A THOUSAND WORDS: REVELATION

Ву

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Based on characters created by J. Michael Lewis & Jerod Brennen

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1 INT. DINING ROOM - NIGHT

A YOUNG FAMILY sits around the kitchen table, enjoying dinner. MOM and DAD laugh over a shared joke. Their SON sneaks scraps of food to the DOG.

TWO KNOCKS at the front door. Dad rises to answer it.

Mom and son hear a muffled conversation, then silence.

The door CLICKS shut.

MOM

Honey?

She rises to check on her husband.

INT. FOYER - NIGHT

2

3

Mom sees Dad leaning against the door, facing away from her.

MOM

Who was at the door?

He doesn't answer.

When she gets closer, she sees the puddle of BLOOD at his feet. She screams.

IAN appears behind her, his HATCHET raised high.

Her son appears in the archway. He sees what's about to happen, but not in time.

Her scream stops abruptly. A look of HORROR dominates the boy's face.

Ian whips around and stares at the boy.

The boy runs up the stairs to his room.

With the patience of Job, Ian follows.

INT. UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - NIGHT

The boy disappears into his bedroom. Ian follows.

A few moments later, Ian emerges, BLOODIER than before.

At the end of the hall, the family dog BARKS defiantly at this invader.

2

Ian just SMIRKS and walks toward the dog.

EXT. FRONT YARD - NIGHT

4

5

Ian closes the trunk of his car. In one hand, a FOR SALE SIGN.

He pounds the sign into the ground with the blunt end of his hatchet.

Admiring the house, Ian reaches into his pocket and pulls out a CELL PHONE. He makes a call.

IAN Steven? I found our new home.

EXT. COLLEGE CAMPUS - DAY

BEGIN TITLES

A pair of male legs walk down the sidewalk, just outside one of the campus buildings.

Moving in the opposite direction, toward the male legs, is a pair of female legs.

The boy and girl bump into one another. Books and papers fall to the ground.

Hands reach down to pick up the book. They meet and pull back, embarrassed.

The hands clean up the mess.

The girl stands, smiling, shy. She brushes her long hair out of her eyes.

The boy stands. In another time and place, he would have turned around and run the other way, embarrassed.

Not any more.

He extends a hand in greeting.

STEVEN Hi. I'm Steven.

TITLE - A THOUSAND WORDS: REVELATION

END TITLES

5

6 INT. ADVISER'S OFFICE - DAY

SABRINA PRIEST (35) sits behind her desk, poring over schedules and student profiles. Her glasses sit high on her tussled hair. She's smartly dressed and smoking hot, but she cares more about her students than her looks.

A knock at the door.

SABRINA Please come in.

Steven nudges the door open and steps just inside.

SABRINA (cont'd) You must be Steven.

He nods, shy and nervous.

Sabrina takes her glasses out of hair and stands, shaking her hair in sultry, seductive manner. She slinks to the front of her desk and leans against it, tempting the young man before her.

SABRINA I've been waiting for you.

Steven stares, speechless.

Sabrina smiles at the boy as BLOOD begins to seep from her scalp, crimson rivulets streaming down her face.

Steven smiles back, relaxed, comfortable.

SABRINA (O.S.) Steven? Are you okay?

Steven snaps back to reality. Sabrina is behind her desk, looking at him with concern. The daydream is over.

STEVEN

Sorry.

Sabrina mistakes his hesitance for shyness. She turns on the charm to put him at ease.

SABRINA Come over here and grab a seat, Steven. Let's talk about your future.

Steven obeys. He takes in the books, the decorations, the entire office.

SABRINA (cont'd) So, Steven. Your file says you want to study pre-law?

STEVEN (mumbling) My dad thinks I'd make a good lawyer.

SABRINA I get the feeling you're not chomping at the bit to start on the legal classes.

Steven smirks at her insight, not that he tried to hard to hide his disinterest.

SABRINA (cont'd) What do you want to study?

Steven reaches into his backpack and pulls out a thin PHOTO ALBUM. He hands it to her.

Sabrina opens the album and her smile fades.

SABRINA (cont'd) (stunned)

She flips through page after page of BRILLIANT PHOTOS.

SABRINA (cont'd) Did you take all of these?

Steven nods, smiling now.

Wow.

SABRINA (cont'd) These are... amazing. You're obviously a very talented photographer.

STEVEN My dad taught me everything I know.

SABRINA

Have you talked to your parents about pursuing a degree in photography?

STEVEN It's just me and Dad. He's a photographer, too, but he wants me to do something different. SABRINA There are dozens of career opportunities for a photographer, especially one as talented as you.

STEVEN Tell him that.

SABRINA Maybe I will. Do you live nearby? You're file also says that you're a commuter.

Steven is flummoxed. Man, she's forward.

STEVEN Yeah. I... I live just a few blocks away. We moved here a couple of months ago.

Sabrina stands.

SABRINA I've got an hour before my next appointment. Let's walk.

She reaches her hand out to Steven. Hesitant, he accepts.

7 EXT. COLLEGE CAMPUS - DAY

Steven walks across campus, talking to Sabrina, really opening up.

From the library roof high above, a HOODED FIGURE tracks Steven's movement through a camera viewfinder.

The figure gently presses the shutter release, taking picture after picture.

Click. Click. Click.

8 INT. STEVEN'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

The doorbell rings. Ian opens the door.

Steven and Sabrina stand on the front porch. Ian is caught off-guard at the goddess standing before him. Sabrina unleashes a radiant, disarming smile.

Steven grins.

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STEVEN Dad, this is Sabrina Priest, my academic adviser. Ms. Priest, this is my dad, Ian.

Sabrina extends her hand. Ian wipes a sweaty palm on his slacks and accepts her handshake.

SABRINA Pleased to meet you, Ian.

IAN

Uh... likewise.

They shake hands just a bit longer than necessary.

STEVEN Dad? Can we come in?

INT. STEVEN'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

9

Steven sits on the couch, next to Sabrina, but not too close. Ian sits in his recliner, leaning forward.

SABRINA

Your son has a tremendous eye for photography, Ian. Before we commit to an academic path, I need to ask... is there a particular reason that you don't want him to study photography?

IAN I'd rather he didn't follow in my footsteps.

Sabrina looks around the room.

SABRINA You seem to be doing fairly well for yourself.

IAN Don't be fooled. We were fortunate in finding this house. It was a steal.

SABRINA It's been my experience that students who pursue a career path that is not of their choosing either do poorly, or they drop out (MORE)

SABRINA (cont'd) before they attain a degree. I'm here with your son's best interests in mind.

IAN

So am I.

Sabrina ponders for a moment.

SABRINA

If I could make a proposal? The school offers a photography club that meets in the evening, once a week. Let's focus on core classes this semester, let Steven explore his artistic side, and we can come to a decision next semester. Does that sound fair?

Ian looks at his son. Steven doesn't speak, but his eyes plead for agreement.

Ian nods.

STEVEN (clenching a fist) Yes!

SABRINA Excellent! Maybe I could swing by again after your first photography club meeting?

Steven looks to Ian, and Ian nods again. A faint smile flickers across Ian's lips.

IAN I'd like that.

10 INT. CLASSROOM - NIGHT

Photography club, first night.

Steven hesitates at the door, but crosses the threshold at the urging of the instructor.

The class discusses photography concepts and styles.

The instructor whiteboards an image of a camera and lens, explaining the science behind photography.

7.

The students share some of their photos. A crowd gathers around Steven, everyone clearly impressed with his work.

Steven is on cloud nine.

11 EXT. SIDEWALK - NIGHT

On his way home, Steven is still beaming.

He doesn't see the HOODED FIGURE fall into step behind him.

He doesn't hear the quickening FOOTSTEPS as the hooded figure rushes him.

But he feels the fist that SLAMS into the back of his head, knocking him to ground.

The hooded figure straddles Steven, beating him mercilessly.

The beating relents only when Steven is on the brink of unconsciousness. His world swims in and out of focus.

The hooded figure stands, panting, and snatches Steven's backpack from his weakened grasp.

HOODED FIGURE The fun's just beginning, bitch. Welcome to my playground.

The hooded figure slinks away, leaving Steven writhing and moaning.

12 INT. STEVEN'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Sabrina and Ian sit on the couch, talking. Ian is distant, almost standoffish, but he's making an effort.

Steven limps through the front door.

SABRINA Steven! How was your first night at...

Her words trail off as he steps into the light.

SABRINA (cont'd) Dear Lord...

Ian and Sabrina stand simultaneously. Ian stays in place, staring at his son. Sabrina rushes to Steven's side, taking his face in her hands.

8.

11

Steven winces, but the tears are in Sabrina's eyes, not his.

SABRINA (cont'd) (gentle whisper) Oh, Steven.

IAN (firm) What happened?

STEVEN Someone jumped me... on the way home. I didn't see who it was. He took my backpack.

Ian's fury is barely contained. If he knew who did this to his son...

Sabrina nudges Steven toward the kitchen.

SABRINA Come on. Let's get you cleaned up.

13 INT. STEVEN'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

Sabrina cleans Steven's wounds at the sink.

SABRINA We need to call the police, file a police report.

IAN

No!

Sabrina freezes at the forcefulness behind the word. She turns to Ian, a curious expression on her face.

IAN (cont'd) I mean... I'll take care of it. I'll call the police. You've already done more than enough.

SABRINA

I can help.

IAN I think it's time you went home.

Sabrina hesitates, then places the medical supplies on the counter. She takes Steven's face in her hands again.

9.

SABRINA Stop by my office tomorrow, Steven. I want to be sure you're okay.

Steven nods. Sabrina leaves.

Silence hangs in the air before Steven summons the courage to break it.

STEVEN It wasn't her fault, Dad. You can't...

Ian stares at his son, his expression fading from angry to "how could you?"

IAN Of course it wasn't her fault. It wasn't yours, either. When I find out who did this-

STEVEN Let me come with you, dad. (beat) Let me kill him.

Ian is surprised at the anger in his son's voice, at the bloodlust in his eyes.

IAN When I find out who did this, I'm going to submit an anonymous tip to the police.

Steven is visibly disappointed. Ian puts a hand on his son's shoulder.

IAN (cont'd) Our past need to stay there. We're here to start over. It's time for us to start doing things differently.

Ian glances at the door, his thoughts on Sabrina.

STEVEN I can take care of this.

IAN (sarcastic) Like you took care of your girlfriend, Jennifer? STEVEN I did that for you!

They stare at one another, their tempers on the verge of exploding. Ian forces himself to calm down. He places one hand on Steven's shoulder.

IAN The life we had before is finished. It never happened. All that matters is that we're here, now. We're not going down that path again.

Steven still looks defiant. Ian's hand slips from his son's shoulder.

IAN (cont'd) (commanding) I am your father, and you will do as I say.

Steven submits. Ian starts to walk away, then stops. He turns back to his son.

Ian takes his son in his arms and hugs him.

14 INT. ADVISER'S OFFICE - DAY

Steven opens Sabrina's door without knocking, peeking inside.

STEVEN Ms. Priest?

Sabrina is behind her desk. She lights up when she sees him.

SABRINA Steven! Come in. How are you feeling?

STEVEN

Better.

He steps in and takes a seat. Sabrina notices the new backpack.

SABRINA Looks like you guys have been shopping.

Steven smiles. He reaches into the backpack and takes out a brand new digital SLR camera.

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(CONTINUED)

SABRINA (cont'd)

Oh, my.

STEVEN Dad got this for me today. Said it was time I got a new camera anyway.

SABRINA I thought your dad didn't want you to follow in his footsteps.

STEVEN I guess some habits are hard to break.

Her smile starts to fade, but she forces it to stay.

SABRINA Did your dad file the police report?

Steven hesitates, then nods a little too enthusiastically. She knows he's lying, but she's not going to press it. Steven doesn't give her a chance.

> STEVEN Dad really appreciates you helping out last night, taking care of me and all. I have photography club again next Tuesday. Dad wants to know if you'd like to come by... for dinner.

Sabrina smiles, flattered.

STEVEN (cont'd) He thought maybe you guys could eat, and then come by school and we could all walk home together.

He gets that "please say yes" look on his face again.

SABRINA Steven, I'd love to.

STEVEN

Cool.

An awkward moment. Steven wants to say more, but he's not sure how to express what he's feeling.

STEVEN (cont'd) I... uh... I've got to go to class. But I'll see you next week!

SABRINA I'm looking forward to it.

Steven leaves the office, the spring back in his step. Sabrina watches him leave with a huge smile on her face.

15 EXT. COLLEGE CAMPUS - DAY

Steven walks across campus, on his way to class.

The hooded figure watches him again. Not from the library roof, though. From the shadows behind a set of stairs.

Closer to the prey.

More pictures, this time with Steven's STOLEN CAMERA.

Click. Click. Click.

16 INT. STEVEN'S DINING ROOM - DAY

Ian and Sabrina are sharing a quiet dinner in the dimly lit dining room. It's almost... romantic.

SABRINA Mmmm. You're quite the cook.

IAN Years of practice.

SABRINA I hope I'm not being to forward, but... Steven's mother. What happened to her?

Ian stops chewing. He pauses, takes a drink, and sets down his silverware.

SABRINA (cont'd) I'm sorry. I shouldn't have asked.

IAN No. It's fine.

Sabrina places her elbows on the table and leans in, attentive.

15

IAN (cont'd) Steven's mother wasn't a nice person. Not in the end, I mean. When we were first married, she was very different. She was artistic. She found the humor in every situation. She was always laughing...

Ian pauses, savoring the memory. He snaps back to reality.

IAN (cont'd) She wasn't ready to be a mother. Having children was my idea. Looking back, it's obvious, but back then...

Sabrina hangs on every word.

IAN (cont'd) Postpartum depression. The things she did, the things she said... it wasn't her fault.

Ian looks to Sabrina. Her eyes are tearing up.

IAN (cont'd) She... left. Suddenly. Steven has some memories of her, but he was very young. Steven has grown up without a mother. I try to take care of him as best I can, but I'm not the most... compassionate person.

Sabrina reaches across the table and takes his hand.

SABRINA You're a very compassionate person, Ian. And an excellent father. You care very deeply for your son, and he's lucky to have you in his life.

Sabrina smiles at Ian, and he smiles back. Ian opens his mouth to say something, but there's a sound in the hallway behind him.

IAN

Steven?

HOODED FIGURE No. Not Steven.

Ian goes down, out cold.

Sabrina screams.

The hooded figure stabs the stun gun at Sabrina, and her entire world goes black.

17 EXT. COLLEGE CAMPUS - NIGHT

Steven sits on the steps in front of one of the buildings.

Photography class is finished, and the last student walks down the steps and back toward one of the dorms.

Steven looks in both directions for Ian and Sabrina.

Waiting.

Alone.

18 INT. BASEMENT - NIGHT

18

17

Ian wakes as a glass of ICE COLD WATER is thrown in his face. He sputters, instantly alert.

He's bound to a chair with ropes and chains. A gag is wrapped around his mouth, and he SCREAMS in rage and anger against the restraints.

The HOODED FIGURE stands looming over him.

HOODED FIGURE Together again. At last.

Ian stops struggling and looks up into the hood, confused. Who is this?

The hooded figure steps to one side. Directly opposite Ian's chair is Sabrina, likewise bound and gagged.

With one small exception.

Sabrina's arms are tied to the chair, but no ropes or chains cover her midsection.

HOODED FIGURE (cont'd) I've been waiting for this moment, planning every detail for years. I was hoping to do this with you and Steven, but this... I like this even better.

The hooded figure walks into the shadows and drags a POTTER'S WHEEL into the center of the room, directly between Ian and Sabrina.

Ian can see Sabrina's terrified, tear-streaked face. She's scared beyond belief, whimpering, begging him to help her, to do something.

HOODED FIGURE (cont'd) Have you told her who you really are yet, Ian Black? Have you told her how you pass the time?

Ian screams, shaking his head violently. Don't tell her!

HOODED FIGURE (cont'd) Have you told her how many people you've murdered?

Ian stops struggling. Sabrina stops whimpering.

The hooded figure giggles, then walks to Ian and loosens his gag.

HOODED FIGURE (cont'd) Go ahead. Tell her. Tell her the names of everyone you and Steven have killed, you sick, twisted fuck.

Ian stares straight ahead, refusing to give this freak the pleasure.

HOODED FIGURE (cont'd) Fair enough. I've done my homework. I can do it for you.

The hooded figure turns to Sabrina, getting a step closer with each name. Grisly images of each victim flash in Ian's mind.

> HOODED FIGURE (cont'd) Jack Hill, Shaun Brackett, Anne Chambers, John Moran, Debra Moran, Wes Hill, Laurie Hill, Kathleen Shapiro, Nancy Thompson, Maureen Prescott...

The hooded figure stops moving.

HOODED FIGURE (cont'd) And Pamela Black. My mother.

Ian's face goes white as a sheet.

IAN (whispering) No.

The hooded figure runs back to Ian and gags him again, ranting the entire time.

HOODED FIGURE You took her away from me, sent me to live with foster parents who managed to dupe the state into thinking they were good people. The things they did to me...

With Ian's gag tied tight, the hooded figure rushes back to Sabrina.

HOODED FIGURE (cont'd) And the whole time I'm living that hell, you're raising that little shit Steven as your only child. That life was supposed to be mine! Mine!

Sabrina screams against the gag. The hooded figure is doing something to her, but Ian can't see from this angle.

The hooded figure leans in close, whispering in Sabrina's ear.

HOODED FIGURE (cont'd) Stay with me, sweetheart.

The hooded figure turns back to Ian, a bloody knife in one hand.

HOODED FIGURE (cont'd) I found out who you were, Dad, and I started watching you. Not an easy task, with you moving around like that. Lucky for me, you never left the state. Talk about arrogant.

The hooded figure walks to the potters wheel and raises the other hand. In it, the SEVERED END of Sabrina's SMALL INTESTINE.

(CONTINUED)

HOODED FIGURE (cont'd) I watched and waited and watched some more. Now it's your turn to watch.

The hooded figure sets down the knife, picks up a STAPLE GUN, and staples the intestine to the top of the potters wheel.

The hooded figure picks up the knife and starts working the foot pedal. The wheel starts to spin.

Sabrina cries out in agony as her intestines are slowly ripped from her body.

Ian stares straight ahead, trying not to look. Tears spring to his eyes.

Sabrina goes silent. The wheel stops spinning.

HOODED FIGURE (cont'd) Oh, look. Scary old Ian Black is crying. Poor little thing.

The hooded figure walks into the shadows. The CLANG of the knife being dropped on the floor echoes through the basement.

The hooded figure comes back into the light, carrying a large BASEBALL BAT.

HOODED FIGURE (cont'd) If you think that was nasty, wait until you see what I have in store for Steven.

Ian whips his head around to stare at the hooded figure. He starts screaming into the gag, furious, not for his own life, but for the life of his son.

HOODED FIGURE (cont'd) You're gonna love it. Dad.

The hooded figure beats Ian into unconsciousness.

When the work is done, the hooded figure drops the bat and picks up Steven's camera from a nearby table.

Time for the pictures.

Click. Click. Click.

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19 INT. STEVEN'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Steven walks in front door, finding it partially open.

STEVEN

Dad?

Steven looks around the living room, but the place is deserted.

20 INT. STEVEN'S DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Steven walks to the dining room table. The meal Ian and Sabrina shared is still sitting out, half-eaten.

Steven stops.

On the table, his stolen camera.

Beside it, a small note reads, "Take a look."

Steven looks around, afraid. Only when he's convinced that he's entirely alone does he pick up the camera.

He switches to display mode and scrolls through the pictures on the camera's memory card.

Then he sees them. The pictures of Sabrina's mangled body. The pictures of what's left of his dad.

Steven starts to cry softly to himself.

STEVEN

No, no, no...

Steven stops on one picture. It shows a street address, scrawled in blood on a cinder-block wall.

Steven brings himself under control. The tears are replaced by a look of grim determination.

He walks to the hall closet, opens the door, and rummages around inside.

The rummaging stops. He's found what he's looking for.

Steven closes the closet door.

In his hand, a familiar HATCHET...

Steven stands on the street, facing a darkened house.

He checks the address on the mailbox against the picture on the memory stick.

This is the place.

He puts his camera in his backpack, takes out the hatchet, and walks up the driveway.

22 INT. HOUSE - NIGHT

Steven creeps through the front door, dead silent. He doesn't bother with the light switch.

He sneaks down the hallway. Ahead, the only source of light is the flicker of candles from an adjacent room.

Steven steps to the doorway, hatchet at the ready. He peeks around the corner.

He sees Sabrina seated in a chair, eyes closed, head tilted forward.

STEVEN Ms. Priest!

23 INT. DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Steven runs to her. It's dark in the room, but when he's close enough, he can see the pile of ENTRAILS in her lap.

Steven steps back, looks around the room, and then he sees his father seated at the opposite end of the table.

What's left of him anyway. Ian has been beaten to a BLOODY PULP, barely alive.

Steven breaks down. The hatchet falls to the floor.

STEVEN

Dad! No!

Click.

This time it's not a camera. It's the soft click of a GUN being cocked behind him. Steven feels the barrel press into the back of his head.

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HOODED FIGURE I saved a seat for you, Steven.

The hooded figure pushes Steven forward. Steven is guided to a chair between Ian and Sabrina.

On the table in front of the chair is a pair of handcuffs, their chain bolted to the table with a small U-bracket.

 $\begin{array}{c} \mbox{HOODED FIGURE (cont'd)} \\ \mbox{Put them on.} \end{array}$

Steven hesitates, defiant. The hooded figure raps the back of Steven's head with the butt of the gun.

HOODED FIGURE (cont'd) Put them on!

Steven rubs his head, then complies. He stares at his hands, refusing to look anywhere else.

The hooded figure swaps the gun for the hatchet, then moves behind Ian.

HOODED FIGURE (cont'd) (to Ian) Live by the sword, die by the sword. Isn't that how it goes? (to Steven) I wanted you to see this.

The hooded figure raises the hatchet high.

STEVEN

No!

HOODED FIGURE What, Stevie? You don't approve? Dear old Dad here killed almost a dozen people. That we know of!

STEVEN No, he didn't.

HOODED FIGURE I've been following him for years, Steven. Don't insult me. I can count.

STEVEN He didn't kill all of them. HOODED FIGURE Like father, like son, is that it?

Steven doesn't answer. The hooded figure moves closer to Steven, hatchet still held high.

HOODED FIGURE (cont'd) (taunting) Don't lie to me, Steven. You're pathetic. Weak. You couldn't-

STEVEN I'm not weak! I've killed before! I killed a reporter who was coming after my dad. And I killed a girl who was going to go to the police when she found out who he was.

HOODED FIGURE

Not exactly.

The hood slides back to reveal... a beautiful but disfigured JENNIFER, long jagged SCARS covering her face and neck.

Steven's mind is overwhelmed with images and sensations from the night this girl begged for mercy, as he stood over her with the very same hatchet.

> STEVEN (astonished) You're dead.

JENNIFER Now is that any way to greet your sister?

Steven is stunned into silence.

Jennifer smiles in satisfaction and leans forward on her elbows. He's so confused. And she loves it.

STEVEN I don't have a sister.

JENNIFER Yeah. You do. For another few minutes, anyway.

Jennifer moves to stand behind Ian again.

JENNIFER (cont'd) While you and dad were off having the time of your lives, I was getting raped by my foster father.

(CONTINUED)

She presses the side of the hatchet against Ian's bruised cheek.

JENNIFER (cont'd) And I could count on a beating from my foster "mother" every time she found out. Maybe if she had laid off the Twinkies, the drunken bastard would've spent more time in her bed than in mine.

She forces a laugh, trying to hide the pain behind her words.

IAN (weak) Jennifer...

JENNIFER

Shut up!

She smacks Ian so hard that blood flies from his mouth.

JENNIFER (cont'd) (to Steven) None of that was necessary. Not one minute. Dad never wanted a little girl. He wanted a boy.

BEGIN FLASHBACK:

24 INT. IAN'S KITCHEN - DAY

Ian and Pam play with a baby Steven. The happiness deteriorates into an argument.

JENNIFER (V.O.) Daddy's little man. When I was a kid, he wouldn't have anything to do with me. Drove mom nuts, to the point that she didn't want much to do with me either. Mom stopped working when I was born to take care of me, and Dad's photo gigs dried up.

END FLASHBACK.

INT. DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Jennifer looms over Steven.

JENNIFER When money got tight, he talked her into putting me up for adoption.

Steven shakes his head, not believing any of this. Jennifer moves to stand in front of him.

> JENNIFER (cont'd) I was four years old! I begged and pleaded with them to keep me. I told them I'd skip dinner every night, that I didn't need any new clothes or toys. Mom was crying her eves out when they drove away. Dad... he just stared straight ahead like he didn't care.

Jennifer starts pacing, playing with the hatchet.

JENNIFER (cont'd) So when I was old enough, I started helping Dad.

BEGIN FLASHBACKS:

26 EXT. PARKING LOT - DAY

Jennifer meets with Nancy.

JENNIFER (V.O.) The email he got about the job in Haddonfield? That was from me.

27 EXT. NEWSPAPER OFFICE - DAY

Jennifer meets with a reporter.

JENNIFER (V.O.) So was the call from the newspaper, the one where I pretended to be that reporter that he... sorry, you... ended up killing to keep quiet.

24.

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28 INT. REALTOR'S OFFICE - DAY

Jennifer meets with a realtor.

JENNIFER (V.O.) And the realtor who led you guys to the house right next door to mine? That was all me.

END FLASHBACKS.

29 INT. DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Jennifer has a mocking grin on her face.

JENNIFER Of course, you falling for your sister... a little twisted, but that's just par for the course, huh?

She stares at Ian's battered form.

JENNIFER (cont'd) If he hadn't wanted a son so bad, I never would've ended up in foster care. He never would've killed mom. All of those women, the reporter, your friends... none of them had to die.

She walks to Ian's side, places his hand on the table, and CHOPS IT OFF. Ian cries out, weak.

STEVEN

Dad!

Jennifer grins from ear to ear. She walks to the other side and CUTS OFF his other hand.

STEVEN (cont'd)

Stop it!

Steven starts shaking his head, crying. Jennifer walks behind Ian and raises the hatchet high.

STEVEN (cont'd)

No, no, no...

The hatchet comes down hard into Ian's skull. He twitches just a few times before going limp.

STEVEN (cont'd) (in tears) Dad...

JENNIFER Dad? What about poor Ms. Priest. How did she get tangled up in all of this? By trying to help you. You're the reason all of this happened, Steven. You!

STEVEN

Stop it!

Jennifer sits down, hands on the table.

JENNIFER No, Steven. You stop it.

Jennifer produces a STRAIGHT RAZOR. She slides it across the table. Steven catches it in one hand.

JENNIFER (cont'd) You're never going to have a normal life. Wherever you go, people are going to get hurt. People are going to die. You're the root cause, the common variable. You need to do the right thing. End this.

Steven opens the razor. The blade trembles in his hands.

STEVEN (defeated) It doesn't have to be this way.

JENNIFER Do it for Ian, Steven. Do it for Dad.

Steven reflexively looks at his dad's corpse. He breaks down into tears.

Biting his lower lip, Steven braces himself. He leans his head forward and touches the razor to his throat. Jennifer leans in closer.

As she does, Steven lashes out, barely missing her eye with the razor's blade.

JENNIFER (cont'd) Look who decided to finally grow a pair. 26.

Steven stares her down.

She casually moves behind him, out of reach, out of sight. Again, she raps the butt of the gun against the back of his head.

Dazed, Steven loosens his grip on the razor.

Jennifer snatches it up from the table and grabs a handful of Steven's hair. She pulls his head back, exposing his throat.

> JENNIFER (cont'd) See you around, little brother.

Without emotion, she drags the razor across his throat. She lets his head fall forward as he struggles to breathe, to stay alive.

She watches intently as Steven's strength fades.

Steven lays his head on the table, still conscious. A pool of BLOOD begins to spread on the tabletop.

Jennifer runs her fingers through Steven's hair in a gentle, loving manner.

The life fades from Steven's eyes.

Jennifer walks back to her side of the table and takes a seat. She looks at each corpse in turn.

JENNIFER (cont'd) Finally. One big happy family.

She giggles to herself.

Then she picks up the gun and places it against her temple.

CUT TO BLACK

BLAM!