

MIN ENGEL & PAHOLAINEN

(MY ANGEL & DEVIL)

Written by

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**Eighth draft:**

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**NOTE:**

This movie is to be shot on 35mm (or 16mm) with anamorphic lenses (the opening will be shot with a spherical lens), as well as split diopter during some pivotal moments, natural lighting whenever possible, practical effects and FX makeup.

Also, the dialogue will be a mix of Swedish, Finnish, German and English. Therefore, the script is written in English.

**BLACK SCREEN:**

The glorious film grain and dust speckles fill the screen.

FADE IN:

1 EXT. LAKE BODOM - EVENING (**BLACK & WHITE**) 1

The WATER is STILL. No wind in the TREES.

A VOICE is heard.

ONNI (O.S.)  
(in Finnish)  
Okay, for real now, on three.

Giggles and whimpers can be HEARD.

ONNI (O.S.) (cont'd)  
(in Finnish)  
One. Two. Three!

SCREAMS of horror as young adults, EMILIA (19), ILONA (19), ONNI (22) and TOIVO (22), jump towards the water.

FREEZE FRAME when they are in mid-air.  
OPENING CREDITS start.

SONG: "Raunchy" by BILL JUSTIS

Just as we get to the title of the movie, the freeze frame UNFREEZES. The group make a huge splash as they cannonball into the water.

They splash water on each other. Lots of laughter.

2 EXT. LAKE BODOM - EVENING 2

Onni, Emilia and Ilona sit around the crackling campfire. Toivo walks over to the group. He carries a cooler.

He puts it on the ground, opens it, grabs four bottles of KARJALA BEER.

Toivo hands over the bottles one by one. Onni looks at him.

ONNI  
(in Finnish)  
Do you have the...

Toivo takes a cap opener out of his pocket. He does the scout salute.

TOIVO  
(in Finnish)  
Be prepared.

Onni takes the cap opener. He is about to open his beer.

EMILIA  
(in Finnish)  
Hey, hey, ladies first.

Emilia pushes her beer bottle in Onni's face. Ilona joins in on it.

ONNI  
(in Finnish)  
Alright, alright. Fuck.

Onni opens Emilia and Ilona's beer bottles. The caps drop to the ground.

ILONA  
(in Finnish)  
Check this out.

Ilona picks up the caps. She places them over her eyes. She growls.

ILONA (cont'd)  
(in Finnish)  
The cap monster.

The rest of the group laugh. Ilona throws the caps on the ground.

The group raise their beer bottles.

ALL OF THEM  
(in Finnish)  
CHEERS!

They clink the bottles. The exact same second that they do that, a quick FLASH in a bush from further away goes off.

Emilia looks in the direction of the flash. Onni looks at her. He flexes.

ONNI  
(in Finnish)  
See anything you like?

Emilia looks at the rest of the group.

EMILIA  
(in Finnish)  
Didn't any of you see that?

ILONA  
(in Finnish)  
See what?

Emilia points to where the flash went off. The rest of the group look where she is pointing.

EXTREME CLOSE-UP

An INDEX FINGER moves the FILM ADVANCE LEVER on a PENTACON PRAKTISIX. The camera is raised. The camera is equipped with an 80mm Biometar f/2.8 lens.

SOMEONE looks in the removable viewfinder.

VIEWFINDER'S POV:

Emilia, Ilona, Toivo and Onni still look in the direction of where Emilia points. Unknowingly looking directly into the camera.

BACK TO EMILIA, ILONA, TOIVO AND ONNI

Onni drinks a sip of his beer. He looks at Toivo.

Toivo nods knowingly. He reaches into his bag. As he rummages through the bag, we see CONDOMS. He pulls out a Mora knife.

Ilona looks at Toivo.

ILONA (cont'd)  
(in Finnish)  
Seriously?

Toivo shrugs.

TOIVO  
(in Finnish)  
Better to be safe than sorry.

Onni smiles. He and Toivo gets up. They walk in the direction of where Emilia was pointing.

VIEWFINDER'S POV:

Onni and Toivo approaches. Walking slowly towards US. We see Emilia and Ilona in the background. Watching intently. The FOCUS ADJUSTS with absolute precision.

CLICK.

The image FREEZES.

Onni and Toivo look at each other. They pick up the pace. The bush rumble. Someone gets up from behind.

A guy, ANTERO (24), puts the camera around his neck.

Toivo grabs Antero by the arm. He drags him across the bush. He puts the knife to Antero's neck.

Emilia and Ilona gets up.

TOIVO (cont'd)  
(in Finnish)  
What the fuck are you doing?

ANTERO  
(in Finnish)  
I'm sorry, I didn't mean to scare you.

ONNI  
(in Finnish)  
Why were you taking pictures of us?

Antero raises his camera.

ANTERO  
(in Finnish)  
It's for my portfolio.

Toivo and Onni look at each other. Toivo returns his gaze to Antero.

TOIVO  
(in Finnish)  
Well, it'll cost you two hundred and fifty marks.

ANTERO  
(in Finnish)  
I don't have that much.

Onni walks closer to Toivo and Antero. He reaches into Antero's pocket. He pulls out his wallet.

Onni takes out the mark bills. He counts them. He looks at Antero's driver's license.

ONNI  
(in Finnish)  
Well, Antero Ojala, I guess this will  
have to do.

TOIVO  
(in Finnish)  
If we see you here again, it's gonna  
cost you more than money.

Antero nods. Sweat drips from his chin. Toivo pulls the knife away.

ONNI  
(in Finnish)  
Get outta here.

Antero backs. He turns around and walks away into the distance.

Toivo looks at Onni. They smile at each other. Toivo puts the knife into the sheath. Onni hands out a couple of bills.

ONNI (cont'd)  
(in Finnish)  
Seventy five for you.

Toivo takes the bills. Onni puts the rest into his pocket.

ONNI (cont'd)  
(in Finnish)  
And seventy five for me.

Toivo and Onni walk back to Emilia and Ilona.

EMILIA  
(in Finnish)  
What the fuck was that?

Toivo and Onni sit back down by the campfire.

TOIVO  
(in Finnish)  
Just a bit of poetic justice.

ILONA  
(in Finnish)  
What if he calls the police?

Onni drinks a sip of beer.

ONNI  
(in Finnish)  
We'll cross that bridge when we come  
to it.

EMILIA  
(in Finnish)  
Maybe we should go home?

Toivo puts the knife in his bag.

TOIVO  
(in Finnish)  
Calm down, it's not like he know our  
names, it was just a random creep.

A beat.

Ilona and Emilia look at each other. Ilona looks at Toivo and Onni. She smiles.

ILONA  
(in Finnish)  
Fuck it.

Ilona sits down. She takes Emilia's beer bottle. She looks up at her. She offers the beer to Emilia.

A beat.

Emilia sighs. She takes the beer bottle. She sits down. The rest of the group CHEER.

3 EXT. LAKE BODOM - NIGHT 3

The campfire is out. The air is still. Full moon.

Beer bottles lie scattered about on the ground. As well as cigarette butts and used condoms.

4 INT. TENT - NIGHT 4

Emilia, Ilona, Onni and Toivo are sleeping. They do a little bit of tossing and turning.

Slowly, but surely, the silence is disrupted. By FOOTSTEPS.

5 EXT. LAKE BODOM - NIGHT 5

TRACKING SHOT (POV):

We TRACK SLOWLY towards the tent. The full moon provides faint light. In the moonlight we see a SHADOW.

We get closer to the tent. The CAMERA TILTS DOWN. We PUSH IN on a ROCK. A HAND enters THE FRAME. It grabs the rock.

We continue to TRACK towards the tent. We STOP mere inches from it.

6 INT. TENT - NIGHT 6

The momentary silence is disrupted by a KNIFE gently CUTTING through the tent-fabric. The knife is pulled out.

A pair of HANDS loudly rip the cut fabric apart.

Emilia, Ilona, Onni and Toivo wake up. They look at each other groggily.

Someone ENTERS the tent.

7 EXT. LAKE BODOM - CONTINUOUS 7

The CAMERA SLOWLY ZOOMS OUT from the tent.

Sounds of deafening SCREAMS, THUDS, CRUNCHING and STABBING that seem to go on for an eternity.

The panic subsides. The peace and tranquility make their way back.

Suddenly, a QUICK FLASH from inside the tent.

FADE TO BLACK

**BLACK SCREEN:**

**SUPER IMPOSE:** *Present day. Munich.*

SONG: "Nur Du" by ROY BLACK.

8 EXT. MUNICH AIRPORT - DROP OFF ZONE - MORNING (COLOR) 8

A CAR drives into FRAME. It parks in a free spot. The engine is still running.

9 INT. CAR - MORNING

9

A woman, ISOLDE (31), sits in the passenger seat. In the driver's seat sits an older woman, KERSTIN (56).

Isolde unbuckles the seatbelt. She looks at Kerstin.

ISOLDE  
(in German)  
Thanks for the ride.

Isolde opens the door. Kerstin puts her hand on Isolde's shoulder.

KERSTIN  
(in German)  
Can I talk to you for a moment?

Isolde checks her watch.

ISOLDE  
(in German)  
I'm in bit of a hurry.

KERSTIN  
(in German)  
Just two minutes.

ISOLDE  
(in German)  
Yeah, and those two minutes will turn  
into five, and then ten minutes.

KERSTIN  
(in German)  
Close the door.

Isolde sighs. She closes the door.

ISOLDE  
(in German)  
What do you want to talk about?

Kerstin turns off the ignition. The song STOPS.

A beat.

ISOLDE (cont'd)  
(in German)  
Please, I have to go.

Kerstin looks at Isolde.

KERSTIN

(in German)

It's not too late to change your mind.

ISOLDE

(in German)

Well, kind of, I've bought the ticket and I'm here now.

KERSTIN

(in German)

But why can't he...

ISOLDE

(in German)

...Aleksi. Can you say that?

KERSTIN

(in German)

Why can't he come here instead?

ISOLDE

(in German)

Because this is what we decided. If we hit it off, then maybe I'll invite him over here.

KERSTIN

(in German)

Why "maybe"?

ISOLDE

(in German)

I think you know why.

A beat.

KERSTIN

(in German)

How much do you know about him?

ISOLDE

(in German)

Are we still doing this?

KERSTIN

(in German)

Answer the question.

ISOLDE

(in German)

I told you, he's a freelance photographer.

KERSTIN  
(in German)  
Is that it?

ISOLDE  
(in German)  
Mom, I'm not some teenager meeting  
her first crush.

KERSTIN  
(in German)  
So that's the only thing you know  
about him?

A beat.

Kerstin scoffs.

KERSTIN (cont'd)  
(in German)  
Wow, you're practically best friends  
with him.

ISOLDE  
(in German)  
He probably knows more about me than  
you do.

KERSTIN  
(in German)  
What's that supposed to mean?

A beat.

KERSTIN (cont'd)  
(in German)  
Will you be sleeping in the same bed?

A beat.

ISOLDE  
(in German)  
Can I go now?

KERSTIN  
(in German)  
Are you gonna fuck him?

Isolde looks at Kerstin. She smiles.

KERSTIN (cont'd)  
(in German)  
Why are you smiling?

A beat.

Isolde keeps smiling, showing her teeth.

KERSTIN (cont'd)  
(in German)  
Stop it.

ISOLDE  
(in German)  
I can't wait to feel him...

Isolde leans closer to Kerstin. A beat.

ISOLDE (cont'd)  
(in German)  
...deep inside me.

Kerstin roughly PUSHES Isolde back. Isolde stares at her.

A beat.

KERSTIN  
(in German)  
Get out.

Isolde opens her mouth to speak, but stops herself.

A beat.

Isolde opens the door. She steps out off the car and closes the door.

Isolde walks to the trunk, opens it and grabs her luggage. A backpack and carry-on bag. She closes the trunk.

Kerstin looks at Isolde in the rear-view mirror. Isolde meets her gaze. They look at each other.

Isolde walks towards the entrance, rolls her carry-on bag behind her.

Kerstin turns on the ignition. She starts to drive.

10 EXT. MUNICH AIRPORT - ENTRANCE - CONTINUOUS

10

Isolde stops. She turns around. She watches Kerstin drive away.

Isolde turns towards the entrance. She steps inside the airport.

11 INT. AIRPLANE - MORNING

11

Isolde puts her carry-on bag in the overhead compartment. She sits down by the window. She buckles the seatbelt.

Isolde reaches for her phone. She opens WhatsApp, writes a message (in English) to ALEKSI.

GRAPHIC: "I just boarded the plane! I'll be up in the air for about 2,5 hours.. should reach Helsinki around 13:45.. Can't wait to see you :)<3"

Isolde sends the message. She leans back into her seat. Her right leg starts to shake. Her phone vibrates.

Reply from Aleksii.

GRAPHIC: "Alrighty! I'll pick you up from the airport :) Safe flight! Can't wait to see you either ;)<3"

Isolde smiles. She puts her phone on airplane mode.

Isolde reaches into her pocket, and takes out an AirPod-case. She puts the AirPods in her ear. She puts on a song.

SONG: "*Ein Schiff wird kommen*" by LALE ANDERSEN.

CUT TO BLACK.

TITLE CARD:

**MIN ENGEL & PAHOLAINEN**

(MY ANGEL & DEVIL)

CUT TO:

12 EXT. HELSINKI AIRPORT - RUNWAY - AFTERNOON

12

The AIRPLANE approaches the RUNWAY. The landing gear deploys. The wheels hit the asphalt.

13 INT. HELSINKI AIRPORT - TERMINAL 2 - AFTERNOON

13

Isolde walks through the terminal. She passes GATES, SHOPS and RESTAURANTS. She rolls the carry-on bag behind her.

Isolde stops in her tracks. She reaches for her phone. She opens WhatsApp. She writes a message (in German) to Kerstin.

GRAPHIC: "I'm in Helsinki now. I'm sorry about earlier... I love you <3".

Isolde sends the message. She continues to walk. She walks out OFF FRAME.

14 INT. HELSINKI AIRPORT - DEPARTURE & ARRIVAL AREA - AFTERNOON 14

Isolde walks into the hall area. The area is full of people waiting for their loved ones to arrive.

Isolde stops. She removes her AirPods, and puts them back in the case. She puts the case in her pocket. She walks towards the crowd.

Isolde looks around. She reaches for her phone. She opens WhatsApp, and writes a message to Alekski.

GRAPHIC: "Hey, I can't see you anywhere.. are you stuck in traffic?"

Isolde sends the message. Then, as if the message was a cue of sorts, a pair of HANDS grab Isolde by the waist. She is lifted up off her feet. Whoever lifted her puts her down again, and lets go off her waist.

Isolde turns around. Standing merely a feet from her, is ALEKSI (33). He smiles, showing his teeth.

They stand in complete silence. Looking at each other. Mesmerized.

Finally...

ALEKSI

Hey.

ISOLDE

Good day.

Isolde shakes her head. Embarrassed by the awkward formality.

ISOLDE (cont'd)

I mean, hey.

Alekski offers his hand. They shake.

ALEKSI

Pleased to make your acquaintance, ma'am.

Aleksi bows. Isolde grabs the side of her jeans.  
She curtsies.

ISOLDE  
Likewise, sir.

A beat.

Aleksi hugs her. She hugs him back. A long hug.

ISOLDE (cont'd)  
Are you real?

Aleksi grabs Isolde's hand. He puts it on his cheek.  
Isolde smiles. A beat.

Aleksi takes Isolde's carry-on bag.

ALEKSI  
Let's get out outta here. Do you want  
me to take your backpack?

ISOLDE  
No, it's alright, thank you.

ALEKSI  
Alrighty then, follow me.

Aleksi starts to walk. Isolde follows him. They walk out OFF  
FRAME.

15 INT. A TAXI - BACKSEAT - AFTERNOON

15

Aleksi and Isolde enters. The TAXI DRIVER opens MAPS on his  
phone.

TAXI DRIVER  
(in Finnish)  
Where to?

ALEKSI  
(in Finnish)  
Kallio, Toinen linja kolme.

The taxi driver types the address. He starts to drive.  
He accelerates quickly. Changes lanes, passes cars.

Aleksi grabs the grab handle. Isolde looks at him.

ISOLDE  
Are you okay?

Aleksi looks at Isolde. He smiles.

ALEKSI  
Yeah, I just...

Aleksi looks at the taxi driver. He leans closer to Isolde.

ALEKSI (cont'd)  
(whispers)  
...I just never get used to how fast  
taxi drivers drive.

ISOLDE  
You'd probably have a heart attack in  
Munich then.

Isolde takes Aleksi's hand. She holds it tight.

ISOLDE (cont'd)  
If there's an accident, at least  
we'll go together.

Aleksi smiles and nods. Isolde looks out the window.  
Aleksi keeps looking at her. His eyes go down to her legs.  
His breathing is faster.

Aleksi puts his hand on Isolde's thigh. Isolde turns around.  
They look at each other. Aleksi runs his index finger up and  
down her thigh.

Aleksi and Isolde smile at each other.

16 EXT. HELSINKI - TOINEN LINJA 3 - AFTERNOON

16

The taxi pulls up by the pavement, in front of an apartment  
complex.

Aleksi opens the door, he steps out off the taxi. He walks  
to the other door. He opens it. He offers his hand to  
Isolde. She takes it, and steps out off the taxi.

Aleksi walks to the trunk. He opens it, and grabs Isolde's  
luggage. He closes the trunk.

17 INT. ELEVATOR - AFTERNOON

17

The elevator-door opens. Aleksi and Isolde step inside.  
The door closes. Aleksi presses a button. The elevator  
moves.

Aleksi and Isolde look at each other. The want to in their  
eyes is unmistakable.

The elevator stops.

18 INT. ALEKSI'S APARTMENT - HALLWAY - AFTERNOON

18

The front door opens. Aleksi and Isolde step inside. He closes the door. He lets go off the carry-on bag, and drops the backpack to the floor. It lands with a thud.

Isolde turns around. She slaps Aleksi on the shoulder.

ISOLDE

Careful, I have my camera and laptop  
in there.

Aleksि smiles. He approaches Isolde.

Isolde looks at a big DRAWER with THREE COMPARTMENTS. On top of the drawer is a tiny key-basket and a wifi-modem.

Isolde returns her gaze to Aleksi. They are mere inches from each other. Aleksi unzips her jacket. He drops it to the floor.

Isolde unbuttons Aleksi's shirt. She opens it, exposing his upper body. Isolde kisses Aleksi's chest. She kneels down. She kisses his stomach.

Without any warning, Aleksi lifts up Isolde. She wraps her legs around him. He carries her out OFF FRAME.

19 INT. ALEKSI'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - AFTERNOON

19

Aleksi kicks the slightly ajar door wide open. He runs towards the king-sized bed. He and Isolde crash-land on the bed. They play-wrestle.

Isolde lies on top of Aleksi. They look at each other. She pets his cheek.

Aleksi twirls Isolde's curly hair.

ALEKSI

Did you do these yourself?

ISOLDE

Myself?

ALEKSI

Can you do my hair like that? Did you  
bring curlers?

Isolde playfully twists Aleksi's nipple.

ISOLDE

It's not a perm, dummkopf. This is all natural.

Aleksi smiles suggestively.

ALEKSI

What else is natural?

Isolde smiles back. She unbuttons her blouse. She takes it off. She is wearing a white bra underneath.

Isolde unhooks her bra. She starts taking it off.

ALEKSI (cont'd)

Slowly.

Isolde continues slowly to take it off one strap at a time. She throws the bra on the floor.

Isolde grabs Aleksi's hands. She places them on her breasts. He squeezes them gently.

ISOLDE

Do they feel natural to you?

Aleksi smiles. He sits up.

ALEKSI

Lie down.

Isolde lies down on the bed. Aleksi spreads her legs. He lies down on top of her. He gently kisses her breasts.

Isolde looks at Aleksi. Heavy breaths, heart racing, body shivering as he kisses his way down her stomach. He reaches her jeans. He starts to unbutton them.

Isolde sits up.

ISOLDE

Wait.

Aleksi stops. He looks at Isolde. She looks back at him. A beat.

Aleksi gently pushes Isolde back down. He runs his hand slowly over her breasts and stomach.

Aleksi looks at Isolde in her half-naked state. Even more taken aback by her. A beat.

Aleksi unbuttons Isolde's jeans. He pulls the zipper down. He starts to take her jeans off. Revealing red lace panties.

Isolde pulls awkwardly away from him.

ISOLDE (cont'd)  
Stop.

Aleksi looks at Isolde. She looks back at him.

ISOLDE (cont'd)  
I'm sorry.

Isolde covers her breasts with a pillow.

ALEKSI  
It's okay, I didn't mean to make you  
uncomfortable.

ISOLDE  
No, it's not that, I just...

ALEKSI  
...Too soon?

A beat.

Isolde nods.

ALEKSI (cont'd)  
I get it. We don't have to do  
anything now. Whenever you feel  
ready, okay?

ISOLDE  
I appreciate it.

Aleksi gets off the bed. He picks up Isolde's blouse, bra  
and socks off the floor.

Aleksi hands them over to her. Isolde puts the pillow away.  
She takes the clothes. She puts her bra back on.

ALEKSI  
Are you hungry?

ISOLDE  
Getting there.

ALEKSI  
Do you like pizza?

Isolde buttons on her blouse.

ISOLDE  
Only if there's one with sauerkraut,  
otherwise nicht gut.

Aleksi nods his head disapprovingly. Isolde gets up from the bed. She puts the socks on the bed. She stands a couple of inches away from Aleksi.

A beat.

ISOLDE (cont'd)  
I'm kidding.

Isolde kisses him on the cheek.

ISOLDE (cont'd)  
I would love to have a pizza with you.

Aleksi smiles.

ALEKSI  
By the way, what camera did you bring?

ISOLDE  
A Rolleicord IV.

ALEKSI  
Impressive. What film?

ISOLDE  
Fujicolor Pro 400H.

ALEKSI  
Japanese film in a German camera?

ISOLDE  
Yeah?

ALEKSI  
I assumed you'd have Agfacolor.

Isolde shakes her head.

ISOLDE  
Not my type of film. Lacks character and too hard on the eyes.

Aleksi stares at her. His expression is blank. A beat. Then...

ALEKSI  
Leave in fifteen?

Without even waiting for her reply, Aleksi turns around. He walks out off the bedroom. He shuts the door.

Isolde is all alone in the bedroom. She tries to process what just happened - *"Did I make him mad?"*

Isolde shakes her head, *"I'm probably just overthinking."* She pulls her zipper up.

20 INT. ALEKSI'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - LATE AFTERNOON 20

The bedroom-door opens. Isolde steps out, fully dressed. She stops in the doorway.

ISOLDE'S POV:

Aleksi sits on the couch. Only the back of his head is shown.

Isolde walks towards him. As Aleksi becomes more visible, WE SEE a laptop on his lap.

Aleksi is completely oblivious to Isolde approaching him. Now WE SEE what he is doing. He edits a picture in Lightroom.

A monochromatic portrait of a WOMAN (mid 20s). The picture itself, from a technical standpoint, looks nice, but there is something a bit off about the woman in the picture. She looks...

...scared?

Isolde puts her hand on Aleksi's shoulder. He looks at her.

ALEKSI

Hey.

Isolde looks at the picture.

ISOLDE

Is that a friend of yours?

ALEKSI

Not really, just an acquaintance who needed a couple of headshots.

ISOLDE

That's an interesting look on her face.

ALEKSI

Yeah, I like a wide range of emotions while I snap away.

ISOLDE

What kind of direction do you give them?

ALEKSI

When I want them to smile, I ask if they have any favorite jokes. For sadness, I ask them to tell me their life stories.

ISOLDE

But what if they don't have any sad life stories?

ALEKSI

Everybody does.

A beat.

ISOLDE

(points at the picture)

What do you say to get that?

ALEKSI

Practically nothing.

ISOLDE

What does that mean?

Aleksi closes the laptop.

ALEKSI

A magician never reveals his secrets.

Aleksi gets up off the couch. Isolde puts her hands around his shoulders.

ISOLDE

Surely there must be something you can tell me?

ALEKSI

I can't, and don't call me Shirley.

A beat.

ISOLDE

Have you ever...seen a grown man naked?

Aleksi and Isolde burst into laughter. The laughter subsides.

Aleksi inspects Isolde from top to bottom.

ALEKSI  
You are ridiculously beautiful.

ISOLDE  
Spoken like a Michael Bay-movie.

ALEKSI  
What do you mean?

ISOLDE  
It just reminded me of that scene in  
"Pearl Harbor" when Affleck says to  
Beckinsale that she's so beautiful it  
hurts.

ALEKSI  
It's your nose that hurts.

ISOLDE  
I think it's my heart.

Isolde fake gags. Aleksi's phone vibrates.

Aleksi checks his phone. Several message-notifications from  
an UNKNOWN NUMBER. For a split second WE SEE the PREVIEW of  
the latest message.

CLOSE-UP ON THE PHONE:

Message from Unknown Number (in Swedish):

"You can't ignore me forever."

Aleksi swipes them away. He puts the phone back in his  
pocket. He looks at Isolde.

ALEKSI  
Shall we?

Isolde nods her head.

ISOLDE  
Let's go, mein lieber.

21 INT. VIA TRIBUNALI KALLIO - LATER

21

The door opens. Aleksi and Isolde step inside. Isolde's  
Rolleicord IV hangs around her neck.

A SERVER (mid 30s) smiles at them.

SERVER  
 (in Finnish)  
 Hello.

Aleksi smiles back at the server.

ALEKSI  
 (in Finnish)  
 Hey, table for two, please.

SERVER  
 (in Finnish)  
 Sure, right this way.

The server grabs two menus. She walks towards a table by the big windows. Aleksi and Isolde follow her.

The server puts the menus on the table.

ALEKSI  
 (in Finnish)  
 Thank you.

The server nods her head. She walks away. Aleksi and Isolde take off their coats, and hang them on the coatrack.

Aleksi sits down. Isolde is about to sit down. Aleksi looks at her. Isolde stops. She backs away from him.

ISOLDE  
 Hold that look.

Isolde opens the viewfinder on the Rolleicord IV.

ROLLEICORD IV'S POV:

Aleksi looks into the lens. The focus is adjusted. He is in perfect focus. Behind Aleksi, on the other side of the big window, a HOODED FIGURE looks in their direction.

Isolde looks up from the viewfinder. She looks at the hooded figure. It looks back at her. Aleksi looks at Isolde.

A beat.

Aleksi looks behind him. The hooded figure quickly turns around. It walks away.

Aleksi looks back at Isolde.

ALEKSI  
 You okay?

Isolde snaps out of it. She looks at Aleksi.

ISOLDE

Yeah, sorry, I just zoned out.

Isolde looks down on the viewfinder again. She pushes the shutter release.

CLICK.

Isolde closes the viewfinder. She puts the camera on the table. She sits down. She and Aleksi open their menus.

ISOLDE (cont'd)

Any particular pizza that you recommend?

Aleksि closes his menu.

ALEKSI

Well, I already know what I'm getting. The prosciutto pizza. Best I've ever had.

ISOLDE

I can't have that.

ALEKSI

Why?

ISOLDE

Because I'm...

ALEKSI

...Allergic to pork?

ISOLDE

Vegan.

ALEKSI

You are?

ISOLDE

I've told you that.

ALEKSI

You can just ask them to remove the ham, or does mushrooms also count as meat?

ISOLDE

No, but then there's the mozzarella. Besides, wouldn't it just make more sense that I order a vegan pizza?

ALEKSI

I've seen plenty of vegans eat cheese, and other dairy products.

ISOLDE

I think what you meant to say was that you've seen *vegetarians* eat those things.

ALEKSI

Is it really that much of a difference in the end?

ISOLDE

Look, I'm getting a vegan pizza, you can get whatever you want. I won't judge.

Isolde closes her menu.

ALEKSI

Fair enough.

A beat.

The server approaches. She has a small notepad and a pencil in her hands.

SERVER

(in Finnish)

Are you ready to order?

ALEKSI

(in Finnish)

Yeah, I'll have the prosciutto pizza, thank you.

The server writes in her notepad. She looks at Isolde.

ISOLDE

I'll have the puttanesca 2.0. Make it vegan, please. Thank you.

The server writes in her notepad.

SERVER

Yes, of course. Thank you. Would you like to have a look at our drinking menu?

Isolde opens her mouth to speak. Aleksi shakes his head.

ALEKSI  
 (in Finnish)  
 We'll have a bottle of red wine.

SERVER  
 (in Finnish)  
 Sure, which one?

Aleksi looks at the server. He smiles.

ALEKSI  
 (in Finnish)  
 Surprise us.

SERVER  
 (in Finnish)  
 Do you want any recommendations?

ALEKSI  
 (in Finnish)  
 That would be ruining the surprise,  
 wouldn't it? Thank you.

Aleksi hands over his menu. The server takes it. She looks at Isolde.

SERVER  
 I can take your menu.

Isolde hands over her menu.

ISOLDE  
 Thank you.

SERVER  
 You're welcome. I'll be right back  
 with the wine.

ALEKSI  
 (in Finnish)  
 Thank you so much.

The server walks away. Aleksi and Isolde look at each other.

ALEKSI (cont'd)  
 I'm sorry about earlier.

ISOLDE  
 Let's just agree to not judge each  
 others choices. Okay?

Aleksi offers his hand.

ALEKSI

Deal.

Isolde smiles. She shakes Aleksi's hand.

ISOLDE

Bombe.

Isolde's phone vibrates. She takes it out off her pocket.  
A reply (in German) from Kerstin.

GRAPHIC: "We'll talk about it when you're back. Be careful."

Isolde sighs. Aleksi leans towards her.

ALEKSI

Did something happen?

ISOLDE

I just got a text from my mom.

ALEKSI

Is it bad?

ISOLDE

Typical overprotective mommy stuff.  
I'd rather not think about it.

ALEKSI

Do you wanna talk about it?

ISOLDE

That would require me to think about  
it, wouldn't it?

ALEKSI

Point taken.

A beat.

The server returns with a bottle of red wine and two  
wineglasses.

22 EXT. VIA TRIBUNALI - EVENING

22

TWO SHOT:

Aleksि holds the door open for Isolde. She smiles at him.  
They step out from the pizzeria. They look at each other.

ISOLDE

That was lovely, thank you.

ALEKSI

My pleasure.

A beat.

ISOLDE

Are there any movie theaters nearby?

ALEKSI

A few. There's one inside a library close to the railway station. They show mostly classic movies, but also a bit more obscure ones.

ISOLDE

Should we see what they're showing?

ALEKSI

Let's do it.

Aleksi and Isolde start to walk. The CAMERA TRACKS with them. They walk out OFF FRAME.

The CAMERA STOPS TRACKING. The hooded figure steps out from K-Market Sörkka. It looks at Aleksi and Isolde.

HOODED FIGURE'S POV:

Aleksi and Isolde walk around the corner. Out of sight.

The hooded figure walks briskly around the corner. Just in time to see Aleksi and Isolde step inside a tram.

The tram-doors close.

The hooded figure runs towards the tram. It gets to the door furthest in the back. It pushes the button. The door won't open. It keeps pushing the button. To no avail.

23 INT. TRAM - CONTINUOUS

23

Isolde turns her head. She sees the hooded figure. The hooded figure bangs on the door. Aleksi turns his head.

ALEKSI'S POV:

The figure takes the hood off. Revealing a woman, NOORA (32). She looks directly at US.

Aleksi looks away from Noora. His left leg starts to shake. Isolde looks at Aleksi. The tram starts to drive away.

24 EXT. TRAM STOP - CONTINUOUS

24

Noora watches the tram drive off into the distance.  
She breaths heavily. She takes her phone out off her pocket.

Noora writes a message (in Swedish) to Aleksi.

GRAPHIC: "I'll see you later."

We see that the previous message that she sent was "You  
can't ignore me forever."

25 INT. TRAM - LATER

25

Aleksi takes a deep breath. His left leg still shakes.  
Isolde puts her hand on his leg.

ISOLDE

You okay?

Aleksi looks at her.

ALEKSI

Yeah, just a bit stressed.

ISOLDE

We can just watch a movie at your  
place instead.

ALEKSI

No, no, it's okay.

A beat.

ISOLDE

Did you know who that was?

ALEKSI

Why?

ISOLDE

I think I saw her earlier outside of  
the pizza place.

ALEKSI

You did?

ISOLDE

Yeah, she was looking at us.

A beat.

ALEKSI

Alright, I'll come clean.

(a beat)

Her name's Noora. She's an ex-girlfriend of mine.

ISOLDE

Did you just recently break up?

ALEKSI

No, like a year ago.

ISOLDE

I'm guessing that it was on bad terms?

ALEKSI

You could say that.

ISOLDE

What happened?

ALEKSI

Well, in a nutshell, we were just a very bad fit.

ISOLDE

How so?

A beat.

ALEKSI

I would rather not talk about it, if that's okay? I'll tell you one day, just not now.

ISOLDE

Yeah, of course. I'm sorry if I was being pushy.

ALEKSI

It's okay. I just need a moment to calm down.

ISOLDE

I understand.

A beat.

ISOLDE (cont'd)

Has she been trying to get in touch with you?

ALEKSI

No, I was under the impression that she had moved on.

A beat.

ALEKSI (cont'd)

I'm sorry, I just really didn't expect to see her.

ISOLDE

It's okay, really. You couldn't have known.

ALEKSI

Thank you.

ISOLDE

But what if she follows us to the movie theater?

ALEKSI

Then I guess we run like hell?

ISOLDE

Come on, I'm serious.

A beat.

ALEKSI

If she's crazy enough to do so, it won't be anything that I can't handle.

ISOLDE

Meaning?

Aleksi smiles.

ALEKSI

Look, I don't wanna think about her, you're here with me, and that's all that matters.

A beat.

Isolde smiles back. She kisses Aleksi on the cheek. She rests her head on his shoulder.

Aleksi's smile slowly fades away.

26 EXT. LIBRARY OODI - NIGHT

26

Isolde stands in front of the Helsinki-sign. She poses for Aleksi. He looks in the viewfinder of the Rolleicord.

ROLLEICORD IV'S POV:

Aleksि adjusts the focus. Isolde is in perfect focus. He pushes the shutter release.

CLICK.

Aleksि gives the chef's kiss. Isolde smiles. He walks over to her. He hands over the camera to Isolde. She takes it.

ALEKSI

Send me the pictures when you've had the film developed.

Isolde puts the camera around her neck.

ISOLDE

Will do.

A beat.

ISOLDE (cont'd)

Are you the only photographer in your family?

ALEKSI

The only alive one.

ISOLDE

Oh, were any of your grandparents a photographer?

ALEKSI

Yeah, my maternal grandpa did a lot of photographing in the sixties and seventies.

ISOLDE

Really? Was he famous?

Aleksि shrugs his shoulders.

ALEKSI

I don't know, he had some exhibitions, but probably not famous like that. I can show you some of his pictures later if you want?

Isolde nods.

ISOLDE  
I'd love that.

Aleksi checks his phone. He puts it back in his pocket.

ALEKSI  
Alright, time's a wastin'. Shall we?

UNBROKEN CONTINUOUS STEADICAM TRACKING-SHOT:

SONG: "*Spanish Harlem*" by BEN E. KING.

Aleksi offers his arm to Isolde. She puts her hand around it. They walk towards the enormous library building.

ISOLDE  
Do you come here often?

ALEKSI  
Once or twice a week. What's really cool is that they do analog projection, and they show the original 35mm prints.

ISOLDE  
Oh my god. So you get the glorious film grain?

Aleksi smiles and nods.

ALEKSI  
That, plus dust speckles, scratches and the cigarette burns.

Isolde squeals excitedly.

ISOLDE  
I love the place already.

They reach the entrance. Isolde does The Force hand gesture. The doors open. She looks at Aleksi. They smile at each other.

They step inside the library.

27 INT. LIBRARY OODI - CONTINUOUS

27

THE TRACKING SHOT CONTINUES:

Aleksi and Isolde step inside the revolving door. Aleksi's foot bumps into the door. It stops.

ALEKSI  
These fucking doors, man.

ISOLDE  
Relaxen.

Isolde takes a small step forward. The revolving door moves again. Alekski follows Isolde's pace.

They get out from the revolving door. Alekski points to the left. He and Isolde turn to the left.

They walk past the closed cafeteria. A NEON-SIGN becomes more visible. The sign says: KINO REGINA.

28 INT. KINO REGINA - RECEPTION - CONTINUOUS

28

THE TRACKING SHOT CONTINUES:

A bunch of movie-posters are behind a giant frame on the wall. The reception is empty. The door to the auditorium is open.

Isolde walks to the stand full of program booklets. She takes one. Alekski snatches it away from her.

The song PAUSES.

ISOLDE  
Don't you wanna see what they're showing?

Alekski puts it back on the stand. He smiles mischievously.

ALEKSI  
I like being surprised.

Alekski winks. He walks to the front desk. The RECEPTIONIST (early 20's) smiles at Alekski.

RECEPTIONIST  
(in Finnish)  
Hello.

ALEKSI  
(in Finnish)  
Hey, what're you showing right now?

RECEPTIONIST  
(in Finnish)  
We're about to show "Cape Fear".

ALEKSI  
(in Finnish)  
Original or remake?

RECEPTIONIST  
(in Finnish)  
Remake, one of our themes right now  
is Martin Scorsese.

Aleksi smiles approvingly.

ALEKSI  
(in Finnish)  
Perfect, two tickets, please.

The receptionist prepares two tickets.

RECEPTIONIST  
(in Finnish)  
Are you a member?

ALEKSI  
(in Finnish)  
Yes.

RECEPTIONIST  
(in Finnish)  
Name?

ALEKSI  
Aleksi.

The receptionist searches for Aleksi.

RECEPTIONIST  
(in Finnish)  
Last name?

ALEKSI  
(in Finnish)  
Oh sorry, Ojala.

The receptionist sees Aleksi's name.

RECEPTIONIST  
(in Finnish)  
Alright, two tickets, that'll be  
17.50 euros, please.

Aleksi takes out his phone. He puts it against the card-reader. The payment is approved. The receptionist prints out the tickets, and hands them over to Aleksi.

ALEKSI  
 (in Finnish)  
 Thank you.

RECEPTIONIST  
 (in Finnish)  
 Thank you, enjoy the movie.

ALEKSI  
 (in Finnish)  
 You too.

Aleksi turns to Isolde. He shakes his head in embarrassment.

ISOLDE  
 What?

ALEKSI  
 I said "you too" when she said "enjoy  
 the movie".

Isolde laughs. They walk towards the auditorium.

ISOLDE  
 Classic.

The song CONTINUES.

Aleksi hands over the other ticket to Isolde. An EMPLOYEE  
 (40) holding a scanner stands by the entrance.

EMPLOYEE  
 (in Finnish)  
 Hello.

ALEKSI  
 (in Finnish)  
 Hi.

Aleksi and Isolde hold out their tickets. The employee scans  
 them.

EMPLOYEE  
 (in Finnish)  
 Welcome.

ALEKSI  
 (in Finnish)  
 Thank you.

Aleksi and Isolde walk past the employee. They enter the  
 auditorium.

29 INT. KINO REGINA - AUDITORIUM - CONTINUOUS

29

THE TRACKING SHOT CONTINUES:

Apart from a couple of middle-aged PATRONS on the second row, the auditorium is empty.

ALEKSI

Do you have a favorite row?

ISOLDE

Fourth row, middle seat.

ALEKSI

Straight answer. Sexy.

Aleksi and Isolde walk up the stairs. They go to the fourth row. They sit down in the middle seats.

Aleksi looks around.

ALEKSI (cont'd)

I don't see her anywhere, so I guess we're in the clear.

ISOLDE

Unless she's wearing an invisibility cloak.

ALEKSI

As far as I know she's not related to Harry Potter.

Isolde smiles.

ISOLDE

So "Cape Fear"?

ALEKSI

Yes ma'am.

ISOLDE

And it's the remake?

Aleksi nods.

ISOLDE (cont'd)

Awesome, very underrated movie.

ALEKSI

Right?! It might not be one of Scorsese's best, but it sure as hell is pretty fucking great. De Niro's performance is pure perfection.

ISOLDE  
Can you do a De Niro-impersonation?

A beat. Aleksi does the classic De Niro-face.

ALEKSI  
"You talkin' to me? You talkin' to me? Then who the hell else are you talking-you talkin' to me? Well, I', the only one here. Who the fuck do you think you're talkin' to?"

Isolde applauds.

ALEKSI (cont'd)  
Let's hear yours.

A beat. Isolde clears her throat.

ISOLDE  
"I have nipples, Greg. Could you milk me?"

Aleksि applauds.

30 INT. KINO REGINA - AUDITORIUM - LATER

30

**NOTE:** *The action here will not be graphically depicted. Through meticulously composed camera angles, and the power of suggestion, it will be done with respect and sensitivity.*

"CAPE FEAR" plays on the big screen. It's the scene where LEIGH BOWDEN sees MAX CADY sitting on the wall with fireworks going off behind him.

Elmer Bernstein's chilling score booms out of the surround sound speakers.

Isolde watches the movie intently. Aleksि glances over at her. Completely awestruck. The light from the Technicolor gives Isolde's face an almost magic-like quality.

Aleksि runs his fingers through Isolde's hair. She turns her head. She meets his gaze. They stare at each other.

The moment is now, clear as day. Aleksि and Isolde kiss each other on the mouth.

They look at each other. Isolde rubs Aleksि's cheek gently. She grabs his cheeks with both hands. She pulls him to her. They kiss again. The kiss evolves into a make out.

Aleksy's hand goes towards Isolde's crotch. Isolde grabs his hand. She breaks off the kiss.

ISOLDE  
(whispering)  
Not here.

Aleksy looks at the patrons. He looks back at Isolde. A beat. He smiles. He unbuttons her jeans. He pulls down the zipper. Isolde lets go off Aleksy's hand. She awkwardly leans back into her seat.

Isolde breaths heavily as Aleksy puts his hand inside her panties. Aleksy rubs her crotch slowly.

Isolde moans lightly. Aleksy rubs her crotch faster. Isolde grabs his hand. He stops.

ISOLDE (cont'd)  
(whispering)  
Not so hard.

Aleksy smiles and nods. They kiss each other. Isolde lets go off Aleksy's hand.

Aleksy continues to rub Isolde's crotch more gently. She writhes. She moans louder. Aleksy hushes her. He speeds up.

Isolde gets closer to an orgasm. Her feet presses the seat in front of her so hard that it leans forward. She climaxes.

Aleksy pulls his hand out of Isolde's panties. She exhales. She rubs Aleksy's cheek gently. She looks down at his crotch. Aleksy smiles. He unbuttons his jeans.

Isolde gets up from her seat, quietly. She kneels in front of Aleksy. He pulls down the zipper. Isolde grabs the side of his jeans and boxer briefs. She pulls them down.

Isolde takes Aleksy's hand. She places it on her hair, turning it into a ponytail in his hand.

Isolde lowers her head. Her head bobs up and down slowly. Aleksy closes his eyes.

Aleksy flinches. He opens his eyes. He taps Isolde on her arm. She looks at him. Aleksy smiles.

ALEKSI  
(whispering)  
A little less teeth.

Isolde smiles. She kisses his hand. She lowers her head. She increases the pace.

Alekski grabs Isolde's hair with his other hand. He climaxes.

Isolde lifts up her head from Alekski's crotch. She swallows. Alekski smiles. He lets go off Isolde's hair.

Isolde sits down on her seat. They continue to watch the movie in silence.

A beat.

31 EXT. LIBRARY OODI - NIGHT 31

SONG: "*Sea of Love*" by PHIL PHILLIPS.

(INAUDIBLE DIALOGUE)

The doors in the back open. Alekski and Isolde exit. Alekski checks his phone. He checks the HSL-app. The number six tram arrives in seven minutes.

Alekski offers Isolde a piggy-back ride. She jumps up behind him. She wraps her legs around him. Alekski whinnies like a horse. He runs forward.

32 INT. TRAM - NIGHT 32

Alekski and Isolde sit next to each other. They kiss. They look at each other.

Isolde gives Alekski a loving peck on the tip of his nose. She rests her head on Alekski's shoulder. He rests his head against her head.

33 EXT. HELSINKI - TOINEN LINJA 3 - NIGHT 33

Alekski and Isolde walk towards the entrance of the apartment complex. They hold hands.

Alekski takes his keys. He unlocks the entrance. He holds the door open. He bows as Isolde steps inside the complex.

34 INT. ALEKSI'S APARTMENT - BATHROOM - NIGHT 34

Alekski stands in front of the mirror. He brushes his teeth. Wears nothing but his boxer briefs.

The slightly ajar door fully opens. Isolde enters. She wears a short, blue nightgown. She has a bag with toiletries in her hand. She walks closer to Alekski. She puts the bag on the toilet-lid.

Isolde puts her arm around his waist. She kisses his shoulder blades. Aleksi spits in the sink. He turns on the faucet. He rinses his toothbrush. He puts it in the cupboard.

Aleksi turns around. He runs his fingers through Isolde's hair.

ALEKSI

All in all, an alright first day, right?

Isolde smiles.

ISOLDE

An *incredible* first day.

Aleksi smiles back. They kiss.

ALEKSI

Do you still wanna take a look at grandpa's pictures?

ISOLDE

Is it okay if we do that tomorrow?

ALEKSI

Of course.

Aleksi kisses Isolde on the cheek.

ALEKSI (cont'd)

By the way, in my home it's the law to sleep naked.

Isolde smiles mischievously.

ISOLDE

Oh, is that right?

Aleksi holds up his hand.

ALEKSI

Swear to God.

ISOLDE

Is now a good time for me to tell you that I'm a full-blown atheist?

ALEKSI

Oh.

ISOLDE

Is that a problem for you?

A beat. Aleksi nods his head disapprovingly.

ALEKSI

So am I.

Aleksि kisses Isolde on the neck. Isolde slaps his chest.

ISOLDE

Don't fucking do that to me,  
arschloch.

ALEKSI

Entschuldigung.

A beat.

ISOLDE

Now there's a toll that you have to  
pay for me to sleep naked.

ALEKSI

Name your price?

A beat. Isolde jumps up on Aleksi. She wraps her legs around him.

ALEKSI (cont'd)

Fair enough.

Aleksि carries Isolde out off the bathroom. He turns off the light.

35 INT. ALEKSI'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - NIGHT

35

Aleksि and Isolde lie in bed. Both are asleep. Isolde has an AirPods in her right ear. Faint sound of a german podcast can be heard.

Aleksि's phone VIBRATES. He wakes up with a JOLT. He grabs his phone. He unlocks it.

A beat.

36 INT. ALEKSI'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

36

HANDHELD SHOT:

Aleksि walks through the dark living room. He walks to the window. He looks outside.

ALEKSI'S POV:

Noora stands across the street. She looks directly at US.

37 EXT. HELSINKI - TOINEN LINJA 3 - NIGHT

37

The entrance to the apartment complex opens. Aleksi, fully dressed, beckons Noora.

NOORA  
(in Swedish)  
We talk out here.

ALEKSI  
(in Swedish)  
We'll talk in the inner yard.

NOORA  
(in Swedish)  
Do you really think that you're in  
any position to make demands?

A beat.

ALEKSI  
(in Swedish)  
Why did you come back?

A beat.

ALEKSI (cont'd)  
(in Swedish)  
What happened was for the best.

NOORA  
(in Swedish)  
Does saying that help you sleep at  
night?

A beat.

ALEKSI  
(in Swedish)  
Why can't you just leave me alone?

NOORA  
(in Swedish)  
Why would I?

ALEKSI  
(in Swedish)  
Because we're fucking done with each  
other.

A beat.

NOORA  
(in Swedish)  
You may be done with me, but I'm only  
getting started with you.

ALEKSI  
(in Swedish)  
You need help.

NOORA  
(in Swedish)  
When I hear you choking on your own  
blood, that'll be all the help I  
need.

A beat.

ALEKSI  
(in Swedish)  
If you don't stop this I'm gonna have  
to call the police.

NOORA  
(in Swedish)  
Oh yeah? What're you gonna tell them?

ALEKSI  
(in Swedish)  
The truth.

NOORA  
(in Swedish)  
Your truth or the actual truth?

A beat.

NOORA (cont'd)  
(in Swedish)  
I know what you are. Soon enough, she  
will, too.

Noora walks away. Aleksi watches her walk around the corner.

The CAMERA PUSHES in on Aleksi's face until he is in an  
EXTREME CLOSE-UP. A beat.

Isolde is still asleep. Her right AirPods has fallen out of  
her ear. She changes position. The AirPods falls to the door.

Isolde wakes up. She touches her right ear. She reaches over to the nightstand, grabs the AirPod-case, opens it. Isolde looks around. She sees the AirPod on the floor. She picks it up, puts it back in the case.

Isolde turns around. She reaches out to touch Aleksi. Her hand touches the empty side of the bed. Isolde sits up.

ISOLDE

Aleksii?

A beat.

Then, barely audibly discernible, the front door OPENS and CLOSES. Quick footsteps can be HEARD, followed by another door that CLOSES.

Isolde gets up from the bed. She walks to the pile of clothes on the floor. She picks up her nightgown. She puts it on.

39 INT. ALEKSI'S APARTMENT - BATHROOM - NIGHT

39

UNBROKEN HANDHELD SHOT:

Aleksii splashes water on his face. His upper body is bare. He breaths heavily.

KNOCK KNOCK

Aleksii looks at the door's reflection in the mirror.

ISOLDE (O.S.)

Are you okay?

A beat.

ALEKSI

I'm fine, just go back to sleep.

ISOLDE (O.S.)

Can you open the door?

Aleksii turns off the faucet. He looks at his reflection.

A beat.

KNOCK KNOCK

ISOLDE (O.S.) (cont'd)

Please open the door.

Aleksi walks to the door. He unlocks it. He opens it.

Isolde embraces him immediately. Digging her fingernails into his bare skin.

ISOLDE  
Where were you?

ALEKSI  
I just needed some air.

ISOLDE  
Why didn't you wake me up?

Aleksi and Isolde break off the embrace. Isolde have tears in her eyes.

ALEKSI  
Are you okay?

A beat.

ISOLDE  
You can't leave me like that.

Aleksi puts his hands on Isolde's shoulders.

ALEKSI  
Isolde, I swear, I felt a bit too hot and needed to cool down. It was just gonna be a quick five minutes, but I guess I forgot about the time. I'm sorry if I scared you.

They kiss. They look at each other. Aleksi wipes Isolde's tears.

ALEKSI (cont'd)  
Come on.

Aleksi turns off the light. He and Isolde get out of the bathroom. They walk to...

40 INT. ALEKSI'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

40

Aleksi and Isolde sit down on the couch. She snuggles up to him.

A beat.

ISOLDE  
Did you take a shower?

ALEKSI

What?

ISOLDE

Since you're shirtless and wet.

ALEKSI

Oh, I just got a bit sweaty.

ISOLDE

Did you go for a run or something?

Aleksi chuckles.

ALEKSI

Maybe not a run, but I guess it would count as exercise.

ISOLDE

So a powerwalk then?

ALEKSI

Something like that, yeah.

ISOLDE

Aren't you being mysterious?

ALEKSI

I guess so.

A beat.

ISOLDE

By the way, that drawer in your hallway?

ALEKSI

What about it?

ISOLDE

What kind of stuff do you have in the compartments?

ALEKSI

I don't know, basically a pick and mix. Shopping bags, gloves, hats, extension cords and a box.

ISOLDE

What kind of box?

ALEKSI

Pandora's box.

(MORE)

ALEKSI (cont'd)  
(chuckles)  
Just kidding. It's just a jewelry box  
that was given to me as a teenager.

ISOLDE  
Interesting. Any favorite jewelry  
that you care to show me?

ALEKSI  
Not really, they're more like  
souvenirs.

ISOLDE  
Can I see?

ALEKSI  
I'd rather you didn't, it's just a  
bunch of random stuff. Plus, it's  
very unorganized, so best not to open  
it. Okay?

ISOLDE  
Fair enough.

Isolde rubs Aleksis forearm. She feels something.

ISOLDE (cont'd)  
Your skin feels weird.

ALEKSI  
Weird how?

Aleksis barely finishes his sentence before he flinches in  
pain.

ALEKSI (cont'd)  
Fuck!

Isolde sits up. She grabs Aleksis arm. For the first time  
WE SEE DEEP BLOODY SCRATCHES.

ISOLDE  
Oh my God.

If you look closely, part of a FINGERNAIL can be seen in one  
of the scratches.

ISOLDE (cont'd)  
What the fuck did you do out there?

Aleksis gets up off the couch. He looks at his arm. He sees  
the partial fingernail. He pulls it out. He puts it in his  
pocket.

ALEKSI

I mean I slipped at one point.  
Maybe there was some broken glass  
on the ground.

Isolde gets up off the couch. WE SEE bloodstains on her  
shoulder.

ISOLDE

We have go to the hospital.

ALEKSI

No, it's fine.

ISOLDE

What're you talking about?! If  
there's glass in there...

ALEKSI

I said it's fine. We'll just clean it  
by ourselves.

ISOLDE

Come on, let's get dressed and we'll  
go to...

SUDDENLY, AleksI grabs Isolde. He pushes her up against  
the wall.

ISOLDE (cont'd)

What the fuck are you doing?!

ALEKSI

I don't wanna go to the fucking  
hospital, alright?!

ISOLDE

Let go of me!

ALEKSI

Say "okay, we're not going to the  
hospital".

Isolde pushes AleksI away from her.

ISOLDE

What the fuck is wrong with you?!

AleksI exhales slowly.

ALEKSI

I'm sorry, I just...

Aleksy approaches Isolde. She raises her hand. She breaths heavily.

ISOLDE  
Don't come any closer.

Aleksy stops.

ALEKSI  
Look, I didn't mean to get so worked up. I just really don't like hospitals. They scare me.

ISOLDE  
I understand that, but what if it gets infected?

ALEKSI  
I have some hydrogen peroxide and gauze in the kitchen, that's all we need.

ISOLDE  
Please, let's just...

ALEKSI  
...You said it yourself, let's not judge each others choices. Well, this is my choice, alright?

Isolde looks at Aleksy.

A beat.

41 INT. ALEKSI'S APARTMENT - KITCHEN - DAWN

41

Isolde pours hydrogen peroxide on his wounds. It bubbles and fizzes.

ISOLDE  
Does it hurt?

Aleksy smiles and shakes his head. Isolde takes a cotton pad. She wipes off the excess liquid.

Isolde takes the gauze roll. She wraps it around Aleksy's forearm.

Aleksy looks at Isolde. She meets his gaze. Aleksy fidgets.

ISOLDE (cont'd)  
Something on your mind?

Aleksi sighs.

ALEKSI  
I wanna smoke so badly right now.

ISOLDE  
Like weed?

ALEKSI  
Cigarette.

ISOLDE  
Are you a smoker?

ALEKSI  
Ex.

Isolde continues to wrap the gauze.

ISOLDE  
When did you quit?

ALEKSI  
About a year ago. Noora forced me to.

ISOLDE  
At least one good thing came outta  
that relationship.

ALEKSI  
I guess.

ISOLDE  
Anyway, let's not throw away all of  
your efforts.

ALEKSI  
That only makes me wanna smoke even  
more.

ISOLDE  
Please don't, otherwise I won't let  
you kiss me for the rest of my stay.

Aleksi scoffs.

ALEKSI  
You sound just like her.

Isolde looks at Aleksi.

ISOLDE  
What does that mean?

ALEKSI

Nothing.

Isolde finishes her tending to his wounds.

ALEKSI (cont'd)

Thank you.

ISOLDE

Bitte sehr.

Aleksi places his hand on Isolde's hand.

ALEKSI

I'm sorry about earlier. I had no right doing that...

ISOLDE

...That's right.

A beat.

ISOLDE (cont'd)

Listen, it's okay, but if you do that again I'll be on the next plane home. Got it?

ALEKSI

Jawohl.

ISOLDE

Good.

Isolde gets up. She walks to the kitchen sink. She opens the trash cupboard underneath. She throws away the cotton pad. She turns on the faucet. She washes her hands.

Aleksi walks up behind Isolde. He puts his hands on her shoulders. He kisses her neck.

Isolde turns off the faucet. She wipes her hands with a kitchen towel.

ISOLDE (cont'd)

What're you doing?

ALEKSI

Turn around.

Isolde turns around. She and Aleksi look at each other.

ALEKSI (cont'd)

I'm sorry that I've been acting weird.

(MORE)

ALEKSI (cont'd)  
 It's just the lack of sleep and the  
 drama with Noora fucking with my  
 head. I promise that I'll make the  
 remaining days nicer for you.

A beat.

ALEKSI (cont'd)  
 We good?

Isolde hugs Aleks. She presses her head against his chest.  
 They break off the hug. They kiss.

ALEKSI (cont'd)  
 I wanna ask you a little something.

ISOLDE  
 Shoot.

ALEKSI  
 Now I get that you might think it's  
 way too early, but I think it'd be  
 nice for both of us...

Isolde smiles.

ISOLDE  
 Come on, don't drag it out, what's  
 your question?

ALEKSI  
 How would you feel about meeting my  
 mom?

A beat.

CUT TO BLACK

**BLACK SCREEN:**

SONG: *"I Only Have Eyes For You"* by The Flamingos.

**SUPER IMPOSE:** *1 year ago. Somewhere in Sipoo.*

42 EXT. A HOUSE - AFTERNOON

42

A medium sized red wooden house. Dense forest surrounds it.  
 Next to the house is a wooden shed. WE ALSO SEE a huge pile  
 of logs and a log splitter.

Aleks and Noora walk along the path leading to the house.  
 They carry one bag each. They hold hands.

Alekski looks at Noora.

ALEKSI  
(in Swedish)  
Are you okay?

Noora looks back at Alekski.

NOORA  
(in Swedish)  
Yeah.

ALEKSI  
(in Swedish)  
Are you sure?

A beat.

Noora stops. Alekski stops as well. She puts down the bag.

NOORA  
(in Swedish)  
What if she won't like me?

Alekski sighs.

ALEKSI  
(in Swedish)  
Fuck, are we still having this  
conversation?

Alekski puts down the bag.

A beat.

NOORA  
(in Swedish)  
What if it's too early?

ALEKSI  
(in Swedish)  
Well, it's a bit too late now to turn  
around and go back to Helsinki.

NOORA  
(in Swedish)  
What if she says to you that I'm not  
good enough?

ALEKSI  
(in Swedish)  
How much of a mama's boy do you think  
I am?

NOORA  
 (in Swedish)  
 Can you please just answer me?

A beat.

Aleksi puts his hand on Noora's shoulder.

ALEKSI  
 (in Swedish)  
 If it makes you feel any better; I've  
 never brought anyone here before.

NOORA  
 (in Swedish)  
 And you expect me to believe that?

ALEKSI  
 (in Swedish)  
 Okay, not never ever.  
 (a beat)  
 Well, never anyone who means as much  
 to me like you do. Mom can be  
 somewhat of a harsh judge, but I  
 don't care about what she may or may  
 not say about you.

A beat.

ALEKSI (cont'd)  
 (in Swedish)  
 I love you.

NOORA  
 (in Swedish)  
 You do?

Aleksi kisses Noora. She kisses him back. They look at each other.

NOORA (cont'd)  
 (in Swedish)  
 I love you too.

As if that line was a cue, the front door OPENS. A woman, ESTER (51), steps out on the front porch. She sports a radiant smile.

SONG: "*It's Magic*" by DORIS DAY.

SLOW MOTION (75 FPS):

(INAUDIBLE DIALOGUE)

Ester runs toward Aleksi and Noora with open arms. She hugs Aleksi. A long hug. She kisses him on the mouth.

Noora watches the overly loving embrace.

Ester looks at Noora. She sizes her up. Her smile still radiant. Noora offers her hand. Ester laughs as she hugs her. Noora hugs her back. Ester kisses her multiple times on the cheek.

Aleksि puts his arm around Ester. They walk toward the house. Leaving Noora and the bags behind.

Noora sighs deeply as she picks up the bags. She walks towards the house.

43 INT. ESTER'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - AFTERNOON

43

"*It's Magic*" continues to play from an LP PLAYER.

Aleksि and Noora sit on the couch. Ester walks over with a tray with coffee cups and plates of blueberry pie.

NOORA  
(in Swedish)  
Thank you so much for inviting me.

ESTER  
(in Swedish)  
Of course. It's so nice to meet you finally.

NOORA  
(in Swedish)  
You too.

Ester looks at Aleksि. She sets down the tray on the couch table.

Aleksि and Noora grab plates, cups and spoons.

ESTER  
(in Swedish)  
I practically had to force Aleksि to get to meet you.

Noora looks at Aleksि.

NOORA  
(in Swedish)  
Oh really? You didn't want me to come?

Aleksi looks at Noora.

ALEKSI  
(in Swedish)  
What do you mean? I basically had to  
bribe you to come here.

Noora playfully hits Aleksi on the shoulder. He laughs.

ESTER  
(in Swedish)  
Alright, eat while it's still warm  
and fresh.

NOORA  
(in Swedish)  
Looks amazing.

ESTER  
(in Swedish)  
Thank you.

Noora listens to the song. She leans over to Aleksi.

NOORA  
(in Swedish,  
whispering)  
I can tell who you get your taste in  
music from.

Ester sits down on an armchair.

ESTER  
(in Swedish)  
Are you telling secrets?

Aleksi looks at Ester.

ALEKSI  
(in Swedish)  
She said that it's obvious who I get  
my taste in music from.

Ester looks at Noora.

ESTER  
(in Swedish)  
Is there something wrong with this  
song?

NOORA  
 (in Swedish)  
 No, it's just that Aleksi mostly  
 listens to music from the 50's, 60's  
 and 70's...

ESTER  
 (in Swedish)  
 ...This song is from the 40's.

NOORA  
 (in Swedish)  
 My point is that he likes a lot of  
 old songs...

ESTER  
 (in Swedish)  
 ...So you immediately assume that he  
 gets that from me?

NOORA  
 (in Swedish)  
 Would that be a wrong assumption?  
 I mean...

ESTER  
 (in Swedish)  
 ...And if he did get it from me,  
 that's a problem?

A beat.

Noora scooches closer to Aleksi.

ESTER (cont'd)  
 (in Swedish)  
 I can just get rid off my entire  
 record-collection, and we'll listen  
 to your music. Would that make you  
 happy?

NOORA  
 (in Swedish)  
 No, no, please, I'm sorry. I didn't  
 mean it like that...

Ester looks at the tray.

ESTER  
 (in Swedish)  
 I forgot the vanilla sauce.

Ester gets up from the armchair. She walks out OFF FRAME.  
 Noora leans closer to Aleksi.

NOORA  
(in Swedish,  
whispering)  
Is she angry with me for real?

ALEKSI  
(in Swedish,  
whispering)  
This record was the first one that  
grandpa bought for her when she was a  
kid. She'll be okay.

Ester sets down a sauce pitcher on the couch table. She sits  
back down.

ESTER  
(in Swedish)  
More trash talk?

A beat.

Suddenly, Ester bursts into laughter. Aleksi joins in.  
Noora watches the laughter in confusion.

ESTER (cont'd)  
(in Swedish)  
I'm sorry, honey, that was just my  
poor attempt at being funny.

Aleksi gives Noora a reassuring tap on her thigh.

ALEKSI  
(in Swedish)  
Let's not traumatize her too much  
already.

ESTER  
(in Swedish)  
Are you okay, Noora?

Noora smiles faintly.

NOORA  
(in Swedish)  
Is it okay if I step outside for a  
moment?

ESTER  
(in Swedish)  
Of course, you know where the door  
is.

NOORA  
 (in Swedish)  
 Thank you.

Noora gets up off the couch. She sets the plate down. She walks quickly to the front door. She opens it and steps out onto the front porch. The door closes.

Aleksi and Ester look at each other. Ester shakes her head slightly. Aleksi sets down the plate. He gets up off the couch.

44 EXT. ESTER'S HOUSE - FRONT PORCH - AFTERNOON

44

The front door opens. Aleksi steps out. He closes the door. He walks over to Noora. She leans against the wooden railing.

Aleksi takes out a packet of cigarettes and a lighter out of his pocket. He takes a cigarette. He lights it.

Noora looks at him.

NOORA  
 (in Swedish)  
 I thought you said that you were quitting.

ALEKSI  
 (in Swedish)  
 I did, but not when.

Aleksi blows out the smoke. It hits Noora's face. She walks away from him.

NOORA  
 (in Swedish)  
 At least turn your fucking head the other way.

ALEKSI  
 (in Swedish)  
 Don't blame me, blame the wind.

Noora looks at Aleksi.

NOORA  
 (in Swedish)  
 Thank you for defending me earlier.

ALEKSI  
 (in Swedish)  
 She said that she was sorry, what  
 more do you want?

A beat.

Aleksi stubs out the cigarette. He tosses it away.

NOORA  
 (in Swedish)  
 Are you gonna tell Ester that it's my  
 cigarette?

ALEKSI  
 (in Swedish)  
 Do you honestly think that she  
 doesn't know that I smoke?

Noora scoffs.

NOORA  
 (in Swedish)  
 Where's your sense of humor?

ALEKSI  
 (in Swedish)  
 Where's yours?

A beat.

NOORA  
 (in Swedish)  
 Is me being here a bad idea?

ALEKSI  
 (in Swedish)  
 No, of course not. It was just a bad  
 joke.

NOORA  
 (in Swedish)  
 It didn't feel like a joke.

Then, as if she was eavesdropping, Ester opens the door.  
 She steps out on the front porch.

Noora takes a step back.

ESTER  
 (in Swedish)  
 Hey, I'm gonna get started with the  
 dinner.

(MORE)

ESTER (cont'd)  
(looks at Noora)  
I was hoping that you could help me.

Noora opens her mouth to speak.

ALEKSI  
(in Swedish)  
Mom, what you did earlier was a  
shitty thing.

Noora and Ester look at Aleksi. He walks over to Noora.  
He puts his arm around her.

ALEKSI (cont'd)  
(in Swedish)  
Noora was really nervous about  
meeting you, and I hoped that you  
would put her at ease. Instead you  
only made her uncomfortable with that  
stupid joke. I'm really disappointed  
in you.

A beat.

Aleksi and Ester look at each other. Aleksi slowly taps his  
index finger against his thumb.

Ester sees it. She gives a faint, knowing smile. She looks  
at Noora.

ESTER  
(in Swedish)  
I'm really sorry that I made you feel  
uncomfortable. That wasn't my  
intention at all. The truth is that I  
was super nervous about meeting you,  
and I guess I was trying to find ways  
to break the ice, and I chose the  
wrong one. Aleksi's happiness is  
everything to me, I hope you can  
understand that.

A beat.

NOORA  
(in Swedish)  
I'm sorry if it sounded like I was  
criticizing your taste in music.  
(a beat)  
I just want you to know that I love  
Aleksi very much, and I would never  
do anything to make him unhappy.

Aleksi looks at Noora. She meets his gaze. They kiss.  
Ester's poker face nearly cracks.

Aleksi and Noora break off the kiss. They look at Ester.

ESTER  
(in Swedish)  
Let's start over, shall we?

Ester opens up for a hug. Noora smiles. She hugs Ester.  
Aleksi looks at them. Ester meets his gaze. They smile at  
each other.

45 INT. ESTER'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - EVENING 45

EXTREME CLOSE-UP:

A large kitchen knife slices a raw chicken breast into  
small, precise pieces. The CAMERA TILTS UP to reveal Ester  
holding the knife.

Ester looks at Noora, who is busy with peeling potatoes.  
Ester looks at Aleksi sitting in the living room. He meets  
her gaze.

46 INT. ESTER'S HOUSE - DINING ROOM - NIGHT 46

Aleksi, Ester and Noora clink their glasses. They laugh and  
drink. Ester pretends to chug the wine bottle.

Aleksi picks up a whole potato with his fork. He puts it in  
his mouth. He leans towards Noora, about to kiss her. Noora  
leans away from him.

47 EXT. ESTER'S HOUSE - NIGHT 47

Full moon. The air is still. Crickets. Woodpeckers.

48 INT. ESTER'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 48

Noora is half slumped on the couch. Her head rests on  
Aleksi's shoulder. Her eyes are half closed. She yawns.

Ester sits on the armchair. She looks at them.

ESTER  
(in Swedish)  
More wine, Noora?

Noora shakes her head.

ESTER (cont'd)  
 (in Swedish)  
 Yeah, come on. Fill her glass,  
 Alekski.

NOORA  
 (in Swedish)  
 I won't be able to get out of bed  
 otherwise.

ESTER  
 (in Swedish)  
 It's not like you have an early wake  
 up tomorrow.  
 (a beat)  
 Can I tempt you with a glass of water  
 instead?

NOORA  
 (in Swedish)  
 Yeah, sure. Thank you.

ALEKSI  
 (in Swedish)  
 I'll get it for you.

Alekski kisses Noora on the forehead. He gets up off the couch. He looks at Ester.

Alekski walks out OFF FRAME. Ester returns her gaze to Noora. Her eyes piercing.

Alekski returns to the living room. He puts the water glass down on the couch table. He sits down next to Noora.

Ester gets up off the armchair. She walks out OFF FRAME. Noora sits up. She takes a sip of water.

WE HEAR a...

...NEEDLE DROP.

SONG: "*In The Still of the Night*" by THE FIVE SATINS.

Ester walks over to the couch. She offers her hand to Alekski. He looks at her.

Ester brings her hand closer to his face. Alekski takes Ester's hand. He gets up off the couch. He and Ester dance with each other.

Noora looks at them. Not sure what to think. She takes another sip of water.

The dance gets more intimate and sensual. Becomes a slow dance. Ester's hands rub Alekski's shoulders. They work their way down to his lower back. Then to his ass.

Ester kisses Alekski on the neck. Noora sets her glass down. She gets up off the couch.

NOORA  
(in Swedish)  
I'm going home now.

Alekski and Ester break off the dance. They look at her.

ESTER  
(in Swedish)  
Is something wrong?

NOORA  
(in Swedish)  
I just really think it would be for  
the best. Thank you for inviting me.

Without waiting for Ester's response, Noora heads to the front door. Alekski follows.

49 INT. ESTER'S HOUSE - HALLWAY - NIGHT

49

Noora puts her shoes on. Alekski approaches her. She opens the front door. Alekski pulls it shut. He blocks the door.

ALEKSI  
(in Swedish)  
What're you doing?

NOORA  
(in Swedish)  
Please open the door.

ALEKSI  
(in Swedish)  
Why? What happened?

NOORA  
(in Swedish)  
Seriously, let me out right now.

ALEKSI  
(in Swedish)  
What about your stuff?

NOORA  
 (in Swedish)  
 You can bring them back later.  
 I don't care, just...

ALEKSI  
 (in Swedish)  
 ...Are you just gonna leave me  
 behind?

NOORA  
 (in Swedish)  
 I just need some time for myself,  
 okay?!

Aleksi approaches Noora slowly.

ALEKSI  
 (in Swedish)  
 It's been a long day, let's just get  
 ready for bed, okay? We'll talk about  
 it tomorrow.

NOORA  
 (in Swedish)  
 Just stop. I can't take it anymore...

A beat.

Suddenly, Noora projectile vomits on the floor. She drops to her knees. Aleksi holds her hair.

Noora projectile vomits again. Her body goes limp. She passes out.

Aleksi looks up to see Ester. She stands by the doorway. Silhouetted.

ESTER  
 (in Swedish)  
 Take her to your room.

A beat.

Aleksi lifts Noora up. He walks up the stairs. The stairs creak with each step.

Ester walks to the stairs. She watches Aleksi as he carries Noora upstairs. The CAMERA SLOWLY ZOOMS IN on her.

Ester walks up the stairs.

FADE TO BLACK

**BLACK SCREEN:****SUPER IMPOSE:** *Present day. Helsinki.*

50 EXT. LINNANMÄKI - EVENING

50

SONG: "*Take Me for What I Am*" by HENREY FORD.

MONTAGE OF DIFFERENT RIDES AND ACTIVITIES:

A) Alekski and Isolde ride the spinning teacups. They sit closely next to each other.

B) Isolde sees the sign for Taiga. She takes Alekski's hand. He resists. Isolde pulls him towards her.

C) Alekski breaths heavily. Isolde takes his hand. She kisses it. Taiga LAUNCHES, goes in full speed.

D) Alekski and Isolde walk through the haunted house. Neither of them are impressed.

E) Alekski and Isolde ride the Magia. Isolde fake vomits in Alekski's face.

F) Alekski looks through the viewfinder of a PENTACON PRAKTISIX.

VIEWFINDER'S POV:

Isolde poses. The Ferris wheel is behind her.

CLICK.

The image FREEZES.

51 EXT. LINNANMÄKI - FERRIS WHEEL - LATER

51

Alekski and Isolde sit in the cabin of the Ferris wheel. Alekski's phone vibrates. He takes it out off his pocket. He checks the notification.

ALEKSI

Some friends of mine are going to a karaoke bar tonight.

ISOLDE

That sounds fun.

ALEKSI

Should I tell them that we wanna go as well?

ISOLDE  
Sure, I'm very curious to hear you  
sing.

Aleksi smiles.

ALEKSI  
Alrighty then.

Aleksi types a reply. He puts his phone away. Isolde looks  
at him.

ISOLDE  
Was your mom disappointed when you  
told her?

ALEKSI  
Well, she wasn't thrilled, but hey,  
if you really think it's too early,  
then she'll just have to accept and  
respect that.

ISOLDE  
We'll meet when I come here the next  
time.

A beat.

ALEKSI  
There's a next time?

Isolde smiles. She kisses Aleksi.

ALEKSI (cont'd)  
Will you introduce me to your mom  
when I come to Germany?

ISOLDE  
I guess so.

ALEKSI  
What do you mean you guess so?

ISOLDE  
Don't get me wrong, I love my mom,  
but...

A beat.

ISOLDE (cont'd)  
...she wasn't the most loving or  
considerate when I grew up.

ALEKSI  
Why do you say that?

A beat.

ISOLDE  
I haven't really discussed this with you before, but I didn't have a lot of friends growing up. I would get bullied quite often. Especially in high school.

Aleksi places his hand on Isolde's hand.

ALEKSI  
I'm sorry to hear that.

A beat.

ISOLDE  
There was this one girl in my class who punched me so hard that she cracked my rib.

ALEKSI  
Why?

ISOLDE  
What do you mean?

ALEKSI  
Why did she hit you?

ISOLDE  
Does it matter?

ALEKSI  
I guess not.

A beat.

ISOLDE  
Anyway, it got to a point where I would beg my mom let me skip school, but she wouldn't listen.

ALEKSI  
What about your dad?

ISOLDE  
He died when I was nine.

ALEKSI  
I'm sorry.

ISOLDE  
What about your dad? You haven't  
mentioned him at all.

ALEKSI  
No.

ISOLDE  
Is he still around?

ALEKSI  
I don't know, never met him.

ISOLDE  
I'm sorry to hear that. So it was  
just you and your mom?

Aleksi nods.

ISOLDE (cont'd)  
Have you asked her about him?

ALEKSI  
Sometimes, but every time I get the  
same answer; "He went underground".  
So I've given up.

ISOLDE  
That answer sounds a bit ominous.

ALEKSI  
Yeah, well, it is what it is. Anyway,  
you were saying about your mom?

A beat.

ISOLDE  
After I graduated high school she's  
been trying to overcompensate.  
Unfortunately, she can't see that I'm  
being smothered by it.

ALEKSI  
In what way?

ISOLDE  
She tried to stop me from seeing you.

ALEKSI  
Why?

ISOLDE  
She probably thought you were a  
serial killer or something.

ALEKSI

And that you would be included in a true-crime documentary as one of my many victims.

ISOLDE

Yep.

Isolde looks at the view. AleksI smiles to himself.

52 EXT. KARAOKE BAR - NIGHT

52

A bunch of people stand outside the bar. Chatting, drinking and smoking.

The CAMERA TRACKS BEHIND AleksI and Isolde as they enter the FRAME. They walk toward the entrance.

ALEKSI

Any idea what you're gonna sing?

ISOLDE

Who said anything about me singing?

ALEKSI

If I sing, you have to sing.

A beat.

Isolde stops. AleksI stops as well.

ISOLDE

If they serve a delicious German schnapps in there, you might convince me.

A beat.

ALEKSI

Alright, you're on.

They kiss. Isolde starts walking towards the entrance. AleksI remains.

ALEKSI (cont'd)

How do I know which schnapps is the right one?

Isolde turns around. She smiles mischievously. AleksI smiles back. He walks out OFF FRAME.

53 INT. KARAOKE BAR - NIGHT

53

Two friends sing "*Musta Aurinko Nousee*" by JUICE LESKINEN.

The door opens. Aleksi and Isolde step inside. A drunk couple push past them. Aleksi pulls Isolde closer.

ALEKSI  
You okay?

ISOLDE  
Yeah.

Isolde looks around.

ISOLDE (cont'd)  
Do you know where your friends are sitting?

Aleksi leans closer to Isolde.

ALEKSI  
What?

ISOLDE  
(louder)  
Where are your friends?

Aleksi looks around. He points at something. Isolde looks to where he is pointing.

ISOLDE'S POV:

Amidst the whirlwind of drunken patrons, a woman moves gracefully towards US.

None other than...

...ESTER!

Isolde looks at Aleksi.

Before Aleksi can say anything, Ester throws her arms around Isolde, embracing her big time.

Isolde returns the embrace. Her eyes staring hard at Aleksi. Ester breaks off the embrace. She turns to Aleksi.

Ester hugs him and smooches his cheek several times. Leaving visible lipstick-marks.

They all look at each other.

A beat.

ALEKSI  
 So, this is my mom.  
     (looks at Ester)  
 Mom, this is Isolde.

Ester offers her hand.

ESTER  
 You can call me Ester.

Isolde shakes her hand.

ISOLDE  
 Lovely to meet you.  
     (looks at Aleksi,  
     leans closer)  
 Can we talk outside?

Aleksi nods. He looks at Ester.

ALEKSI  
     (in Swedish)  
 I'm just gonna smooth this out for a  
 moment, can you buy the first round?

Ester nods.

Aleksi and Isolde turn around. They walk toward the exit.  
 Ester looks at them.

54 EXT. KARAOKE BAR - NIGHT

54

Isolde opens the door. She steps out. Aleksi follows.  
 He puts his hand on her shoulder. She pushes it off.

ALEKSI  
 I'm sorry that I lied...

ISOLDE  
 ...you knew that I would find out,  
 and yet you still did it?

ALEKSI  
 Because I knew that you'd say no if I  
 told you.

ISOLDE  
 How does that make what you did any  
 better?

ALEKSI  
 I guess it doesn't?

ISOLDE  
I'm glad that you're so  
understanding.

ALEKSI  
Come on, I don't wanna fight, can we  
just go back inside?

ISOLDE  
You should've thought about that  
before lying to me.

A beat.

ALEKSI  
Look, I know I fucked up, and I'm so  
sorry, it's just that...

ISOLDE  
...if you're about to pull a grand  
speech, save it.  
(a beat)  
I'm not gonna be rude to your mom,  
but you have some serious making up  
to do.  
(a beat)  
Got it?

Aleksi nods.

Without waiting for him, Isolde steps back inside. The door  
closes shut. Aleksi stands frozen.

A beat.

55 INT. KARAOKE BAR - NIGHT

55

Ester sits alone by a table. Three glasses of beer in front  
of her.

Isolde approaches the table. Ester looks at her.

ESTER  
Hey.

ISOLDE  
Hello.

Ester looks for Aleksi.

ESTER  
Where's Aleksi?

Isolde sits down.

ISOLDE  
Probably using the bathroom.

Ester slides over a glass of beer to Isolde.

ESTER  
I didn't know what you wanted to  
drink.

ISOLDE  
Oh, beer is just fine. Thank you.

Ester raises her glass.

ESTER  
Well, it's lovely to finally meet  
you.

Isolde raises her glass as well. They clink.

ISOLDE  
You too.

Just as the glass is about to touch Isolde's lips,  
Aleksi comes to the table. He carries three shot-glasses.

ISOLDE (cont'd)  
Welcome back.

Aleksi sets the glasses down on the table. He sits down.

ALEKSI  
Thank you.

Aleksi kisses Isolde on the cheek. He turns to Ester.

ALEKSI (cont'd)  
(in Swedish)  
It didn't work. Can you try?

Ester gives a faint smile.

ESTER  
Should we start with the shots  
instead?

ALEKSI  
Yes!

They grab the shot-glasses. Isolde looks at Aleksi, smiles  
approvingly.

ISOLDE  
The good old Jäger.

Aleksi smiles and nods. They raise their glasses.

ESTER  
Bottoms up.

They down the shots. Ester leans towards Isolde.

ESTER (cont'd)  
You have such a beautiful name.

ISOLDE  
Oh, thank you.

ESTER  
Did your parents name you after the opera?

ISOLDE  
Yeah, they did. Have you seen it?

ESTER  
No, but I saw the movie.

ISOLDE  
Which one?

ESTER  
I don't remember the actor's name,  
but it was with the one that played  
James Dean.

ISOLDE  
Oh, that one.

ALEKSI  
I liked that movie. The battle scenes  
could've used way more blood though.

ISOLDE  
You're such a gorehound.

ESTER  
Oh, you don't even know half of it.

Ester drinks a sip of beer.

ESTER (cont'd)  
Do you have any siblings?

ISOLDE  
No.

ESTER

I was just thinking that if you have a brother, his name would probably be Tristan.

Isolde's smile slowly disappears.

ISOLDE

Tristan was the name of her lover, so it wouldn't be very appropriate.

ESTER

A little incest never killed anyone.

A beat.

Aleksi looks at Ester - "Goddamnit mom...". She meets his gaze. She looks back at Isolde.

ESTER (cont'd)

Sorry, my sense of humor isn't very refined.

ISOLDE

No kidding.

Isolde drinks a sip of beer. Ester looks at Aleksi.

ESTER

Should we get some more shots? Maybe something Finnish?

Aleksi smiles and nods. He gets up. He walks out OFF FRAME. Ester looks at Isolde.

A beat.

ESTER (cont'd)

I just want to clear the air a little bit.

(a beat)

You probably think that this was all Aleksi's idea, but I asked him not to tell you that I was coming. I've been so curious to meet you, since you're all that he's been talking about for the past few months.

(a beat)

He's been very unlucky with the girls that he's been in love with. He probably told you about Noora?

ISOLDE

Yeah, he did.

ESTER

So you know what a disaster that was.

ISOLDE

Actually, I don't really know what happened between them.

ESTER

He didn't tell you?

Isolde shakes her head.

ISOLDE

He didn't wanna talk about it, but he did say that their relationship was quite toxic.

ESTER

Yeah, he did everything that he could to please her, but it was impossible.

(a beat)

Anyway, I know that I've only just met you, but I can tell that you're not like her, or the other ones. You're special to him in ways that I can't even begin to try to explain.

(a beat)

Still, I understand why you're upset, but, please, be upset with me. Not with him.

(a beat)

If you're uncomfortable with me being here, I'll just go home. No hard feelings.

A beat.

SPLIT DIOPTER CLOSE-UP OF ISOLDE:

Isolde absorbs Ester's words. In the BACKGROUND WE SEE Aleksi looking at her and Ester.

ISOLDE

I really appreciate you telling me that, and I'm sorry if I was rude to you earlier.

(a beat)

Look, I don't know what the future holds for me and Aleksi, but I want you to know that he's very special to me as well.

(a beat)

I'm glad to have met you, and I don't want you to go.

A beat.

Ester smiles.

ESTER  
Shall we start over?

Isolde nods. She smiles back. She gets up and walks over to Ester.

Ester gets up. She and Isolde hug each other tightly. Ester looks at Alekski. She gives him a thumbs up.

Alekski smiles. He takes the three shot glasses, walks back to the table. He sits down.

Isolde leans towards Alekski. She kisses him. He kisses her back. Ester looks at them. She puts on an empty smile.

Ester raises her shot glass.

ESTER (cont'd)  
To us.

Alekski and Isolde raise their glass.

ISOLDE  
How do you say "cheers" in Finnish?

ALEKSI  
"Kippis".

ESTER  
And in Germany you say "prost",  
right?

ISOLDE  
That's right.

ALEKSI  
So which one should we do?

ISOLDE  
When in Rome. Kippis.

ALEKSI  
Kippis.

ESTER  
Kippis.

They clink their glasses. They down their shots.

56 EXT. KARAOKE BAR - NIGHT 56

Patrons walk in and out of the bar. A patron vomits on the street.

57 INT. KARAOKE BAR - WOMEN'S BATHROOM - NIGHT 57

Isolde washes her hands. She wipes them with a paper towel.

Isolde takes her phone out of her pocket. She opens the contact list. Her finger hovers over Kerstin's number. She presses the number.

Isolde puts the phone to her ear. A beat.

INTERCUT between Isolde and Kerstin in her APARTMENT in Munich.

KERSTIN

(in German)

Isolde?

ISOLDE

(in German)

Hi mom.

KERSTIN

(in German)

I was just about to go to bed, is something wrong?

ISOLDE

(in German)

Why would there be something wrong?

KERSTIN

(in German)

Please, it's really late, why are you calling?

ISOLDE

(in German)

Aren't you glad to hear my voice? Maybe you thought I was lying dead in a ditch somewhere?

KERSTIN

(in German)

Are you drunk?

ISOLDE

(in German)

If I am, so what?

KERSTIN  
 (in German)  
 I'm not doing this now...

ISOLDE  
 (in German)  
 No, I need you to hear this.

Kerstin sighs.

Isolde takes a deep breath.

ISOLDE (cont'd)  
 (in German)  
 I just want you to know that I've  
 been having a wonderful time with  
 Aleksi. He's a lovely guy...

KERSTIN  
 (in German)  
 ...I'm hanging up now...

ISOLDE  
 (in German)  
 ...Stop interrupting and just listen  
 to me!

A beat.

ISOLDE (cont'd)  
 (in German)  
 He's incredibly sweet and thoughtful.  
 He cares about me.  
 (a beat)  
 I'm not saying that you don't care  
 about me, but sometimes you treat me  
 more like a puppet than a daughter.  
 It's like you think that you know  
 what's best for me, and don't trust  
 me.  
 (a beat)  
 I know that it probably sounds harsh,  
 but I just haven't felt that much  
 connection to you.  
 (a beat)  
 Whenever I've tried to talk to you,  
 you've only blamed me for being  
 ungrateful.

THE CAMERA TRACKS SLOWLY towards Kerstin. She breaths  
 heavily. Her eyes are watery.

A beat.

KERSTIN  
 (in German)  
 Anything else?

ISOLDE  
 (in German)  
 I love you, but your overprotecting  
 is not working.

A beat.

ISOLDE (cont'd)  
 (in German)  
 I'll see you when I get back. Bye.

Isolde hangs up.

Kerstin puts her phone down. She drops it to the floor.

Isolde puts the phone back in her pocket. She looks at her reflection in the mirror.

A beat.

58 INT. KARAOKE BAR - BATHROOM AREA - NIGHT

58

The door to the women's bathroom opens. Isolde steps out. She looks around.

ISOLDE'S POV:

Aleksi stands by the bar counter. Scanning through a song-list.

Isolde walks over to him. She puts her arm around him. Aleksi looks at her.

Before he can say anything, Isolde kisses him. They make out.

A beat.

ALEKSI  
 Are you okay?

ISOLDE  
 Yeah.

(a beat)  
 I want to say that I'm sorry for being so tense earlier. This has been an awesome night. You mean a lot to me. I just wanted you to know that.

ALEKSI

You mean a lot to me as well.  
 (a beat)  
 More than anyone I've ever met.

A beat.

ISOLDE

Have you picked a song?

ALEKSI

I was thinking this one.

Aleksi points to a song on the list. Isolde smiles.

ISOLDE

Not sure that my vocal chords is good  
 enough for that one...

ALEKSI

...Neither are mine, but hey, fuck  
 it. Right?

A beat.

Isolde smiles.

PRE-AUDIO of the unmistakable opening of "Lay All Your Love  
 On Me" by ABBA.

59 INT. KARAOKE BAR - NIGHT

59

**NOTE:** *This will be a full on musical sequence with live  
 singing and a few location- and costume change.*

Aleksi and Isolde stand next to each other, holding  
 microphones. In front of them is a big screen with the  
 lyrics.

They look at each other. Isolde's hand trembles. Aleksi  
 kisses her on the cheek. She smiles.

Aleksi brings the microphone closer to his lips. He looks at  
 the screen.

ALEKSI

*I wasn't jealous before we met /  
 Now every woman I see is a potential  
 threat / And I'm possessive, it isn't  
 nice / You've heard me saying that  
 smoking was my only vice /*

Aleksi looks at Isolde.

ALEKSI (cont'd)  
*But now it isn't true /  
 Now everything is new /  
 And all I've learned has overturned /  
 I beg of you /*

Isolde takes a deep breath.

ISOLDE  
*Don't go wasting your emotion /  
 Lay all your love on me /*

Aleksi nods approvingly.

The CAMERA TRACKS towards Isolde until she is in a CLOSE-UP.  
 She smiles.

60 EXT. A BEACH - DUSK

60

The sky is pink. The sun is setting.

Aleksi and Isolde run in the shallows. Holding hands.  
 They stop. They start to dance. Isolde takes the lead.

ISOLDE  
*It was like shooting a sitting duck /  
 A little small talk, a smile, and  
 baby I was stuck / I still don't know  
 what you've done with me / A grown-up  
 woman should never fall so easily /*

Aleksi pulls Isolde closer.

ISOLDE (cont'd)  
*I feel a kind of fear / When I don't  
 have you near / Unsatisfied, I skip  
 my pride / I beg you, dear /*

Aleksi kisses Isolde.

ALEKSI  
*Don't go wasting your emotion /  
 Lay all your love on me / Don't go  
 sharing your devotion / Lay all your  
 love on me /*

Aleksi breaks off from Isolde. He walks away from her, out  
 OFF FRAME. She follows.

61 EXT. KARHUPUISTO - EVENING

61

The CAMERA TRACKS with Aleksi as he walks through the triangular park. Isolde walks behind him.

ALEKSI

*I've had a few little love affairs /  
They didn't last very long and  
they've been pretty scarce / I used  
to think I was sensible / It makes  
the truth even more incomprehensible  
/*

Isolde runs. She catches up to Aleksi. She grabs him by the arm. He stops. They look at each other.

ALEKSI (cont'd)

*Cause everything is new /  
And everything is you / And all I've  
learned has overturned / What can I  
do? /*

A beat.

BACK TO:

62 INT. KARAOKE BAR - NIGHT

62

The patrons clap with the rhythm of the melody as Aleksi and Isolde sing the rest of the song. Some of them drunkenly sing along.

ALEKSI & ISOLDE

*Don't go wasting your emotion /  
Lay all your love on me / Don't go  
sharing your devotion / Lay all your  
love on me /*

The CAMERA SLOWLY ZOOMS IN on Ester. Her poker face just barely holding together.

ALEKSI & ISOLDE (cont'd)

*Don't go wasting your emotion /  
Lay all your love on me / Don't go  
sharing your devotion / Lay all your  
love on me / Don't go wasting your  
emotion / Lay all your love on me*

The song ends. The patrons applaud. Ester doesn't join in. She gets up, walks towards the exit.

Aleks and Isolde look at each other. Both of them breathing heavily and sweating.

A beat.

63 EXT. KARAOKE BAR - NIGHT

63

Aleksi and Isolde exit the bar. Aleksi looks around.

The CAMERA WHIP-PANS to reveal Ester standing further away. She smokes.

Aleksi and Isolde walk toward her.

ALEKSI  
(in Swedish)  
There you are, I thought you had gone home.

Ester looks at them.

ESTER  
(in Swedish)  
You really think I would drive home drunk?

Ester offers the cigarette to Aleksi.

ALEKSI  
I don't smoke anymore. You know that.

ESTER  
(in Swedish)  
You're still sticking to your act? Impressive.

Ester takes one last drag. She puts out the cigarette.

ESTER (cont'd)  
I'll sleep on the couch tonight. Is that okay with you, Isolde?

ISOLDE  
Yeah, of course.

Ester smiles.

ESTER  
(in Swedish)  
Have you shown her grandpa's pictures?

A beat.

ALEKSI  
 (in Swedish)  
 No, I don't think I should...

ESTER  
 ...I think I could have one more  
 drink before bedtime. How about you  
 guys?

Isolde smiles.

ISOLDE  
 Der Absacker.

ALEKSI  
 I don't know, I'm quite tired.

Isolde kisses Alekski on the cheek.

ISOLDE  
 You don't have to have one if you  
 wanna go straight to sleep.

ESTER  
 That's right, I can entertain Isolde  
 by myself.

The CAMERA PUSHES IN on Alekski.

A beat.

PRE-AUDIO of the song "*We Belong Together*" by RITCHIE  
 VALENS.

64 INT. ALEKSI'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

64

EXTREME CLOSE-UP of the spinning vinyl record.

Alekski and Isolde sit on the couch. Snuggling with each  
 other. Alekski looks over at the kitchen.

ALEKSI  
 I'm just gonna check if she needs  
 help.

ISOLDE  
 Okay.

Alekski kisses Isolde on the cheek. He gets up off the couch.  
 He walks out OFF FRAME.

Isolde takes out her phone.

65 INT. ALEKSI'S APARTMENT - KITCHEN - NIGHT

65

The CAMERA SLOWLY PUSHES IN on Ester. She stands by the kitchen counter. Making *Lingoncello Spritz*.

Ester hums along with the song. Alekski approaches her.

ESTER  
(in Swedish)  
You still can't sneak up on people.

ALEKSI  
(in Swedish)  
I wasn't trying to sneak up on you.

Ester looks at Alekski.

ESTER  
(in Swedish)  
What was the name of that girl in your class?

ALEKSI  
(in Swedish)  
Who?

ESTER  
(in Swedish)  
The first one you brought home. Maija, Aurora... what?

ALEKSI  
Tiina.

Ester rubs Alekski's cheek.

ESTER  
(in Swedish)  
You were so shaky that you kept dropping the knife.  
(chuckles)  
You couldn't even make her skin bleed.

A beat.

ESTER (cont'd)  
(in Swedish)  
But your loving mom was there to help you in any way she could.

ALEKSI  
(in Swedish)  
Can we please just call it a night?

ESTER  
 (in Swedish)  
 Of course, right after these. Help me  
 serve.

Ester grabs two glasses. She starts walking past Aleks. He  
 grabs her shoulder. She stops.

ALEKSI  
 (in Swedish)  
 I'm begging you, please don't ruin it  
 for me.

ESTER  
 (in Swedish)  
 Why is it so important to give her  
 special treatment all of a sudden?

A beat.

ALEKSI  
 (in Swedish)  
 I think I'm...

ESTER  
 (in Swedish)  
 I know what you think you might be  
 right now, but how long will it last?

ALEKSI  
 (in Swedish)  
 Mom, please, I really want to make it  
 work with Isolde.

ESTER  
 (in Swedish)  
 Sweetie, the only woman that should  
 matter to you is me.

A beat.

ESTER (cont'd)  
 (in Swedish)  
 She's gonna find out who you are  
 sooner or later.  
 (a beat)  
 Grab the other glass.

Ester walks out OFF FRAME. Aleks is frozen. The CAMERA  
 SLOWLY ZOOMS IN on him.

The CAMERA WHIP-PANS to reveal Isolde approaching him.  
 She puts her hand on his shoulder.

NEW SONG: "*In The Still of the Night*" by THE FIVE SATINS.

ISOLDE

You okay?

Aleksy remains frozen. Isolde kisses him on the cheek.  
He looks at her.

ALEKSI

Hey.

ISOLDE

Everything alright?

ALEKSI

Yeah, yeah, I'm just really tired.

ISOLDE

We'll go to bed right after the  
drink. I think I'll skip brushing my  
teeth.

Aleksy forces a smile.

ALEKSI

Livin' on the edge.

ISOLDE

You know it, baby.

A beat.

ISOLDE (cont'd)

Sure you're okay?

Aleksy kisses Isolde. The kind of kiss that you know is  
going to be the last one that you share.

They break off the kiss, revealing Ester looking at them.  
Her expression is blank.

ESTER

Hey lovebirds, the drinks aren't  
gonna drink themselves.

Aleksy and Isolde look at Ester. She puts on a big,  
unnatural smile.

Isolde looks at Aleksy.

ISOLDE

Shall we?

Aleksy sighs.

ALEKSI

Sure.

Aleksi grabs the third glass. They walk into the...

66 INT. ALEKSI'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

66

Aleksi, Isolde and Ester walk toward the couch. On the couch table is a wooden photo album. Aleksi's eyes lock on it.

They sit down on the couch. Ester raises her glass.

ESTER

Kippis.

Isolde raises her glass.

ISOLDE

Prost.

Aleksi doesn't raise his glass. His eyes are still locked onto the photo album.

Ester snaps with her fingers. Aleksi doesn't react. Isolde gently shakes his shoulder. No reaction.

The CAMERA ZOOMS IN on Aleksi. The AUDIO gets more disorienting as WE GET to an EXTREME CLOSE-UP on his face.

JUMP CUT TO:

67 ALEKSI'S FANTASY (A SERIES OF QUICK CUTS)

67

FRANTIC HANDHELD CAMERA with FAST SHUTTER SPEED.

- Isolde is crawling on the floor of Ester's basement. Her face is bloody and swollen. Aleksi and Ester approaches her slowly.

- Ester walks past Isolde. Aleksi grabs her by the hair. He drags her across the floor. Isolde screams. He drags her towards a MEAT HOOK.

- Aleksi lifts Isolde. She tries to punch and scratch her way out off his grip. Ester puts a plastic bag over her head. Isolde rips a hole in the bag.

- Isolde kicks Aleksi in the stomach. He backs off. She bites Ester's hand. Her teeth punctures Ester's skin. Blood seeps out. Ester lets her go.

- Aleksí tackles Isolde to the floor. He gets on top of her. She kicks and squirms. He slams her head against the floor several times. Isolde's body goes limp.

- Aleksí and Ester lift Isolde off the floor. They approach the meat hook. They hoist her up. Getting closer to the hook. The hook penetrates her skin.

BACK TO:

68 INT. ALEKSI'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

68

Aleksí clenches his jaw. His head trembles. Isolde waves her hand in front of Aleksí's eyes.

Ester grabs the photo album. She turns the pages. Isolde keeps her eyes on Aleksí.

Ester flips through pages of 6x4 BLACK & WHITE PHOTOS. Various portraits, street-photos and landscape-photos.

The AUDIO gets back to normal.

ESTER

Isolde, you must see these ones.  
These are my dad's masterpiece.

Aleksí looks at Ester as she brings the photo album closer to Isolde. It's a blank page with a TITLE that says:

**"06.1960"**

Ester looks at Aleksí.

ESTER (cont'd)

Seems like Aleksí is finally back  
with us.

Isolde sets down her glass on the couch table. She hugs Aleksí. She smooches his cheek.

ISOLDE

You scared me.

Ester looks at Isolde's display of affection. Her poker face is completely shattered by now.

Aleksí looks at Isolde.

ALEKSI

I'm sorry, I zoned out a little.

Isolde looks at Ester.

ISOLDE

You can show the pictures tomorrow,  
right?

ESTER

Why?

ISOLDE

Sorry?

ESTER

Why would I show them tomorrow?

ISOLDE

I just think that Aleksi really wants  
to go to bed right now.

Ester puts down the album.

ESTER

You've spent two days with him, and  
all of a sudden you think you know  
better than me about what my son  
wants?

ISOLDE

No, that's not what I'm saying...

ESTER

...But it's what you meant.

ISOLDE

I'm sorry if I offended you, we're  
just really tired...

ESTER

...These photos are very important to  
me and Aleksi, why are you being so  
selfish?

ISOLDE

I'm not trying to be selfish. Why is  
it so important to show them now?

ESTER

I hope that you show your parents  
more respect than you show me.

Isolde is taken aback. She looks at Aleksi, who looks  
vacantly at Ester.

Isolde looks back at Ester.

ISOLDE

Again, I'm sorry if I hurt your feelings, I really didn't mean to, but I'm gonna get ready for bed now.

(a beat)

It was lovely to meet you. Goodnight.

Isolde gets up off the couch. She looks at Aleksi.

ISOLDE (cont'd)

Are you coming?

Aleksis looks back at Isolde. His eyes are less empty. He nods, and gets up. He looks at Ester.

ALEKSI

(in Swedish)

I think you should go back to the house. Order a ride, I'll drive the car back tomorrow.

They walk toward the bedroom. With cat-like speed, Ester grabs Isolde's wrist. They stop.

Ester looks at Isolde.

ESTER

I'm sorry, honey. I've probably just had too much to drink. I didn't mean to ruin the night.

Ester gets up off the couch. She hugs Isolde.

ESTER (cont'd)

I hope that you can forgive me.

Ester looks at Aleksis.

ESTER (cont'd)

(in Swedish)

You can keep the car, just return it after you've driven her to the airport.

Aleksis nods.

Ester closes the photo album. She picks it up. She walks towards the...

69 INT. ALEKSI'S APARTMENT - HALLWAY - NIGHT

69

Ester stops by the drawer. She opens it. She places the album next to the jewelry box. She pushes the compartment back.

Aleks and Isolde enter the hallway. Ester puts on her shoes and coat. She looks at Aleks.

ESTER  
(in Swedish)  
Come here.

A beat.

Aleks walks over to Ester. Isolde looks at the drawer.

ISOLDE'S POV:

The compartment is slightly ajar. The CAMERA SLOWLY ZOOMS IN on Isolde.

Ester hugs Aleks. A long hug. She kisses him on the mouth. Isolde watches the embrace. Not sure what to think.

Ester opens the front door. She looks at Isolde. She closes the door.

A beat.

70 INT. ALEKSI'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - DAWN

70

Aleks is lying in bed. Barely awake. Isolde crawls into bed. She looks at Aleks.

ISOLDE  
Are you feeling better now?

ALEKSI  
Yeah, I just wanna go to sleep.

ISOLDE  
I understand.

Aleks kisses Isolde.

ALEKSI  
Sweet dreams.

ISOLDE  
Träum schön.

Aleks rolls to the side.

ISOLDE (cont'd)  
Can I just ask you something before  
you fall asleep?

ALEKSI  
Can it wait until the morning?

ISOLDE  
I guess, but I'm thinking about it a  
lot right now.

A beat.

Aleksi sits up.

ISOLDE (cont'd)  
I'm sorry if this is a rude question,  
but does your mom normally kiss you  
on the mouth?

ALEKSI  
Why do you wanna know?

ISOLDE  
Well, when she greeted you at the  
bar, and now when she left, it was  
very... intimate?

ALEKSI  
What're you getting at?

ISOLDE  
I don't know, I'm just...

ALEKSI  
...Just what? Are you just asking me  
if there's something fucked up going  
on between me and my mom?

A beat.

ISOLDE  
You know what? It was a stupid  
question, it just gave me a little  
bit of pause is all. I'm sorry.

Isolde kisses Aleksi on the cheek.

ISOLDE (cont'd)  
Sleep tight mein lieber.

Isolde rolls over to her side. Aleksi looks at her. He lies  
back down. Not taking his eyes off Isolde.

Aleksi turns to the nightstand light. He turns it off.

CUT TO BLACK.

71 INT. ALEKSI'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - DAWN 71

The room is dark. The silence is deafening.

Isolde opens her eyes. She turns around. Aleksi is asleep. She lifts her phone from the nightstand. The screen lights up. She puts the phone back down.

Isolde gets up from the bed. She walks quietly out OFF FRAME.

72 INT. ALEKSI'S APARTMENT - BATHROOM - DAWN 72

Isolde closes the toilet lid. She flushes it. She walks over to the sink, turns on the faucet. She washes her hands.

Isolde looks at the dirty laundry basket. She sees something. She approaches it.

HANDHELD POV:

The CAMERA gets CLOSER to the basket. WE SEE small STAINS. Dark stains. DRIED BLOOD.

Isolde backs away from it.

73 INT. ALEKSI'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAWN 73

The HANDHELD CAMERA FOLLOWS Isolde as she walks towards the bedroom. She reaches the door. She stops, turns around, considers.

A beat.

Isolde walks out OFF FRAME.

74 INT. ALEKSI'S APARTMENT - HALLWAY - DAWN 74

Isolde approaches the drawer. She looks at the slightly ajar compartment. She opens it.

The CAMERA ZOOMS IN on a JEWELRY BOX and the photo album. Isolde grabs them. She closes the compartment.

75 INT. ALEKSI'S APARTMENT - BATHROOM - DAWN

75

Isolde steps inside the bathroom. She closes the door, locks it and turns on the light. She walks over to the toilet, sits down on it.

Isolde puts the jewelry box on the floor. She brings the photo album closer. She opens it.

Isolde flips through the pages. Looking at the portraits, street-photos and landscape-photos. So far, so good. She flips to the page that says:

**"06.1960"**

Isolde turns the page.

ISOLDE'S POV:

The picture of Emilia, Ilona, Onni and Toivo clinking bottles by the campfire.

Isolde turns the page.

ISOLDE'S POV:

A picture of Toivo and Onni approaching the camera. Emilia and Ilona are in the background.

Isolde looks closer at the picture. She sees Toivo holding the knife. She also sees the concerned look on their faces.

Isolde takes a deep breath. She turns the page. She recoils in shock and horror. She drops the album. It lands on the floor with a THUD.

Isolde breaths heavily. Her body shaking. Transfixed by the picture in the album.

ISOLDE'S POV:

The picture of Antero's handiwork. The picture of the bloodied and mangled bodies of Emilia, Ilona, Onni and Toivo.

Isolde looks at the jewelry box. She knows fully well that she should just get the fuck out, but *"curiosity is insubordination in its purest form"*.

Isolde grabs the jewelry box. Her hands tremble as she opens the box. The smell immediately hits Isolde. She gags.

The jewelry box falls to the floor. The pieces of "jewelry" spill out. Several ROTTEN and FRESH HUMAN TEETH.

Isolde sits in a fetal position. Frozen in shock. Several seconds go by. She doesn't move. Her trance-like state is interrupted by a...

KNOCK KNOCK

Isolde looks at the door.

ALEKSI (O.S.)

Isolde?

A beat.

KNOCK KNOCK

ALEKSI (O.S.) (cont'd)

Are you okay?

ISOLDE

What?

ALEKSI (O.S.)

Is everything alright?

A beat.

ISOLDE

Yeah, I'm fine. I'll be right out.

Isolde looks at the album and the jewelry box on the floor. She gets up from the toilet. She opens the lid, flushes it.

Isolde drops to the floor. She puts the teeth back into the box. She closes it. She picks up the album. She closes it quietly.

The flushing stops. Isolde looks around. She tiptoes to the dirty laundry basket. She lifts off the lid.

Isolde stares in frozen horror at the inside of the basket. She drops the lid.

ISOLDE'S POV:

A SHIRT with GIANT DARK BLOOD STAINS. A KITCHEN KNIFE with BLOOD and TISSUE.

Isolde kneels down. She holds her breath. She puts the photo album and jewelry box in the basket.

Isolde takes her hand out off the basket. It has blood on it. She closes the lid quietly. She walks over to the sink, turns on the faucet. She washes her hands intensely. She turns off the faucet.

Isolde opens the cupboard. She grabs a pair of NAIL SCISSORS. She closes the cupboard. She looks at her reflection in the mirror.

Isolde tiptoes to the door. She puts her ear against the door. Listens. Nothing. She gently UNLOCKS the door. She raises the scissors. She puts her hands on the door handle.

A beat.

Isolde gently OPENS the door. It creaks slightly.

ISOLDE'S POV:

Aleksi is not there. The hallway is lit up by the bathroom light.

UNBROKEN HANDHELD SHOT:

Isolde turns off the light. With the scissors still raised, the CAMERA FOLLOWS as she tiptoes to the...

76 INT. ALEKSI'S APARTMENT - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS 76

HANDHELD SHOT CONTINUES:

Isolde stops by the drawer. She lowers the scissors.

The CAMERA PANS to show THE LIVING ROOM. It's EMPTY. WE PAN BACK to Isolde. She looks at THE BATHROOM. She tiptoes out OFF FRAME.

77 INT. ALEKSI'S APARTMENT - BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS 77

Isolde gently closes the door. She turns on the light. She walks over to the dirty laundry basket. She takes off the lid.

Isolde looks at the scissors. A beat. She puts them in the back of her panties. She takes out the album and box.

78 INT. ALEKSI'S APARTMENT - HALLWAY - DAWN 78

Isolde tiptoes to the drawer. She opens the compartment slowly. She puts the album and box back. She closes the compartment.

Isolde feels her pulse. She takes deep breaths.

A beat.

79 INT. ALEKSI'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - DAWN

79

Isolde steps inside the bedroom. She leaves the door open. She walks over to the bed. Aleksi is asleep.

Isolde reaches into the back of her panties. She pulls out the nail scissors. She puts them underneath the pillow.

Isolde lies down next to Aleksi. She watches him sleep. She puts her hand under the pillow.

The CAMERA ZOOMS IN on Isolde. Her eyelids get heavy. She tries to jolt herself awake. She starts to drift.

FADE TO BLACK

80 INT. ALEKSI'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - MORNING

80

The sun shines through the blinds. Sound of CITY LIFE from outside.

Isolde is sleeping. She groggily wakes up. Her eyes widen.

ISOLDE'S POV:

Aleksi's side of the bed is EMPTY.

Isolde turns to the other side. She freezes.

ALEKSI IS RIGHT BESIDE HER! He has tears in his eyes. He puts his hands around Isolde's throat, SQUEEZES it with all his might.

Isolde's face turn RED. The veins in her face BULGE. Aleksi gets on top of her, PUSHING down on her throat. Isolde tries to kick him off. She claws at Aleksi's face, but to no avail.

AH! Then she remembers! With all of her might, she reaches underneath the pillow. She PULLS out the nail scissors.

Isolde STABS ALEKSI IN THE NECK WITH THEM! Aleksi lets go off Isolde's throat. She coughs, desperately gasps for air.

Aleksi sits up. Stunned. He reaches for the scissors. Isolde pushes his hand away. She grabs the scissors. She TWISTS them. She pulls them out.

BLOOD SQUIRTS from Aleksi's neck. He puts his hand over the wound. Isolde kicks him off her. He falls off the bed, lands on the floor.

Isolde gets up from the bed. She looks at Aleksi. He tries to crawl to the door. Blood keeps squirting between his fingers.

Aleksis stops crawling. He rolls over on his back. He removes his hand from the wound. He gurgles as blood comes out of his mouth.

Isolde covers her ears, closes her eyes, waiting for it to be over. Suddenly, it's completely silent. She opens her eyes.

ISOLDE'S POV:

Aleksis lies still. A pool of blood. Very much DEAD.

Isolde slumps down to the floor. She drops the bloody scissors. She keeps staring at Aleksis's body.

SONG: "*Never Learn Not To Love*" by THE BEACH BOYS.

CUT TO BLACK.

**THE END**

