SCREENPLAY

DEEPEST, DARKEST

(... WHAT ARE YOUR SECRETS?)

BY

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FADE IN:

INT. NORTHERN WOOD LOG CABIN - DAY

DAVID KOHNER, a middle-aged, rugged, handsome writer, sits with his laptop computer intensely inputting a stream of words. A cigarette dangles from his mouth. A hot cup of coffee and an ashtray full of cigarette butts are nearby. A torn open bag of almonds lies by his coffee. He has a pile of notepaper that he is transcribing from.

Occasionally, without looking, David swishes a wad of paper into a nearby trash can with a basketball net over it.

David hears a SCRAPING SOUND as a squirrel, MERRILL, enters squeezing through a hole in the screen door. The squirrel casually makes its way across a ragged couch and onto David's desk as if it's his second home.

David gives the squirrel a male-bonding acknowledgement as a man would a drinking buddy or such.

DAVID (quietly) Merrill...dude.

David does not look up as the squirrel digs into the bag of nuts. They are obvious buddies.

Merrill stands upright and frantically eats a nut while staring at David. David looks at his watch.

DAVID (CONT'D) You're late, pal.

The squirrel does a double take and races off with a jaw stuffed full of nuts. David smiles.

Outside, another squirrel waits to share the bounty. David watches them run off together.

DAVID (CONT'D) (to Merrill) Use me...I love it.

David continues typing. A CRASHING noise startles David and he looks up.

David listens then smiles to himself thinking it's Merrill. David continues typing with a cigarette dangling from his mouth.

A window opens behind David's shoulder. The wind blows some paper gently. David shakes his head and continues.

Outside a light rain begins falling.

David dumps his cigarette into his coffee. He hears the PATTER of bare feet outside.

DAVID (CONT'D) (to himself) Hello?

David listens carefully. He hears nothing. David taps cautiously on one key of the computer keyboard.

A plank on the porch outside SQUEAKS loudly. David jumps up startled. David starts to BREATHE HEAVILY. David looks around the room. Nothing.

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DAVID (CONT'D)
(to himself)
Big squirrel.
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David tiptoes over to the fireplace. He quietly picks up an axe near the logs.

David walks over to the door with an axe as if ready to hit a home run. THUNDER CRACKLES in the distance.

EXT. OUTSIDE THE CABIN DOOR - NIGHT

David exits the cabin like a vice cop on a bust. There is nothing there but eerie silence.

The cabin is surrounded by a supernatural wall of fog.

David breathes nervously. He hears more FOOTSTEPS perhaps coming from around one of the corners of the cabin.

David raises his axe in the ready position.

DAVID

Alright fellows, let's party.

Merrill hops from behind a pair of boots on the porch.

Behind David, a young woman, JENNIFER, suddenly steps out of the wall of fog in a ragged, torn, white cotton-print dress.

David turns and stares at Jennifer in awe. Jennifer is stunningly beautiful and strangely mystifying. The cotton dress she is wearing is torn high and exposes her well-shaped thigh.

Jennifer's face has smudges of dirt on it. Jennifer tries to speak but can't. There are several recent scratches on her face. One of them trickles blood. The rain soaks the dress.

Jennifer stands there shivering in the cold. David steps toward her.

Jennifer, frightened, stumbles backward holding on to a beam that supports the cabin. David gives her a consoling smile.

DAVID (CONT'D) I won't hurt you. It's okay.

Jennifer stares at him in disbelief. David gestures toward the door.

DAVID (CONT'D) Come inside...it's warm.

Jennifer stares, mesmerized, at the axe and then bolts off. Jennifer disappears into the fog from whence she came. He hears her footsteps fade off in the distance.

David looks down and sees the axe and realizes he has frightened her. David shakes his head in disbelief at his own stupidity.

> DAVID (CONT'D) (to himself) Right.

David drops the axe and runs after her. He disappears into the fog.

DAVID (O.S.) (CONT'D) Wait! Come back!

David races into the heavy mist covering the dense forest, fighting his way past bushes, trees and moss covered rocks. Branches scrape his face as he chases after her. David slips several times on the wet rocks ripping open his pants and badly cutting his legs. Off in the distance an eerie, ECHOING sound of Jennifer's taunting laughter is heard.

Jennifer's VOICE PERMEATES the forest as she hypnotizes David to continue.

Jennifer is near but inaccessibly far away. David hears the sound of wolves GROWLING nearby.

David is desperate and starting to panic. David knows he is lost in this forest but is compelled to struggle on, GASPING for breath as he goes.

David collapses to the ground on a bed of dry leaves. David stares up at the moon. David relaxes for a moment on the ground catching his breath.

DAVID (CONT'D) (whispers to himself) Jesus...

Some bushes move behind him.

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JENNIFER (O.S.)
(whispering)
Help me.
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David jumps up startled. David looks in all directions but sees no one.

Then, out of the corner of his eye David notices the young woman struggling to free her leg from the crevice of two rocks.

JENNIFER (CONT'D) Please help me.

Jennifer's hand is on a large boulder she is using for balance. Jennifer's ankle is stuck and it is turning black and blue. Jennifer winces in pain.

Jennifer jerks her leg and frees it from the rocks. Jennifer tries so stand but falls to the ground.

David kneels down next to Jennifer and brushes her hair trying desperately to be cavalier. Jennifer's dress has risen high on her stomach.

Jennifer opens her eyes and smiles up at him. Jennifer is sensual.

David takes off his sweater and puts it under her head.

Jennifer restrains David's hand from going away with her hand.

DAVID

Who are you?

Jennifer ignores David's words and makes magic with her eyes. David likes it.

> DAVID (CONT'D) Where are you from?

> > DAVID (CONT'D)

Please.

Jennifer gently touches David's face.

JENNIFER

Ssshhhh...

Jennifer pulls David toward her. David doesn't fight it. They kiss tenderly, then passionately. They make erotic love.

They roll in the leaves until Jennifer is on top of David. David reaches to touch Jennifer.

Suddenly a large glistening knife appears in Jennifer's hand.

The inside of Jennifer's other hand has a dark blue design on it.

The knife plunges toward him. David grabs the knife blade. Blood gushes from his hand as it holds the sharp blade.

Jennifer straddles him LAUGHING HYSTERICALLY as David squeezes the knife blade in self defense for his life.

Jennifer's HYSTERICAL LAUGHTER becomes deafening, ECHOING LOUDLY throughout the forest over and over again.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

David springs up in bed SCREAMING.

David's wife, KATHY KOHNER, holds her sweat-drenched husband beside her.

David is sweaty and terrified. Kathy comforts her husband tenderly.

KATHY It's okay. You're alright.

Sweat pours off David's face as he stares at his wife.

KATHY (CONT'D) It's just a dream, honey. Just rest. It's okay.

DAVID

It's her.

KATHY

It's okay.

Kathy pushes her husband forcefully back on his pillow. David lies back down. Kathy snuggles behind David. Kathy closes her eyes and goes back to sleep.

A DRIPPING SOUND is heard. David's hand is bleeding. Underneath the bed someone's bony hand catches the dripping blood drop by drop.

David stares at his cut hand, oblivious to the intruder's hand below.

David slips out of bed without waking Kathy. The hand below the bed is gone.

INT. HOSPITAL EMERGENCY ROOM - NIGHT

David leaves with his bandaged hand.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

David is talking on a portable phone and cooking breakfast at the same time.

You're kidding...rock and roll...how real is it?...bingo...of Course...BMW...well possibly Mercedes...excellent...thanks...bye ...yeah...bye.

As David is finishing the call, Kathy comes into the kitchen. Kathy is dressed in a Century 21 real estate blazer carrying a leather briefcase.

Kathy grabs some bacon David has cooking and munches on it. David hangs up the phone. Kathy kisses David and holds up his bandaged hand.

KATHY

What happened?

David pulls his hand away defensively.

DAVID

It's nothing.

Kathy grabs David's wrist and holds up his hand.

KATHY When did this happen?

David pulls his hand away again.

DAVID

Really, it's nothing.

Kathy sighs and clutches her husband's shirt. Kathy looks lovingly into David's eyes.

David stuffs the end of a piece of bacon in his wife's mouth. David chews the other end of the bacon.

They eat each end of the bacon till their lips meet. They kiss. David turns Kathy towards the kitchen table and pats her on the butt.

Kathy meanders over to her breakfast.

KATHY Who was on the phone?

New York. Stephen loves the book. They're going to push it. Looks like a Kohner paperback on the horizon.

Kathy SQUEALS and hugs him.

KATHY David Kohner...Big Shot Best Seller...my husband.

Kathy hugs David and studies his face. David tries to restrain his pleasure.

KATHY (CONT'D) You look tired.

DAVID

Thanks. It's not how I look that's important. It's how I feel that counts.

KATHY How do you feel?

DAVID

Like shit.

Kathy thinks to herself at her husband's response.

KATHY Oh well, there you go.

Kathy tosses David a strawberry. David snags it in mid-air with his bandaged hand. They both look at his injured hand.

Their kids, BEAMER, a twelve year old boy, and JILLIAN, six years old, come racing down the stairs SCREAMING at one another.

Their mixed mutt, KATRINA, comes after them to hustle scraps.

The kids enter the kitchen at full speed and sit down at the table.

David and Kathy knock off their tiff for the kid's sake.

JILLIAN

(excited) Michelle Oh Mama's coming to our school and Beamer's being a jerk about it!

KATHY

Jillian, stop that language!

Jillian looks confused at her mother's response. They all sit down and eat.

BEAMER It's Michelle Obama not Michelle Oh Mama, geek!

KATHY

Beamer!

BEAMER

Sorry.

Jillian gobbles down some cereal. Jillian reaches over and gently pats the back of her father's injured hand.

JILLIAN Are you okay, Daddy?

DAVID Yes, honey. Daddy just cut himself and it got worse during the night.

JILLIAN You're so brave.

BEAMER

(to his Dad) Corie at school says you don't work.

JILLIAN

He doesn't have to work. Our dad's a writer.

Kathy gets up to leave.

Got to run. Let's make sure the door is locked at night. Okay?

David squints confused but nods as Kathy rushes around the kitchen sipping coffee and munching on her bacon.

The place starts to look like a madhouse as they all scramble and grab their backpacks and briefcases.

David chases them around joking with the kids and getting them to hustle.

EXT. OUTSIDE THE HOUSE - DAY

Kathy races off in her car waving goodbye to everybody. David walks his kids down the driveway.

Beamer races ahead playing imaginary war games. Jillian holds on to the hand of her champion dad.

David is still in his apron and unconsciously clutching a dishrag in the other.

At the end of the driveway they encounter CORIE, a friend of Beamer's. Corie and Beamer high-five each other over and over.

David, meanwhile, crouches down to face Jillian. Jillian looks down at her father's hurt hand. David notices her concern.

JILLIAN That's a big owee.

DAVID Honey, Daddy's fine. What happened was just a bad accident. Okay?

Jillian carefully, lovingly, studies her father's face.

JILLIAN You're cool aren't you?

DAVID I wrote the book.

David smiles with pride at this daughter.

In the background Beamer and Corie snicker. Corie looks uncomfortably at David in his apron twiddling his dishcloth.

CORIE Is your Dad gay?

BEAMER

No. He's a writer, bug breath.

The school bus SCREECHES up next to them. The boys rush onto the bus playfully beating the shit out of each other as David turns to walk away.

From behind, David hears Jillian's voice.

JILLIAN

Excuse me?

David sees his daughter with her hands on her hips. Her eyebrows are raised in an authoritative demand.

David recognizes the standard formality he's forgotten and breaks out in a big grin.

David runs over and picks up Jillian and hugs her. They stare at each other giggling eye to eye.

DAVID

You're awesome.

Jillian touches her father's nose with her forefinger.

JILLIAN

You got great taste in women, pal.

David laughs and dumps his daughter on the bus with her stuff. The door of the bus closes abruptly.

David stares at the three kids waving from the back of the bus. David waves his dishcloth at Beamer and Jillian as the bus drives off.

DAVID

God, I love those little buttheads.

A slight rain starts to fall. David looks up at the sky. Out of the corner of his eye he sees something moving in the upstairs window.

David watches for a moment and then he sees their dog, Katrina, staring back at him.

Relieved David smiles to himself. David jams his apron and dishcloth in the mailbox and starts to jog off down the street.

David goes on slow jog for miles throughout the city working up a healthy sweat.

Someone is following David as he jogs. David constantly keeps looking back but no one is there.

David jogs far enough to a downtown area with heavy foot and car TRAFFIC and has to wait for a red light to change. He then jogs restlessly in place waiting. The mist from the rain moistens his face.

From an alley across the street, someone wearing a raincoat is watching David. The person has long blonde hair and a masculine jaw looking very much like a transvestite.

The person in the alley,TRANSVESTITE, brings a cigarette to their lips. The hand is craggy and thin bearing puss marks between the fingers where drugs are shot. The hand also bears a pentagram. The person EXHALES the smoke.

Behind the transvestite in the alley we see the bare outline of an attractive woman with hypnotic eyes and sensual lips. She whispers in an EERIE VOICE the transvestite's ear.

WOMAN

Are you my slave?

TRANSVESTITE Oh yes, oh yes, forever.

The woman bites on the transvestite's neck.

WOMAN

Good boy.

The woman fades into the darkness as the transvestite stays focused on David.

David looks curiously at a cabbie making a left hand turn cursing at a person in heavy-metal garb taking forever to cross the street. The cabbie looks at David and rolls his eyes. David smiles sympathetically. The heavy-metal guy flips off the cabdriver and stomps off.

David watches the taxicab turning the corner. David's head movement gets interrupted and is stopped dead by a row of news boxes between him and the taxi. David focuses on one paper and its headlines.

One of the headlines grabs David's attention. Concerned, he stops jogging in place and wanders over to the news boxes.

David walks over to the last news box and crouches down to look inside. He sees an X-rated fifty-cent newspaper. His hands hold onto the news box as if he has discovered a treasure.

David reads the newspaper's cover. The headline reads, "CANDY WANTS TO MUD WRESTLE WITH YOU...SHE'S LONELY." There is a young girl with big tits sucking air below the headline. A smaller headline below reads, "MAN KILLED BY A DREAM...WIFE SAYS MAN HAUNTED BY A GIRL NAMED JENNIFER."

David wipes the moisture of his face and stares at the headline nervously. David starts to tremble slightly. David stand up and backs off.

An old, fat snooty woman watches David from a few feet away. She holds a squirming Yorkie. David does not notice her or anyone else. David is mesmerized by the headline.

Frantically, David searches his pocket for change but he has no money on him. David checks the little slot on the bottom of the box for money. There is none. He checks all the slots.

David starts to ask a passerby or two but he chickens out. David crouches down again and stares longingly at the paper as if his whole life is at stake. David tries to jimmy the box open with his house keys to no avail.

David shakes the box several times frantically. He looks back and forth and sees no one. There is a lull in the action as David wipes his chin and thinks. David has a solution.

He covers his fist with he sweatshirt and SMASHES a hole in the newspaper box. David desperately drags a paper through the hole. David holds the paper up in the rain and frantically turns the pages and finds the article about Jennifer. David is delirious with excitement. David becomes immersed in the article. David's eyes dart frantically back and forth across the page as he drinks in the article.

Suddenly the paper is SQUASHED. Over the top of the paper stands the old, fat, snooty woman with her YAPPING Yorkie in her arms. She shakes her fist in David's face.

SNOOTY WOMAN

You vile degenerate. I saw you steal that garbage, trash, scum newspaper. How could you read such filth in the middle of the street in this fine city? What kind of pervert are you that you can't wait to get home. And you had the gall to steal it on top of that! God will curse you for eternity!

David stares at the woman as her voice becomes a distant ECHO. His mind is going a mile a minute.

David lowers the paper slowly and wanders off in a daze as the woman continues to YELL at David as he disappears in the crowd.

> SNOOTY WOMAN (CONT'D) People like you are ruining our country. You can't just run away from everything, you know.

David begins to jog off as the woman's RANTING dies out in the distance.

INT. REAL ESTATE TRACT HOME - DAY

Kathy is showing a young couple, PETER and JULIE CURTIS, through a brand new tract home. Kathy reels off a dissertation of real estate jargon about the quality and value of the house. The young couple are beside themselves with joy, but are feigning reservation.

KATHY

You also need to consider you can upgrade the carpeting and appliances prior to escrow. That way you can amortize those expenses into your mortgage payments. I will do my best to keep the closing costs down also.

PETER

We really appreciate all you've done Mrs. Kohner...we're cutting it a little close as it is.

JULIE

(nervously)
I want to look at the kitchen real
quick one more time before we go
back and sign the papers.
 (to Kathy)
Is that alright Mrs. Curtis?

KATHY

Certainly.

PETER I wish you'd call us Pete and Julie.

Kathy looks patronizingly at the young couple.

JULIE Yeah, we'd like that.

Julie goes to the kitchen by herself. Julie bends over the stove and tries the gas knobs. Julie proudly runs her hand along the porcelain stove top. Julie raises her head slowly and looks at the black glass microwave oven door.

Suddenly in the reflection of the microwave David's drenched face appears. David's hair droops over his forehead soaking wet. David looks dangerous.

The dark navy sweatshirt he is wearing gives David's head the appearance of being decapitated in the reflection of the glass microwave door.

David gestures with his bandaged hand. Julie SCREAMS. David grabs Julie and tries to calm her.

Peter comes around the corner. Observing his wife obviously being attacked by a madman, he pulls her away to safety.

Peter than turns to David and decks him with a punch to the mouth. David SLAMS against the wall and slides to the floor with a bloodied mouth.

David wipes his bloodied mouth and looks up at Peter standing above him with his fists clenched ready for the next round.

Kathy comes running into the kitchen from the garage to see Peter standing over her bloodied husband.

Julie clings to Peter looking down at David. Kathy's mouth drops open. David gets up and stands there soaking wet with mud from the housing tract covering the lower third of his body. David looks like an escaped criminal.

Kathy wipes the blood off her husband's mouth and looks back concerned at Julie.

KATHY What happened?

PETER This man attacked Julie.

Kathy looks at David and back to Julie perplexed. Julie is shaking.

JULIE It's okay. I'm alright. He just startled me.

Kathy turns directly at Peter Curtis.

KATHY

There must be a terrible misunderstanding. I'm sorry. I don't know what happened. This is my husband David. David, this is Mr. and Mrs. Curtis.

David nods. Peter eyes him suspiciously. Julie nods nervously. Kathy turns to David.

KATHY (CONT'D) What are you doing here?

David proudly holds up the porno paper with the picture of the girl with the big tits and the headline about CANDY IS LONELY, CALL HER AT 976-LICK.

DAVID

New ball game.

Peter and Julie look at the paper in disgust. They turn to Kathy with pity. Kathy smiles weakly then rolls her eyes in disgust at David.

> PETER Mrs. Kohner, I think we must be going. I'm running late for another appointment.

KATHY

Please let me just talk to my husband for a second. If you could just wait by the atrium. I need to go over a couple of points on the loan with you both.

PETER

Please make it quick.

The couple exits towards the atrium. Kathy shoves David against a nearby pantry.

KATHY I hope you have the winning Lotto ticket because that was a close.

David confidently turns to the inside of the soggy newspaper to the article about the man who died for a dream named Jennifer. David smiles proudly at his wife.

DAVID

Honey, you won't believe this.

David holds up the article. In the distance a car goes SCREECHING off. Kathy shoves David aside and rushes to the living room.

Kathy sees the Curtises driving off down the road. David follows her with the paper and points to the name of a town in the article.

> DAVID (CONT'D) Look, it's only two hundred miles from here.

Kathy looks down at the article in the porno paper, she looks at David's face and out the living room window at the where the Curtis' car used to be.

> KATHY So's your sensitivity.

DAVID Look, I'm sorry about your deal. But this article proves the whole enchilada.

Kathy shakes her head in disbelief as David holds up the soggy paper. Kathy turns away from David and walks off.

KATHY Ooooo damn it! God fucking damn it!

Kathy wanders into the living room in a daze. She lights a cigarette, take a deep inhale and cries at the same time she lets out a NERVOUS LAUGH.

Kathy wipes her runny nose with her sleeve. David sits on the floor in front of his wife like a scolded puppy. Kathy looks around the room at the house.

> KATHY (CONT'D) Aaaaah Mr. House. Mr. Four Hundred and Twenty-Seven Thousand Dollar House. I almost had you sold.

DAVID Honey, you've got to hear me out.

Kathy sneers at David.

KATHY No, you got to hear me out buckwheat! I work! You play! We're broke! News at eleven.

Fine, I'll go back to my aerospace job! Is that what you want?

KATHY

I'm not asking that. Finish your book. It's great. I love it. You're agent loves it. Just don't terrorize my clients!

DAVID

Terrorize? Terrorize? I terrorized them? Aren't you being a tad dramatic?

KATHY

Look at you!

David looks at himself.

DAVID Okay, okay, I look like shit.

KATHY Shit! Some shit's friendly looking. You look like a fucking serial killer.

Kathy and David face each other ready for a fight.

KATHY (CONT'D) Why were you showing our next car payment those big tit pictures??? Do you have a clue how fucking absurd that is?

David holds up the paper and sticks the article in his wife's face. Kathy reads some of the article and rolls her eyes. She gives David a pathetic look.

DAVID

I rest my case.

Kathy starts to LAUGH HYSTERICALLY gradually getting louder and louder. Finally she stops laughing and faces a wall. KATHY

My children are adults and my husband is a child. It's unbelievable. Where's the turnback switch?

Kathy starts pacing the room attempting to discharge her wrath in small doses.

KATHY (CONT'D) David, being with you is work. You know what I mean? You should issue your friends timecards so they can punch in and out. We won't divorce, I'll just give you two weeks' notice!

DAVID Funny, very funny. Now listen...

Kathy sits exhausted with the patter. She looks at her husband's forlorn eyes and shakes her head.

DAVID (CONT'D) Read the article then. Read it. You'll freak.

Kathy violently snatches the paper from his hand and shakes it in his face. She's furious.

KATHY This is loony paper for jerk-offs.

DAVID The girl that killed that man was named Jennifer!

KATHY So is the girl who cleans my teeth! Call a cop!

Kathy tosses the paper in the unlit fireplace. David protectively gathers the porno paper up.

DAVID What has happened to you? They stare at each other in disbelief. It is QUIET for a moment.

DAVID Kathy, my life is at stake here.

KATHY Honey, dreams make you toss and turn, rapid eye movement, ejaculation...all that shit...they don't fucking kill you...okay?

DAVID It's two hundred miles from here to Dellwood. I'm going to talk to this guy's wife tonight.

Kathy bites her lower lip in exhaustion trying to figure out how to respond to her husband's moronic insistence.

> KATHY Okay. Okay. Listen to me. Christy Lippman's husband down the street is a psychologist. He's excellent. He's agreed to meet with you.

David steps back shocked at his wife's request. David begins to HYPERVENTILATE.

DAVID You told...you told...you told that pencil-neck geek two doors down abut this?

KATHY

Yes.

DAVID Let me get this straight. You actually told Paul Dickhead I was being killed by a dream??

KATHY Lippman. Yes.

Oh this is great! Now the whole neighborhood thinks I'm a loon.

KATHY

No one else knows anything about this. You're not a loon because you need help.

DAVID

Paul Lippman's wife is having an affair with the cable guy. That's why they're not charged for the Movie Channel. He needs his own help!

KATHY Just talk to him.

David walks to the front door.

DAVID

I'm going.

David walks out and SLAMS the door. After a second David peeks his head back inside the house. Kathy calls out to him through the window.

KATHY You go, we're history.

EXT. HIGHWAY - NIGHT

David drives his car up a lonesome highway. Signs on the highway keep showing the decreasing miles to Dellwood.

Suddenly he sees a deranged woman on the side of the road violently shaking the head of someone on their knees who looks like a transvestite.

The transvestite SCREAMS in pain as the woman is pointing at David in his car. David hears the EERIE LAUGHTER from his dream.

The woman looks like Jennifer as he passes them; rain obscures the image. Startled, he spills some of his coffee from his thermos. He looks around again and the two have vanished. David sees an image of Jennifer's face in his rear view mirror. He breaks out in a cold sweat. He looks again, and she's not there.

A LOUD BLAST from a semi-truck's horn shakes him. David realizes he's on the wrong side of the road with a moving van racing toward him HORN BLARING.

David swerves his car to the other side of the lane and spins out SLAMMING the car against the guardrail. David leans against the steering wheel. Smoke pours out the engine. David lifts his head to the sky and SCREAMS into the night.

EXT. OUTSIDE A HOUSE - NIGHT

The house has metal bars on the windows and the front door. The house looks well fortified. David stands shivering on the porch and RINGS the doorbell. David KNOCKS several more times and RINGS the doorbell again. There is no answer.

David looks back at the passenger side of his car that has been totaled and shakes his head in disgust. The front door crack open slightly.

A frail woman looks over the door chain securing the door. The woman, MICHELLE THORNTON, early thirties, has a mousy demeanor bearing the look of a defeated woman. She could have been once very attractive. She is clutching a T.V. Guide and smoking a cigarette.

Michelle wears a purple silk down with moons and stars on it resembling a modern Vanity Fair hippie. Michelle give David a once over. She scans to see if anyone besides David is there.

MICHELLE

Yes?

David stuffs the porno-paper in his back pocket.

DAVID My name is David Kohner, Mrs. Thornton. I need to talk to you about your husband.

MICHELLE Are you another reporter?

No, I'm not.

MICHELLE You're a cop then!

DAVID Mrs. Thorton, I know about Jennifer.

MICHELLE My husband's dead! Go away!

Michelle starts to shut the door. David sticks his foot in it to stop her. Michelle starts to cry.

MICHELLE (CONT'D) Please, I've told you guys everything!

Michelle bows her head in defeat.

DAVID Mrs. Thornton...look.

Michelle looks up slowly as David raises his recently stitched hand. Michelle looks back and forth from David's hand to his eyes. David's expression is sincere, firm and determined.

> DAVID (CONT'D) Jennifer did that. I have no one to talk to about it. No one understands. Please help me.

Michelle acquiesces and unlocks the door. David enters.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

David walks around the living room studying everything for clues or items that will trigger his memory. David sees a wedding picture of Michelle and her husband, Charlie. David can't place whether he knows Charlie.

As he looks around her living room he sees there are too many stuffed animals on the wall. There is also a stuffed squirrel on the fireplace mantel that looks like Merrill. David rubs the squirrel's rotund stomach and smiles. (to the squirrel) Probably ate yourself to death.

MICHELLE Did you say something?

David is startled. Michelle puts a tray of herb tea and cookies on the coffee table.

DAVID

Oh I was just talking to myself.

There is nowhere to sit except for a couple of big pillows that surround a parquet circular floor three feet in diameter.

There are various star formations burned into the wooden floor and there are crystals all around the stars. The room is draped in large tie-dyed parachutes with dead stuffed birds in strategic spots dangling from the parachutes. Eerie NEW AGE MUSIC permeates the room from a nearby tape-deck.

David sips his herb tea. Michelle sits across from him in a yoga cross-legged position and studies him while drinking her tea. They check each other out.

Michelle munches on some pumpkin seeds and offers some to David. David shakes his head no.

MICHELLE Taurus, right?

DAVID Close. Gemini with Taurus rising.

Michelle smiles approvingly. David shifts nervously on the giant pillow where he is sitting. David looks around for a place to put his tea.

MICHELLE You need a good hot oil massage.

David coughs on his tea as Michelle laughs at his reaction.

MICHELLE (CONT'D) Strictly nonsexual. I'm a trained holistic masseuse. You just look a bit stressed out. Do I make you nervous?

No.

MICHELLE So she's after you now...Jennifer.

DAVID Something's after me.

MICHELLE Oh, so you think it's a dream also.

DAVID

And you don't?

MICHELLE

Jennifer is a psycho-bitch. A dream didn't kill my husband.

DAVID And you know who she is?

MICHELLE

Most certainly.

DAVID Why don't you go to the police?

MICHELLE Forget it! Those robots don't buy witches any more than they buy dreams...there are other ways.

Michelle sprinkles a cloud of fairy dust over the stars and crystals on the floor. The candles flicker and in the candlelight shadows of birds dance around the room. David feels uncomfortable.

> DAVID Did your husband ever mention my name to you?

MICHELLE

Never.

Michelle looks directly into David's eyes.

MICHELLE (CONT'D) Bathroom's down the hall?

DAVID You're psychic alright.

David walks down the hall. Someone follows behind him. David hears FOOTSTEPS.

DAVID (CONT'D) I can find it.

David gets no answer and turns to see no one is there. David goes into the bathroom and relieves himself.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Lordy!

EXT. OUTSIDE OF TURNER HOUSE - NIGHT

Someone outside moves towards David's silhouette in the bathroom. A woman's shadow goes along the outside wall. The silhouette stops next to the bathroom window. Fingernails SCRAPE across the window.

INT. BATHROOM - NIGHT

David jumps back at the sound. He looks down to find he's wet his pants a bit.

DAVID

Shit!

David whips his dick back in his now urine-stained khaki pants. He opens the door of the bathroom and ducks his head out into the hallway.

> DAVID (CONT'D) I heard something in the yard. Do you have anyone else living here?

Michelle smiles at David. She offers David the lunch bag.

MICHELLE I made you a sandwich for your trip back.

David ignores her.

I heard something.

MICHELLE Chill out. It was probably my cat Chakra. I just put her out. She has a boyfriend, Osho...a congenital stud.

Over Michelle's shoulder David sees a shadow of person in the yard going by the sliding glass window. David shoves Michelle aside and races toward the living room.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

David gets to the sliding door, opens it and looks out in the yard.

The wind is BLOWING hard. David doesn't see anything in the yard. He sees then a branch from a tree scratching the bathroom window. Michelle stands next to him with her hand on his shoulder. David turns to her. Michelle LAUGHS.

MICHELLE You definitely need a massage.

DAVID Someone's here. I can feel it.

Michelle slaps the lunch bag in David's hand.

MICHELLE A sandwich on the drive home will calm your nerves.

David looks back at the yard one more time. They go inside.

DAVID

I'd like you to come home with me. Just for one night. I'm not hitting on you.

MICHELLE Forget it if you're not hitting on me.

Michelle picks up his jacket. Automatically, David slips his arms through the sleeves. David turns to Michelle.

I'm worried about you.

MICHELLE I live in the light therefore I am.

Michelle pushes David toward the front door. A CRASHING sound comes from the garage. To the left of the front door is a door to the garage. Michelle opens the door.

INT. GARAGE - NIGHT

David goes in the garage first Michelle turns on the light behind him.

Off in a corner a calico cat has knocked over some trash. David turns and looks at Michelle who has a smirk on her face.

> MICHELLE That's Osho, Chakra's boyfriend. He's just horny.

Michelle picks up Osho and pets him. Michelle presses a button on the wall and the garage door opens. Michelle walks over to a cardboard box marked "Charlie." Michelle gestures toward the box.

> MICHELLE (CONT'D) This is some of Charlie's personal junk I was going to throw out. You can have it if you want.

David picks up the box.

DAVID

Thanks.

Michelle puts the cat down. Michelle leans over and gives David a kiss on the cheek.

MICHELLE Let me read the Tarot cards for you

sometime. It can help.

David smiles meekly and backs out of the garage clutching the box. As David walks down the driveway, the garage door closes HISSING LOUDLY. Shadows move everywhere.

David sees the cat's back is arched as if ready to do battle. Just before the garage door closes all the way, David sees another set of feet underneath the door.

As the garage door SLAMS shut, Michelle SCREAMS from the other side. Her body SLAMS against the garage door over and over again.

David drops the box and tries to pry the door open as he cries out to Michelle. Lights from other neighborhood homes go on and people look out their windows.

David runs around to the iron-barred front door and tries to get it open but to no avail. David frantically tries all the windows as the SCREAMING and THRASHING continue in the background.

The neighbors come out of their homes and head toward Michelle's house. David jumps over the brick wall surrounding Michelle's house and into the backyard.

David picks up a large rock and SMASHES the sliding glass door. David rushes into the house.

A back door SLAMS shut. He reaches the garage door, opens it and there lying on the ground is Michelle's bloodied, battered body.

We hear LOUD SIRENS AS red and blue police car lights pull up on to the driveway. Cops come pouring out.

INT. CITY MORGUE - NIGHT

David stares at a dead, male body. The man's face is partially mutilated. David can barely look at the sight. Beside David, MCFARLANE, a police officer, and an attendant stand by.

> MCFARLANE You don't know this dead body or the lady who died tonight?

DAVID

That's correct.

McFarlane studies David's face. McFarlane gestures to the attendant to close up the vault.

EXT. PARKING LOT - NIGHT

David and McFarlane walk toward David's car. McFarlane holds up a copy of the crazy paper with the article about the man Jennifer killed.

MCFARLANE

Am I to believe the dead man and his dead wife were brought together by this snot-rag article in the crazy papers sold at Seven-Eleven?

David gets into his car.

DAVID

He and I...we're...I have some of the same problems he had...sort of.

MCFARLANE Killed by a dream?

DAVID

Correct.

MCFARLANE How convenience store.

McFarlane looks up at the stars and back to David.

MCFARLANE (CONT'D) Killed by a dream...It can happen. I was being killed by a nightmare once but I divorced her.

David rolls his eyes, bored at McFarlane's cop humor. McFarlane looks behind David into his car and on the passenger seat is the lunch bag Michelle gave him.

> MCFARLANE (CONT'D) What have you got in the bag...drugs?

David turns and sees the bag. David reaches over and tosses the lunch bag to McFarlane without looking. McFarlane catches the bag and looks inside.

MCFARLANE

You mind?

DAVID

Be my guest.

McFarlane takes out the sandwich and looks between the bread to see what's there.

MCFARLANE

Horsecock.

DAVID

What?

McFarlane takes the baloney out of the bread and waves it in David's face.

MCFARLANE

Horsecock.

David EXHALES in disgust.

DAVID

Am I being charged with anything?

McFarlane shakes his head and takes a bite of the sandwich. David gets in his car. McFarlane taps on David's window. David lowers his window.

> MCFARLANE The whole neighborhood was watching you. You were lucky you weren't porking her.

DAVID

Ten four.

MCFARLANE Let me know if you get the urge to leave town again, will you?

David nods.

MCFARLANE (CONT'D) You don't like me, do you? Yeah, I want to have your children.

McFarlane angrily tosses the rest of the unfinished sandwich in the car at David. McFarlane takes a bloodied cloth from his inside pocket and jams it in David's face.

David stares at the bloodied cloth with the #1 on it.

MCFARLANE

Listen, wise-ass, this was found pinned to that lady's husband's dead body. You know what comes after #1? Maybe you. Whatever slammed that girl into her garage door ain't a dream pal and it's got big plans and I think you're included; the technical term is deep shit.

McFarlane slips the bloodied cloth back into his pocket as David backs away slowly down the driveway... they stare at each other all the way.

MCFARLANE (CONT'D) I'll be in touch.

David drives off as McFarlane shakes his head.

INT. DAVID'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

The clock in the background RINGS three o'clock. The kitchen table is covered in junk from the box.

No identification was found on the man. David tosses articles on the table along with other articles. David looks at a centerfold of an old Hustler magazine. David is not impressed. Hustler gets tossed.

David looks desperate, distraught and on the verge of crying. David picks up the cardboard box and tosses it across the room in anger. It lands at an angle next to the refrigerator.

David POUNDS his fist on the table. David sees his wife standing in the doorway with her arms crossed.

(CONT'D)

KATHY I'm sorry about that woman you visited.

David SIGHS in frustration.

KATHY (CONT'D) Who was she?

Kathy shuffles over and sits on David's lap.

DAVID

I'm not sure.

Kathy looks at the newspaper clipping circled in red and puts it back down.

KATHY Did you know her husband?

DAVID I don't think so.

KATHY Are you a suspect?

DAVID

Who knows?

They put their foreheads together.

DAVID (CONT'D) What the hell is going on?

KATHY

Club Med in reverse.

Kathy studies her husband inquisitively, then gets up and goes to the refrigerator. Kathy takes out a snowy white jelly-filled doughnut and starts to eat it.

Kathy holds out the partially eaten doughnut to David. Kathy kicks the refrigerator door closed without looking. Kathy walks over to the kitchen table where David is sitting.

KATHY (CONT'D) Want some?

David puts his head down in his arms.

No.

Kathy picks up a photograph in a frame from the pile of junk on the kitchen table. It's a picture of Charlie and Michelle on their wedding day. The frame is bent and the glass is cracked.

As Kathy holds the frame the corner of another smaller photo slips out. Kathy tugs at the smaller photo and takes it out. It is a black and white photo of five youngsters in boy scout uniforms. Kathy studies the photo.

POV as Kathy sees the five boys are standing near a lake in front of a lodge with a huge blue and yellow sign that says "Camp Reedsport."

KATHY What's Camp Reedsport?

David looks up a bit startled as if coming to from a sleep.

KATHY (CONT'D) Who are these studs?

David stands up and walks behind Kathy. He looks at the photo and snaps it from her hand.

DAVID Where did you get this?

KATHY It was stuck beneath their wedding photo.

David's face turns pale as he stares at the picture. The picture has big messages for him. David walks back to the table mesmerized by the picture.

David sits at the kitchen table gawking at the photo. You can feel David's heart going a mile a minute.

David looks as if he sees death. David is almost oblivious of Kathy. Kathy sees her husband is frightened.

DAVID Jesus Christ! KATHY Talk to me... (pause) please.

Kathy stands behind David looking at the old picture.

DAVID I went to this camp. I hung out with these guys for three weeks. We were kids. We were called "The Fighting Five" by our counselor. We fought...a lot.

David's trembling finger points to a boy scout at the end.

DAVID (CONT'D)

That's me.

Kathy leans closer and looks.

KATHY Did you know him?

DAVID He had this picture. We all had nicknames: Chuckles, the Belly, the Farter, Coward. It was so stupid. We were wild...wild and stupid...we were boys.

KATHY What were you called?

DAVID From Kohner...the Boner.

KATHY (under her breath) Can't argue there.

David misses his wife's humor. David is terrified.

DAVID (in shock) I know what's happening to me. I can't believe this is happening. KATHY So which one is Charlie Thornton?

DAVID I never knew their real names till later. The guy I saw in the morgue was messed up.

Kathy studies the picture.

KATHY Belly, Coward, Chuckles...Chuck...chuck, chuck, Charles...Charlie Thornton could be your Chuckles.

Kathy and David stare at each other. Jillian comes from the side in her pajamas and teddy bear.

JILLIAN

Mommy, can I sleep with you? I'm scared.

Kathy lifts up her baby girl. Jillian snatches the remains of the doughnut. Jillian sticks her finger inside and takes out a scoop of jelly and licks it off.

Jillian then takes a big bite of the doughnut covering her face in frosting. Kathy kisses her little pumpkin.

KATHY You can sleep with me honey.

Jillian wiggles out of her mother's arms and runs over and kisses her dad.

JILLIAN Tell me a story.

David turns and looks at his daughter for the first time since she came in the room. David's mind is elsewhere. His face is sweaty.

> DAVID Not tonight, honey.

David leans down and gives Jillian a kiss on the head. Jillian bolts back to her mom's arms.

KATHY We'll see you in the morning...okay?

DAVID

Uh huh.

JILLIAN Good night Daddy.

David nods as they leave. David's eyes remain transfixed on the photo he holds. The sweat drips from his face. David's eyes start to water.

FLASHBACK

EXT. MOUNTAINS - NIGHT

An old blue pick up truck with a smashed, makeshift house is being dragged from a gully. Fire trucks and police cars are parked on the road. An accident has taken place and the truck went over the side of the road.

Police and rangers are rounding up people for search parties. A scout leader, BRAD, speaks to five scouts.

BRAD Look, we want you guys to spread out and search. We think there is a possibility that a young girl was with them.

David, as a boy, is listening intensely. David sees two stretchers go by to a waiting ambulance. A man's arm falls out from underneath the sheet on one of the stretchers.

David notices the marking on the hand of the arm. It's a pentagram. Another boy, HOWARD, stands next to David.

HOWARD See that. They're devil worshippers. If I find the bitch, she's toast!

EXT. FOREST WOODS - DAY

Five boy scouts, DAVID 'THE BONER'KOHNER, JAY 'FARTER' CARTER, CHARLIE 'CHUCKLES' THORNTON, JOHN 'BELLY' MINNELLI, and HOWARD 'COWARD' ROBERTS, stagger through the bushes and trees grab-sassing and drinking a bottle of scotch.

Their boy scout uniforms are in disarray. They are enjoying creating a general RUCKUS.

They travel for miles in the woods with hawks soaring overhead and squirrels scattering up the trees.

The boys approach a clearing looking much like the adult David's dream.

They all fall down on a soft bed of dry leaves and prop their heads up on old rotting tree stumps. They pass a bottle of Jack Daniels around.

HOWARD The last day of Camp Crap.

CARTER No more shit on a shingle.

MINNELLI Shortimers. We're going home geeks.

CHARLIE

Boner?

DAVID

Yeah?

CHARLIE Just checking assholes!

They all burst out LAUGHING. Minnelli looks over and sees a lynx munching on a dead carcass of some rabbit.

Disgusted, Minnelli rolls his fat body over his log and starts to puke.

Howard staggers over to Minnelli's fat ass and sits on it as Minnelli vomits.

Howard pins Minnelli to the log and bounces up and downs if riding a horse. Minnelli gets sicker.

MINNELLI

Stop it, Howard. I can't breathe!

Howard starts to bounce even harder on Minnelli's back. David gets up, walks over and stand over Howard.

DAVID

Knock it off, Howard! Knock it off.

Howard continues bouncing on Minnelli who is now turning purple. Minnelli SCREAMS in pain.

David grabs Howard by the shirt collar and pulls him off.

Howard takes a swing at David.

David ducks avoiding Howard's punch and counter punches him, knocking Howard to the ground.

The half empty bottle of Jack Daniels lands at Carter's feet in the scuffle.

Carter picks up the bottle and guards it.

David and Howard are now wrestling on the ground.

Minnelli gets up GASPING for breath and COUGHING.

Carter and Charlie CHEER the fight on. The fighting gets dirty as Howard, on top of David straddling him, begin to gouge at David's eyes.

Minnelli pulls Howard off of David and restrains him.

David jumps up ready to kill Howard until Charlie holds him back.

Behind David near the edge of the cliff, something white is moving.

A young girl in a white tattered dress, who resembles an adult Jennifer from David's dream, is moving about dazed, scratched and hurt. The boys notice her as Minnelli drags David off to a road nearby

HOWARD

What have we here?

Howard struts toward Jennifer. Charlie cuts off Howard. Charlie reaches gently out to Jennifer trying to console her.

CHARLIE

It's okay, we're scouts.

Howard grabs the scotch from Charlie's hand and takes a swig. Howard walks slowly toward Jennifer. David doesn't see him.

HOWARD

And you know our motto, "Be prepared."

Howard offers Jennifer some whiskey. Charlie snatches the bottle out of Howard's hand.

CHARLIE

Let me.

Charlie then offers her a swig. Jennifer starts to back closer to the cliff's edge. Charlie pours some of the scotch over Jennifer's lips as David knocks Charlie's arms away.

Minnelli thrusts his pelvis in a disgusting gesture of lust. Jennifer recoils at his gesture.

Jennifer gives Minnelli a vengeful look. Minnelli stops what he's doing.

David defiantly places himself between Jennifer and the group. Jennifer is now at the cliff's edge. Twenty feet below is a bed of rocks in a shallow ravine of a dried up creek.

DAVID Howard, it's the girl. The missing girl. The girl who was lost last week. We found her. Can't you see she's in shock? HOWARD Camps over, Boner. Give up the boy scout routine. It's party time.

DAVID Howard! Enough! Let's bring her back to the lodge so she can get help.

HOWARD Relax, Boner. I just want to talk to her. I ain't ever seen a devilworshipping bitch before.

DAVID

Don't mess with me, Howard.

Charlie carefully puts the Jack Daniels bottle on a nearby rock. Charlie comes behind David and grabs him. Howard puts the blade of a Swiss Army knife under David's eyes.

HOWARD

You're getting on my nerves, Boner.

David stares back at Howard defiantly. Minnelli walks up to Jennifer who is terrified.

MINNELLI

Hi Princess.

HOWARD

Bag ass Minnelli. Park your lard up by the road and act as look-out.

Minnelli runs off at high-speed obviously afraid of Howard back to the deserted road.

Charlie restrains the smaller, still struggling David. Carter tries to loop Jennifer's feet with rope.

A rock beneath Jennifer's foot breaks free and falls below to the river bed temporarily unsettling Jennifer.

CHARLIE

I think she likes you, Howard.

Charlie LAUGHS uncontrollably at his own sick humor. Howard smiles deviously at Jennifer.

HOWARD Patience, Chuckles. We have all night to entertain our guest.

Howard LAUGHS as Jennifer steps closer to the edge of the cliff.

Another rock moves under her foot making the ground more unstable.

David sees her peril and tries desperately to get free from the muscular Charlie but can't get away.

Jennifer stares at a small, cloth tie-dyed bag on a leather chain around Howard's neck. Howard wiggles the bag.

HOWARD (CONT'D) Oh that, a knock-out drug. Hypnosis, I tinker at it.

Jennifer begins to cry. David gets free of Charlie and dives at Howard. He grabs the knife cutting his hand just like in the adult David's dream. Howard falls to the ground.

Jennifer begins to slide off the cliff. David grabs Jennifer's hand tightly.

Jennifer hangs suspended over the ravine. She is pleading for David not to let go.

David sees the scratches on her face for the first time apparently from the accident.

Jennifer tries to speak but no words come out.

DAVID It's okay, hold on tight.

David calls for help. Charlie is staggering around in a drunken stupor. Carter hides behind Howard who is watching David and smirking.

DAVID (CONT'D) Howard, god damn you! Help me! Pull her up!

David starts losing his grip. He tries to reach with his other hand. David sees the pentagram tattooed in Jennifer's palm.

Jennifer starts to slip. David's hands become loose. David watches as Jennifer falls to the rocks below. Jennifer lands with a loud THUMP.

All five boys are at the edge of the cliff staring down at the body. Jennifer is motionless. Her face almost angelic.

From below in the ravine, an old, dwarf woman, SHANA, runs out to Jennifer. From her clothing she resembles a gypsy woman. She takes Jennifer's head into her lap and rubs oil on Jennifer's face.

The boys scatter except for David who keeps staring down at Jennifer and the gypsy woman.

The gypsy woman looks up and sees David. David turns and runs to join the others.

INT. CAMP REEDSPORT CABIN - NIGHT

The boys are in their pajamas sit around a candle in the middle of the room. They sip on drinks from their mugs. Shutters outside the cabin KNOCK against the cabin walls. Minnelli cuddles a baby possum.

DAVID

The gypsy saw us.

HOWARD Correction! The gypsy saw you, Boner, not us.

CARTER One for all, Howard. Remember?

HOWARD

We're out of here tomorrow girls remember? So what difference does it make?

DAVID The difference it makes Howard is we killed someone today.

MINNELLI We don't know she was dead for sure. CARTER We should go to the police.

HOWARD Oh right. And spend the rest of our lives in jail. No thanks.

DAVID I'm going to tell someone.

HOWARD You're forgetting something Boner.

DAVID What's that?

HOWARD You dropped her.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

DARYL, the boys' camp counselor, is marching down the hallway. Daryl yells out to the boys as he's walking.

DARYL Alright, ladies, hit the rack. It's night-night time.

INT. BOYS' CABIN - NIGHT

At Daryl's approach, the boys lean in close to whisper.

HOWARD Look at it this way, Boner. We're just having this meeting to cover your ass.

DAVID Fuck you, Howard!

HOWARD

Don't be so dramatic, Boner. You think I haven't got a plan. If you guys know one thing about me, you know I always have a plan.

David looks intimidated.

HOWARD (CONT'D) Not to worry. Uncle Howard always has a plan.

The boys lean closer to the candle. Howard takes out his Swiss army knife. His tie-dyed, hypnosis drug bag swings from his neck. The boys stare at it.

Howard makes a deep cut with the knife in his index finger. His blood drips on the candle.

HOWARD (CONT'D) We make a sacred promise.

MINNELLI

A sacred promise?

HOWARD

Yes, a sacred promise between us that what happened today will be our deepest darkest secret, never to be revealed.

The room is SILENT and they hear Daryl's steel cleats hitting the hardwood floor coming to the cabin room entrance. They all hold up mugs in a toast and drink.

HOWARD (CONT'D)

Well?

CHARLIE

I ain't proud.

Charlie reluctantly runs his finger on the knife but gets no cut or blood.

HOWARD (firmly) Commit yourself, Chuckles! It won't bleed until you commit yourself!

Charlie closes his eyes tightly and leans into the knife. Carter pushes from the other side of the blade, they both bleed. They smile and stagger off to their bunks.

The CLICKING sound of Daryl's heels is getting closer.

Howard turns to Minnelli.

Minnelli cowardly pricks his finger quickly on the top of the knife. A tiny trickle of blood comes out.

HOWARD (CONT'D) Good enough, Belly.

Minnelli waddles to his rack sucking his finger.

The door of their room BURSTS open with a BANG. Daryl's muscular presence stands in the doorway with a leather strap in his hand.

DARYL

(loudly) Assholes! Listen up! Daddy's home. And he wants all his ladies in bed!

David's blood drips as he drags his finger along the blade. David's eyes follow the dripping blood to an empty tie-dye bag near his empty cup on the floor. He feels dizzy as he looks over at Howard who is smirking. David is drugged.

> HOWARD Track with me, Boner. You're drugged pal! Now comes the hypnosis, then no memory, it's like a powdered lobotomy. Now hear my voice and only my voice and you'll go into a deep sleep and...

The words DEEP SLEEP ECHOES OVER AND OVER as the room gets blurry and David passes out. We hear the LOUD CLICK of the counselor Daryl's heels.

> DARYL Pleasant dreams, girls.

Daryl smiles and blows out the candle.

END OF FLASHBACK

INT. DAVID'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

David lowers the photograph and looks at the scar on his index finger. A tear runs down his face.

EXT. KOHNER HOUSE - NIGHT

POV of the pale white face of the transvestite as he watches David from the front of the house through the kitchen window. Not seeing the transvestite, David turns off the kitchen light and exits the kitchen.

INT. KOHNER HOUSE - NIGHT

David goes upstairs to the bedroom. The front door handle turns from outside as he exits up the stairs.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Candlelight casts an eerie glow from the hallway outside David and Kathy's bedroom. David is sleeping in the bed alone. A presence moves closer to David.

> VOICE (growls) Tonight you die...tonight you must die...

The shadow presence gets closer and closer. David tosses and turns in bed. A young blond girl in a boy scout uniform dances to the candle's flickering light. The girl resembles the young Jennifer.

Behind the young girl is a presence dressed in a black robe resembling "Death." The blond girl approaches David and the Death presence speaks.

VOICE (CONT'D) Tonight you die...tonight you must die...

The young blond girl gets to the bed and reaches toward David with a bloodied finger. The voice of Death LAUGHS hauntingly.

As the bloodied finger touches David, he springs from the bed and shakes the girl by the shoulders violently. The girl SCREAMS.

Kathy comes rushing into the bedroom and turns on the light.

Kathy sees David shaking Jillian and Beamer trying to pull her away. Kathy rushes over to help Beamer free Jillian.

KATHY (screaming) What are you doing?

David comes to and realizes what he's doing. He stops.

Jillian is crying. Kathy holds Jillian and rocks her.

KATHY (CONT'D) It's okay, honey...it's okay. Everything is alright, pumpkin.

Jillian looks up at Kathy and smiles.

JILLIAN

I'm okay, Mommy.

David leans down to comfort his daughter.

DAVID Daddy's sorry, honey. He was just having a bad dream.

Jillian and her father hug as Beamer stand nearby dressed in a dark robe holding a candle.

KATHY (to David) Jillian found your scout's outfit in the attic. They just got home from trick or treating.

David is bewildered. He looks at Jillian.

DAVID Jillian, I didn't mean it.

Beamer pats his dad on the shoulder.

BEAMER It's cool, Dad. That's what we wanted to do, scare the shit out of you. Jillian smiles proudly to confirm Beamer's remarks.

KATHY Come on guys, time for bed.

Beamer and Jillian kiss their parents and walk out.

BEAMER (O.S.) (to Jillian) Tonight you must die. Tonight you must die. I sound like Freddy Kruger, don't I?

JILLIAN (O.S.) Next Halloween you go in first.

Kathy sits down on the bed. She rubs David's back.

DAVID

I thought Halloween wasn't until tomorrow.

KATHY You passed out after you saw that photo of the five scouts. You slept for over a day.

A neighbor, PAUL LIPPMAN, peeks his head in the bedroom door. He waves to Kathy and David.

> KATHY (CONT'D) David, you remember Paul Lippman. He's our neighbor. The psychologist? His kids came by earlier trick or treating and I asked him to drop by.

David looks at Paul derisively.

PAUL I thought maybe we could talk downstairs.

KATHY I called Paul after you passed out. I was scared. PAUL These things are not uncommon.

David sneers at Paul and looks at Kathy.

DAVID (to Kathy) I slept all day?

Kathy nods. David shakes his head in disbelief.

PAUL Often, these things are a sublimation of our fantasies.

David grabs his crotch.

DAVID Sublimate this, pal!

KATHY

David!

David points at Paul.

DAVID

Get the fuck out of my house!

Paul smiles apologetically towards Kathy and walks out of the bedroom. David runs after him.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

Paul goes out the front door.

DAVID (yelling from the stairs) I know why you're getting the Movie Channel for free!

David smiles smugly and struts back to his bedroom.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

David sits on the bed next to Kathy. David picks up the picture of the scouts and looks at it and notices the scar on his index finger. David turns the picture over and sees a phone number on the back of it. David looks at his wife. DAVID

I'll give him sublimate.

KATHY Paul means well. He went out of his way to talk to you.

David glances at the picture again.

pentagram.

DAVID I know what the mark is on the girl's hand in the dream. It was a

Kathy looks at her husband with trepidation.

DAVID (CONT'D) Howard's dad was CIA Intelligence! He trained his son well on some of that Manchurian Candidate shit. Howard drugged me - hypnotized, something, what happened got erased.

Kathy sees Beamer and Jillian returning to the room.

KATHY

The kids are here.

Beamer and Jillian peek in the doorway. They GIGGLE. David holds out his arms and both children fly into the bedroom SCREAMING with delight. The family has a moment of togetherness on the bed.

David notices some dried blood on Jillian's finger.

DAVID What's this? JILLIAN Doughnut jelly. (pause) Daddy, are you important? KATHY Of course, honey. Your Dad is

important. Why?

Jillian scampers to the end of the bed and sits next to Beamer who is now fiddling with the remote control.

> JILLIAN One of the girls at school showed me a paper that said her Dad is important. I said my Dad is important too!

Kathy smiles at David.

JILLIAN (CONT'D) (to Beamer) See, I told you!

BEAMER The letter said "impotent," not "important," geek brain.

JILLIAN

Same thing.

EXT. BASEBALL DIAMOND - DAY

David, holding a couple beers and hotdogs, is searching for Kathy in the bleachers.

Beamer is at home plate getting ready to bat.

The stands are packed with families and relatives cheering the game.

Jillian wears one of Beamer's team uniforms and stands near him picking up baseball bats.

Some of Beamer's teammates CHEER him on from the dugout. The pitcher looks for the signal. Beamer gives the batter stance.

The pitcher starts his wind up but end up balking the throw. The pitcher throws down his hat in anger.

Jillian dusts off home plate.

BEAMER What are you doing?

Both teams are razzing Beamer.

JILLIAN

It was dirty.

Beamer sees his Dad trying to find his Mom in the stands.

Beamer rushes over to his Dad. Behind them the umpire walks over to the third base coach.

BEAMER Dad! She's driving me crazy! Take her with you guys!

Jillian is now jumping up and down on home plate. David CALLS out to her. Jillian rushes off to him.

David makes his daughter sit on a stool with other kids behind home plate. Kathy comes down from the bleachers.

David and his wife climb to the top of the bleachers and sit.

KATHY I want you to stop.

David chugs his beer and BELCHES.

DAVID

I know.

KATHY It's madness. People are talking.

David turns around and sees Paul Lippman and his wife staring up at them. David sneers at both of them and they turn to the game.

> DAVID I can't stop, so don't ask.

> > KATHY

I'm not asking.

DAVID I'm not stopping.

The umpire YELLS "STRIKE" in the background. The umpire turns his counter. The palm of the umpire's hand has puss marks and a pentagram.

Kathy and David continue talking.

KATHY

I want to go away with the kids. Not a divorce or anything it's just that...

David puts his hand gently over his wife's mouth. She turns and stares at him.

DAVID I killed someone...by accident. A young girl. (pause) Near the camp in the picture. I was actually trying to save her at the time and she slipped from my grasp off a cliff.

KATHY

What?

They turn to each other.

DAVID We all made this sacred promise to keep it our deepest darkest secret.

KATHY (in shock) You never told anyone?

DAVID

Told anyone? I couldn't tell anyone if I wanted to. Last night looking at that picture was my first recall. I've had this massive fucking blank spot in my mind for over a decade. Like I told you, Howard drugged me.

KATHY

My God.

David looks down and sees his daughter and one other little girl talking to the umpire through the wire backstop.

David studies the scene; it doesn't look Kosher to him. Kathy looks around in shock over her husband's revelation.

DAVID Those dreams have horsepower now...she's out there all right.

Kathy rolls her eyes behind her husband.

KATHY David, I'm sorry, but no more of the madness...see Dr. Lippman, he can handle this.

A baseball THWACKS against the inside of a glove.

The umpire CALLS out the pitch. David feels something strange in the air.

Beamer hits another foul ball. Beamer looks up at his Dad. David smiles and gives him a thumbs up.

> DAVID I'm going to find her.

> > KATHY

How?

David looks up to the sky.

DAVID I'll find her wherever she exists. In her world if that's what it takes.

KATHY Oh her world! Great. You're rowing with one oar now, pal. Her world. I'm sorry, that's not playing with a full deck.

A CRACK of the bat HITTING the baseball and Beamer runs to first base. The crowd ROARS with excitement.

Beamer makes it to third base and slides safe. The umpire picks up the pieces of Beamer's bat that split in two places. One of the pieces resembles a dangerous dagger which the umpire slips inside his chest protector.

David tries to keep an eye on the umpire but a fat man in front of him obscures his vision.

David notices the scoreboard in the distance. It is the bottom of the ninth and the score is tied three to three.

The umpire CALLS several other bad pitches strikes and soon the bases are loaded; just the way he wants it.

The opposing coach is furious. Beamer is antsy at third base. The umpire CALLS "time" as he changes balls.

David sees the umpire handle the balls. The ball the umpire throws back to the pitcher is definitely larger. The pitcher bitches. The umpire CALLS out to play ball.

The world seems to play in slow motion for David as he watched the umpire. He notices blond hair falling out of the ump's cap.

David sees the bat, the score, bases loaded, Beamer dying to run home, the pitcher winding up and the broken grip coming out of the umpire's chest protector. It all comes together for David.

The pitch is thrown to the batter. David SCREAMS as the ROAR of the crowd echoes. The batter SMASHES the ball, the crowd CHEERS and Beamer heads for home plate.

David shoves people out of the way as he makes his way down the bleachers.

Kathy starts after him YELLING for him to stop. Beamer races for home plate.

David jumps over the infield fence and slides for home at the same time Beamer does.

David blocks home plate as the sharp bat handle intended for Beamer goes piercing into David's arm. David grimaces with pain.

Blood is everywhere. Some of the crowd of irritated parents rushes onto the field.

The umpire disappears.

Kathy rushes over to David writhing on the ground in pain.

It is MAYHEM as children and parents SCREAM at David. Kathy pulls him away. Beamer stands beside Paul Lippman.

David looks at his son with a blank expression on his face.

Kathy frantically wraps David's arm with her scarf while leading him toward their car.

Kathy is crying. Beamer and Jillian follow them. Dark clouds form in the sky.

INT. MAGIC SHOP - DAY

A bell RINGS as David opens the door to the shop. Behind the front counter stands a tall, imposing man, SANDAR, late thirties, his long black hair tied back and a black beard.

David approaches Sandar feeling a little out of his element.

The shop is filled with purple ceremony robes, skulls, swords, daggers, candles, beads, stuffed animals, tarot cards, books on the occult, burning herbs, a deep purple chalice, incense and many items with a star surrounded by a circle. David is sweaty and nervous.

DAVID

Hi...I'm...ah doing a little research on magic and the occult.

Sandar's piercing eyes give David the once over. David lets out nervous laughter.

DAVID (CONT'D) I'm looking for something about fighting demons and ghosts and whatever.

Sandar lights a cigarette. There is a momentary pause.

DAVID (CONT'D) Don't you answer people?

Sandar exhales slowly and directly into David's face.

SANDAR You haven't asked me anything. A petite, mysterious and sensual woman comes out from behind a curtain dividing the shop from the back. The woman, ZOFIA, is dressed in silks and covered with antique jewelry.

David is at once magnetically attracted to her. Zofia gestures for David to follow.

ZOFIA

Come.

David follows Zofia behind the curtain with Sandar following.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

David continues to follow Zofia down a long hallway, up a long staircase and finally through a raised panel in the wall.

INT. ATTIC - DAY

As they enter the attic, Zofia covers the stair case and panel door, leaving no trace of their whereabouts to anyone in the shop.

Zofia takes a seat in a high back purple chair behind an antique ornate desk. A black cat with green eyes jumps in her lap. She gestures for David to sit in a chair. He does.

> ZOFIA We won't be disturbed here.

Behind Zofia is a sign, "Readings \$50.00."

David reaches into his pocket and tosses some money on the table. Zofia grabs the money and throws it in a goldfish bowl beside her.

She gets up, lifts the panel in the ceiling and drops the cat to the hallway below. The cat races off.

Zofia walks around to David and puts her hands on his shoulders. Her hand travels down to David's bandaged arm. She touches his bandage and arm tenderly.

Zofia's eyes roll back and she begins to CHANT to the sky.

David nervously looks around the room noticing the stuffed dead animals and purple wallpaper. ZOFIA (CONT'D) She roamed with gypsies. She's cursed. David's hear pounds. Zofia kneels between his legs submissively and rubs his limp hand along her cheeks and lips. Suddenly, she opens her eyes and directs a fierce gaze into David's eyes. ZOFIA (CONT'D) She blames you. She rises and sits back down behind the desk. ZOFIA (CONT'D) You need me. DAVID She's dead. Zofia LAUGHS loudly. ZOFIA What's death? A body isn't death. A body is a prison. Prisoners escape. David swallows hard. ZOFIA (CONT'D) Hold my hands. David complies. She shuts her eyes. ZOFIA (CONT'D) David...she is on a mission...I see a pentagram...a child...I see... Zofia opens her eyes and looks at David fearfully. DAVID You see what?

DAVID

Help me.

ZOFIA Only if you do exactly as I say.

David nods.

ZOFIA (CONT'D)

You'll need to perform the banishing ritual of the pentagram. She awaits you in the shadows. Where does she confront you?

DAVID

Home. In my home.

ZOFIA

Then I need to come to your home and invoke the Guardian Angel in your sphere. You will need to keep a daily journal to keep progress with your inner world. Then we can unlock the powerful doorways to your inner world. Then we have a fair fight.

DAVID You believe me?

ZOFIA I can feel her now.

DAVID Her name is Jennifer and she's

trying to kill me.

Zofia picks up David's hand and points to a truncated line on his palm. She looks into David's eyes.

ZOFIA I know. I live in her world. We're like spiritual neighbors if you will. David puts his face in his hands. Zofia lifts a silk scarf off a crystal ball.

INT. KOHNER HOME OFFICE - NIGHT

David types at his computer. Intense and inspired, the words stream rapidly onto the paper.

Someone is watching David from behind him. David turns and sees no one. David sighs with relief.

David lights a cigarette. In the reflection of the computer screen, he sees a blonde, transvestite face.

Startled, David burns himself with his lighter and SCREAMS. He turns around. No one is there.

David shakes in fear. The transvestite is standing in the doorway behind David in an eerie light.

David turns to see the woman standing there.

DAVID

You're not there.

David slowly turns back to the computer and attempts to type.

The woman approaches David. She grabs his shoulder.

David SCREAMS, spins around and raises a large crescent wrench he has hidden in his lap ready to defend himself.

Kathy jumps back SCREAMING. She falls to the floor.

Beamer and Jillian rush into the room. David is on the floor comforting Kathy who is crying.

David gestures for the two children and they run out of the room.

BEAMER (O.S.) No way Jose!! INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

David's eyes pop open as he lays in bed in a cold sweat, his heart pounding. Kathy is fast asleep.

David studies his hands. They seem fine. David lies back down and stares up a the ceiling. David looks at the clock. It's two-thirty.

INT. DOWNSTAIRS - NIGHT

The front door is wide open. The transvestite starts up the stairs.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

The transvestite passes by the bedroom, David sits up thinking he hears something and looks toward the hallway.

INT. BEAMER'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

The transvestite looks in at Beamer sleeping.

INT. JILLIAN'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

The transvestite looks in on Jillian sleeping. He moves toward Jillian's bed. He leans down and kisses her.

INT. DAVID'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

David looks once more at the picture of the five boy scouts. He gets up and puts on his robe and heads down the hall.

INT. JILLIAN'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

David looks in on Jillian. He sees her sleeping peacefully and blows her a kiss not noticing the transvestite hiding behind Jillian's door.

INT. BEAMER'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

David looks in on Beamer who has kicked his covers off. David covers Beamer and musses his hair gently.

JILLIAN (O.S.) I love you too, Mommy.

INT. JILLIAN'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

David rushes into Jillian's room. She is sleeping peacefully. The transvestite is still hiding behind the door watching them both.

David covers up Jillian.

DAVID

I love you.

Jillian opens her eyes and smiles.

JILLIAN

Kiss please?

David kisses Jillian on the forehead.

JILLIAN (CONT'D) That's two kisses in one night.

DAVID

What honey?

JILLIAN The nice lady and you.

DAVID There's no nice lady here, honey.

JILLIAN

Is so!

David turns on the light next to Jillian's bed. Jillian is pointing to a big lipstick mark on her face. David's face goes in total terror.

JILLIAN (CONT'D)

Look!

Jillian points to her bedroom door.

David turns and no one is there. He races around Jillian's room throwing open closet doors and looking under the bed. Jillian is scared at her father's behavior.

Downstairs, a door SHUTS. David runs out of Jillian's room.

EXT. FRONT OF HOUSE - NIGHT

David runs out of the house onto the front lawn. No one is there. He walks out to the sidewalk. Nothing.

A police car drives by and stops. David, embarrassed, waves the car off. He picks up a wrapped up newspaper lying on the driveway.

Kathy is standing in the doorway. She's disgusted. She goes back into the house and closes the door. She goes back into the bedroom and turns off the light.

David again waves the police officer away. David walks back into the house.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

David wanders over to the fireplace and sits on the couch. He pulls the picture out of his robe pocket, turns it over and looks at the number on the back. Even though the clock says three-fifteen, David picks up the phone and dials.

An older woman answers.

VOICE (0.S.) (filtered) St. Joseph's hospital.

David stares at the picture.

DAVID (to himself) What room is John Minnelli in?

FLASHBACK

EXT. FOREST WOODS - NIGHT

Minnelli is throwing up over the dead log.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Kathy grabs David on the should startling him.

KATHY We need to talk.

DAVID Jillian was talking in her sleep.

KATHY It's okay. Beamer answers her in his sleep.

DAVID I found Minnelli.

KATHY I need space with the kids.

DAVID Fine, we'll talk when I get back.

KATHY

Back?

DAVID I said, I found Minnelli. He's in Mayville.

KATHY Let me put it another way. I can't take any more of this shit.

DAVID Kathy don't okay? Not now!

KATHY David, our vows were for better or worse, not better or insane.

DAVID Minnelli is the missing link. Then it's case closed. I promise. It will explain what's going on. I know it. You're becoming an ad for Band-Aids is what's going on. Okay, you got caught up in some love triangle on your last visit. What's really going on is between your ears and you won't go get help and I'm losing it in the process.

Kathy starts to cry. She lights a cigarette. David sits across from her.

DAVID

I love you.

Kathy stares at the fireplace.

KATHY

Tell my cold feet at night. I can't live like this anymore. I'm moving out with the kids for a while.

DAVID

Just a little longer. It's almost over. I promise.

KATHY

We're leaving in the morning. I found a vacancy with a lease option.

David jumps up furious and angry.

DAVID Lease option! Well, shit, that had me worried. Lease option! Did you hear me? She was here tonight!

Kathy calmly picks up her stuff and walks back upstairs.

DAVID (CONT'D) You can't do this Kathy! The kids have a say in this. We've always worked as a team. Jesus Christ Kathy! Give ma a break! (to himself) Lease option? David throws his cigarette in the fireplace.

EXT. GARAGE WORKSHOP - DAY

A man, JAY, polishes copper at his workbench making small statues of soldiers, tanks and other weapons.

Out of the corner of his eye he sees shadows going by his garage windows. He looks up and sees a scary face with a soldier's hat on looking through a window right over his workbench.

Jay JUMPS as he HEARS a LOUD KNOCK on his garage side door. He goes over to the door and opens it as he HEARS FOOTSTEPS SHUFFLING outside.

At his door is a man and a woman behind the man with her head bowed meekly. Both are dressed like Salvation Army officers.

The woman steps back a few feet. We don't see her face clearly. The man has the face of our transvestite.

JAY Can I help you?

The woman in the background weeps gently.

JAY (CONT'D) Is something wrong?

TRANSVESTITE

Yes sir. The lady with me has been searching for her long lost husband and we were hoping you could help.

JAY Of course, but how?

TRANSVESTITE If you would just examine this picture carefully.

JAY

Of course, I'd be glad to.

The transvestite points to a picture of the "Fighting Five" at Camp Reedsport.

Now please study carefully, we don't want to make a mistake and break this poor creatures heart.

JAY Absolutely, I'll do my best.

The transvestite points at one of the boys in the picture. The man studies the picture.

TRANSVESTITE Is this you? Jay Carter?

The man we now know is JAY 'THE FARTER' CARTER, from The Fighting Five of Camp Reedsport Jay studies the picture of his five friends from his childhood and a smile slowly appears on his face.

JAY

Why yes.

TRANSVESTITE Are you absolutely sure?

JAY That's me alright!

A knife drops from the transvestite's sleeve.

TRANSVESTITE Too fucking bad!

The transvestite stabs Jay in the eye. Blood splatters everywhere as Jay SCREAMS and collapses to the ground.

The woman leans over and pins the #2 on the bloodied body.

INT. HOSPITAL - NIGHT

The elevator door opens as David hurries down the hallway past the nurses' station where he flies past a nurse with her back to him.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - NIGHT

David finds ROOM 604 and enters. The large, helpless body of John Minnelli lies in a hospital bed. Minnelli is hooked up to a heart monitor and has tubes running out of his body.

The heart monitor BEEPS softly indicating life in Minnelli's body. Flowers and cards line the room area. David walks up to Minnelli on the bed.

DAVID

Belly, it's me Kohner. Kohner the Boner.

No reaction from Minnelli even though his eyes are partially open. David takes out the boy scout photo for Minnelli to see.

DAVID (CONT'D) The Fighting Five, remember?

Minnelli gargles a little from his throat.

DAVID (CONT'D) Camp Reedsport...chuckles, Coward, Farter...the troops.

The heart monitor begins to beat faster.

DAVID (CONT'D) I don't know what happened. It happened to Carter. Say it please. Say her name. Say her name.

The monitor beats faster and faster. Minnelli's eyes start to flutter then the monitor returns to its normal beating pattern.

Minnelli's eyes open wide as a doctor with a ponytail and holding a clipboard enters the room and stands in the doorway.

Minnelli recognizes the transvestite disguised as a doctor standing behind David and starts to sweat.

David sees a stuffed, toy possum at the foot of the bed and holds it up wiggling.

DAVID (CONT'D) Remember the pet possum from camp? Remember him Belly?

Minnelli looks in fear from the possum to the doctor.

Oblivious to the danger behind him, David smiles and puts the possum under Minnelli's arm. Minnelli is in total fear.

David talks to the doctor without looking.

DAVID (CONT'D) He loved this possum doctor.

TRANSVESTITE I'm sorry but I'll have to ask you to leave sir.

DAVID

Of course.

Minnelli tries to clutch David's hand as he leaves but is to slow and just keeps grasping desperately. Minnelli starts to shake violently and the heart monitor speeds up.

David waves goodbye feebly at the door and heads down the hall.

The transvestite, dressed like a doctor, slowly walks toward the bed. He gently pins the #3 on Minnelli's chest.

TRANSVESTITE Can't he see you're dead!

Fear fills Minnelli's eyes. The transvestite doctor plunges a cross with Jesus on it into Minnelli's heart. Minnelli SCREAMS and succumbs.

The transvestite doctor slowly backs out of the room.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

David picks up his mail, sorts through it and grabs a beer from the refrigerator. He notices there is hardly any food in the refrigerator. He looks around and sees some appliances are missing, the toaster and the microwave. Suddenly, it comes to David and he realizes what is happening.

INT. BEAMER'S BEDROOM - DAY

David runs into his son's room and sees the closet is empty.

INT. JILLIAN'S BEDROOM - DAY

David finds Jillian's room empty also.

INT. DAVID'S BEDROOM - DAY

David finds the closet in his room empty too. There is a note on the bed saying, 'YOU CAN HAVE THE REMAINING STUFF'.

Kathy has taken the kids and gone.

David begins to CRY. He grabs the phone and calls Kathy's mother. Then he calls Kathy's office. No one knows where Kathy is.

There is a football on David's dresser. He throws it against the dresser mirror and SMASHES it to pieces.

EXT. FRONT OF HOUSE - DAY

David runs outside. Paul Lippman drives by in his convertible and looks over. David throws the beer in his hand out at Lippman. Lippman races off.

DAVID

Fuck you!

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

David is sleeping by the fireplace. Empty beer cans surround him. The doorbell RINGS again and again. David sees the clock on the wall and it reads, one-thirty.

David staggers over and opens the door. Zofia is there.

Zofia carries in several bags. David helps her inside the room.

I'm glad you called. We must hurry. We don't have much time.

Zofia opens one of the bags and begins to lay out different items all over the room. She takes a can of spray paint and sprays a pentagram on the living room floor white carpeting.

In a bit, Zofia has changed the entire living room to a candlelit den resembling the occult shop. She then lays out two white robes side by side.

In the center of the pentagram is a cross, a triangle, a red lamp, bread, and salt. Zofia kneels before David and looks up at him.

ZOFIA (CONT'D)

Disrobe!

David's jaw drops open.

DAVID

Excuse me?

Zofia begins to disrobe herself. David follows her lead until he has completely disrobed.

She lifts a carafe of oil that has been heating on a stand nearby with a candle underneath it. She anoints David with the oil. He shivers.

Zofia CHANTS. Her hands glide over David's naked body with the hot oil.

ZOFIA

O glorious angel of the night. Thou who governs the fiery essences of the earth. I ask thee to bestow the Pentacle of the Magic Powers of which thou are sovereign. O glorious angel who governs the moist and the fluid essences of earth, I beg thee.

The front door SWINGS open. David is standing naked in the middle of the room with Zofia kneeling before him in prayer.

Kathy stands in the open doorway.

KATHY What the fuck?!

David immediately goes for his clothes.

DAVID

It's not what you're thinking.

Kathy is aghast at her living room. Still shocked at the sight of Zofia and David.

DAVID (CONT'D) Goddamn it, Kathy! Let me explain for chrissakes.

KATHY

Fuck you!

Kathy stomps out and SLAMS the front door. A few seconds later, a car SCREECHES out of the driveway and down the street.

Zofia stops David from going for these clothes after Kathy.

ZOFIA Let her go. What we are doing is not of this earth. There is no explaining. There is no understanding.

David drops his shirt back on the couch. Zofia slips one of the floor length white robes around David. She puts on the other robe.

Zofia has David sit down on one corner of the pentagram. She sits across from him on another corner. She holds up a red rose, kisses it and places it on the floor in front of her.

She holds up a white triangle and puts it over the rose. Next, she holds up a red cross. Looking into David's eyes, she continues.

> ZOFIA (CONT'D) We fight the demon on the astral plane. Come with me. Out of body. We destroy her before she harms anyone else.

Zofia bows her head. David bows his head. She goes into a trance and begins to CHANT.

Zofia waves the cross over the triangle and places it on top of the rose and the triangle. Zofia takes a dagger from behind her back. Zofia raises her hand to the sky.

> ZOFIA (CONT'D) O thou resplendent angel of the night who governs the fiery realms of air, I conjure thee to confer upon thy dagger mysterious and magical powers.

Someone is watching them from another part of the room. We can hear this person BREATHING HEAVILY.

The presence moves closer as Zofia's body begins to writhe round and round. Suddenly, she stops. She looks up TERRIFIED.

A club comes down on David's head, KNOCKING HIM OUT.

Zofia moves away from the presence CRYING and PLEADING.

The presence picks up the dagger Zofia dropped and uses it to stab her under the chin. Blood goes everywhere.

The front door FLIES open. The presence turns around to reveal the transvestite.

McFarlane is standing in the doorway. The candles all flicker out. The room is completely dark.

MCFARLANE

Drop it pal!

McFarlane pulls out his gun and advances. He slowly gropes the wall for a light switch. He sees a shadow move and he FIRES the gun.

A mirror SHATTERS. A car BURNING RUBBER SQUEALS off out of the driveway.

McFarlane runs to the door to see the transvestite take off with his car. McFarlane kicks the door in frustration. INT. POLICE STATION INTERROGATION ROOM - NIGHT

David is sitting at a table. McFarlane enters carrying a folder. David's head is bandaged. McFarlane sits down.

MCFARLANE

Your psychic nut case is going to live. Definitely scared the shit scared out of her. She'll probably go back to her job at Denny's now and leave the stars to God.

DAVID She was on to something.

MCFARLANE You haven't dropped the dream shit yet?

DAVID I know what I know.

McFarlane opens the folder and turns a few pages.

MCFARLANE

That's not saying a hell of a lot. Look at you. Al Qaeda leaves guys in better shape.

DAVID

Yeah.

David SIGHS in frustration.

MCFARLANE

I'm curious Kohner, do you ever go out and have just an ordinary evening? I mean, do you ever just go to a movie or McDonald's or shit like that. Or do you need someone butchered to keep you interested? I once read a lot of people just are happy bowling. You ever try that?

DAVID

Horsecock, right?

McFarlane dangles a piece of white turkey meat.

MCFARLANE (CONT'D)

Jennifer!

David's head springs up like a rocket. McFarlane is nonchalantly chewing his sandwich.

MCFARLANE (CONT'D)

Gotcha.

DAVID You know about Jennifer?

MCFARLANE Not enough. That's why I've got you here.

DAVID What I have to tell you won't help.

MCFARLANE Doesn't matter. Everyone else is dead.

Another police officer, OFFICER ROURKE, opens the door.

OFFICER ROURKE There's someone out here who thinks they can shed some new information on this guy.

MCFARLANE Hot shit. Bring him in.

Officer Rourke opens the door wider and Paul Lippman enters. David sits back in exasperation. McFarlane gestures for Paul to sit.

> PAUL (to David) Kathy and Jillian are waiting out front.

DAVID Where's Beamer? PAUL

Beamer stayed at our house. (to McFarlane) I'm Paul Lippman. One of David's neighbors. I'm a psychologist.

DAVID What the hell are you doing here, Lippman?

MCFARLANE Shut the fuck up, Kohner! It's Mr. Lippman's turn. Show some respect.

PAUL I specialize in dream analysis.

McFarlane CHOMPS away on his sandwich barely able to restrain his laughter.

MCFARLANE

Really? God damn.

PAUL

Oh it's gone way beyond God I'm afraid. David is suffering from a psychosis brought on by sleep deprivation. It basically has cause this hallucination known as Jennifer as far-fetched as that may seem. I've followed David's behavior closely with the assistance of his family. I want to help.

McFarlane can barely hide his disgust.

MCFARLANE Kindness. I like that in a man.

PAUL

Thank you, sir.

DAVID Such bullshit.

McFarlane lights up a cigar.

A smoke puff goes in Paul's direction who restrains a cough.

PAUL

Well, that's basically about all of it, Lieutenant. What I am trying to say is David Kohner is no criminal. He just needs help. We're just dealing with fantasies and sublimated repression here.

MCFARLANE

You're making this sound more like an "E" ticket at Disneyland, Mr. Lippman. What do I do about the dead bodies in this sublimated repression theory of yours?

PAUL

Oh, don't get me wrong about the crimes. I'm just saying whatever David is telling you is basically a phobia gone awry. I'm here as a friend.

MCFARLANE

Where do you guys come up with this shit?

PAUL

Excuse me?

MCFARLANE

Where did you come up with all of this sublimation and repression? I'm lost.

PAUL

Well, I'm very eclectic about it. Jungian, Gestalt, Cayce, you know.

MCFARLANE

Oh, eclectic...I see...well, eclectic this one for me, will ya?

McFarlane leans back in his chair and rips one of the Most Wanted posters off the wall. McFarlane SLAMS it on the desk in front of Paul. It is a picture of Jennifer.

Paul stares at the picture on the poster. Jennifer is wanted for several murders. The victim's faces are on the poster. Paul is stunned.

> MCFARLANE (CONT'D) I've been tracking this madwoman or four goddamn years while assholes like you in the department told me I also had this sublimated fucking suppression shit. I guarantee those poor bodies in the morgue weren't sublimated to death! Now what did you come in here to tell me?

Paul reaches up to wipe the sweat beginning to perspire on his forehead.

PAUL I'm a psychologist, Mr. McFarlane.

MCFARLANE

Get a job.

Paul looks aghast and slinks off down the hall. David and McFarlane study the picture. A POWERFUL WOMAN'S VOICE comes from the hallway outside their door.

VOICE

She's real.

David and McFarlane look at each other.

VOICE (CONT'D) She has the strength of two men, quiet as a cat and an invisible soul.

They turn to see the gypsy woman, Shana standing in the doorway. The same gypsy woman David saw so long ago as a boy at the bottom of the ravine with the young Jennifer. David is shocked.

DAVID

I remember you.

Shana smiles at David as she enters the room.

DAVID (CONT'D) I tried to hold on.

SHANA

I know.

DAVID But she wants to kill me

SHANA Rage is not discerning.

DAVID What did I do wrong?

SHANA You were there.

DAVID The pentagram? Her family?

SHANA

They came to learn.

Shana holds up the palm of her hand to reveal the pentagram.

SHANA (CONT'D)

I teach.

McFarlane spreads out a map on the table.

MCFARLANE Your dream girl even kills in pentagrams.

David and Shana turn to the table. On the map there are five towns circled in red. One of the red circles is Camp Reedsport.

MCFARLANE (CONT'D) There's your little boy scout camp right smack dab in the middle.

David reaches in his pocket and shows McFarlane the picture of the five boys at Camp Reedsport. McFarlane snatches the picture and points at the five boys. MCFARLANE (CONT'D) Carter with the Swiss knife in his eye. Mr. Thornton bit it in Dellwood and Minnelli bought it in Mayville...so you can see there's you and...

DAVID

Howard?

MCFARLANE That's the cute part.

McFarlane takes a Wanted Poster from his desk with a picture of a transvestite on it. David is stunned as he stares at this sick image of Howard.

FLASHBACK

Camp Reedsport

Howard says he has a plan.

MCFARLANE (CONT'D) He's her weapon of choice.

DAVID But Jennifer had died.

SHANA

Almost.

DAVID

Almost?

SHANA I raised her on my own. She ran away from me years ago.

McFarlane draws lines on the map with the ruler. Officer Officer Rourke pops his head in the room again.

OFFICER ROURKE It's all handled. Lieutenant Guinevere is driving them home.

McFarlane quickly looks up.

What?

OFFICER ROURKE Officer Guinevere from Brookfield precinct. She's driving Mrs. Kohner and the little girl home.

McFarlane is SHOCKED.

MCFARLANE We have no Lieutenant Guinevere!

Shana looks at McFarlane.

SHANA

Guinevere is French for Jennifer.

McFarlane jams the pen into the map. The map reveals that the path of the deaths has formed a pentagram.

MCFARLANE

We're screwed!

McFarlane races out the room with David and Shana following him.

INT. POLICE CAR - NIGHT

Jennifer is driving at high speed. Jillian and Kathy are in the front seat with Jennifer.

Jennifer hands Jillian a candy bar. Jillian gladly takes it.

Kathy tries to sip her hot coffee but the speed of the car makes it impossible. She sets the coffee down in one of the cup holders underneath the radio.

KATHY

Thank you.

JENNIFER No problem, Ma'am.

JILLIAN Look Mom, it has a glove department. KATHY Not department. Compartment, honey.

JILLIAN

Same thing.

KATHY

(to Jennifer) My husband knows you're driving us home?

JENNIFER

Yes, Ma'am.

KATHY He's not in any trouble, is he?

JENNIFER No Ma'am. Strictly routine investigation.

They pass a large Winnebago.

JILLIAN Hey Mom, there's a window bagel.

KATHY Winnebago, honey.

JILLIAN That's what I said.

Jennifer shuts off the police radio. Kathy notices the pentagram on Jennifer's palm.

JENNIFER No need for that noise.

Kathy nods nervously.

KATHY Prefer country and western music myself.

JILLIAN You hate country and western, Mom.

Kathy shrugs and gives Jillian a little pinch.

KATHY

Kids.
 (pause)
Uh, do you have any children,
Office?

JENNIFER Bagley. Officer Bagley. No Ma'am, I don't.

KATHY Chose a profession instead.

JENNIFER

Yes, Ma'am.

Jennifer gives a perfunctory smile. She focuses on the road.

Kathy notices the snap to Jennifer's holster is open. She looks around the car carefully for anything else she can subdue Jennifer with.

KATHY

Hold Mommy close, honey.

Jillian snuggles up next to her mother.

Semi-trucks go by HONKING and flashing lights as they change lanes.

Kathy's eyes fill with tears and she silently prays.

Another semi-truck goes past HONKING and flashing. Jennifer briefly shades her eyes from the blinding lights.

JENNIFER

Damn trucks.

Kathy quickly takes the hot coffee from the cup holder and tosses it at Jennifer. Jennifer SCREAMS. Kathy pulls Jillian to her tight.

EXT. HIGHWAY - NIGHT

The police car is swerving all over the road out of control. The car spins out of control as other cars and trucks try to avoid it and end up CRASHING. Kathy quickly grabs Jennifer's gun. The police car grinds to a halt. Kathy jams the gun to Jennifer's temple. She grabs for the door handle behind her and opens the door keeping the gun on Jennifer. Jillian and Kathy back out of the car.

KATHY

Jillian run!

JILLIAN Mommy, I have to pee!

KATHY

Jillian run!

Jillian starts to run down the highway. Kathy digs her gun into Jennifer's head. Jennifer is bleeding from her head. The front windshield is smashed. Kathy orders Jennifer from the car.

> KATHY (CONT'D) Alright, bitch, nice and slow.

EXT. HIGHWAY - NIGHT

The butt of a Winchester rifle comes up against Kathy's head.

Kathy turns to see CARL, a bearded, red neck hunter. Carl's truck is behind him with a dead deer tied across the hood of the truck and a confederate flag flying in the breeze.

CARL Drop it lady, or this here rifle will make ya gooey.

Carl jams the rifle harder into Kathy's head. Jennifer gets out of the car and takes the gun out of Kathy's hand.

Carl's wife, MARY, a huge, obese woman, gets out of the truck and takes off after Jillian who runs past the truck.

CARL (CONT'D) Hands in the air, lady.

Kathy raises her hands high in the air. Jennifer comes around to Kathy's side. Jennifer slaps the cuffs on her.

Jennifer winks at Carl.

JENNIFER Abused her kid.

CARL Scum of the earth.

JENNIFER Need to split 'em up.

Jennifer nods toward Kathy.

JENNIFER (CONT'D) Can you run this one back to the precinct, sir?

Carl nods. Mary arrives with Jillian. Kathy struggles to get out of the cuffs.

CARL Damn straight, just name it Officer. Got a daughter in the marines just like you.

JENNIFER Good, I'll let them know you're on the way.

Kathy is hysterical.

KATHY Check her ID asshole! She's a psycho!

Carl and Jennifer smile knowingly. Jennifer grabs Jillian by the arm.

Carl, meanwhile, shoves the struggling Kathy toward his pickup truck. Jillian SCREAMS as she sees Carl tossing Kathy in the back of his pick-up with some other dead animals.

Mary keeps the rifle trained on Kathy as Carl goes to work. Carl ties Kathy to the back of his cab. Kathy is roped standing up. Mary gets in the back with Kathy. Carl walks back to Jennifer. Jillian kneels in the back of the police car looking at her mom. Carl and Jillian shake hands.

JENNIFER Mighty grateful, sir.

CARL Proud to help.

Jennifer gets back in the police car. Carl stands at attention and salutes Jennifer proudly. Kathy SCREAMS and CURSES from the back of the pick-up.

Jennifer pulls back out onto the highway and drives off.

The confederate flag blows in the wind as Carl drives off.

INT. CAR - NIGHT

David and Shana focus intently on the road. They pull off down a dark, desolate road with thick trees on either side.

Off in the distance, there is a faint pulsating light.

As they get closer, the lights get brighter and flicker with color. They turn off onto a small side road and park the car.

EXT. DENSE WOODS - NIGHT

They walk a little ways and see the police car deserted with its lights flashing.

The car is parked in front of an old deserted building. It's the old building from David's deserted camp. A sign, "CAMP REEDSPORT" hangs from a rusty nail.

David and Shana move toward the building. David stops by the police car. He notices the shotgun and tries to retrieve it. He can't reach it. He can reach the nightstick and flashlight on the front seat, so he takes them.

Upon closer inspection of the outside of the building, graffiti along the side says, "Welcome home, David."

A body moves across an upstairs window. David spots Jillian through the window. Jillian is tied to the window frame. Jennifer holds Jillian and is LAUGHING hysterically.

David SCREAMS out at Jeniffer.

DAVID

Don't touch her!

David knocks the front door down to the building and runs in with Shana.

INT. BUILDING - NIGHT

It is dark inside and David and Shana move along cautiously. Shana calls out to Jennifer.

SHANA Jennifer, it's Shana. Don't hurt the child.

Outside, the wind is HOWLING. Shutters CLAP and BANG against the building facade.

David and Shana come to a stairwell. A voice greets them from the top of the stairs.

JENNIFER Come on, Daddy. Baby needs you.

As David starts up the stairs in a rage, Jennifer throws down a body the size of a child over the railing towards them. The object lands with a THUD.

David shines the flashlight on it and the body is an unrecognizable carcass in Jillian's clothing.

David is visibly shaken and revolted.

SHANA She is what we made her (beat) All of us.

David races up the stairs. Shana follows him.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

The halls are empty, dark and ominous. Shadows move in either direction. David gives Shana the police nightstick. Shana pushes it away.

SHANA

She knows I won't hurt her.

Shana veers off into another hallway. David goes in the opposite direction down another hallway. ECHOES of Jillian's taunting voice seem to be everywhere.

DAVID I'm coming, Jilly. I'm coming, honey.

Jillian YELLS back.

JILLIAN

Hurry!

David and Shana keep moving. At each end of their hallways are swinging doors leading to dormitories.

A bat flies in Shana's face. She jumps back.

A trash can lid frightens David who grabs his nightstick. A family of possums makes its way out down the length of the barracks.

A bedsheet nailed to a window flies in front of David's face startling him.

Someone is stalking David as he moves. David notices a flickering light by his old bunk bed. He approaches cautiously.

Rats run by his feet. David spins around. No one. David's light starts to grow dim.

He hears a CRUNCHING noise nearby. He moves to the light near his bunk bed and pulls out the nightstick.

A candle is between the bunk beds. A pool of blood and wax are at the base. There is a blood pentagram around the candle. Four severed fingers are at each corner of the pentagram. One corner is missing a finger, where David's should be.

A possum is chewing on one of the fingers. David's light scares off the possum.

A hand grabs David from behind. A pale old man clutches David's jacket and tries to speak to no avail.

His eyes close and he drops to the ground. David notices the man has a knife in his back.

Shana lets out a SCREAM from the other side of the hallway. David races toward the sound. She cries out again.

SHANA (O.S.)

David!

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

David bursts through the swinging doors and races down the corridor. David comes to a dead stop.

There is a long row of candles. At the end of the row is Shana. She is standing on a chair with her hands behind her back and a hangman's noose around her neck. Shana's face has rusty razor blades in it. Blood pours down her face.

SHANA

Don't move. She's watching us.

A rope tied to the chair follows its course out a window where someone is pulling on the other end.

SHANA (CONT'D) She killed the custodian.

David looks around the barracks for something he can use ..

SHANA (CONT'D) Jillian is still alive.

David moves toward the window.

SHANA (CONT'D) Stay away from the window!

David ducks between two bunks.

Suddenly, the rope yanks hard one time and the chair comes out from under Shana.

David dives for her. David catches her in midair and shoves her against the wall. He undoes her ropes while lowering her to the ground. He hands Shana his handkerchief as he pulls out the razor blades from her face.

An EVIL LAUGH sounds out.

David looks out the window and sees Jennifer standing on the hood of the police car. She has the police speaker in hand.

JENNIFER

Kohner!

David shows himself in the window.

JENNIFER (CONT'D) That's better.

Jennifer studies him.

JENNIFER (CONT'D) Jillian has her father's eyes.

Jennifer points to the wooded area.

JENNIFER (CONT'D) They're out there!

Jennifer LAUGHS. She throws the speaker phone down and jumps off the car. She skips into the woods LAUGHING.

David runs out of the barracks. Shana grabs his arm.

SHANA

Remember, she is as quiet as the night, her soul is invisible and she has the strength of two men.

DAVID She has my daughter. That's all I need to know.

SHANA

God bless you.

David races off.

EXT. WOODS - NIGHT

David races through the wooded area listening to Jennifer's taunting LAUGHTER. He's reliving his dream.

Jillian's PLEAS and CRIES can be heard.

David fights through the forest exhausted until he comes to the opening with the bed of leaves on the ground just like in his dream.

A bonfire burns in the clearing. David cries out to Jennifer.

DAVID

It's me you want, don't hurt her!

David sees Jennifer nearby in the white cotton dress she had on as a child.

David staggers across the opening in the clearing. He squints at the girl and rubs his eyes. Jillian is dressed to look like Jennifer as a child.

David sees Jillian twenty yards away. Jillian stands precariously on the same cliff.

Jillian is crying and frightened.

DAVID (CONT'D) It's okay, honey. We're going home now.

Jennifer is behind them in the nearby trees.

Jillian's mouth is taped and her hands tied behind her back. Her leg is handcuffed to a branch coming out of a nearby rock.

David reaches Jillian and hugs her.

David smashes the handcuff around her leg with a rock freeing Jillian from the branch. He undoes her hands and removes the tape from her mouth.

Jennifer charges David with a knife in her hand. Jillian tries to scream but no sound comes out.

Noticing the fear in Jillian's eyes, David turns around and sees Jennifer racing toward him with the same knife in his dream. Jennifer slashes his collarbone. Blood pours onto his shirt.

Jillian starts to slip. David grabs Jillian with one hand while holding off Jennifer with the other.

Jennifer grabs the rope she has strategically planted to form a loop around David's feet. She pulls hard on the rope. David loses his balance and starts to fall over the cliff. David grabs a rock.

Jillian clings to her father's neck.

David holds onto the rock with one hand and pulls his frightened daughter up with the other hand.

Jennifer kneels on the ground in front of them.

David glances down and sees the transvestite smashed on the rocks. David sees the tie-dye hypnosis drug bag around the transvestite's neck.

The number 4 is on a bloodied cloth pinned to Howard's shirt.

FLASHBACK

INT. CABIN ROOM - DAY

The five boys are standing around shaking hands as they meet each other for the first time.

HOWARD Not to worry. Uncle Howard always has a plan.

END OF FLASHBACK

EXT. WOODS - NIGHT

David turns to Jennifer. She smiles.

JENNIFER Looks like Howard's plan didn't work. All he had to do was kill you and I promised to kill him last. Now I'm stuck with all the work. Men!

David and Jillian are barely hanging on over the ravine.

Jennifer rubs the back of David's index finger with the knife.

JENNIFER (CONT'D) Five? They come in fives, don't they?

Jennifer LAUGHS at her own sick humor.

David lifts Jillian up a little further. Jillian's tiny feet scramble like a frightened rabbit to find refuge in David's pockets to give her support.

Jennifer begins to cut David's index finger off.

David SCREAMS out in pain.

JENNIFER (CONT'D) It is five. I just remembered.

Jillian SCREAMS as she starts to lose her grip.

David lifts Jillian up and feels for the nightstick in his belt.

He grabs the nightstick and jams it into a hole in the cliff holding onto it.

Jennifer begins again to sever David's finger.

Suddenly, Jennifer is WHACKED on the head from behind. Jennifer's head rolls back and blood comes out of her mouth.

The knife drops to the rocks below as she falls onto David and Jillian.

David pushes Jennifer to the rocks below. She falls on top of Howard like a grotesque cross.

David looks up and sees Kathy with the log that hit Jennifer.

McFarlane comes up and grabs David's arm to pull him and Jillian up to safety.

Kathy, David, and Jillian hug.

Beamer runs over wearing a police hat.

David goes over to Shana. Shana kisses David's cheek.

Shana is wearing a long shawl and as she kisses David, a hand reaches out from underneath the shawl and grabs David.

David looks down and sees a baby with eyes like Jennifer's and a pentagram tattooed on its hand.

David gives Shana a knowing, terrified look.

THE END

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This film project is dedicated to my friend and mentor Gordon Stulberg the former President of Twentieth Century Fox.

Gordon left us on October 17, 2000.

Gordon taught me to always do my best, never give up and try to keep the magic in all I do, a formula he lived by.