with sits in the dark. She stops, and with her eyes, scopes what she can. It's too dark. After glancing behind her once last time, she slowly moves into the room, feeling the wall for a light switch.

INT. BASEMENT ROOM - NIGHT

Sarah frantically moves her hand all over the wall, still searching for a switch. Then from within the darkness of the room, a wet, whispering, and raspy voice sends chills down her spine.

VOICE

I've been in pain, every single moment, of every single day, since that morning in school.

Sarah freezes in terror, and slowly turns around to see where the voice was coming from. In the back of the room, she can see a dark figure, sitting in a chair. She can see very little, as the light from the hallway doesn't reveal much.

SARAH

(frightened)...Rusty?

VOICE

Before I end the pain, I couldn't think of any better way to justify it, then to take care of those who caused it.

A light pops on and we see a man sitting in the chair, who had just pulled a string from the ceiling, attached to a light bulb. The man stands up from his chair. He is tall - over six foot - with shoulder length, black, stringy hair. He wore all black. His face was horrifying. Burns, scars; one eye seemed to sit lower than the other one because of the melted skin above it. This is RUSTY LAKE.

SARAH

Oh my God...

RUSTY

You found me, Sarah.

Rusty seems to stand there, and admire her for a moment.

RUSTY

You're more beautiful than I could ever have imagined.

SARAH

You killed them all.

RUSTY

They were all responsible for what I am today, Sarah. However...you're not.

Sarah shows a confused look on her face.

RUSTY

(angry) You stood there in that classroom, and did absolutely nothing to stop this from happening! (calming down) But you weren't responsible.

SARAH

(starting to cry) It was an accident, Rusty.

Rusty begins to walk towards Sarah, and grabs a hunting knife from his belt. Sarah gasps, and backs up.

RUSTY

My brother told me that you continued to stay with us...with me...making sure I was okay. You must have felt guilty.

SARAH

(crying) You shouldn't have had to endure that.

RUSTY



Well I did. (clears throat) You don't know how many times I wanted to shoot up that school.

Sarah is not sure how to react. She is constantly on guard. Rusty takes another step towards her and stops. He looks at her, once again, admiring.

RUSTY

I really do love you, Sarah.

Sarah doesn't respond.

RUSTY

Since the fifth grade, you are all I have ever thought about. To this day even.

Sarah's tears begin to come quicker.

RUSTY

I think about you every night, wondering what it would be like to sleep with you. Or just next to you. I think about you when I'm in pain, and you're tending to me. It helps me to forget sometimes.

SARAH

I can't imagine your pain, Rusty.

RUSTY

(keeping his focus) I know a part of you wants to be with me too. Why else would you have stayed so close to me? Starting tonight, you and I will finally be together. Forever. Right here in Serpentine.

Sarah closes her eyes tight. Rusty moves closer and now stands right before her.

RUSTY

However, I don't have it in me to kill you. How could I kill someone I love so much?

SARAH

If you love me, let me go.

RUSTY

I can't do that either.

Sarah doesn't know what to expect next.

RUSTY

I want to thank you, Sarah. For sticking by my side and keeping in touch with my family as long as you could. You don't know what that means to me. You must have cared deeply...

Rusty cocks his head.

RUSTY

However...

Rusty grabs Sarah's full attention. She looks at him, afraid.

RUSTY

There was someone else who never left my side. Ever.

Behind Sarah, a tall shadowy figure stands in the doorway. Rusty looks over her shoulder at the figure. Sarah is curious and turns around. THE KILLER stands at the only exit to the room; black trench coat, long black hair, white faceless mask, and a bloody knife in his hand.

Sarah gasps and takes off to the corner of the room, where she cowers.

RUSTY

My brother felt that if I couldn't have a normal life, then he wouldn't either.

Sarah looks over at THE KILLER, who reaches up and removes his mask. We now see THE KILLER as...RANDY LAKE - 15 years later. A handsome man, with a scruffy face, and long black hair.

RUSTY

It's the most perfect feeling to know that someone is willing to be with you day and

night, 24/7, just because they care.  
Someone who would...kill for you.

Rusty takes a step towards his brother.

RUSTY

Go home, Randy. You're done.

Randy tosses the bloody white mask, and  
blood rusted knife to the ground. He walks  
back to the door.

RUSTY

It sickens me that I will never be able to  
thank you for what you have done, Randy.

Randy turns back and looks at his brother.

RUSTY

You have made everything perfect. Tell mom  
she can rest easy.

Randy and Rusty share an emotional moment  
with each other, before Randy turns around  
and leaves the room, and walks back down  
the hall.

Rusty turns back to Sarah in the corner,  
who is now down on her knees, frightened.

RUSTY

Sarah. (walks over her) Are you ready to stay here with me?

SARAH

(begging) Please...

Rusty lifts his knife, and Sarah stands up quick in a defensive mode. Rusty places the knife blade against his neck. Sarah's eyes widen.

RUSTY

I will forever be with you, Sarah.

Rusty then quickly drags the knife across his neck, sending a stream of blood shooting onto Sarah's face and the wall behind her.

SARAH

NOO!!!

Sarah cries and collapses to the ground. Rusty's body hits the floor hard; he gurgles his own blood and finally dies right there on the floor. Fearful, Sarah takes off out of the room, screaming.

INT. CASTLE LOBBY - FIRST FLOOR - NIGHT

Sarah flies through the basement door, and back into the lobby. She stops when she

sees Randy leaving through the large metal, sliding, front door.

SARAH

Wait!!

Randy looks back at her briefly, then starts to slide the door shut from the outside. Sarah sprints for the door.

SARAH

No! Please!!!

Randy shuts the door completely, and we can hear it lock into place, very securely. Sarah stops at the door, and staring back at her is: I WILL NOT FORGIVE.

SARAH

PLEASE!

Sarah frantically tries to push and slide the door back open, and figure out how Randy got it open, but she cant. She is now crying and screaming in a state of pure panic. SUDDENLY, all the lights in the castle shut back off, leaving Sarah in the dark room once more, with a the dim moonlight coming through the window.

SARAH

NO! LET ME OUT! DON'T LEAVE ME HERE!  
PLEASE! HELP! HELP!

She begins to violently pound on the door until her fists bleed. She finally gives up, and is now a complete wreck. She falls to her knees crying, and then lays on the cold, stone floor. She curls up in a fetal position, and screams.

EXT. CASTLE - NIGHT

We slowly PULL OUT from Castle Serpentine, sitting in the middle of nowhere. The snow continues to fall, and the wind howls through the valley.

CUT TO BLACK:

THE END