

THE DREAMERS

Written by

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Based on the novel

The Dreamers

by Robert Hogue

"Those who sleep may wake up to see the light. Those who dream
may wake up to the darkness that lies inside the human mind."

-Robert Hogue

SUPER: HAVENPORT, FALL 1966

EXT. EMPTY RURAL STREET - NIGHT

The full moon hangs high. A thunderstorm rolls over the quiet town of Havenport.

INT. BASEMENT - SAME

Two fifteen-year-old girls sit cross-legged on the floor, a Ouija board between them. Candlelight flickers.

TEENAGER 1

I don't think this is such a good idea.

TEENAGER 2

Will you relax? I have to try to reach her. Everything's gonna be all right. I promise.

Teenager 1 rolls her eyes.

TEENAGER 1

Famous last words.

They place their fingers on the planchette.

TEENAGER 2

Is there anyone here?

Silence.

TEENAGER 2 (CONT'D)

If you're here... give us a sign.

A woman's shadow moves across the room. Teenager 1 tenses.

TEENAGER 1

Did you see that?

TEENAGER 2

See what?

TEENAGER 1

A shadow. It just moved behind you.

Teenager 2 slowly turns. Nothing. She looks at the board.

TEENAGER 2

Is that you? We just want to ask some things. We mean no harm.

(MORE)

TEENAGER 2 (CONT'D)
We know what happened, and we're
sorry. You didn't deserve it.

EXT. HAVENPORT - SAME

A red glow creeps into the sky. A young girl stops, looking
up as it builds. Nearby, a young man sees it.

YOUNG MAN
What the hell...

INT. CHILDREN'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Children sleep peacefully until blood trickles from their
noses.

EXT. HAVENPORT - CONTINUOUS

The red sky deepens - spreading fast. The young man glances
at the girl.

YOUNG MAN
Hey, what's happening?

YOUNG GIRL
(looking back)
It's here.

Every window in Havenport glows red.

Children sit up - staring.

INT. PARENTS BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Teenager 2's mother stirs. Red light fills the room.

MOTHER
(shaking her husband)
Honey?

He wakes. Sees the glow outside.

MOTHER (CONT'D)
What is that?

FATHER
Where are the girls?

MOTHER
In the basement.

FATHER
Go get them.

INT. BASEMENT - SAME

Teenager 1 suddenly jerks her hand away from the board.

TEENAGER 1
I think I should go.

The candlelight FLICKERS violently.

TEENAGER 1 (CONT'D)
I don't feel good about this.

The candle flames bend sharply toward the staircase. No one notices. The basement door CREAKS open.

MOTHER (O.S.)
Girls?

Teenager 1 jumps to her feet, nearly knocking over a candle.

TEENAGER 1
I'll see you later.

She hurries up the stairs.

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

MOTHER
Everything all right?

TEENAGER 1
Yeah, just not feeling well. I'm heading home.

MOTHER
Be careful. Something's going on out there.

TEENAGER 1
Yes ma'am.

MOTHER
Honey, you need to come with me.

EXT. STREET - HAVENPORT - CONTINUOUS

Teenager 1 looks to the sky, frozen in awe and dread.

TEENAGER 1

What have we done?

BOOM! Windows begin exploding down the street.

The young man runs, stops. Silence. Behind him, a deep, evil laugh.

He turns – a blur of motion, and his head is gone.

The young girl stands in the street, sweat beading. She turns – sees the head on the pavement.

She falls to her knees, hands clasped in prayer as It approaches.

People spill out of their homes into the glowing red streets.

MALE CITIZEN

Well, I'll be damned!

His eyes explode, blood spraying.

Another man pulls a gun, fires wildly. Something massive staggers.

Then keeps coming.

Buildings ignite. Screams echo. Bodies burn in the chaos.

YOUNG GIRL

... but deliver us from evil.

She looks up.

THE BEAST stands over her.

Her eyes widen. Eight feet tall. Muscle-bound like carved stone. Cracked gray skin, long black hair. A mouth filled with razor fangs and claws made for tearing flesh.

Its eyes burn LAVA-RED. Nothing human in them. Nothing godly either.

The Beast slowly lifts its head, burning eyes sweeping across Havenport – the streets, the burning homes, the church, the trees.

It takes it all in. Almost... admiring it.

BEAST

This is my home.

It drives a claw into her stomach.

Blood pours from her mouth. It stares into her eyes – then drops her lifeless body.

It turns to the crowd... and vanishes.

Buildings collapse. Flames rise. Laughter echoes through the smoke as we push into the fire, consumed by it...

SUPER: PRESENT DAY - 1996

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

Gray mist swirls through autumn trees as thunder rumbles softly. Through the fog, a white Victorian house emerges.

INT. AISLIN'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

AISLIN (18), red-haired and blue-eyed, sits on her bed, sketching to loud punk rock. She grins at the drawing – proud.

EXT. STREET - HAIDESVILLE - SAME

A storm rolls in. Rain pelts the pavement. Wind howls. Lightning strikes the ground, fracturing it open.

From the cracks – two glowing red eyes stare out.

INT. AISLIN'S ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Knock. Knock.

AISLIN
(shouts)
Come in!

KATHY (40s), dark-haired and tired-eyed, enters.

KATHY
(shouting over music)
Honey, can you turn that down?

Aislin walks to the dresser, taps the stop button.

KATHY (CONT'D)
You're still awake? It's one in the morning.

AISLIN
I can't sleep.

Kathy gives her a look — they've had this conversation before. Then she sees the sketchbook and stops. Aislin notices.

AISLIN (CONT'D)

You okay?

Kathy stares at the drawing. The Beast seems to stare back. She blinks.

KATHY

I'm fine. You're drawing those things again.

AISLIN

They're just pictures.

KATHY

They're creepy pictures.

AISLIN

They come from my imagination.

Kathy studies the drawing. Not convinced. Neither is Aislin.

KATHY

Whatever masterpiece you're working on can wait until tomorrow.

AISLIN

It's finished.

KATHY

Good. Then maybe you'll finally get some sleep.

AISLIN

Yeah. Maybe.

KATHY

Something's been bothering you lately.

AISLIN

You mean besides the nightmares?

Kathy doesn't smile.

KATHY

Besides the nightmares.

Aislin glances toward the rain-streaked window.

AISLIN

I'm okay.

Kathy studies her. She knows better.

KATHY

If you ever need someone to talk to... your mom's a good place to start.

AISLIN

Thanks, Mom.

Kathy kisses her forehead.

KATHY

Goodnight, Aislin.

She reaches the doorway.

AISLIN

Mom?

Kathy stops.

KATHY

What is it?

AISLIN

The Havenport story.

Kathy stiffens.

AISLIN (CONT'D)

That didn't really happen... right?

KATHY

It was a long time ago. Thirty years.

AISLIN

That's not what I asked.

Kathy looks away.

KATHY

Whatever it was... it's gone.

AISLIN

So it did happen.

KATHY

That's what people say.

AISLIN
Do you believe them?

Kathy's eyes drift back to the drawing. The Beast.

KATHY
I don't know what I believe.

AISLIN
You don't think it's over... do
you?

LIGHTNING FLASHES, revealing Kathy's haunted expression.

KATHY
I don't know, honey.

She switches off the light.

KATHY (CONT'D)
Try to get some rest.

INT. AISLIN'S BEDROOM - LATER

A half hour later, Aislin sleeps soundly. The door CREAKS open.

Kathy enters quietly, moves to the nightstand and picks up the sketchpad. She studies it - frozen.

KATHY
(whispers)
Oh my God...

She gently sets it back down, kisses Aislin again.

KATHY (CONT'D)
Sweet dreams, Aislin.

She leaves, closing the door softly.

Silence.

A single drop of blood lands on the sketchpad. Then another... and another. The dripping quickens.

INT. THOMPSON HOUSE - NIGHT

TYLER THOMPSON, 18, dark-haired, brown-eyed and athletic, sits on the couch flipping through a magazine as ERIC adjusts the TV antenna.

ERIC
You know, when I was your age,
televisions had knobs.

TYLER
Here we go.

ERIC
I'm serious.

TYLER
You've told me.

ERIC
Those knobs built character.

Tyler laughs.

TYLER
I don't think television knobs
built character, Dad.

ERIC
They absolutely did.

VANESSA
Oh no.

ERIC
Don't start.

VANESSA
I lived through the knob era too.

ERIC
There you go. Then you know.

VANESSA
I know you're getting old.

Tyler bursts out laughing.

ERIC
Wow.

VANESSA
Sorry.

ERIC
No you're not.

VANESSA
Nope.

For a moment, the house feels normal. Comfortable.

THREE LOUD KNOCKS at the front door. Everyone looks toward it.

TYLER
I got it.

ERIC
That's my boy.

Tyler shakes his head, crosses to the entryway and opens the door.

AISLIN stands in the storm. Wind swirls behind her. Thunder rumbles. Lightning flashes.

AISLIN
(stammering)
Hi... I'm Aislin Pruitt. I heard
you just moved here.

Tyler stares – momentarily speechless.

TYLER
Hi.

He offers a hand.

TYLER (CONT'D)
Tyler Thompson. Everyone calls me
Ty.

AISLIN
Nice to meet you.

TYLER
Do they always send the prettiest
girl in town to welcome newcomers?

AISLIN
(smiles)
No.

TYLER
Then I must be lucky.

AISLIN
That line probably works on
everyone.

TYLER
Honestly?

AISLIN
Honestly.

TYLER
It was completely improvised.

AISLIN
That's somehow worse.

They laugh.

Aislin's smile fades. Ty notices as her eyes drift past him... toward the house.

TYLER
You okay?

AISLIN
I wanted to tell you something
about this town.

TYLER
What is it?

Aislin hesitates.

AISLIN
I don't feel so well.

TYLER
Can I get you anything?

AISLIN
No... I should probably go.

TYLER
I'll walk you to the steps.

Outside, the rain eases.

TYLER (CONT'D)
You came here for a reason.

AISLIN
What makes you say that?

TYLER
Nobody walks through a storm just
to welcome the new kid.

A small smile.

AISLIN
Maybe I'm just friendly.

TYLER

No.

She laughs.

AISLIN

You ever get a feeling...

TYLER

What kind?

AISLIN

Like something bad's about to happen?

TYLER

Sometimes.

She pulls a scrap of paper from her pocket and writes.

AISLIN

Here's my number. If you ever need anything... call me.

Ty tucks it into his pocket, smiling.

TYLER

Sure. I will.

AISLIN

It was nice meeting you, Ty.

She walks away. Halfway down the sidewalk, she looks back. Ty still watches from the porch.

She smiles... and disappears into the storm.

Ty lingers a moment, then steps back inside. Eric looks over from the television.

ERIC

Who was that?

TYLER

A girl named Aislin.

ERIC

What'd she want?

TYLER

I'm not really sure. She wanted to tell me something about this town... then changed her mind.

Eric studies him.

VANESSA enters from the kitchen with a tray of snacks.

VANESSA
I made something if anyone's
hungry.

She notices their expressions.

VANESSA (CONT'D)
What's going on?

ERIC
A girl stopped by. Said she wanted
to tell Ty something about the
town.

VANESSA
That's strange.

LANDLINE RINGS.

ERIC
Get the phone, son.

Ty slowly walks to the phone and picks it up. Evil laughter
fills the line. He stiffens – fear rising.

VANESSA
Who is it, honey?

ERIC
Say hello, Ty.

Ty stays frozen.

ERIC (CONT'D)
Dammit, Ty!

Eric steps toward him – the caller hangs up.

TYLER
It's gone.

ERIC
Probably just a prank call.

TYLER
(shaken)
That wasn't even human.

ERIC
(confused)
Not human?

Ty stares as Eric picks up the receiver.

ERIC (CONT'D)
That's strange...

VANESSA
What is it?

ERIC
The line's been cut.

TYLER
(low)
She knew something.

Vanessa moves to the window as Eric stares ahead.

ERIC
Like what... what could possibly
happen in a little town like this?

BOOM! The living room window EXPLODES – glass sprays everywhere. A shard slashes Vanessa's cheek.

In the distance, more windows shatter.

ERIC (CONT'D)
Holy shit! What the hell was that?

Eric rushes to Vanessa, pulling her hand from her cheek.

ERIC (CONT'D)
You okay?

VANESSA
Yeah. Got lucky. The way that
exploded... it could've killed me.

ERIC
Jesus...

Eric grabs a rifle from the rack and ammo from a drawer. He loads it.

TYLER
Dad.

Eric chambers a round.

ERIC

If somebody's out there, we're
about to find out.

VANESSA

Maybe we should wait for the
police.

ERIC

No.

He looks toward the broken window.

ERIC (CONT'D)

Whoever did this is standing in my
yard threatening my family.

He grips the rifle tighter.

ERIC (CONT'D)

I'm not hiding.

Eric moves toward the front door. Vanessa grabs his arm.

VANESSA

Please don't.

Eric looks at the blood on her cheek. His jaw tightens.

ERIC

I'll be right back.

He opens the door slowly. Thunder rumbles. Wind howls.

VANESSA

You think the storm caused it?

ERIC

That was no storm.

Eric steps onto the porch, rifle raised, and scans the empty
yard.

ERIC (CONT'D)

All right, asshole! If you're out
there, come out!

Nothing. Only rain and thunder. Ty watches from the doorway
as Eric moves farther into the yard.

ERIC (CONT'D)

Game's over!

Lightning FLASHES. For an instant, Ty sees a massive shape near the trees.

TYLER

Dad!

Eric turns.

ERIC

What?

TYLER

I thought I saw somebody.

Eric looks toward the tree line. Nothing.

ERIC

Ain't nobody out—

A deep, guttural LAUGH rolls through the darkness. Eric slowly raises the rifle.

ERIC (CONT'D)

What the hell...

WHOOSH!

Eric is gone.

The rifle CLATTERS into the mud.

VANESSA

(screaming)

Tyler! What was that?!

Ty stands frozen at the door, staring into the storm. He gathers himself and steps onto the porch.

TYLER

Dad?

Nothing. Ty steps into the rain, moving deeper into the yard.

TYLER (CONT'D)

Dad!

Ahead, Eric's rifle lies in the mud. Ty moves toward it.

SQUELCH.

He stops. Looks down — Eric's skull, hollowed and cracked open. One eyeball bulges, squeezed by pressure.

VANESSA

(sobbing)

Ty... is he... is he dead?

Still staring in disbelief, Ty picks up the rifle.

TYLER

NO-OOO-OO!

He looks up – two glowing red eyes pierce the darkness. FLASH! For a split second, a monstrous form is visible. Ty lifts the rifle – fires repeatedly.

CLICK.

FLASH! The creature is gone. Ty drops to his knees.

TYLER (CONT'D)

NO-OOO-OO! Who are you?!

EVIL LAUGHTER creeps in – faint at first, then closer.

Ty tries to run – but fear roots him in place.

A hand grabs him from behind. He spins–

INT. TYLER'S BEDROOM – NIGHT

VANESSA shakes him.

VANESSA

Ty... wake up!

He gasps, drenched in sweat, breathing hard.

TYLER

Mom? Where's Dad?

VANESSA

Sleeping, honey. What's wrong?

Ty clutches his forehead.

TYLER

I had a nightmare. It killed him.

Vanessa rests a comforting hand on his shoulder.

VANESSA

It's okay. Just a dream.

TYLER
(confused)
Your cheek...

Vanessa touches the small cut on her face.

TYLER (CONT'D)
It happened in my dream.

VANESSA
Ty, we don't live on Elm Street.

Ty looks toward the hallway.

TYLER
Are you sure Dad's okay?

VANESSA
Sleeping like a baby.

TYLER
You probably think I'm crazy... It
just felt so real.

VANESSA
You're not crazy, Ty. Nightmares
can feel real. That's all this was.

TYLER
(unsure)
Sure... I guess so.

He stares past her – eyes locked on the mirror.

TYLER (CONT'D)
What's that... on my mirror?

She looks.

VANESSA
You mean that piece of paper?

TYLER
Can I see it?

She studies him, then retrieves the note and hands it over.

VANESSA
Just a phone number.

Ty examines it. His expression shifts.

TYLER
This is Aislin's number.

VANESSA
Aislin? Who's that?

TYLER
A girl from around here. She gave
me this in my dream.

VANESSA
You've never met her?

FLASH. Thunder rumbles as they both look out the window.

TYLER
Only in the dream. She came to warn
us.

VANESSA
What kind of warning?

TYLER
I don't know. She never got the
chance.

Vanessa stares out the rain-covered glass, thoughtful.

TYLER (CONT'D)
Something's wrong.

VANESSA
Tyler, look at me.

He does.

VANESSA (CONT'D)
Everything's fine. You had a
terrible dream. I probably cut
myself in my sleep, and you forgot
you left the number there.

TYLER
It doesn't feel that simple.
Something tried to warn me. I saw
Dad die. I heard that laugh
again... then something grabbed me.

VANESSA
Well, it was just a dream. Nothing
like that could happen.

Ty stares off, dazed.

TYLER
Of course. Nothing like that could
happen.

VANESSA

Nothing like that exists. Now try to get some rest. You'll be okay.

TYLER

Yeah... I don't think I'm sleeping tonight.

VANESSA

You've been having these dreams every night. How about reading something – calm your nerves?

TYLER

Reading's really not my thing. Don't worry, Mom. I'll be fine.

She flips off the light.

VANESSA

Say your prayers. Everything will turn out all right.

She exits, closing the door behind her.

Ty turns toward the window. Rain falls steadily. Thunder rolls.

In the distance – two glowing red eyes stare back at him.

EXT. THOMPSON HOUSE - MORNING

A SCREAM tears through the house.

VANESSA (O.S.)

ERIC!

Ty bolts upright.

Another scream.

He rushes from the bedroom and downstairs.

Vanessa stands near the open front door, one hand over her mouth, tears streaming down her face.

TYLER

Mom...?

She can't answer. She points outside.

Ty looks through the open door. Rainwater streaks the floor.

He steps onto the porch.

TYLER (CONT'D)

Dad?

Nothing.

Ty moves into the yard, scanning through the rain.

TYLER (CONT'D)

Dad!

Several yards away, Eric's rifle lies abandoned in the mud.

Ty stops.

He already knows something is wrong.

He moves toward it.

Then sees the blood.

A dark trail across the wet grass.

TYLER (CONT'D)

No...

He follows it.

A few steps farther —

What remains of Eric lies scattered across the yard.

Ty freezes.

TYLER (CONT'D)

Dad...

His knees nearly give out.

TYLER (CONT'D)

No...

Vanessa sobs from the porch.

Ty stares at his father, unable to look away.

TYLER (CONT'D)

NO!

He drops beside the rifle, trembling.

In the distance, SIRENS approach.

MOMENTS LATER -

EXT. THOMPSON HOUSE - MORNING

Red and blue lights FLASH across the quiet neighborhood. PATROL CARS line the street as YELLOW CRIME SCENE TAPE stretches across the front yard. Crime scene photographers work among evidence markers dotting the lawn.

A DETECTIVE kneels beside what remains of Eric Thompson - scattered flesh, blood soaked into the grass. He slowly stands.

DETECTIVE

I've never seen anything like this.

Another detective approaches.

DETECTIVE #2

No tracks. No sign of an attacker.

The Sheriff looks toward the house.

SHERIFF

Family inside?

DETECTIVE #2

Yes, Sheriff. They're waiting.

The Sheriff takes one last look at the remains.

SHERIFF

Let's get them down to the station.

The detectives exchange uneasy looks before following.

INT. SPRINGS COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT - DAY

SHERIFF

Let's go through this again. You're telling me you dreamt all this... and then it happened. I need something to work with here.

VANESSA

I got this cut... in his dream.

The Sheriff studies the cut.

SHERIFF

How was your relationship, Mrs. Thompson?

VANESSA

(glaring)

If you think I cut up my husband
and scattered him in the bushes,
you're out of your mind.

The Sheriff doesn't react.

SHERIFF

Mrs. Thompson... I have to ask.
It's standard procedure.

VANESSA

Our relationship was great,
Sheriff. He was sleeping right next
to me last night.

SHERIFF

And when did he leave the bed?

VANESSA

I don't know. After checking on Ty,
I fell back asleep. When I woke up
in the morning, he was gone - I
assumed he had left for work.

SHERIFF

And that's when you found him?

VANESSA

Yes. I called 911. Whatever our
differences, I wouldn't dismember
my husband.

The Sheriff eyes her, measuring.

SHERIFF

Mrs. Thompson... I deal in
evidence. That's all I have.

TYLER

You'll see.

The Sheriff studies Ty.

SHERIFF

Until I have evidence, you're free
to go. Don't go too far.

INT. PSYCHOLOGIST'S OFFICE - LATER

The Psychologist sits quietly, studying Ty and Vanessa.

PSYCHOLOGIST

Mrs. Thompson, I'm very sorry for your loss. I wish I had answers.

VANESSA

Tell me I'm not losing my mind. Because nobody else believes us.

PSYCHOLOGIST

I'm not saying that. I don't understand how Tyler's dreams connect to what happened.

TYLER

My father was murdered last night. A phone number from my dream was waiting for me when I woke up. How do you explain that?

The Psychologist doesn't answer.

VANESSA

My husband was ripped apart. Pieces of him were scattered across our yard. Whoever did it wasn't human. You should've seen it.

PSYCHOLOGIST

I can only imagine.

VANESSA

No... you can't.

PSYCHOLOGIST

I've never seen anything like this. Not since...

TYLER

Since what?

PSYCHOLOGIST

The tragedy of '66.

Vanessa and Ty exchange a look.

TYLER

Tragedy of '66?

PSYCHOLOGIST

Before Haidesville, this town was called Havenport. One night, something happened. Hundreds died. No one ever discovered the cause.

(MORE)

PSYCHOLOGIST (CONT'D)

Most people don't even talk about it anymore.

VANESSA

And you think it has something to do with Tyler's dreams?

PSYCHOLOGIST

I think... it's too much of a coincidence to ignore.

TYLER

Were you there?

PSYCHOLOGIST

God, no. I've only heard stories.

VANESSA

So no one really knows?

PSYCHOLOGIST

I'm afraid not.

VANESSA

Why didn't you tell us this sooner?

TYLER

Doc... you think thirty years is up? Maybe whatever it was rested. And now it's back.

PSYCHOLOGIST

I hope not.

VANESSA

So what are we supposed to do – just pack up and leave?

PSYCHOLOGIST

That might be in your best interest.

VANESSA

Come on, Ty. I've heard enough.

They turn to leave.

PSYCHOLOGIST

You don't understand, Mrs. Thompson. This hasn't even begun.

VANESSA

This is real life, doc – not the movies.

TYLER
I'll walk home. I just need some
time to think.

VANESSA
(to psychologist)
I'm going to find whoever did this
to my husband. When I do - it won't
be pretty.

She exits. Ty follows, slamming the door behind them.

The doctor remains still, eyes distant.

PSYCHOLOGIST
(low)
I hope you know what you're dealing
with.

EXT. PSYCHOLOGIST'S OFFICE - DAY

Ty watches a girl in the distance. She draws closer.

VANESSA
Who are you looking at, Ty?

TYLER
Someone I need to talk to.

VANESSA
I'll see you at home. Be careful.

Vanessa drives away.

AISLIN
Can I help you?

Ty can't take his eyes off her.

TYLER
You're real.

AISLIN
What?

TYLER
I know you.

AISLIN
You must have me confused with
someone else. Did you just move
here? Haven't seen you around.

TYLER

Yeah. Starting to feel like a mistake.

AISLIN

Why?

TYLER

Let's start with the name.
Haidesville. What kind of town is called that?

AISLIN

This one. Personally, I think it's kind of cool. Springwood's too old.

Ty gives a puzzled look.

AISLIN (CONT'D)

It was a joke. You okay? You look... off.

TYLER

My father was killed last night.

Aislin's expression changes.

AISLIN

I'm so sorry. What happened?

TYLER

He was murdered. They don't know who did it. He looked terrible, Aislin.

AISLIN

What?

TYLER

Nothing you've ever seen.

AISLIN

No, not that... the other thing.
You said my name. We've never met.

TYLER

I know who you are.

AISLIN

How?

TYLER

You know something about this town.

AISLIN

Like what?

TYLER

I had a dream. You were in it.

AISLIN

So now you're dreaming of me.
That's kind of creepy. What kind of
dream?

TYLER

A nightmare.

AISLIN

What was it about?

TYLER

It's a long story. But in the
end... I got your number.

AISLIN

My phone number?

TYLER

That isn't it. When I woke up there
was a piece of paper on my mirror.

AISLIN

What was on it?

TYLER

Seven digits.

AISLIN

So your father... was killed in
your dream.

TYLER

(walking away)
Elm Street's too old.
(turns back)
I'm Ty, by the way. Nice meeting
you, Aislin.

AISLIN

Ty?

He turns back.

AISLIN (CONT'D)

Did you dream your father's murder?

TYLER
So what if I did?

AISLIN
And you got my number from that dream.

TYLER
What are you saying – that my dream killed him?

AISLIN
That's exactly what I'm saying.

TYLER
Does that even sound sane to you?

AISLIN
Not really. But dreams leaving notes behind doesn't either.

Ty stares. She's right.

AISLIN (CONT'D)
Weird stuff happens here. My mom says something terrible happened here years ago. I never believed it – until now.

TYLER
Thirty years ago... something happened.

AISLIN
How'd you—?

TYLER
This counselor knew a little. What do you know about it?

AISLIN
It really happened. Tell me what he said.

TYLER
I want to know what you know.

She pauses.

AISLIN
I've got to show you something. Come with me.

TYLER

Where?

AISLIN

My house.

TYLER

What do you know, Aislin?

AISLIN

I'll show you.

INT. AISLIN'S BEDROOM - AFTERNOON

Aislin leads Ty inside. Sketches cover the walls. Charcoal pencils spill across a desk beneath the window. Finished drawings hang beside unfinished ones. The room feels lived in. Creative.

Aislin grabs a drawing from her nightstand.

AISLIN

Look familiar?

Ty's eyes go wide.

AISLIN (CONT'D)

You look like you've seen a ghost.

TYLER

(low)

I think I have. You drew this?

AISLIN

What can I say? I'm a little artistic. Have you seen it before?

TYLER

(staring at red eyes)

Yeah... in my dream.

FLASHBACK - TY'S DREAM

He sees the glowing red eyes. The Beast's body. Rain. Lightning. Terror.

INT. AISLIN'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

AISLIN

(shaking Ty)

Ty?

TYLER
(snaps out)
Yeah. I'm good.

AISLIN
You recognize It?

TYLER
That's what killed my father.

AISLIN
You're kidding.

TYLER
I wish I was. Where did you see it?

AISLIN
At first... I thought they were
just stories. Then I started seeing
it. Then dreaming about it.

TYLER
You're having the dreams too.

AISLIN
Yeah. Art helps me cope.

Ty studies the drawing, then notices blood stains.

TYLER
Is this blood?

AISLIN
Weird, right? Wasn't there last
night.

TYLER
Doesn't bother you?

AISLIN
What am I supposed to do? I keep
telling myself it's just paper.

Ty touches the blood.

TYLER
I'm taking this. I'll bring it
back.

AISLIN
Sure.

She scribbles something on a scrap of paper.

AISLIN (CONT'D)

Here.

He takes it.

AISLIN (CONT'D)

Feels better coming from me.

TYLER

Thanks. I'll see you soon.

Ty leaves with the drawing.

EXT. HAVENPORT LOCAL LIBRARY - MOMENTS LATER

One of the few surviving buildings from old Havenport.

INT. HAVENPORT LOCAL LIBRARY - CONTINUOUS

Rows of dusty shelves stretch into the dim space.

Ty heads to the front desk, where an elderly librarian sits.

LIBRARIAN

Can I help you?

TYLER

Yeah, actually...

He sets Aislin's drawing on the desk.

TYLER (CONT'D)

Do you recognize this?

The librarian puts on her glasses.

LIBRARIAN

Oh my... Did you draw this?

TYLER

No. A friend did.

LIBRARIAN

Your friend has quite the imagination.

TYLER

Yeah... Do you have any older books on this town?

LIBRARIAN

We do. Follow me.

INT. HAVENPORT LOCAL LIBRARY - ARCHIVE SECTION - MOMENTS
LATER

Ty follows the librarian down a narrow aisle.

LIBRARIAN
How old are we talking?

TYLER
Thirty years.

LIBRARIAN
Anything in particular?

TYLER
Havenport.

The librarian pauses.

LIBRARIAN
I don't believe we have a book on
the tragedy of Havenport.

TYLER
You know about it?

LIBRARIAN
I don't like to speak of it.

Ty eyes a book in her hands.

TYLER
Can I see that one?

LIBRARIAN
Sure.

She hands it over. Ty opens it.

HAVENPORT
Population: 2,000
Established: 1966

TYLER
Established... 1966?

LIBRARIAN
It didn't last long. Only two
buildings survived. You're standing
in one of them.

TYLER
What happened?

LIBRARIAN
I'm afraid those who knew... aren't
around to tell their story.

Ty pulls out the drawing again.

TYLER
Did this cause it?

The librarian stiffens.

LIBRARIAN
I told you... I don't know what
that is.

TYLER
Maybe this destroyed Havenport. The
scary part? Thirty years is up.

He hands back the book.

TYLER (CONT'D)
I gotta go. Thanks.

Ty leaves the librarian pale behind the desk.

EXT. THOMPSON HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Ty enters.

INT. THOMPSON HOUSE - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Vanessa stands at the counter as Ty walks in.

VANESSA
Were you able to take care of
everything?

TYLER
Yeah. Actually... you'll never
believe who I ran into.

VANESSA
Who?

TYLER
Aislin.

VANESSA
As in... the girl from your dream?
So what did she have to say?

TYLER

Mom... for the first time in my
life, I'm scared.

VANESSA

I'm scared too. I'm trying to
believe you... but this isn't the
movies, Tyler. This is real life.

Ty reaches into his pocket and pulls out the drawing.

VANESSA (CONT'D)

What in God's name is that?

TYLER

This is what I saw in my dream.

VANESSA

Where did you get it?

TYLER

Aislin. She drew it.

VANESSA

You think that thing killed your
father?

TYLER

Don't you get it? Her number. Your
cut... Dad...

VANESSA

Ty... I know something is wrong.

TYLER

Then you're gonna have to start
listening to me.

He starts upstairs, then turns back.

TYLER (CONT'D)

This sounds crazy... but my dreams
are real. Or whatever's behind this
picture is. All I know... is I'm
not running from it.

He heads upstairs.

VANESSA

Ty?

He looks back.

VANESSA (CONT'D)

If that thing killed Eric... I'll find it. And I'll kill it. It will pay for what it's done. That... is a promise.

EXT. HAIDESVILLE CEMETERY - DAY

Gray clouds blanket the afternoon sky. A cool breeze stirs the flowers surrounding Eric Thompson's polished oak casket as family and friends gather around the open grave.

Ty stands beside Vanessa, the healing cut on her cheek still visible. Aislin remains close, hands folded before her.

At the front, the PREACHER, 60s, opens his Bible. The breeze catches a few loose pages, then settles.

PREACHER

We gather here today to honor Eric Thompson. A man of honesty. Fairness. Courage. A devoted husband. A loving father. A loyal friend.

Ty lowers his eyes.

PREACHER (CONT'D)

If there's one word to describe Eric... it's fearless. He never backed down. Never gave in.

The breeze fades.

PREACHER (CONT'D)

So many of us spend our lives running from fear. Eric never did.

Ty looks up. The Preacher stands perfectly still.

PREACHER (CONT'D)

Until...

His voice changes - only slightly.

PREACHER (CONT'D)

... the night he died.

The wind disappears. The birds stop singing. A chill runs through Ty as the Preacher lowers his head.

PREACHER (CONT'D)
Something frightened him...
Something...

His voice drops to a whisper.

PREACHER (CONT'D)
... evil.

Aislin glances at Ty. She feels it too.

The Preacher's lips continue moving, but the voice no longer sounds entirely like his own.

PREACHER (CONT'D)
Something... some say... has been
at rest...

The words stretch unnaturally through the silence.

PREACHER (CONT'D)
... for thirty years.

The Preacher slowly raises his head, meeting Tyler's eyes.

Everything stops. The trees stand motionless. The distant sound of traffic vanishes.

Ty looks around. No one moves. A WOMAN stands frozen, tears resting on her cheeks. Beside his father, a YOUNG BOY remains locked in place, head bowed.

An American flag beside a nearby grave hangs perfectly still.

TYLER
Aislin...

She doesn't answer.

He turns toward her. Aislin stares straight ahead, completely motionless.

The Preacher's voice drifts across the cemetery.

Closer now.

PREACHER
Ty...

Ty looks back. The Preacher is no longer reading. He stares directly at him as a smile slowly spreads across his face.

It isn't kind. It isn't human.

The Preacher takes one slow step forward.

Then another.

His movements unnaturally smooth. Almost floating.

The Bible slips from his hands and lands in the grass. He never looks down, eyes fixed on Tyler.

The soft blue fades.

Darkness swallows them.

Two glowing red lights burn beneath his brow.

TYLER

No...

The Preacher smiles wider.

When he speaks again, it isn't his voice.

It is deeper.

Ancient.

PREACHER

Thirty years is up, Ty!

The words echo from every direction as the sky darkens. Clouds churn overhead with impossible speed.

The scent of damp earth gives way to smoke. Ash drifts through the air.

The cemetery disappears.

EXT. HAVENPORT - NIGHTMARE VISION - NIGHT

Blackened trees claw toward a crimson sky. Headstones lean at impossible angles beneath gray ash. Burned buildings stand like hollow skeletons.

Far in the distance, a broken wooden sign sways from a single rusted chain:

WELCOME TO HAVENPORT

The remaining letters are blackened by fire.

The Preacher LAUGHS.

Not one voice. Thousands. As though every soul Havenport ever claimed is laughing with him.

The ground beneath Eric's casket TREMBLES.

Once.

Twice.

A deep crack splits the earth.

The coffin SHUDDERS violently.

TYLER

No...

Ty stumbles backward.

The coffin lid EXPLODES upward. Flames ERUPT from inside, swallowing the casket.

Heat blasts across Ty. He throws an arm over his face.

TYLER (CONT'D)

Dad!

The flames climb higher. The Preacher watches through the fire, his red eyes burning brighter than the flames.

A hand suddenly GRABS Ty's arm.

AISLIN

Ty!

Everything vanishes.

EXT. HAIDESVILLE CEMETERY - CONTINUOUS

The fire. The ash. The ruined town.

Gone.

Ty GASPS. The cemetery is peaceful once again. The breeze moves through the flowers. Birds sing in the distance.

Aislin grips Ty's sleeve, concern filling her eyes.

AISLIN

Ty? Everything all right?

Ty looks toward the casket - untouched. No fire. No smoke. Only flowers swaying in the afternoon breeze.

TYLER

I...

He scans the mourners. Everyone stands where they were. The Preacher calmly turns another page in his Bible.

TYLER (CONT'D)

I thought I saw something.

The Preacher continues as if nothing happened.

PREACHER

My brothers and sisters... I wish I could tell you what truly took this great man's life.

He lowers his gaze.

PREACHER (CONT'D)

The enemy hath persecuted my soul... He hath smitten my life to the ground... He lurks like a lion... Has torn me with his claws... Left me bleeding and desolate.

Ty watches him carefully.

The Scripture no longer comforts.

It warns.

PREACHER (CONT'D)

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death... I will fear no evil.

Ty looks into the Preacher's eyes.

Nothing.

Only an aging minister reading from his Bible.

The Preacher closes it.

PREACHER (CONT'D)

Let us go in peace. Live as followers of God. He will protect you from the evil in the darkness.

The mourners bow their heads as the service ends. People quietly embrace and drift away from the gravesite. Ty remains beside the casket, unable to look away.

SARA (O.S.)

Hey, Ty.

Ty turns. A genuine smile touches his face for the first time all day as SARA hurries toward him and wraps her arms around him.

Ty holds her tightly, simply letting himself be held.

TYLER

Sara. I had no idea you came.

SARA

Of course I came.

TYLER

It means a lot.

Sara steps back and looks at him.

SARA

How's your mom?

Ty looks toward Vanessa.

TYLER

Doing the best she can.

SARA

I'm really sorry, Ty.

Ty lowers his eyes, then looks toward Aislin.

TYLER

Let me introduce you. This is Aislin.

Aislin steps forward.

AISLIN

Nice to meet you, Sara.

SARA

Likewise.

Sara looks at Ty.

SARA (CONT'D)

You should probably check on your mom. I'll be in town for a few days. Maybe longer.

TYLER

It's really good to see you.

Sara squeezes his arm, then walks toward the cemetery entrance.

Aislin watches her leave, then turns to Ty.

AISLIN
I should get going too. Call me later.

TYLER
I will.

Aislin walks away. After a few steps, she glances back. Their eyes meet before she disappears into the departing crowd.

Ty stands alone beside his father's grave as the breeze stirs the flowers surrounding the casket. Across the cemetery, Vanessa remains with the Preacher.

EXT. HAIDESVILLE CEMETERY - CONTINUOUS

The Preacher removes his glasses.

PREACHER
I'm terribly sorry for your loss, Mrs. Thompson. Eric and I went way back. Real good buddies.

VANESSA
Thank you. The service was beautiful... but listening to you speak, I have to ask. Do you have any idea what might've happened to Eric?

The Preacher's expression grows solemn.

PREACHER
I can't say I do. Only God knows that. I have heard there was a dark presence in this town... long ago. Some say... it's come back.

Vanessa studies him.

VANESSA
My son thinks he knows what killed Eric. He says Eric died in his dream and brought home a drawing of the same creature he saw that night.

PREACHER

A drawing?

The Preacher considers this.

PREACHER (CONT'D)

How's Ty holding up? This must be hard on him.

Vanessa looks toward Ty standing beside the casket.

VANESSA

It's hard on all of us.

He rests a hand against his Bible.

PREACHER

You and your family have been in my prayers. If there's anything I can do -

VANESSA

Thank you, Reverend. But there's nothing anyone can do. Eric isn't coming back.

Her voice catches, then steadies. Her eyes harden.

VANESSA (CONT'D)

But I am going to find out what happened to him. What killed him. And when I do... by God... I'll put it to rest.

Vanessa slips an arm around Ty's shoulders as they head for the cemetery gates.

The Preacher watches them go, his smile fading as his grip tightens on the Bible.

PREACHER

(to himself)

Be careful, Mrs. Thompson...

The wind whispers through the trees.

PREACHER (CONT'D)

... it may be you who's put to rest.

INT. THOMPSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - LATER

TYLER
I'm heading upstairs.

Vanessa manages a tired smile.

VANESSA
Okay, honey.

INT. TYLER'S BEDROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Ty walks to his desk, where Aislin's drawing lies exactly as he left it. The Beast stares back through the charcoal shading as Ty studies the dried blood.

TYLER
What are you...

He runs a finger across the stain. It doesn't smear.

TYLER (CONT'D)
Wait a minute...

He dials Aislin's number. It rings.

TYLER (CONT'D)
Come on, Aislin. Pick up...

AISLIN (V.O.)
Hello?

TYLER
Aislin, it's Ty. We need to talk.

AISLIN (V.O.)
I'm listening.

TYLER
No - we need to meet. The lake. Ten minutes.

AISLIN (V.O.)
Why? What's wrong? Just tell me.

TYLER
See you in ten.

He hangs up.

INT. THOMPSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Ty rushes downstairs, the drawing tucked beneath his arm.
Vanessa looks up from the TV.

VANESSA
Heading out?

TYLER
Meeting someone at the lake.

VANESSA
Everything all right?

TYLER
Yeah. I won't be long.

He slips outside.

EXT. THE LAKE - LATER

The lake lies still beneath a gray sky.

Aislin waits near the shoreline, hands tucked into her jacket pockets.

Ty approaches.

AISLIN
So... what was so urgent?

Ty pulls out the drawing.

TYLER
I think I figured it out.

AISLIN
Figured what out?

TYLER
It's back, Aislin.

AISLIN
No shit, Ty. I don't think either
of us ever doubted that.

Ty points to the blood.

TYLER
The blood. It's a sign. You brought
it back... through your mind.
It wasn't hunting Havenport. It was
waiting. Waiting for another town.

AISLIN

Let me get this straight – you're saying I drew something... that's now come to life. No. You're full of shit.

TYLER

Something happened at the funeral. The Preacher's voice changed. Everyone around me stopped. Like they were frozen.

Aislin grows serious.

TYLER (CONT'D)

When I looked back at him... he had its eyes.

AISLIN

What did he say?

TYLER

"Thirty years is up."

AISLIN

What?

TYLER

Then the casket caught fire. Aislin... you woke it. The dreams weren't just dreams. They were warnings.

He holds up the drawing.

TYLER (CONT'D)

And somehow this... gave it life.

Aislin stares at the dried blood as Ty touches the stain.

TYLER (CONT'D)

This is the proof. The blood is real. The phone number was real. My father is dead.

Aislin lowers her eyes.

DON (O.S.)

Hey, guys!

They turn as DON approaches from farther up the shoreline.

His grin fades when he sees their faces.

DON (CONT'D)
What's going on?

Aislin folds the drawing.

AISLIN
Just talking, Don.

DON
Anything good?

Neither answers.

DON (CONT'D)
Okay... now you're freaking me out.

AISLIN
Ty thinks I might've brought
something back.

DON
Like from the dead? Seriously?

Silence.

DON (CONT'D)
Wait... you're actually serious.

TYLER
It was never dead.

DON
Somebody's gonna have to explain
what the hell's going on.

Ty quickly fills Don in – the dreams... Eric's death... the
drawing... the funeral... the Preacher.

Don stares across the lake, processing it all.

DON (CONT'D)
So... some maniac's stalking the
town. Does he have a claw... or
wear a hockey mask?

Neither Ty nor Aislin smiles.

DON (CONT'D)
Okay. I deserved that.

AISLIN
If I really did bring it back...
this whole town is in danger.

TYLER

We need to warn people before it destroys another town.

DON

It destroys towns? Great. This keeps getting better.

AISLIN

It wants us. And it won't stop until it gets us. We have to stop it... I might be the key.

DON

I'm sorry... this is just too -

AISLIN

Wacko?

DON

Exactly.

A grin spreads across his face.

DON (CONT'D)

Which is exactly why you two are coming to my party tonight.

TYLER

What?

DON

My parents are gone. I've got two kegs. Music. Booze. People. And who knows... maybe your monster'll show up.

Aislin genuinely laughs.

AISLIN

I'm in.

Tyler looks at her.

TYLER

So am I.

DON

Now that's what I'm talking about.

(to Tyler)

Ten o'clock.

(to Aislin)

Nine-thirty at Ty's.

(MORE)

DON (CONT'D)
(grins)
Be ready for a killer party.

Ty and Aislin exchange a look.

EXT. DON'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Music THUNDERS through the neighborhood. Cars line both sides of the street. Colored lights pulse behind the windows as Ty and Aislin approach the party already in full swing.

AISLIN
For one night... let's try to be normal.

TYLER
I'll do my best.

INT. DON'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Packed. Loud. Beer bongs. Laughter. Couples making out as Don spots Ty and Aislin and throws his arms wide.

DON
There they are. My two party animals!

He wraps an arm around them.

DON (CONT'D)
Now it's a party.

TYLER
I thought it already was.

DON
Now it's official. Tonight... we drink. We dance. And we forget every creepy thing we've talked about for the last twenty-four hours.

TYLER
I'll drink to that.

KEVIN stumbles toward them, red cup in hand.

KEVIN
Don! Kick-ass party!

DON

Thanks, Kev. Try saving some of that booze for me.

KEVIN

Yeah... sure... whatever you say.

Kevin wanders off. Aislin laughs.

AISLIN

I think he's done for the night.

DON

I give him another twenty minutes before he falls asleep in my bathtub.

Don spots Sara across the room.

DON (CONT'D)

Hey, Ty... who's the blonde?

AISLIN

You invited Sara?

TYLER

Wasn't me.

DON

Wait — you know her? And you didn't introduce me? I feel betrayed.

Ty grins.

CRASH! A PARTYGOER spills beer on another.

PARTYGOER #1

Sorry, man.

PARTYGOER #2

Watch it, asshole.

He PUNCHES him to the floor.

DON

Seriously? He spilled beer — not blood. Chill.

Don helps Partygoer #1 up.

DON (CONT'D)

You good?

PARTYGOER #1

Yeah.

DON

Party on.

Don returns to Ty and Aislin.

AISLIN

I'll give you this... you handled
that pretty well.

DON

I aim to please.

His eyes drift back toward Sara.

DON (CONT'D)

Now... the blonde.

Sara, laughing with a small group, catches Ty's gaze.

DON (CONT'D)

Go.

Ty looks at him.

TYLER

What?

DON

Go say hi. She's looking at you.

TYLER

I'm not in high school anymore.

DON

You literally are.

INT. DON'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - LATER

Ty approaches Sara.

SARA

Hey, Ty. Some party, huh?

TYLER

Didn't expect to see you.

SARA

One of the guys invited me. Didn't
expect you either.

TYLER
My friend's party.

Sara points toward Don, chugging a beer and dancing badly.

SARA
That one?

TYLER
That'd be him.

SARA
Sit with me. I don't bite... unless
you're into that.

Ty smiles and sits beside her. Across the room, Aislin
smiles.

Don wanders over beside her, nodding toward Ty and Sara.

DON
I think Romeo's doing just fine.

AISLIN
Leave him alone.

DON
I'm just making observations.

AISLIN
You've had enough to drink.

DON
I've had exactly enough to become
charming.

AISLIN
Is that what we're calling it?

DON
Absolutely.

He points toward Ty and Sara.

DON (CONT'D)
You'll thank me at the wedding.

Aislin laughs.

AISLIN
In your dreams, Don.

DON
You wound me.

INT. DON'S HOUSE - UPSTAIRS BEDROOM - SAME TIME

A young couple makes out on the bed.

Wind rises as branches SCRAPE against the window.

The girl looks up.

GIRL

Did you hear that?

GUY

Probably just the wind.

Lightning FLASHES.

A massive SHADOW appears behind her.

Gone.

GIRL

Did you see -

Invisible claws RIP across her chest.

She SCREAMS. Blood sprays the wall.

Another slash. Then another.

Letters carve themselves into her flesh:

GET OUT NOW

GUY

Holy shit!

He pulls at her. Dead weight. A deep GROWL rolls through the room. The guy slowly turns. Nothing.

Then -

Invisible claws tear from his lip to his gut. Blood floods the bed.

INT. DON'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Dancing. Laughter.

BOOM!

Lightning SLAMS into the stereo. Sparks explode. Smoke curls toward the ceiling.

POWER OUT.

SCREAMS.

DON
Yeah... that'll end a party. What
are the odds?

TYLER
I'm sure it's just bad luck.

DON
Don't tell me you think it was that
thing.

AISLIN
My lips are sealed.

Sara joins them.

SARA
Well, that sucked.

Don looks her over.

DON
You're really fucking hot.

SARA
You're really fucking drunk.

Ty and Aislin laugh.

DON
Fair. I'm gonna sleep this one off.
(to Sara)
Care to join me?

SARA
I'll pass.

AISLIN
(laughs)
Goodnight, Don.

Don looks around the darkened house.

DON
I'm really sorry, guys. We really
needed this tonight.

Ty places a hand on his shoulder.

TYLER
We'll do it again.

DON
Deal.

As the party clears out, Ty, Aislin, and Sara leave.

INT. DON'S HOUSE - NIGHT

The party's over. Silence. Smoke lingers above the fried stereo as Don staggers into the kitchen and cracks another beer.

DON
Screw it.

He finds a flashlight in a junk drawer. Clicks it. Nothing.

DON (CONT'D)
Oh, come on...

He smacks it against his palm. Nothing. He digs out fresh batteries.

A FLICKER. The beam comes alive.

DON (CONT'D)
There we go.

Beer in one hand, flashlight in the other, he heads upstairs.

INT. DON'S HOUSE - UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Floorboards CREAK beneath his feet. The house feels too quiet as Don pushes open the bedroom door.

INT. DON'S HOUSE - UPSTAIRS BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

The flashlight sweeps across -

BLOOD.

Walls. Sheets. Floor. The beam lands on the mangled couple.

Don's breath catches. His hand trembles, the beam dancing across the room.

DON
What... in the hell...

He bolts.

EXT. DON'S HOUSE - FRONT PORCH - MOMENTS LATER

Don bursts through the door, fumbling for his phone.

DON
Come on, Ty... answer.

EXT. STREET - SAME TIME

Ty, Aislin, and Sara walk beneath the streetlights. Ty's phone RINGS.

TYLER
It's Don.

He answers.

TYLER (CONT'D)
Don? Power back on already?

DON
You were right.

TYLER
Right about what?

DON
It came. They're dead, Ty.

TYLER
Who? Slow down.

DON
It ripped them apart.

Don looks back toward the dark house.

DON (CONT'D)
It's still here.

Ty's expression changes.

TYLER
Call 911. Stay where you are. We're coming.

CLICK.

SARA
What's wrong?

TYLER
Something happened at Don's.

AISLIN
Let's move.

EXT. DON'S HOUSE - FRONT PORCH - CONTINUOUS

Don dials 911. The phone RINGS.

Lightning FLASHES -

The yard glows white.

At the edge of the property -

TWO GLOWING RED EYES.

Don freezes.

DISPATCHER (V.O.)
Nine-one-one. What's your
emergency?

DON
Two dead bodies. Three-four-five
seven Springwood. It's still here.

A low GROWL rolls through the darkness behind him. Don closes his eyes.

The growl comes again. Closer. His fingers tighten around the phone.

Slowly...

he turns.

SCREAM.

EXT. STREET - MINUTES LATER

Red-and-blue lights flash against houses as Ty, Aislin, and Sara hurry toward Don's. Neighbors gather along the sidewalks.

SARA
What's going on?

AISLIN
This isn't good.

EXT. DON'S HOUSE - MURDER SCENE - MOMENTS LATER

Police cruisers line the street. An ambulance waits with its rear doors open as crime-scene tape flutters around the yard. A stretcher rolls down the front walk.

A white sheet barely covers the body. Ty sees Don's face.

His hollowed-out stomach.

He doubles over and VOMITS.

A DEPUTY grabs his shoulder.

DEPUTY
Stay back.

Aislin steps forward.

AISLIN
We know him.

DEPUTY
Doesn't matter. Behind the tape.

Aislin doesn't move.

AISLIN
You have no idea what you're dealing with.

DEPUTY
What's that supposed to mean?

He studies Tyler.

DEPUTY (CONT'D)
Wait... You're that kid whose dad was butchered.

Ty stares at him.

SARA
Not the time, asshole.

DEPUTY
(to Aislin)
You said we don't know what we're dealing with. Tell me... what is it?

Aislin glances toward the house.

AISLIN
Some kind of malevolent force.

DEPUTY
Let me guess – the same thing that
butchered his father?

AISLIN
That's right.

The deputy looks between them.

DEPUTY
Get the fuck out of here.

AISLIN
Come on, guys. Let's get the fuck
out of here.

Tyler looks back at the stretcher.

TYLER
Good luck with that investigation,
Deputy.

They walk away.

DEPUTY
Hey!

Aislin turns back.

DEPUTY (CONT'D)
Where do I find it?

AISLIN
I'll let you know... when I figure
it out.

The deputy watches them disappear into the darkness.

INT. SPRINGS COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT - LATER

In a cramped office, Ty sits with his head lowered, hands
trembling between his knees as Aislin and Vanessa sit beside
him.

TYLER
You should've seen his body...

Vanessa rests a hand on his shoulder.

VANESSA

I can imagine. I saw your father's.

Ty looks up, tears streaking his face.

TYLER

No, Mom. You can't. His stomach was
clawed out — for God's sake!

Silence. Even Aislin lowers her eyes.

A knock. A deputy enters.

DEPUTY

Tyler Thompson? Follow me.

The Deputy stops outside an office.

DEPUTY (CONT'D)

He's waiting.

Ty enters.

INT. SPRINGS COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT - SHERIFF'S OFFICE -
MOMENTS LATER

The Sheriff sits behind his desk. Calm. Stern.

SHERIFF

Have a seat.

Ty, Vanessa, and Aislin sit as Vanessa comforts Ty.

SHERIFF (CONT'D)

What happened tonight?

TYLER

It's back.

SHERIFF

Who's back?

AISLIN

I'll tell you. I know what the
hell's going on... and we're all in
serious trouble.

SHERIFF

You've got my attention. Who are
you?

AISLIN

Name's Aislin. Let's just say...
you haven't lived here long enough.

SHERIFF

Long enough for what?

AISLIN

How long have you lived in
Haidesville?

SHERIFF

Look, Aislin, I'm trying to solve a
murder case -

AISLIN

I asked you a question, Sheriff.

SHERIFF

This town's fairly new. Where are
you going with this?

AISLIN

If you'd been here thirty years
ago... you'd be dead, wishing
someone like me had been around to
save your ass. I'm the only one who
can stop this.

SHERIFF

You believe this?

VANESSA

They're not crazy.

SHERIFF

So let me get this straight. Some
monster came here thirty years
ago... and now it's back?

AISLIN

You're a fast learner.

She places the drawing on his desk.

AISLIN (CONT'D)

Ever dreamt of this?

The Sheriff studies it.

SHERIFF

What the hell is this?

AISLIN
What nightmares are made of.

SHERIFF
Miss, this isn't the Twilight Zone.
So no... I haven't dreamt of it.
I'm working a real case here.

AISLIN
Well, Sheriff? I just solved it for
you.

She snatches the drawing off the desk and heads for the door.

AISLIN (CONT'D)
Now you go find It. Have a good
night, Sheriff.

She SLAMS the door.

The Sheriff looks at Ty and Vanessa. Neither says a word.

INT. THOMPSON HOUSE - MORNING

Ty heads downstairs into the kitchen, where Vanessa sits
reading the morning paper.

VANESSA
Sleep okay?

TYLER
Not really. What's new?

VANESSA
Want breakfast?

TYLER
Not hungry.

He pours orange juice.

VANESSA
So... when are they going to find
It?

Vanessa slides the newspaper toward him.

VANESSA (CONT'D)
Front page.

TYLER
It's not about when they find It.
It's what happens when they do.
(MORE)

TYLER (CONT'D)
(reading)
"Four Die in Mysterious Deaths."

VANESSA
They died in their sleep. Not
peacefully.

She turns on the TV.

NEWS REPORTER (V.O.)
Four victims were found brutally
attacked in their homes last night,
part of a string of gruesome,
unexplained killings in the past
twenty-four hours. Authorities are
urging residents to stay indoors
and lock their doors.

Vanessa turns it off.

VANESSA
Great way to start the morning.

TYLER
Are you surprised?

VANESSA
What's that supposed to mean?

TYLER
We can't do anything. Not until It
shows up here.

VANESSA
I need a break, Ty. I'm at my
limit. I need to get away... just
for a couple days.

She buries her face in her hands, tears streaming down her
cheeks.

Ty rests a hand on her shoulder.

TYLER
It's okay, Mom. We'll get through
this.

VANESSA
Come with me. Please.

TYLER
I can't. Running won't help. It
won't make this go away.

VANESSA

It took your dad. And Don. I can't lose you too.

TYLER

I'm not leaving. This is our home. Not his. I'm not going anywhere until It's dead.

VANESSA

You've seen what It can do. What makes you think you can stop It?

TYLER

Maybe I can't. But I've got someone by my side who might.

VANESSA

Aislin?

Ty nods.

VANESSA (CONT'D)

I'll be at your grandmother's. If you're staying... I won't stop you.

She turns to leave.

TYLER

Mom... It will end. I promise.

VANESSA

Yeah... When it does... I hope we're still alive.

She walks out.

INT. AISLIN'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Aislin sleeps.

A low, deep, evil whisper calls her name.

EXT. HAVENPORT - NIGHT - DREAM SEQUENCE

FLASH.

A claw swipes. A young man's head hits the ground. A young woman is lifted - claws rip through her stomach. Blood rains down.

INT. AISLIN'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Aislin twitches in her sleep, murmuring.

EXT. HAVENPORT - CONTINUOUS

Buildings burn. People, engulfed in flame, scream as they run. A woman stares from a second-story window, fire crawling across her skin. Her eyes glowing through the fire.

TOWNSWOMAN

We're cursed.

INT. AISLIN'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Aislin bolts upright, soaked in sweat.

She stumbles to the bathroom, fills a cup and drinks. Breathing heavily, she leans over the sink and looks up.

Her reflection stares back...

SMASH!

A mangled hand BURSTS through the mirror, blackened fingers seizing her throat.

Aislin wakes again - for real this time - SCREAMING.

AISLIN

Shit! Damn you!

INT. AISLIN'S BEDROOM - MORNING

KNOCKING.

Still shaken, Aislin rises.

INT. PRUITT HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

She opens the door.

TYLER

Didn't wake you, did I?

AISLIN

It's okay. Had a rough night. Come in.

Ty steps inside.

TYLER

It got more.

AISLIN

Why am I not surprised?

TYLER

It was on the news. Four more –
brutally murdered.

AISLIN

They won't be the last. Is that why
you're here? Tell me there's more.

TYLER

My mom left.

AISLIN

Where?

TYLER

To my grandma's. She needed a
break.

AISLIN

Can you blame her? Why didn't you
go?

TYLER

(laughs)
You're kidding, right?

AISLIN

Why do you care so much, Ty? You
just moved here. Haidesville was
your first mistake. You said it
yourself.

TYLER

I can't leave. It took my dad. It
tore my family apart. If it takes
me too, fine. But I'm not going
down without a fight. It's just the
way I'm wired.

AISLIN

I appreciate that about you... I
really do. But this isn't your
fight. My mother survived the first
massacre. Surviving is kind of in
my blood. Like my calling or some
shit.

They hold each other's gaze.

TYLER

I just want a place to call home.

AISLIN

Kind of a fucked up place for that.

TYLER

Military family. Wherever the Air Force sent my dad, we went. Haidesville's my shot at something real. And if there's one thing the military taught me... when war comes knocking... you don't run.

AISLIN

You also don't fight a war alone.

Ty smiles.

AISLIN (CONT'D)

It came to me again. A dream inside a dream. Havenport was burning. People were dying. Then I saw a woman on fire. She looked at me and said... "We're cursed."

TYLER

Cursed? Like... Havenport?

AISLIN

I think it's more than that. Not just Havenport. Haidesville too.

TYLER

Why? Why a curse?

AISLIN

That's what we need to figure out. We need to start digging.

TYLER

Wait — you said you had a dream within a dream. What happened when you woke up the first time?

AISLIN

I was in bed. I went to the bathroom... looked in the mirror... It grabbed me. Through the glass.

TYLER

We need to do something. Before it's too late.

She nods.

AISLIN
Come on.

TYLER
Where are we going?

AISLIN
The basement. If my mom's hiding
anything... that's where it'll be.

INT. PRUITT HOUSE - BASEMENT - MOMENTS LATER

Aislin stops at the basement door, gripping the knob.

TYLER
You okay?

AISLIN
I've always hated this basement.

She opens the door. The hinges GROAN as a cool draft rises from the darkness. She flips the switch. Nothing.

Ty pulls a flashlight from his jacket and clicks it on.

AISLIN (CONT'D)
You first.

TYLER
Thanks.

AISLIN
You're welcome.

They descend the narrow stairs. Dust drifts through the flashlight beam over a concrete floor, stone walls, shelves crowded with forgotten junk.

The beam finds a BLACK TRUNK beneath an old blanket. Aislin kneels and lifts the lid.

Stacks of brittle, yellowed newspapers.

AISLIN (CONT'D)
Bingo.

She flips through them —

VIVID DREAMS PLAGUE SMALL TOWN

WITCH PUTS HEX ON HAVENPORT

MYSTERIOUS CREATURE SEEN

30-YEAR-OLD CURSE MAY HAVE RETURNED

The front door CREAKS open upstairs.

KATHY (O.S.)
Aislin? Honey?

Ty looks toward the stairs.

TYLER
Should I hide?

AISLIN
No. Down here, Mom.

Kathy descends, smiling as she sees Ty.

KATHY
I don't believe we've met.

AISLIN
This is Ty.

KATHY
So you're Ty. I've heard a lot
about you. I'm sorry about your
father.

TYLER
Thank you.

Kathy notices the open trunk. The color drains from her face.

KATHY
What are you two doing down here?

Aislin holds up a newspaper.

AISLIN
What are these?

KATHY
I see you found them.

AISLIN
You knew they were here?

KATHY
They're just stories, honey.

Aislin lifts another.

AISLIN
Just stories?

KATHY
It's been thirty years, Aislin.
Everyone believed it was over. We
rebuilt. We moved on.

Aislin holds up the article about the witch.

AISLIN
Over? This is far from over. Is
this what really happened? What
aren't you telling me?

Silence.

KATHY
You want to know what I know...
Fine. I'll tell you.

Kathy sits in an old wooden chair.

KATHY (CONT'D)
Before Havenport... there was only
land.

EXT. VILLAGE - DAY - FLASHBACK

A small settlement beneath an overcast sky. Wooden homes
surrounded by an endless forest.

KATHY (V.O.)
More than two centuries ago, a
village stood here. Rumors spread
about a woman who lived alone in
the woods. Some called her a
healer. Others... a witch.

Children wake SCREAMING from nightmares.

Empty livestock pens. Dark trees sway beyond the village.

KATHY (V.O.)
Animals disappeared. People heard
voices calling from the forest
after dark. Fear became suspicion.
Suspicion became hatred.

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

VILLAGERS carrying torches, axes and rope march through the fog.

KATHY (V.O.)
Then one night... they went to find
her.

EXT. WITCH'S CABIN - NIGHT

The door opens. A WOMAN with long black hair steps outside – calm, almost as if she expected them.

The villagers seize her, binding her wrists. She never fights. Never begs. Never cries.

EXT. FIELD - NIGHT

The woman is tied to a wooden stake.

A torch drops. Flames climb around her.

TYLER (V.O.)
They burned her alive?

KATHY (V.O.)
That's what they say. But that
isn't what people remembered.

The flames rise. The woman slowly lifts her head –

And LAUGHS.

Deep. Ancient. Wrong. The sound echoes across the fields.

INT. PRUITT HOUSE - BASEMENT - CONTINUOUS

KATHY
They expected screams. They never
came. Instead... a laugh no human
should ever make. After that
night... the dreams began.

FLASHBACK - SERIES OF SHOTS

– Men thrash beneath their blankets.

– A blood-red sky.

– Windows glowing crimson.

- Families running through burning streets.
- A massive SHADOW watching from the darkness.

KATHY (V.O.)
The men who burned her began having
the same nightmares.

AISLIN (V.O.)
The same dreams we're having.

INT. VILLAGERS' HOMES - DAY

A BODY hangs from the rafters.

Another. Then another.

KATHY (V.O.)
The dreams were only the beginning.
One by one, every man involved in
the burning was found hanging. No
struggle. No explanation. Only
terror frozen across their faces.

EXT. ABANDONED VILLAGE - DAY

The remaining families flee as weeds consume the fields and
the forest reclaims the road.

KATHY (V.O.)
The survivors abandoned the
village. For two hundred years...
the land remained empty.

INT. PRUITT HOUSE - BASEMENT - CONTINUOUS

KATHY
Until Havenport... nineteen sixty-
six. A group of high school kids
became obsessed with the legend.
One night, they tried to contact
the witch... using a Ouija board.

AISLIN
Something answered them.

KATHY
But it wasn't the witch. It was
something darker. Something born
from nightmares.

AISLIN
It came through.

Kathy looks toward the newspapers.

KATHY
Some believed she cursed the
land... and summoned the Beast.
Others believed... she became It.

TYLER
What do you believe?

Kathy slowly closes the trunk.

KATHY
I believe some things are meant to
be left alone.

AISLIN
What happened to those high
schoolers?

KATHY
No one knows. Some say they fled.
Others believe they never escaped
Havenport.

AISLIN
If you knew all this... why didn't
you tell me?

KATHY
When Havenport fell, people wanted
to forget. So we buried the
stories. The newspapers. The fear.
We convinced ourselves it was over.
Now it's back... and I don't know
if there's anything we can do.

Aislin looks down at the headline -

30-YEAR-OLD CURSE MAY HAVE RETURNED.

AISLIN
There is. You're forgetting
something... This is our land.

INT. AISLIN'S BEDROOM - DAY

AISLIN
Oh no...

TYLER

What?

AISLIN

The drawing. It's gone.

TYLER

Why would someone have taken it?

AISLIN

It had its blood on it.

TYLER

What are you saying?

AISLIN

I need it back.

TYLER

What do you make of your mom's story?

AISLIN

It explains why the curse began. They cursed the land when they burned her. Now everyone who lives here pays for it.

TYLER

So what do we do?

AISLIN

Destroy It. And hope the curse dies with It.

TYLER

And if it doesn't?

AISLIN

There's only one way to find out.

EXT. HAIDESVILLE - LATER

Aislin and Ty walk down a quiet street as SARA jogs toward them.

SARA

Hey, Ty.

TYLER

Sara. Everything okay?

SARA

Came to check on you. How's your mom?

TYLER

She's with my grandma. She needed a break.

SARA

What does this thing even want?

AISLIN

Haidesville.

SARA

What is It?

AISLIN

I'll explain later. I need to find something.

She hurries off.

SARA

Where's she going?

TYLER

Long story. Come on. Maybe the Sheriff will listen.

INT. PRUITT HOUSE - AFTERNOON

Aislin finds Kathy sitting silently at the kitchen table.

AISLIN

Mom, have you seen my drawing?

Kathy looks up.

KATHY

Sit down, sweetie.

AISLIN

I don't have time. Did you see it?

KATHY

They took it.

AISLIN

Who?

KATHY

The police. They had questions.
They think you know more than
you've said.

AISLIN

You gave it to them?

KATHY

The first time I looked at it... I
was back in Havenport. Those are
memories I try to forget. I was
fifteen. I became obsessed with
Havenport.

AISLIN

It was you?

KATHY

Vanessa too. We were friends then.
She wanted to walk away. I
couldn't. After that night...
everything changed.

AISLIN

This is all your fault?

KATHY

Havenport... yes. Haidesville...
that's you Aislin. That drawing...
I've never seen anything like it.
You've always had a gift.

Aislin heads for the door.

AISLIN

I have to get it back.

KATHY

Let them keep it. They should know
what they're hunting.

Aislin stops at the door.

AISLIN

You know they can't hunt It. It
comes when It wants.

KATHY

Please... leave it alone. There's
something about that drawing.

AISLIN
You shouldn't have let them take
it.

She SLAMS the door behind her.

EXT. SPRINGS COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER

Ty's Mustang pulls into the lot as Ty and Sara hurry inside.

INT. SPRINGS COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT - FRONT DESK -
CONTINUOUS

A deputy intercepts them.

TYLER
I need to see the Sheriff.

DEPUTY
He's busy.

TYLER
This is an emergency. NOW.

The deputy studies him, then disappears.

INT. SPRINGS COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT - SHERIFF'S OFFICE -
MOMENTS LATER

The Sheriff looks up as the deputy enters.

DEPUTY
Tyler Thompson. Says it's an
emergency.

SHERIFF
Bring him in.

INT. SPRINGS COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT - SHERIFF'S OFFICE -
MOMENTS LATER

Ty and Sara enter.

SHERIFF
Ty Thompson. What can I do for you?

TYLER
Why aren't you out there trying to
stop It?

SHERIFF

I can assure you my department is protecting this town.

He opens a folder revealing Aislin's drawing.

SHERIFF (CONT'D)

From whatever this is.

TYLER

Where'd you get that?

SHERIFF

Not important. Finding It is.

The office door BURSTS open as Aislin storms inside.

AISLIN

Where is it?

He holds up the drawing.

SHERIFF

This is... impressive. Maybe you can tell me what it is.

AISLIN

That's what you're looking for, Sheriff. Now give it back.

SHERIFF

What if I keep it? There's blood on it.

AISLIN

Then I'm not coming to your funeral.

The Sheriff smiles.

SHERIFF

I'll give this back on one condition. You destroy whatever you drew. Completely.

Aislin takes the drawing and walks out. The Sheriff watches her leave, amused, as Ty and Sara follow.

EXT. THOMPSON HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Ty's Mustang pulls into the drive. Ty and Sara head inside.

INT. THOMPSON HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Silence.

SARA

Do you think she'll stop It? Save
Haidesville?

TYLER

I do. Aislin's different. If she
believes she brought It here,
she'll find a way to send It back.

SARA

I've had enough horror talk for one
day. Can we talk about something
normal for once?

She steps closer.

TYLER

I'd like that.

SARA

The party got me thinking. Remember
Rob's in eighth grade?

TYLER

Of course. How could I forget?

SARA

You kissed me. That was my first
kiss.

TYLER

You never told me that. Funny... It
was mine too.

Sara moves closer.

SARA

I remember liking it.

She kisses his neck.

TYLER

Sara... What are you doing?

SARA

Just go with it. You know you want
to.

They kiss.

For one brief moment —

No murders. No curse. No Beast.

Ty's phone BUZZES.

Sara groans.

SARA (CONT'D)

Ignore it.

TYLER

I can't. My mom's out of town.

He checks the screen. His smile vanishes.

SARA

What is it?

TYLER

She's coming home tonight.

SARA

That's good, right?

TYLER

No. That's not good.

SARA

She's still your mom, Tyler. The
guilt has to be eating her alive.

He types a reply as Sara slips her arms around his neck.

SARA (CONT'D)

Now... where were we?

She kisses him again.

A KNOCK at the door. Sara closes her eyes.

SARA (CONT'D)

You've got to be kidding me.

Ty opens the door. Aislin stands there, holding the drawing.

She looks from Ty to Sara.

AISLIN

I didn't interrupt anything... did
I?

SARA

No. Not at all.

TYLER

Come in.

Aislin steps inside, her expression turning serious.

AISLIN

Remember the high schoolers who
contacted the witch?

TYLER

You mean the ones who vanished?

AISLIN

They didn't vanish. They're here...
Kathy Pruitt. Vanessa Thompson.

TYLER

Our mothers?

Aislin meets his eyes.

SARA

Would somebody please explain what
the hell is going on?

AISLIN

They were best friends. They
haven't spoken since Havenport.

TYLER

So It's here because of them?

AISLIN

It came to Havenport because of
them. It's here because of me.

She looks down at the drawing.

AISLIN (CONT'D)

I gave It life.

TYLER

No. It already had life. Our
parents gave It life.

Aislin studies the Beast's crimson eyes.

AISLIN

When Havenport ended... It never
died.

TYLER

It waited thirty years.

AISLIN

Until the land returned. The dreams. The stories. The obsession. Just like my mother. Only she used a Ouija board. I used my mind.

TYLER

You think the Beast is the witch?

AISLIN

Maybe she took this form to finish what they started.

TYLER

It was her land. They took it. Now she wants it back.

Aislin carefully rolls the drawing.

TYLER (CONT'D)

So what now?

AISLIN

We keep this with us. No one else touches it.

SARA

And then?

AISLIN

We wait. For her. Because she will come. We're the connection. The chosen ones. Our mothers survived Havenport. Now it's our turn.

TYLER

What about everyone else? Haidesville?

AISLIN

If we stop her before she takes this town... maybe the curse ends.

TYLER

And if we can't?

AISLIN

Then God help Haidesville.

She stands.

AISLIN (CONT'D)

I'm going. She won't wait much longer.

Ty closes the door behind her.

SARA

Okay... this is really starting to freak me out. This is actually happening?

TYLER

It's happening.

SARA

I'm staying at my sister's. She's working tonight. Would you stay with me? I don't want to be alone.

TYLER

My mom's coming home.

SARA

She'll still be there tomorrow. Leave her a note.

TYLER

Tomorrow isn't promised. Not here.

SARA

Then don't waste tonight. Besides we can finish what we started.

TYLER

This better not backfire.

INT. SPRINGS COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT - NIGHT

The Sheriff walks a deserted hallway.

FAINT WHISPER

SHERIFF...

He stops, hand on his gun.

SHERIFF

Jesus... I'm losing it.

He keeps walking.

A SHADOW darts across the hallway - gone.

SHERIFF (CONT'D)

What the hell...

EVIL LAUGHTER.

Right behind him.

He spins -

Too late.

A massive claw BURSTS through his stomach. Blood sprays.

The Beast towers over him... then vanishes.

The Sheriff collapses.

INT. SPRINGS COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT - HALLWAY -
CONTINUOUS

Jack advances carefully.

WHAM!

He's slammed against the wall, pinned.

BEAST (O.S.)
Jaaack...

JACK
What are you?!

BEAST
Your every nightmare.

The Beast steps from the darkness, towering.

JACK
Please...

The Beast opens its mouth, rows of razor fangs dripping with saliva.

IT LUNGES.

SICKENING RIP.

Jack's neck is torn out, spine exposed. His body crumples.
The Beast is gone.

INT. SPRINGS COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT - FRONT DESK -
CONTINUOUS

Two officers listen in silence.

OFFICER #1
Where's Jack?

OFFICER #2
Maybe... It got him.

OFFICER #1
Who?

The Beast steps from the darkness.

BEAST
I got him. Now... I got you.

A CLAW slices. Officer #1 is cut in half, torso sliding apart.

Officer #2 screams as the Beast impales him – RIPS upward. Blood explodes.

Silence.

The Beast is gone.

INT. THOMPSON HOUSE - NIGHT

Vanessa enters, drops her purse. Ty's note sits on the counter. She opens a cabinet, reaches for a glass –

CRASH!

Glass shatters upstairs. Vanessa freezes, grabs a butcher knife and moves toward the stairs.

INT. THOMPSON HOUSE - VANESSA'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

She flicks on the light. A broken framed photo of her and Eric lies on the floor.

VANESSA
Oh, Eric...

She picks up the frame, then steps to the bathroom mirror. Her reflection stares back. She takes a deep breath.

VANESSA (CONT'D)
Get a grip, Vanessa.

CRASH!

A CLAW BURSTS THROUGH THE MIRROR – grabs her arm...

YANKS her inside.

An instant later –

She's hurled back out. Her neck SNAPS against the wall. She crumples as blood spreads beneath her.

The mirror reforms.

Blood scratches across the glass:

TY

INT. SARA'S SISTER'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Ty BOLTS awake, drenched in sweat. Sara sits up beside him.

SARA
Ty? What is it?

TYLER
Something's wrong.

SARA
Another dream?

TYLER
Worse. Something's happening –
right now. My mom. I have to get to
her. Now.

SARA
I'm coming with you.

EXT. THOMPSON HOUSE - SAME TIME

DEPUTY JOHNSON patrols nearby, hand on flashlight.

DEPUTY JOHNSON
What the hell...? This is Deputy
Johnson. Possible disturbance at
1428 Wildwood Ave. Checking it out.

He pounds on the door.

DEPUTY JOHNSON (CONT'D)
Sheriff's office! Open up!

Silence.

He checks the handle. Click. Unlocked.

INT. THOMPSON HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

He steps inside, flashlight sweeping. Darkness. The kitchen.
A knife missing from the block. He stiffens.

He climbs the stairs, heart pounding. The bedroom door creaks
open -

Vanessa's body lies twisted on the floor. Blood still fresh.
The mirror - slick and red.

DEPUTY JOHNSON

Oh my God... This is Deputy
Johnson. I've got a possible 187 at
1428 Wildwood Ave. Come in,
Sheriff!

Static.

DEPUTY JOHNSON (CONT'D)

Dammit! Come in!

Still nothing.

His hand trembles as he stares at the wall. At Vanessa. At
the mirror.

DEPUTY STARK (V.O., RADIO)

This is Deputy Stark.

DEPUTY JOHNSON

Where's the Sheriff, Stark?

DEPUTY STARK

(panicked)

The Sheriff's not with us anymore.

DEPUTY JOHNSON

What are you talking about?

DEPUTY STARK

Not looking too good over here.

DEPUTY JOHNSON

What happened?

DEPUTY STARK

It came.

DEPUTY JOHNSON

What came? What the hell is going
on over there?

DEPUTY STARK
Weird shit Deputy... weird shit.

DEPUTY JOHNSON
(shouting)
Dammit - talk to me, Stark!

DEPUTY STARK
(panicked)
Something was really pissed off.

DEPUTY JOHNSON
I know who it is.

DEPUTY STARK
I don't think so, Johnson.

INT. THOMPSON HOUSE - NIGHT

Ty and Sara arrive. The front door is slightly ajar.

TYLER
(hushed)
No...

He runs inside and bolts upstairs.

INT. THOMPSON HOUSE - VANESSA'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Ty enters and freezes.

VANESSA'S BODY lies twisted against the far wall. Eyes open.

TYLER
Mom...?

He drops to his knees, choking back tears. Sara finds the mirror - the word TY carved in blood.

SARA
Ty...

She gently pulls him away.

SARA (CONT'D)
We need to go. Now.

DEPUTY JOHNSON (O.S.)
I'm afraid not.

They turn. Deputy Johnson stands in the doorway, gun drawn.

DEPUTY JOHNSON (CONT'D)
Put your hands behind your back.

TYLER
What?

DEPUTY JOHNSON
I didn't stutter. Easy way or hard way – your choice.

TYLER
You think this was me?

DEPUTY JOHNSON
My name's not written in blood.

SARA
He didn't do it.

TYLER
You're out of your mind.

INT. AISLIN'S BEDROOM – MOMENTS LATER

Red and blue lights flash outside. Aislin jolts awake.

AISLIN
What the hell is going on...?
She throws on clothes and rushes downstairs.

INT. PRUITT HOUSE – DOWNSTAIRS – CONTINUOUS

She opens the door. Sara stands there, shaken.

SARA
It's Ty, Aislin. They took him.
Vanessa's dead.

AISLIN
What? Come on. We're getting him out.

INT. SPRINGS COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT – MOMENTS LATER

Chaos. Bloodied officers. Stretchers. Screams echo in the distance as Aislin storms in and grabs a deputy.

AISLIN
Ty Thompson didn't kill anyone.

DEPUTY
We're under siege.

AISLIN
You'll have bigger problems if you
don't listen.

The deputy hesitates, unnerved by her intensity.

OFFICER
This way.

INT. SPRINGS COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT - SHERIFF COLLINS'
OFFICE - NIGHT

Aislin and Sara are led in. SHERIFF COLLINS sits behind his
desk, calm and skeptical. He motions the deputy out.

SHERIFF COLLINS
What brings you here this late?

AISLIN
Ty didn't do it.

SHERIFF COLLINS
And I suppose you know who did?

AISLIN
Your worst nightmare... I brought
something here. Now it's tearing
Haidesville apart.

SHERIFF COLLINS
So... a monster is out there...
because of you?

AISLIN
That's exactly what I'm saying.

The office door BURSTS open. A deputy stumbles inside.

DEPUTY
Sir! It's Tyler. Something's wrong.

The Sheriff pushes past him.

SHERIFF COLLINS
Move!

Aislin and Sara follow.

INT. SPRINGS COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT - HOLDING AREA -
CONTINUOUS

Chaos. Deputies crowd around Ty's cell.

SHERIFF COLLINS
Give him some room!

Ty convulses violently on the concrete floor, foam gathering at the corners of his mouth as his hands claw helplessly at the air.

AISLIN
Ty!

She drops to her knees outside the bars. His eyes remain squeezed shut. He doesn't hear her.

SHERIFF COLLINS
Call an ambulance!

DEPUTY
It's already on the way!

The convulsions suddenly stop.

Silence.

Tyler lies perfectly still.

No one moves.

No one breathes.

Then -

His body ARCHES violently off the floor. His eyes snap open.

Locked on something...

... that no one else can see.

TYLER
(barely a whisper)
It's coming...

The room falls silent.

TYLER (CONT'D)
It's coming for me.

PARAMEDICS rush in with a stretcher.

PARAMEDIC
Everybody back!

The cell door swings open. Within seconds, Ty is strapped onto the stretcher, breathing ragged, terrified eyes darting around the room.

As they wheel him toward the exit – he grabs the Sheriff's sleeve.

TYLER
It's real.

His grip tightens.

TYLER (CONT'D)
You have to believe her.

Before Collins can answer, Ty loses consciousness.

PARAMEDICS rush him out.

Aislin watches as the ambulance pulls away.

INT. SPRINGS COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT – POLICE BULLPEN –
MOMENTS LATER

Sheriff Collins watches the ambulance pull away through the window. Silence hangs over the room.

SHERIFF COLLINS
Tyler Thompson isn't a suspect
anymore. He's a victim.

The deputies exchange uncertain looks.

SHERIFF COLLINS (CONT'D)
That girl... Find out everything
she knows. Because whatever hit
this town... isn't over.

EXT. HAVENPORT REGIONAL HOSPITAL – NIGHT

An ambulance SCREECHES into the emergency entrance. Before it stops, the rear doors BURST open.

PARAMEDIC
Let's move!

They rush Ty through the sliding doors.

INT. HAVENPORT REGIONAL HOSPITAL - EMERGENCY ROOM -
CONTINUOUS

Doctors and nurses swarm Ty.

DOCTOR
What happened?

PARAMEDIC
Seizure. No known trigger. Came out
of nowhere.

DOCTOR
Get him on the monitor.

Electrodes are attached as the heart monitor settles into a
steady rhythm. Beep. Beep. Beep.

Then -

The line SPIKES.

The monitor FLATLINES. A piercing tone fills the room.

DOCTOR (CONT'D)
Nurse!

Before anyone can react -

The monitor SURGES. Ty JOLTS upright, eyes wide with terror.

TYLER
It's coming! It's coming for me!

Everyone freezes.

DOCTOR
Tyler... Who's coming?

Ty stares past him... past everyone... as if someone is
standing in the corner.

TYLER
It's gonna kill me!

DOCTOR
Get the deputy who brought him in.
NOW!

INT. HAVENPORT REGIONAL HOSPITAL - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Deputy Johnson dozes in a chair.

NURSE

Deputy?

DEPUTY JOHNSON

How's the kid?

NURSE

Stable. For now. He keeps saying something's coming for him. Do you know what he means?

Johnson stares down the empty hallway.

DEPUTY JOHNSON

All I know... something came to the station tonight. And it wasn't human.

NURSE

You saw it?

Johnson shakes his head.

DEPUTY JOHNSON

If I had... I wouldn't be sitting here.

NURSE

You're going to give me nightmares.

Johnson stares into the darkness.

DEPUTY JOHNSON

No. It will.

The hallway lights FLICKER – Once. Twice. Steady. The nurse glances uneasily toward Ty's room.

INT. PRUITT HOUSE – MORNING

A pounding at the front door.

DEPUTY

Sheriff's Department!

Aislin opens the door. Deputy Johnson stands there, exhausted.

DEPUTY JOHNSON

Tyler's stable.

Aislin exhales.

AISLIN
Is he awake?

DEPUTY JOHNSON
Not yet. Sheriff Collins believes
you. We all do. He wants to know
what we do now.

Thunder rumbles in the distance. Aislin looks toward the
darkening sky.

AISLIN
We wait.

DEPUTY JOHNSON
For what?

AISLIN
It's coming for me.

DEPUTY JOHNSON
Then we'll be ready.

He turns to leave.

DEPUTY JOHNSON (CONT'D)
Anything I should tell the Sheriff?

Aislin never looks away from the approaching storm.

AISLIN
Pray.

Johnson watches her a long moment before quietly leaving.
Aislin remains at the window as dark clouds roll toward
Haidesville.

INT. HAVENPORT REGIONAL HOSPITAL - TY'S ROOM - NIGHT

Ty sleeps, an IV dripping beside him. Across the room, Nurse
Collins flips through a magazine.

CLATTER!

The window blinds slam against the sill. She startles, checks
the window - locked - then returns to her chair.

The bedside lamp flickers. Then the overhead lights.

Bright.

Dim.

Bright.

Dark.

The room goes BLACK.

Silence.

She freezes beside the light switch, her breathing echoing in the darkness.

NURSE

Hello?

No response.

She pulls a small penlight from her pocket. CLICK. A narrow beam cuts through the darkness.

Ty still sleeps. The IV drips steadily. Everything appears normal.

She exhales.

NURSE (CONT'D)

I'm losing my mind.

The beam sweeps toward the door. Locked. She takes a cautious step.

The penlight FLICKERS. She freezes.

A low...

Wet...

Guttural laugh echoes through the room.

She spins.

Nothing.

Silence.

NURSE (CONT'D)

Tyler... Tyler, wake up.

The laughter returns.

Closer.

Behind her.

Her breath catches as she turns, the beam shaking violently.

Nothing.

NURSE (CONT'D)
Please... Somebody help me...

Silence.

Then —

Two enormous RED EYES open in the darkness.

The penlight slips from her hand, CLATTERS across the floor
and the spinning beam catches —

THE BEAST.

Towering. Motionless. A grotesque smile spreads across its
face.

Darkness.

The nurse SCREAMS.

A massive CLAW tears through her chest, hurling her lifeless
body into the wall beside Ty's bed.

CLICK.

The lights snap back on. Ty's eyes fly open.

The nurse's mangled body lies beside him.

Ty rips out the IV, tries the window. Locked. He throws open
the door.

The hallway is deserted, lights flickering overhead as he
slips into the corridor.

INT. HAVENPORT REGIONAL HOSPITAL - CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

Open doors.

Abandoned nurses' stations.

Not a soul.

TYLER
Hello?

Only silence.

He hurries toward the glowing EXIT sign. The automatic doors
WHOOSH open.

EXT. HAVENPORT REGIONAL HOSPITAL - CONTINUOUS

Cool night air rushes over him.

SARA (O.S.)
Ty?

He turns as Sara hurries toward him, Aislin close behind.

SARA (CONT'D)
What are you doing out here?

TYLER
It came. It killed the nurse.

Aislin's expression hardens.

AISLIN
It's not going to stop. We have to move.

TYLER
Where?

AISLIN
I have a plan.

A bolt of LIGHTNING CRACKS into the parking lot nearby, throwing them backward. Smoke rises from a fresh crater.

SARA
Holy shit...

Aislin never looks away.

AISLIN
It's close. Meet me at your house.

Ty grabs her arm.

TYLER
Be careful.

AISLIN
(faint smile)
You too.

She disappears into the darkness.

INT. ARTILLERY & SURPLUS - DAY

Aislin enters. Rows of rifles and military gear line the walls as an older man emerges from the back.

OWNER

Well now... What can I do for you?

AISLIN

I need something big.

He smirks.

OWNER

I don't think you're big enough.

AISLIN

Then consider this a challenge.

OWNER

You Wonder Woman or something?

AISLIN

Pretty damn close.

He laughs.

OWNER

I'll still need some ID.

Aislin steps closer.

AISLIN

There's something out there. It's
killing people. I brought it here.
I'm the only one who can stop it.

His smile fades. Without a word, he disappears into the back.
Metal CLANGS. Something heavy SCRAPES.

He returns with a ROCKET LAUNCHER and drops it onto the
counter.

THUD.

OWNER

You wanted big. This is the biggest
thing I've got.

AISLIN

I'll take it.

OWNER

Most people ask the price first.

AISLIN

How much?

OWNER

Call it a loan. Kill whatever's out there... bring it back. You'll need one of these too.

He hands her a DUFFEL BAG. She shoulders the launcher.

OWNER (CONT'D)

Try not to miss.

AISLIN

I won't.

She heads for the door.

OWNER

One more thing... Where's it from?

She looks back.

AISLIN

Hell.

Thunder CRACKS outside. She disappears into the rain.

INT. PRUITT HOUSE - BASEMENT - MOMENTS LATER

Candles flicker around an old OUIJA BOARD as Aislin kneels, placing her fingertips on the planchette.

AISLIN

You're here, aren't you?

Silence.

AISLIN (CONT'D)

I know who you are. I know what you want.

The shadows seem to shift.

AISLIN (CONT'D)

But you can't have it. This is our land now.

Nothing.

Then the planchette slides.

E-N-D.

Aislin's jaw tightens.

AISLIN (CONT'D)
You want Haidesville?

She leans closer.

AISLIN (CONT'D)
Come and get it, bitch.

The candles FLARE as the planchette JERKS violently.

B-U-R-N.

Aislin stares at the word... then lifts her hands. She blows out the candles.

Darkness.

INT. AISLIN'S BEDROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Aislin picks up the bloodstained sketch, studying its face.

AISLIN
Not this time.

She tucks the sketch into her jacket, grabs a box of MATCHES, the rocket launcher and duffel bag.

EXT. PRUITT HOUSE - NIGHT

Thunder rolls overhead as Aislin steps into the storm.

EXT. HAIDESVILLE - NIGHT

Rain hammers the deserted streets as the sky bleeds crimson. Red lightning rips through the darkness.

Across town, a little boy and young mother both discover blood running from their noses.

An ELDERLY MAN watches his bedroom window glow like burning coals.

ELDERLY MAN
What the...

CRACK!

The window EXPLODES inward.

Across Haidesville – every window begins glowing. House after house... people rush to their windows as parents scream for their children and dogs bark wildly.

Every window in town SHATTERS as glass rains into the streets. People SCREAM.

Houses ERUPT in flames across town. Smoke boils into the blood-red sky.

The Beast has come.

EXT. THOMPSON HOUSE - NIGHT

Rain lashes the windows as Ty and Sara sit silently in the untouched living room.

SARA
You think she's okay?

Ty keeps watching the storm.

TYLER
If anyone can handle herself...
it's Aislin.

Lightning FLASHES.

The lights FLICKER – Once. Twice. Steady.

Another FLASH. Thunder SHAKES the house.

Sara looks toward the window.

SARA
Ty...

He slowly rises. Outside, the storm clouds are gone. Lightning crawls through a crimson sky like jagged veins.

A little girl steps onto her porch, blood trickling from her nose as her mother rushes her back inside. More screams erupt.

CRASH!

Glass explodes nearby.

Sara flinches.

SARA (CONT'D)
What was that?

Ty doesn't answer.

Across the street, the Wilsons' windows glow crimson.

Then SHATTER. Smoke pours inside as the family screams.

Windows shatter across Haidesville as the town erupts into chaos. Flames consume rooftops, car alarms BLARE, and people run in every direction.

TYLER
(barely a whisper)
It's happening.

Sara stares out the window.

TYLER (CONT'D)
She's here.

The temperature drops, their breath turning visible.

The lights flicker longer this time as pictures rattle.

A DOOR SLAMS upstairs.

Sara grabs Ty's arm.

SARA
Tell me that was the wind.

TYLER
No.

Low, inhuman laughter rolls through the house.

Silence.

Then —

Heavy FOOTSTEPS cross overhead. The ceiling CREAKS beneath something enormous.

TYLER (CONT'D)
It's upstairs.

Silence.

The hallway door slowly CREAKS open, revealing darkness...

Then two glowing RED EYES.

The Beast steps into the hallway, its head nearly brushing the ceiling as ash drifts from cracked gray skin.

It smiles.

THE BEAST
So... We meet again.

Ty stands his ground.

THE BEAST (CONT'D)
I've waited... a very long time for
this.

Sara instinctively backs away as the Beast looks at her.

THE BEAST (CONT'D)
You... don't belong here.

It casually flicks one claw, HURLING Sara across the room.

CRASH!

She smashes through the coffee table and slams into the wall.

TYLER
Sara!

THE BEAST
Stay back.

Ty freezes as the Beast smiles.

THE BEAST (CONT'D)
I could kill you now. But where's
the fun in that?

Ty's fists clench.

TYLER
If you're gonna kill me... then do
it.

The Beast LAUGHS.

THE BEAST
Oh, I will. But first... I want you
to suffer.

TYLER
You took my family. I've suffered
enough.

The Beast tilts its head.

THE BEAST
Not yet.

It raises one enormous claw –

BOOM!

The front window EXPLODES inward.

Glass erupts across the room.

A ROCKET streaks past Ty.

WHOOSH!

The Beast barely turns –

BOOM!

The living room disappears in a fireball.

The blast throws Ty to the floor as smoke fills the room.

A high-pitched RINGING... then –

A furious ROAR.

Through the smoke, Aislin stands in the shattered window.
Rain pours behind her as an empty rocket launcher rests on
her shoulder.

AISLIN

Get...

She steps inside.

AISLIN (CONT'D)

Away...

Another step.

AISLIN (CONT'D)

From...

She levels the launcher at the Beast.

AISLIN (CONT'D)

Him.

The smoke begins to clear as Aislin scans the flames.

Sara groans.

TYLER

Sara!

SARA
I'm okay... I think.

Then —

The fire MOVES.

Something enormous steps from the flames.

The Beast.

Its burning flesh crawls back into place as bone resets and skin reforms.

The red eyes find Aislin as she lowers the empty launcher.

AISLIN
No...

The Beast raises one claw.

Aislin's left leg SPLITS open.

She screams as another claw tears open her right leg, dropping her to the floor.

TYLER
Aislin!

He charges —

CRASH!

The Beast backhands him into the wall.

Smoke curling from its body, the Beast steps over him.

THE BEAST
Aislin...

Its voice is almost gentle.

AISLIN
Fuck you.

The Beast smiles and lifts her effortlessly by the throat. Ty struggles to stand.

TYLER
Let her go!

THE BEAST
With pleasure.

It hurls Aislin through the wall.

She disappears into the burning house next door.

Silence.

TYLER

Aislin!

INT. BURNING HOUSE - UNKNOWN

Darkness.

Silence.

Then...

Voices.

SUSAN (O.S.)

Robert... What are we going to do?

Shapes emerge... an old bedroom beneath peeling wallpaper and moonlight. ROBERT grips a fireplace poker as SUSAN clings to him. Fifteen-year-old KATHY trembles nearby.

Aislin watches.

AISLIN

Mom...

No one hears her.

ROBERT

Kathy... Hide. Now.

Susan kneels before her daughter.

SUSAN

Listen to me. Everything's going to be alright.

KATHY

I don't want to leave you.

ROBERT

You have to.

Kathy backs into the closet, leaving only a narrow crack in the door.

Robert raises the poker.

The bedroom door slowly opens into darkness as a claw SCRAPES across the floor.

SCRAAAAAAPE.

The Beast enters.

ROBERT (CONT'D)
Leave my family alone!

He swings.

The Beast is already gone.

A claw punches through Robert's chest.

Susan screams and charges.

One swipe.

Her head hits the floor, rolling twice to rest inches from the closet door.

Kathy bites her hand to keep from screaming.

The Beast slowly turns toward the closet...

Stops.

Silence.

Then...

It tilts its head, laughs... and disappears.

Kathy remains frozen.

Only when dawn breaks...

...does she crawl from the closet.

She reaches her parents.

Finally -

She SCREAMS.

The memory dissolves.

Darkness.

Then...

AISLIN (V.O.)
My mother survived the first
massacre. Surviving is kind of in
my blood. It's like my calling...

Tyler's voice joins hers.

TYLER (V.O.)
The blood. It's a sign. You woke
it. Fed it with dreams. Fueled it
with your drawing.

A YOUNG GIRL whispers...

YOUNG GIRL (V.O.)
...but deliver us from evil.

Light breaks through the darkness.

INT. BURNING HOUSE - NIGHT

Aislin GASPS as air floods her lungs. She winces, pain
shooting through her body. Broken beams and dust surround
her.

Slowly she sits up, remembering her grandparents. The closet.
The Beast.

Her hand instinctively reaches inside her jacket.

The drawing.

Still there.

She unfolds it. The Beast stares back, blood staining the
paper.

Then...

It hits her.

AISLIN
I know.

She studies the drawing.

AISLIN (CONT'D)
You're not the Beast... You're its
anchor.

Outside...

The Beast LAUGHS.

Aislin folds the drawing and slips it back into her jacket.

AISLIN (CONT'D)
This ends tonight.

She rises.

Bruised. Bleeding.

Unbroken.

She steps through the shattered wall...

...into the fire.

EXT. HAIDESVILLE STREET - CONTINUOUS

The Beast stands motionless in the middle of the burning street as flames climb the ruined houses and ash drifts beneath the crimson sky.

Its glowing red eyes follow Aislin as she emerges from the shattered house. Bleeding, she limps toward it without slowing.

The Beast smiles.

THE BEAST
How was your nap... Aislin? I was
beginning to think I'd finally
broken you.

Aislin stops twenty feet away.

Smoke curls around her.

Exhausted. Broken. Defiant.

The Beast notices the empty launcher.

THE BEAST (CONT'D)
Out of missiles?

Aislin lets the launcher slide from her shoulder. CLANG.

AISLIN
No. I don't need one.

She reaches inside her jacket as the Beast watches carefully.

THE BEAST
You gave me life. I was gone for
two hundred years. Listening.
(MORE)

THE BEAST (CONT'D)
Hungry. Dreaming. Then... you found
me.

Aislin removes the folded drawing.

AISLIN
I didn't find you.

She unfolds it.

AISLIN (CONT'D)
I found the truth.

For the first time, the Beast's smile falters.

THE BEAST
You know nothing.

AISLIN
I know what you are. I know what
happened the night they burned her.
I know why Havenport died. And I
know why you're still here.

The Beast laughs.

THE BEAST
You think you've solved a two-
hundred-year-old mystery? I've
evolved.

It spreads its arms.

THE BEAST (CONT'D)
Every nightmare... Every act of
hate... Every drop of fear... It
all belongs to me.

AISLIN
No. You made one mistake.

THE BEAST
I don't make mistakes.

AISLIN
You do.

THE BEAST
Then tell me... What mistake was
that?

Aislin smiles.

AISLIN
You fucked with the wrong artist.

THE BEAST
Put it down.

For the first time, she isn't the one who's afraid.

AISLIN
I don't think so.

The Beast takes one slow step forward.

The ground TREMBLES.

THE BEAST
Put.

Another step.

THE BEAST (CONT'D)
It.

Another.

THE BEAST (CONT'D)
Down.

Aislin never moves.

AISLIN
You know...

She looks it up and down.

AISLIN (CONT'D)
You're one ugly bitch.

The Beast ROARS.

It lunges.

Too late.

RRRIP!

Blood ERUPTS across the Beast's left arm.

It stumbles, its roar becoming a scream.

THE BEAST
STOP!

Aislin steps closer.

AISLIN
You know...

RRRIP!

Its right arm splits open, blackened flesh peeling away.
The Beast drops to one knee.

AISLIN (CONT'D)
It feels good...

RRRIP!

Blood pours from the Beast's chest.

AISLIN (CONT'D)
...watching you bleed.

The Beast collapses.

THE BEAST
I SAID... PUT IT DOWN!

Aislin smiles.

AISLIN
My pleasure.

She releases the torn pieces, watching them drift to the pavement, then strikes a match.

FWSSHH.

For one heartbeat she watches the tiny flame dance before looking back at the Beast.

AISLIN (CONT'D)
One thing you forgot.

The Beast's eyes widen.

AISLIN (CONT'D)
I... am done with you.

She drops the match.

WHOOMPH!

Fire races across the blood-soaked pieces.

The Beast throws back its head and SCREAMS. The sound echoes across Haidesville as its screams weaken, rising higher... almost human.

Then —

Silence.

Nothing remains. Not a bone. Not a shadow.

Only scorched pavement where the Beast once stood.

Aislin doesn't move. She stares at the empty street. Waiting.

A cold wind sweeps through Haidesville. Above, the crimson clouds dissolve as dark red fades to gray, then deep midnight blue.

The storm breaks apart. Rain slows... stops.

Moonlight spills across the town. For the first time that night... the stars are visible.

Across Haidesville, fires begin to die as the strange red glow disappears from every home. Parents embrace their children. The bleeding stops.

The nightmare... is over.

Aislin finally exhales.

Ty slowly pushes himself to his feet and limps toward her.

TYLER

You okay?

Aislin looks down at the blood soaking through her jeans.

AISLIN

I've been better.

Ty laughs despite the pain as Sara joins them, rubbing the back of her head.

SARA

I think... we actually did it.

Aislin looks toward the empty stretch of road where the Beast vanished.

AISLIN

No. We finished it.

A peaceful silence settles as Ty looks around the neighborhood.

TYLER

It feels... different.

AISLIN

It is. The curse is gone.

TYLER

You really think it's over?

She smiles.

AISLIN

For the first time in two hundred years... yeah. I do.

Ty steps closer.

TYLER

So... What now?

Aislin looks toward the horizon.

AISLIN

I don't know.

She lets out a quiet laugh.

AISLIN (CONT'D)

I've been chasing this thing my whole life. I never really thought about what comes after.

Ty smiles.

TYLER

I guess now you get to.

Aislin looks at him. For a long moment, neither speaks. Then she steps closer and gently kisses his cheek.

AISLIN

I'll see you around.

Ty smiles.

TYLER

Yeah. See you around.

Aislin smiles one last time, then turns and walks away. Ty watches her disappear into the darkness.

EXT. ARTILLERY & SURPLUS - MORNING

The bell above the door JINGLES. The owner looks up, a smile spreading across his face as Aislin enters carrying the empty launcher.

SHOP OWNER
Well... I'll be damned.

She sets it on the counter. Scorched. Scratched. Empty.
He studies her battered face.

SHOP OWNER (CONT'D)
Is it over?

Aislin smiles. Tired. Honest.

AISLIN
Yeah. It's over.

He lets out a long breath.

SHOP OWNER
Good.

He picks up the launcher.

SHOP OWNER (CONT'D)
I was beginning to think I'd never
see this thing again.

Aislin laughs.

AISLIN
You almost didn't.

Aislin heads for the door.

AISLIN (CONT'D)
Thanks...

SHOP OWNER
You don't owe me thanks. You saved
this town.

Aislin smiles.

AISLIN
We all did.

She exits, the bell jingling.

He returns the launcher to its place.

EXT. HAIDESVILLE - DAY

Life returns. The police station reopens. Families rebuild as
flowers bloom where ash once covered the ground.

The nightmares stop. The bleeding stops. And the fear... finally fades.

For the first time in two hundred years... the curse is gone.

Or so everyone believes.

EXT. SUBURBAN HOME - DAY

SUPER: WEEKS LATER

A LITTLE GIRL sits on her bedroom floor, happily coloring. Crayons. Paper. Sunlight.

She happily colors.

Then...

Her hand stops.

LITTLE GIRL
That's weird...

The crayon moves. Not by her choice.

Two circles, growing darker.

A smile. Long. Thin. Wrong.

She stares as the crayon slips from her fingers.

Then... she smiles. Excited.

She grabs the drawing and runs. Her footsteps echo down the hallway.

LITTLE GIRL (O.S.) (CONT'D)
Mommy! Mommy! Look what I colored!

ON THE DRAWING -

Two crimson eyes.

FADE OUT.