

# The American Dream

BY

GREGORY MANDARANO & RAZA RIZVI

**TEASER**

**INT. NATIVE AMERICAN PLANKHOUSE, HELLGATE - NIGHT (1855)**

**ISAAC STEVENS (37)** stands perfectly still, face and eyes burning with reflected light as he stares into a tall fire.

Governor of Washington Territory and Indian Commissioner, his suit is impeccable and his words sharp with refined gravitas.

ISAAC STEVENS

When I was a young lad my most faithful companion, the one on whom I could always rely, was a sweet little bulldog named Tippet.

Dashingly handsome, Isaac smirks through his trim goatee.

ISAAC STEVENS (CONT'D)

He and I went everywhere together. And one day... while exploring the woods with my two best childhood friends... Tippet chanced upon a glorious treasure...

He pulls his gaze from the flames, and faces the darkness.

ISAAC STEVENS (CONT'D)

A Frenchman's corpse in the bushes.

**THREE TRIBAL CHIEFTAINS** sit at the light's edge, watching.

Three different tribes, each with their distinct headdress.

The Bitterroot Salish, the Pend D'Oreilles, and the Kootenai.

**SUPER: "HELLGATE TREATY COUNCIL - WASHINGTON TERRITORY"**

ISAAC STEVENS (CONT'D)

And even in death, his hands were gripped tight round a fat bar of silver... So we three made a pact. We'd bury what we found, and return the following day to cut the bar and share it between us.

Behind each Chief sits their **MEDICINE MEN**, each one an elder dressed with bracelets and fetishes of all shapes and sizes.

**SUPER: "JULY 16, 1855"**

All eyes are on Isaac as he starts to pace back and forth.

ISAAC STEVENS (CONT'D)  
 With blood and spit we sealed our  
 oath, and went our separate ways.  
 But my friends were suspicious.  
 They feared deceit.

SIX KOOTENAI WARRIORS, faces painted and axes on their belts,  
 glower hatefully at the BITTERROOT WARRIORS across the room.

And they're staring back. Each of them itching for a fight.

ISAAC STEVENS (CONT'D)  
 And while I slept, one of them must  
 have taken Tippet to find the body  
 in the dark. For at midnight I  
 awoke, and Tippet... was gone.

SIX PEND D'OREILLES WARRIORS, although aware of the other's  
 animosity, remain more interested in Isaac and his words.

ISAAC STEVENS (CONT'D)  
 I snuck from my home and ventured  
 out, tracking his path to the  
 forest where I arrived on the  
 grizzly scene. Both of my friends  
 were dead. Silver at their feet.

All three Chiefs share whispers with their Medicine Men,  
 clarifying words, asking questions, each trying to follow.

ISAAC STEVENS (CONT'D)  
 Each drained of life by dagger,  
 tooth, and claw. And poor Tippet  
 too. Stabbed in the heart beside  
 them. And for what?

Isaac turns to the Chiefs, hands clasped as if in prayer.

ISAAC STEVENS (CONT'D)  
 Why should two good lads, as close  
 as friends could be, so easily cast  
 aside years of devotion and good  
 will in betrayal? Do you know what  
 lurked in the heart of their fear?

He waits until their whispers end and silence fills the room.

ISAAC STEVENS (CONT'D)  
 Trust... For decades the US  
 Government and the people of this  
 great territory have shared  
 peaceful trade. The time has come  
 to formalize this prosperous  
 relationship... in writing.

Isaac pulls from his coat a TREATY DOCUMENT... holds it up for all to see... then sets it down before the Chiefs.

ISAAC STEVENS (CONT'D)

This treaty ensures the future of our friendship for all posterity, and guarantees the sovereign rights of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes in the eyes of the American people... Trust me. But most of all... Trust each other.

Next he produces a QUILL and INK, and sets them down too.

ISAAC STEVENS (CONT'D)

I trust you will make the right decision. For all of us.

Isaac retreats to his seat at the far side of the fire.

**FATHER ADRIAN HOECKEN (40)**, a disagreeable Jesuit priest, hands him a cup of wine, and he quickly drinks it all.

FATHER HOECKEN

You're doing well, but you'd best to remember these people can barely understand you.

ISAAC STEVENS

I'll try not to be so eloquent.

A YOUNG MAIDEN steps forward with a woven basket, and one by one, with careful, deliberate decision, each of the three Medicine Men chooses a STONE and places it in the basket.

With ceremony, the Maiden EMPTIES the basket for the Chiefs.

All eyes look to the three stones: A SUN, A MOON, one blank.

BITTERROOT CHIEF

Isaac Stevens.

Isaac walks round the fire and confronts the Chieftains.

BITTERROOT CHIEF (CONT'D)

I will not sign.

ISAAC STEVENS

Why?

BITTERROOT CHIEF

This treaty. You only make one reservation.

ISAAC STEVENS

Yes. One great reservation for all three of the tribes.

BITTERROOT CHIEF

My people. We Bitterroot, will not live with the Kootenai. Our enemy.

ISAAC STEVENS

You must have trust.

BITTERROOT CHIEF

We will not leave our land. Our... Valley. One reservation. No sign.

Isaac stomps his boot and clenches his fists.

ISAAC STEVENS

You old woman! You dog! Don't you realize what you'd be giving up!?

BITTERROOT CHIEF

I sit quiet... and before me you give my land away.

A long moment of silent tension... and Isaac capitulates.

ISAAC STEVENS

Fine... Two reservations. Keep your valley and live in fear then.

The Bitterroot Chief turns to the other two... and they nod.

BITTERROOT CHIEF

Our elders will meet to discuss.

Isaac grabs the quill and dips it in his ink well.

ISAAC STEVENS

I'll amend the treaty.

And as the Medicine Men rise, and walk

#### **OUTSIDE**

A LITTLE GIRL (8), one of the Kootenai, sneaks out from the Plankhouse, and follows quietly after them.

#### **INT. ELDER'S TEEPEE - NIGHT**

The Bitterroot Medicine Man checks behind a partition of animal skins, and makes sure that they're alone.

**NOTE:** They speak in distinct native dialects. Subtitled.

BITTERROOT MEDICINE MAN  
We cannot reject this offer. He's  
bowed to our most important demand.

PEND D'OREILLES MEDICINE MAN  
He's desperate. He knows he gives  
far less than he receives.

KOOTENAI MEDICINE MAN  
Yes. He gives us trinkets, and we  
give him Coyote's grave.

BITTERROOT MEDICINE MAN  
And you would sit there and say  
that's not a blessing!

The Little Girl slips unseen into the Teepee and hides.

BITTERROOT MEDICINE MAN (CONT'D)  
That land is cursed! Let the white  
man take it as poison root.

KOOTENAI MEDICINE MAN  
That land is our heritage! For all  
our differences, if not for Coyote,  
both our people would be lost.

The Bitterroot spits, and the Kootenai is outraged.

KOOTENAI MEDICINE MAN (CONT'D)  
You'd turn your back on him? Some  
day Coyote will return.

BITTERROOT MEDICINE MAN  
Coyote is dead! And Fox felled by  
the dark one. You and I both know  
that without Fox, Coyote will never  
live again.

A YOUNG MAN (16), the Girl's older brother, also slips unseen  
into the tent and crouches beside her to whisper in her ear.

THE YOUNG MAN  
You lost your wits little sister.

He grabs her wrist, but she squiggles out and shushes him.

KOOTENAI MEDICINE MAN  
Coyote's grave is ours to protect!  
Our responsibility! The Twin  
Spirit's dreams of darkness and  
light are not meant for the white  
man. It will consume them.

BITTERROOT MEDICINE MAN  
 What say the Pend D'Oreilles? Your  
 stone decides the vote.

PEND D'OREILLES MEDICINE MAN  
 You think I care about legends?  
 Cursed lands beneath the forest?  
 The Twin Spirits? Hah! As the  
 Weaver weaves, the white man casts  
 a web across the nation. Amotken  
 laughs in his heavenly grove and  
 fulfills his promise of wickedness  
 devouring the land. Why should we  
 treat with the white man? Treaties  
 are for enemies, and we offer them  
 only our friendship. Or would you  
 have us tangled in their web?

BITTERROOT MEDICINE MAN  
 So it's a no, then?

PEND D'OREILLES MEDICINE MAN  
 I remain unconvinced.

With a sigh, the Bitterroot produces a jug of wine, and pours  
 out three cups. He offers them some, and they do not refuse.

BITTERROOT MEDICINE MAN  
 Drink deep our friendship brothers,  
 and I may convince you.

Each of them drink their cups full, but the Bitterroot  
 follows with a smiling sip from a second secretive vial.

He laughs as they SEIZE in the throngs of a VIOLENT DEATH.

But when the Young Man stands to confront the shocking  
 betrayal, Bitterroot's smile fades, and he claps his hands.

A BITTERROOT WARRIOR enters followed by a MAN IN BLACK ROBES.

BITTERROOT MEDICINE MAN (CONT'D)  
 Kill this Kootenai.

The Warrior pulls a knife from his belt and steps forward.

THE WARRIOR  
 Finally.

He LUNGES with the blade, but our Young Man is quick, and  
 nimble, and manages to evade a series of wild thrusts.

Using animal skins, jars, buckets, and everything he can get  
 his hands on, he puts up a valiant effort of staying alive.

That is until a single look of disappointment from the Medicine Man inspires the Black Robe to put an end to it.

In one deft motion a thrown knife IMPALES the Man's side, sending him CRASHING out through the side of the teepee.

The Little Girl watches it all. Hidden. Trying not to scream.

The Warrior rushes out after him, while the Black Robe remains to watch the Medicine Man approach his dead allies.

BITTERROOT MEDICINE MAN  
Tell Chief Victor we voted yes, and  
a Kootenai killed us to silence us.

The Bitterroot STABS the Kootenai in his heart, then slits his dead throat, and does the same to the Pend D'Oreilles.

BITTERROOT MEDICINE MAN (CONT'D)  
Your grand children's children will  
wake to a day when Coyote's grave  
has poisoned the white man's  
spirit. On that day the dark one  
will awaken, and you must ensure it  
is a Bitterroot who will greet him.

THE BLACK ROBE  
I swear it.

They share a nod, and the Bitterroot Medicine Man slits his own throat... sets knife against heart... and falls upon it.

And when the Black Robe leaves... the Little Girl follows.

**EXT. NATIVE AMERICAN CAMPSITE, HELLGATE - NIGHT**

The Young Man catches his breath against the side of an earth hut. His right hand pressed against a badly bleeding wound.

A wide open space marks the distance to the Plankhouse...

**CUT TO:**

The Warrior, long knife in hand, follows a trail of blood

**INTO A TEEPEE**

CRACK! A heavy rock SMACKS HIS HEAD from behind and drops him to the floor in a heap, leaving the Young Man triumphant.

But when he turns away, ready to dash towards the Plankhouse-

THWACK! A tomahawk splits his skull, killing him instantly.



**INT. NATIVE AMERICAN PLANKHOUSE, HELLGATE - NIGHT**

Isaac shares a peace pipe with the three Chieftains, when the Black Robe enters and whispers into each of the Chief's ears.

Isaac studies their reactions, trying to anticipate the news.

BITTERROOT CHIEF

It is decided... We will sign.

**CUT TO:**

Father Hoecken watches from a distance as the Treaty's signed, when the Little Girl sneaks up beside him...

She's crying... but still she whispers secretly in his ear.

**INT. ISAAC STEVENS' TEEPEE - NIGHT**

Isaac sits on his bedroll, admiring the BLACK X signed at the bottom of the Treaty, when Father Hoecken slinks inside.

FATHER HOECKEN

I'm surprised you ceded Bitterroot Valley. It's all you really wanted.

ISAAC STEVENS

I ceded nothing. The treaty defines their valley south of Lolo Creek.

FATHER HOECKEN

So you duped them? ... Well they duped you as well.

Hoecken unfurls a rolled animal skin parchment for him.

ISAAC STEVENS

What's this? A map?

FATHER HOECKEN

It's the borders of Falsewood Forest... It carries a curse to all who should settle its lands... and now it is part of your territory.

Isaac studies the map... fingers tracing a DRAWN RED COYOTE.

**FADE TO:**

**EXT. HELLGATE CASINO - NIGHT (PRESENT DAY)**

A RED NEON COYOTE adorns the top of the HELLGATE CASINO sign.

**END TEASER**

**ACT ONE****EXT. FALSEWOOD HIGH SCHOOL - DAY (PRESENT DAY)**

An ALIEN PURPLE SKY gleams down on a normal American school.

And at its entrance... staring up at the sky in wonder is:

**RYAN STEVENS (16)**, the messy haired, Vans shoes wearing, new kid at school who's convinced he's a rebel.

But when a BRILLIANT WHITE LIGHT starts shining in the lobby, beaming out through the school's door, he follows it into

**THE SCHOOL COMMONS**

where hundreds of students ZIP PAST in a blur of fast-forward, dream-like motion. Ryan maneuvers between them, out of sync.

And illuminating the room, hovering over the crowds, is a PHANTASM OF WHITE LIGHT with the amorphous shape of a man.

But when Ryan approaches it backs away and flies down a hall.

**IN THE HALLWAY**

Ryan tip-toes towards the light... It's shining out from a

**CLASSROOM**

where inside, amidst the ghostly figures of fast-forward students, ONE GIRL sits perfectly in focus in normal time.

She's **ZOE CLARK (16)** a glasses-wearing, preppy dressed fellow high-schooler. Her bright eyes radiate persistent curiosity.

The Phantasm looms above her, surrounding her with an almost blinding radiance of light. And when it sees Ryan...

FWOOSH! ETHEREAL ANGEL WINGS spread out from its ghostly body and it steps forward... a celestial guardian protecting her.

**INT. / EXT. AYESHA'S MINIVAN, SCHOOL PARKING LOT - DAY**

Ryan STARTLES AWAKE in the backseat, rubs at his tired eyes, and pulls a Black and White Marble Notebook from his bag.

He flips it open to a middle page and writes in:

10/17/18 - WHO IS SHE?

AYESHA (O.S.)

Come on, Ryan! Wake up! Let's go!

Ryan stuffs the book in his bag, and exits the car to join:

**AYESHA JENSON (40s)** his charismatic black mother from the Bronx with the smarmy sophistication of a city bureaucrat.

She's busy straightening the collar of his adopted brother:

**JACK JENSON "JJ" (12)** a Chinese boy who thinks himself to be a bit of a badass, and knows how to always get his way.

JJ

Mom, will you relax. It's fine.

To his disgust, she spits in her hand and fixes his hair.

AYESHA

This is important. I need you two to make a good first impression.

Ryan stares up at the bright blue sky with a smile.

**INT. PRINCIPAL CALDWELL'S OFFICE, FALSEWOOD HIGH - DAY**

The three of them sit straight, eyes forward, smiling at:

**EDWARD CALDWELL (50s)**, a fastidious balding man with a permanent scowl on his face. He smiles through his teeth.

PRINCIPAL CALDWELL

I assure you. Falsewood High is just as well equipped to educate your children as any private school. Even fancy Manhattan ones.

AYESHA

I'd still like to take a look at those standardized testing statistics when you get a chance.

He reluctantly nods, and they stand up and shake hands.

**INT. SCIENCE CLASS, FALSEWOOD HIGH - DAY**

A full class of students faces the chalkboard as

**MR. POWERS (50s)**, an energetic man in a bow-tie, draws a BIG CIRCLE, then populates it with smaller circles and squares.

MR. POWERS

Imagine a world populated by two dimensional people. Circles and squares with triangles for noses, so they know where to face when they're talking to each other.

He draws triangle noses, and turns to face his students.

MR. POWERS (CONT'D)

How could these people whose whole existence was as thin as paper ever conceive of a third dimension? How could they not just imagine, but prove a world like ours existed?

Zoe copies the circle and square people in her notebook, as

**MADELINE SWAN (16)**, the popular rich girl with designer everything leans over to whisper at her.

MADELINE

We're all going to the overlook after school if you want to come?

Zoe shakes her head and keeps her focus front as Mr. Powers takes a soda can off his desk and holds it up to the class.

MR. POWERS

Take this can. If it sat vertically in their world, all they'd see is a circle. But if it was horizontal...

(he holds it sideways)

Instead they'd see a rectangle!

MADELINE

Come on Zoe. Don't be so boring.

ZOE

You know I can't.

**ELLIS SWAN (16)**, snickers behind them. He's slightly chubby, and carries himself with an undeserved cocky confidence.

ELLIS

Stop wasting your breath. Her mom has to croak before she can party.

Both Zoe and Madeline give him a look of sheer disdain.

MADELINE

God, Ellis. You're such a dipstick.

ELLIS

I'm just saying--

Mr. Powers CLEARS HIS THROAT and picks up a second soda can.

MR. POWERS

Take two cans. One a vertical circle. The other on its side.

(MORE)

MR. POWERS (CONT'D)  
 They'd have no way of knowing that  
 circles and rectangles were really  
 the same thing... unless... they  
 accelerated them at each other!

He BASHES the cans together and they tumble to the floor.

MR. POWERS (CONT'D)  
 And SOMETIMES, just sometimes, a  
 circle would turn into a rectangle,  
 and a rectangle into a circle!

Ryan enters, drawing looks as he hands Powers his schedule.

MR. POWERS (CONT'D)  
 Ah, yes! Our newest student. Why  
 don't you introduce yourself.

RYAN  
 Hey. I'm... I'm...

But when he spots Zoe in class, he finds himself staring.  
 Zoe shifts nervously, and Ryan looks away self-conscious.

RYAN (CONT'D)  
 Ryan Stevens.

MR. POWERS  
 Stevens? Like the town founder?

RYAN  
 Yeah. I'm like his great great  
 grandson... or something.

When Powers hands back Ryan's schedule, he makes his way to  
 an empty desk at the back and takes a seat, eyes on Zoe.

Zoe glances back, catches him staring, and he looks away.

ELLIS  
 Do you know him?

ZOE  
 No.

MADELINE  
 He's kinda cute.

And as Zoe strains to face front and ignore Ryan's gaze:

**TAKALA RAINS (16)**, a long-haired Native American girl who's  
 constantly on alert, sketches Ryan in her notebook.

**EXT. ZOE'S HOUSE - DAY**

A school bus drives away as Zoe approaches the front door.

But when she turns the key, and goes

**INSIDE**

she finds an overturned wheelchair, with her mother:

**VICTORIA CLARK (40s)**, a frail woman suffering from late stage ALS, lying on her side, quivering and helpless.

Zoe runs to her aid, and helps lift her up into the chair.

ZOE

Oh my God, mom! Are you okay?

Victoria types on a pad to speak in a feminine robotic voice.

VICTORIA

It's fine. I'm okay now.

ZOE

No. It's not fine. How long have you been like this?

VICTORIA

Not long.

ZOE

Why didn't you call me?

VICTORIA

I lost my phone.

Frustrated, Zoe calls her mom's phone and locates it.

ZOE

This has to stop. I can't be here all day! You need full time care.

VICTORIA

No.

Zoe ATTACHES her mom's phone to its velcro spot on her chair.

ZOE

The nurse at school has a friend who does home hospice. She gave me her number. I want to call her.

VICTORIA

No. No strangers.

Zoe exhales, exasperated.

ZOE  
At least grandma and grandpa.

VICTORIA  
No. No. No. No. No.

ZOE  
I didn't move here so you could  
fight me every time I try to help.

VICTORIA  
I'm sorry I'm a burden.

ZOE  
I'm losing my mind, mom! I can't do  
everything! Just get over yourself  
and stop being so damn selfish! I  
wish dad were alive! He'd help you!

Zoe grabs her bag and heads towards the front door.

VICTORIA  
Where are you going?

ZOE  
To get dinner!

She SLAMS the door on her way out.

**EXT. ZOE'S HOUSE - DAY**

Zoe rests on the porch, letting the tears fall as she sobs.  
She bangs her head back twice against the door frame.

**INT. ZOE'S HOUSE - DAY**

Zoe walks inside and heads to the living room to find...

ZOE  
I didn't mean--

Victoria's fallen again... and she's having a seizure.

**INT. AMBULANCE, ON THE ROAD - DAY**

Zoe holds her mom's shaking hand as a PARAMEDIC watches.

VICTORIA  
(spoken perfectly normal)  
The Fox! The Fox is waking up!

Zoe's awash with fear, excitement, and confusion.

THE PARAMEDIC  
I thought you said she has ALS? You  
said she couldn't speak.

ZOE  
She can't! I mean, this has never  
happened before! Mom! What Fox?

Victoria looks past Zoe with a thousand yard stare.

VICTORIA  
Yes! You're right! Of course...  
I have to warn Abraham!

ZOE  
Dad's dead... Don't you remember?

VICTORIA  
Where? Yes, I've been there before.  
Wait! What's that? Who's there!?

ZOE  
Mom! Who are you talking to?

THE PARAMEDIC  
She's hallucinating.

VICTORIA  
No! No! Get back! Get away!

**INT. HALLWAY, HOSPITAL - DAY**

Victoria SCREAMS as she's WHEELED by Nurses down the hall.

**INT. EMERGENCY ROOM, HOSPITAL - DAY**

Victoria struggles in madness as a Doctor sedates her.

**INT. VICTORIA'S ROOM, HOSPITAL - DAY**

Zoe sits crying beside her Victoria, who's asleep in bed.

**INT. LOBBY, HOSPITAL - DAY**

**SHERIFF TUCKER GRIFFITH (60s)**, scruffy and seasoned, struts  
up to the front desk and gets the Receptionist's attention.

SHERIFF TUCKER  
I hear you just took in a screamer.  
What room is she in?



**INT. VICTORIA'S ROOM, HOSPITAL - DAY**

Victoria's eyes flutter open and meet Zoe's blood shot gaze.  
She's shaking... frail... but lucid.

VICTORIA  
Zoe... The clock...

ZOE  
(checking the clock)  
Umm. It's five. Mom... Your voice.

VICTORIA  
The clock struck one. The mouse ran  
down. Hickory Dickory Dock.

ZOE  
I'm gonna get the doctor.

But when Zoe gets up, Victoria GRABS her by the wrist.

VICTORIA  
The Fox! The Fox is coming for me!  
And next he'll come for you.

**INT. HALLWAY, HOSPITAL - DAY**

Zoe rushes out into the hall and heads for the nearest nurse,  
walking right past Sheriff Tucker on the way.

SHERIFF TUCKER (INTO HIS PHONE)  
Victoria Clark's a liability.

Zoe stops short... then ducks into a room to eavesdrop...

SHERIFF TUCKER (O.S.)  
No! That's just it. She IS talking!  
They said she had a stroke and lost  
her mind. Call them then! Take your  
vote! She dies or we risk exposure.

Zoe's blood chills, and she risks a glance at the Sheriff.

SHERIFF TUCKER (INTO HIS PHONE)  
I know. I'm having her sedated and  
sent to the hospice. We'll deal  
with her then. Fine.

He hangs up, grabs a Doctor, and enters Victoria's room...  
Leaving Zoe to freak out in panicked silent thought.

**INT. PATIENT ROOM, HOSPICE - DAY**

Ryan sits at a table doing his homework, while beside him is **JAMES STEVENS (70s)** his sick grandfather who's in bed asleep.

But when an ALARM sounds from the bed's machine, a MALE NURSE rushes in, checks the numbers, shuts the alarm, and sighs.

THE MALE NURSE  
He's struggling. Call your parents.

**INT. HALLWAY, HOSPICE - DAY**

Ryan paces in a nervous panic, cellphone pressed to his ear.

**INT. KITCHEN, RYAN'S HOUSE - DAY**

Hip Hop blasts over the stereo as Ayesha cooks dinner with

**COURTNEY STEVENS (40s)**, Ryan's vibrant and feminine maternal mother. They dance and laugh as their phones go unnoticed.

**EXT. FRONT ENTRANCE, HOSPICE - DAY**

As an AMBULANCE pulls into the side driveway, a TAXI stops at the the front steps, and out hurries Zoe, nervous and scared.

**INT. LOBBY, HOSPICE - DAY**

Zoe catches her breath and the attention of the Receptionist.

ZOE  
My mom was just admitted. Clark.

**INT. HALLWAY, HOSPICE - DAY**

Zoe races down the hall, stops at an open door and looks in:  
Her mom's asleep in the bed. Peaceful. Resting. Zoe calms...

RYAN (O.S.)  
When you get this. Please. Hurry.

She turns to find Ryan pacing... Breathing heavy.

ZOE  
Hey. You're the new person. Right?

RYAN  
What? Yeah... science.

ZOE  
Are you okay? You seem freaked.

RYAN  
No, it's just my grandfather.

ZOE  
Is he all right? Is that him in there?

She peers into the room at James, fighting for breath in bed.

RYAN  
(eyes misting)  
He's dying.

ZOE  
Then why are you out here? ... I  
get it. You're afraid. Right?

RYAN  
You're asking a lot of questions.

ZOE  
Don't deflect... Look.

Zoe grabs his shoulders and turns him to face James' doorway.

ZOE (CONT'D)  
Think about how him. Whatever  
you're feeling, times that by a  
thousand. And if you aren't with  
him, he'll have to do it alone.

Ryan stares at her, awash with a million emotions.

She takes his hand with both of hers and stares right back...

ZOE  
So go back in there.

RYAN  
Can you come with me?

**INT. PATIENT ROOM, HOSPICE - DAY**

As Ryan kneels at James' bedside, Zoe pulls a seat to where she can keep a steady watch on her Mom across the hallway.

RYAN  
Grandpa?

James' eyes flutter open as he focuses in on Ryan and Zoe.

He speaks with a deep rasp, and a wheezing breath.

JAMES  
Where's your mother?

RYAN

I don't know. She's not here.

JAMES

Good... Ryan. I have something for you. But you have to promise me. You must keep it a secret from your parents. Do you promise?

Ryan glances back at Zoe, and she gets up, embarrassed.

ZOE

I'll just--

But when James and her share a look, he smiles.

JAMES

No... It's okay. Zoe... Stay. It's only right you hear this too.

Both Ryan and Zoe are equally confused, but they share a nod.

JAMES (CONT'D)

Get my shoe box. In the closet.

Ryan retrieves the box and hands it over to James, who in his weakened state, struggles to retrieve from inside:

A *SILVER POCKET WATCH* with an aged, ornate engraved design.

JAMES (CONT'D)

Read the inscription.

RYAN

James Stevens. 1958. HGS. HGS?

JAMES

It was supposed to wait until your eighteenth birthday. But I want to be the one to tell you.

RYAN

Tell me what grandpa?

JAMES

Ryan. The men in our family are part of a secret order.

(he looks to Zoe)

And so are the men in yours. It heralds back to before this town was founded. Issac Stevens. Our ancestor. He took this land from the Salish, and with it a terrible responsibility. Your birthright.

And as Ryan and Zoe contemplate the revelation, JAMES SEIZES! ALARMS sound, and he shakes violently, frightening them both. BEEEP! A second ALARM sounds from across the hall, and Zoe turns to find HER MOTHER, seizing in equal sudden intensity. Nurses RUSH into both rooms, and while Zoe and Ryan step back in shock, both James and Victoria get WHEELED QUICKLY AWAY.

**INT. LOBBY, HOSPICE - DAY**

Ryan and Zoe sit beside each other on a couch. Each of them tapping nervously as they wait in anticipatory silence.

ZOE

Ryan. About my mom... I overheard something weird at the hospital...

And as she leans forward and gathers her breath:

**NICOLE DAVENPORT (30s)**, head Doctor at the hospice, with a tone and presence as easy as she is to look at, enters...

Ryan and Zoe stand, but Nicole SHAKES HER HEAD at them both.

Zoe RUNS from the room, crying, and Ryan chases after her

BUMPING right into his parents Ayesha and Courtney on their way in. He stands back helplessly as he watches Zoe run away.

**INT. MORGUE, HOSPICE - DAY**

James and Victoria lie on gurneys as tubes pump out their blood into vials. The Male Nurse enters the room and gasps!

NICOLE (O.S.)

You're not supposed to be in here.

He turns to find Nicole locking the door behind her.

THE MALE NURSE

What the hell are you doing?

NICOLE

There's a simple explanation for all of this.

With the sweetest smile, Nicole steps forward and INJECTS a NEEDLE into his neck. His eyes glaze and he falls down dead.

Nicole pulls him onto a gurney... then covers up his corpse.

**END ACT ONE**

**ACT TWO****EXT. NOX INDUSTRIES MINING FACILITY, FALSEWOOD - NIGHT**

Situated high up in a tree overlooking the valley:

**WYNONO RAINS (20's)**, stares down through his binoculars.

He is a Kootenai, dressed in a tight black jump suit, with war paint, and all the tactical gear any SWAT man would have.

But instead of guns: tomahawks and knives line his belt.

**THROUGH THE BINOCULARS:** Wynono follows the train tracks to where they enter A WELL-LIT FACILITY nestled in the mountain.

Wynono stows his binoculars, and HOISTS A ROPE tied to:

A TINY HANG GLIDER, that he pulls up into the tree with him.

**FLYING OVER THE VALLEY**

Wynono glides through the night and approaches the facility, a series WALLED BUILDINGS protecting the entrance to a mine.

He waits until he passes high above the roof... then drops.

**EXT. ROOF, NOX FACILITY - NIGHT**

Wynono drops into a rolling tumble, and lands safely.

He shifts his eyes skyward, watching the Glider soar away...

Then unhooks two sharp tomahawks from his belt.

**INT. HALLWAY, NOX FACILITY - NIGHT**

Wynono slinks silently along the wall, tomahawks raised...

He pauses at the corner... and takes a careful peek.

Two shadows on the wall... Footsteps... muffled voices...

Wynono ducks back and looks the way he'd come: through a well-lit hall towards a single stairwell. Nowhere to hide.

TWO GUARDS, with holstered guns and Nox uniforms approach the doors to the Elevator right near where Wynono's hiding.

**MALE GUARD**

Do you know how Jason's doing? He got pretty messed up right?

FEMALE GUARD

That's why I never go down there.

MALE GUARD

Too cold for you?

He presses the Elevator button, and they linger next to Wynono, who's crouched right behind them against the wall.

FEMALE GUARD

It's not that. It's something else.

Wynono raises his tomahawks... readying himself to strike...

DING! They enter the Elevator and the doors promptly shut.

Wynono turns the corner in a flash... RUNS down the hall...

turns the final corner: AND THROWS both tomahawks! KACRASH!

TWO SECURITY CAMERAS looking down from their vantage point over a security door GET DESTROYED in a shower of sparks.

**INT. SECURITY ROOM, NOX FACILITY - NIGHT**

COMPUTER MONITORS line a high-tech security console stationed by THREE NOX GUARDS... and when two of the monitors cut out:

SIKSIKA (O.S.)

What was that?

**SIKSIKA (20s)**, a graceful and elegant Bitterroot woman in jeans and a dress shirt with a Fox tattoo on her chest...

walks to the console and points at the two black screens.

But while her tone seems inviting and her presence approachable, the Guards are utterly intimidated.

SIKSIKA (CONT'D)

I'm waiting for an answer.

THE NEAREST GUARD

Could be a malfunction. Should I send down a repair team?

Siksika pauses as she considers it...

SIKSIKA

No...

**DEGANAWIDAH MANKILLER (30's)**, the fiercest warrior of the Black Robes, enters in his suit, and a permanent scowl.

DEGANAWIDAH MANKILLER  
He's asking for you.

SIKSIKA  
There's a situation... Two Rivers.  
I want you to take care of it.

TWO RIVERS (DEGANAWIDAH MANKILLER)  
Of course.

**INT. ORNATE OFFICE, NOX FACILITY - NIGHT**

As light as she is on her feet, Siksika's footsteps yield loud echoes as she traverses the marble floor towards:

AN ANTIQUE DESK flanked by tall, intimidating crucifixes.

With no chairs in the vast room she stands silent... waiting.

**INT. DARK ROOM, NOX FACILITY - NIGHT**

Wynono watches the security door from within a nearby room, when a GUARD turns the corner and spots the broken cameras.

And just as Wynono's about to creep out and subdue him...

Two Rivers walks past, and Wynono ducks back out of sight.

**INT. ORNATE OFFICE, NOX FACILITY - NIGHT**

As Siksika waits, A LIGHT goes on above a confessional booth.

**INT. CONFESSIONAL BOOTH, ORNATE OFFICE - NIGHT**

When Siksika sits, a panel in the wall slides open...

SIKSIKA  
Ask of me. And I shall follow.

On the other side... a **SHADOWED MAN**, with a powerful VOICE.

THE SHADOWED MAN (O.S.)  
(slight French accent)  
Rejoice. The day is soon upon us.

SIKSIKA  
Then it's true? Fox is waking up?

**INT. HALLWAY, NOX FACILITY - NIGHT**

THWACK! The Guard grabs his neck, then drops unconscious.

Two Rivers SPINS on his heels, and with an open palm DEFLECTS an incoming poison dart that STICKS INTO the wall instead.



Wynono BULL RUSHES out from the room and SMASHES into Two Rivers, sending them crashing back against the wall.

They GRAPPLE and FIGHT, both with the trained movements of experienced martial artists. Hand on hand. Arm against arm.

Two Rivers breaks free with a KICK, pulls out a KNIFE, and forces Wynono to dodge a series of sharp, deadly attacks.

But soon his hands are braced on Two Rivers' wrists, desperately trying to push away the knife aimed at his face.

Two Rivers GRUNTS with exertion... PUSHING the knife closer.

But in one daring motion, Wynono PRIES the dart from the wall with his teeth... and JABS it right in Two Rivers throat!

He collapses to the ground... instantly unconscious.

Wynono wipes his hand against his bloody lip, and spits.

**INT. CONFESSIONAL BOOTH, ORNATE OFFICE - NIGHT**

Siksika has been crying... Her eyes wet with joy.

THE SHADOWED MAN (O.S.)  
His dreams are turbulent... Angry.  
He will need your guidance.

SIKSIKA  
The Bitterroot will not fail him.

A second panel opens in the wall... and out from it reaches:

AN OLD HAND, palm down, wearing the Pope's Piscatory ring.

Siksika stares at the ring... until he pulls his hand away.

**INT. SECURITY ROOM, NOX FACILITY - NIGHT**

Wynono BURSTS into the room, catching the two remaining GUARDS by surprise. POOF! White powder blows in their faces!

And in seconds both of them collapse into unconsciousness.

Wynono inserts a FLASH DRIVE into the console, and a PROMINENT SCREEN declares his *DOWNLOAD COMPLETE*.

A COMPUTER VIRUS disables the remaining security monitors.

And when Wynono kneels to zip open his tote bag, he reveals the FOUR LARGE BRICKS of C4 EXPLOSIVES inside.

Wynono stows away the flash drive, and zips up his bag.

**INT. MINING TUNNEL - NIGHT**

Lights zip by as Wynono rides an electric minecart at its top speed, descending deeper... and deeper... into the mine...

And finally, the seemingly endless tunnel levels off into

**A MASSIVE CHAMBER**

that's been carved into an underground glacier.

Where the rock wall meets ice, the track circles around past hoards of other carts and Nox industries digging equipment.

Wynono pilots the cart until it's heading back up and out of the mine, then brings it to a halt and hops out.

He takes a moment to examine the arched structure of the rock tunnel... then unzips his tote bag and takes out the C4.

**CUT TO:**

Wynono sets an electric timer attached to the wall to: **10:00**.

But just as he's about to activate it... his attention gets drawn back into the eerie blue of the enormous chamber.

Dozens of FLOODLIGHTS illuminate the great wall of ice...

Each of them focused on: **A TUNNEL** dug into the glacier...

Wynono re-sets the countdown timer to **15:00**, and turns it on.

**INT. SECURITY ROOM, NOX FACILITY - NIGHT**

Siksika groans in disappointment as she steps over the sleeping Guards and examines the message on the console:

*DOWNLOAD COMPLETE.*

**INT. EXCAVATION SITE, GLACIER - NIGHT**

Wynono emerges from the icy **TUNNEL** and gasps in awe.

Here RED VEINS of color streak through the blue ice, and like blood vessels, all of them seem to coalesce at a single spot:

A HOLE in the glacier. Carved out and removed by the miners.

Deep grooves on the icy floor mark where the massive section was dragged away... leading back out the tunnel.

DISTANT SIRENS sound an alarm. Wynono snaps back to reality.

**INT. HALLWAY, NOX FACILITY - NIGHT**

Siksika kneels beside Two Rivers' unconscious body, awakens him with a sniff of smelling salts, and helps him stand up.

TWO RIVERS

It's him.

Siksika uses a nearby console and shuts off the alarms.

SIKSIKA

Have security lock the other entrances to the mine, and wait here. I'll handle him myself.

She opens up the security door, and enters

**THE MINE'S ENTRANCE HALL**

a massive chamber dug into the mountain, where rows of TRUCKS and equipment line the primary tracks leading into the mine.

Siksika gets in a TRUCK, pulls it forward onto the tracks, then hops out, fiddles with a CIRCUIT BREAKER BOX nearby...

And turns off all the lights, casting the room to darkness...

**INT. MINING TUNNEL - NIGHT**

Wynono rides the speeding mine cart up through the tunnel.

He checks his watch - counting down from **2:24...23...22...**

And when he looks up he spots in the LOOMING DARKNESS...

The faint outline of the Truck acting as a barricade.

Wynono LEAPS! And goes tumbling off into the shadows as:

KACRASH! The mine cart SMASHES into the Truck in a violently loud concussion of sparking metal on metal...

And when the echoes silence... Wynono finds himself rising to his feet... staring out into the near pitch black chamber.

The only light the DIM RED EXIT SIGN beckoning his path...

Wynono holds his breath... hesitating. He unsheathes a knife.

Siksika attacks from the shadows! But even fighting blind, his knife still manages to BLOCK her strikes again and again.

Each time their blades clash SPARKS illuminate the combat.

SIKSIKA

You've lost your edge, Wynono.

Wynono grunts... struggling... losing ground.

SIKSIKA (CONT'D)

You shouldn't have come alone.

He keeps his focus... regaining control and balance...  
until Siksika roundhouse KICKS his face, dropping him hard.

SIKSIKA (CONT'D)

What did you hope to accomplish?

Wynono tosses his knife aside... readies an unarmed stance.

WYNONO

Where have you taken them?

Against the backdrop of red light, Wynono evades each of  
Siksika's slashes one by one... almost mocking her.

SIKSIKA

The day's come Kootenai. Fox is  
returning, and it will be the  
Bitterroot that welcomes him!

WYNONO

And what about Coyote?

SIKSIKA

To hell with Coyote.

Wynono LANDS a fist in her face, disarms her, FLIPS her, then  
races to the door, coming face to face with Two Rivers!

But Wynono's too fast. He TUMBLES through his legs, knocking  
him down, then RUSHES off down the hall into the facility.

And when Two Rivers starts after him, Siksika holds him back.

SIKSIKA (CONT'D)

Let him go.

TWO RIVERS

We can't! He downloaded everything!

KABOOOM! Distant EXPLOSIONS detonate down in the mine,  
sending shock waves and wind blowing up past them.

SIKSIKA

I know how to get it back.

**INT. ARCADIA FOOD & GAMES - NIGHT**

Takala SIPS a strawberry milk shake through a fancy straw...

watching a FAT KID work the controls of a video fighting game in a frenzy. His clothes are sweaty. He's breathing fast.

K.O.! He's lost... Takala shakes her head in disappointment.

**AT A BOOTH**

Ellis picks a french fry from his plate and shakes his head, grunting, as Madeline browses facebook on her cell phone.

MADELINE

Katie Gray?

ELLIS

Get outta here. No. Gross.

MADELINE

What about Sarah Bell? She just broke up with her boyfriend.

ELLIS

Madeline... She has a lisp.

MADELINE

So what! The ball's this Saturday. You can't go alone.

ELLIS

I'm not gonna dance anyway.

MADELINE

It's the founders's ball and we're literally founders. We have to.

ELLIS

I'll just pick someone. Whatever. It's not like they're gonna say no.

Madeline scoffs at his show of confidence.

MADELINE

You have like, no game.

ELLIS

Please. You want me to prove it?

MADELINE

I dare you.

Ellis points towards a SOPHOMORE GIRL playing pinball.

ELLIS  
How about her?

MADELINE  
Not fair. She's a sophomore.

Madeline spots Takala sipping on her milkshake.

MADELINE (CONT'D)  
Takala?

ELLIS  
No way. She's a freak.

MADELINE  
If you don't think you can do it...

ELLIS  
What should I do? Get her number?

MADELINE  
Too easy. Get her to kiss you.

ELLIS  
Done and done.

**CUT TO:**

Takala groans in aggravation as the Fat Kid loses yet again.

ELLIS (O.S.)  
Hey Takala?

To her confusion, she turns to find Ellis smiling at her.

ELLIS (CONT'D)  
You want to play air hockey?

TAKALA  
No.

She turns her back, and returns to watching Fat Kid play.

ELLIS  
What about something else then?

TAKALA  
Are you for real?

ELLIS  
Come on. You'll have fun. I swear.

And after a long beat... Takala lets out a sigh.

**AT THE AIR HOCKEY TABLE**

Takala finishes her shake while Ellis empties his pockets.

ELLIS  
You have any quarters?

TAKALA  
No. Just use the machine.

ELLIS  
All I have are hundreds.

He fans out a fat stack of cash, and she rolls her eyes.

TAKALA  
Fine. You owe me a milkshake.

Ellis watches in disbelief as Takala walks up to a GUY playing pinball nearby... and SPILLS her shake on him!

THE GUY  
Ahh! What the crap!

TAKALA  
Oops! Sorry...

And as he heads towards the bathroom...

Takala saunters back over to Ellis with the Guy's wallet.

She takes out a five, slips it in the change machine, and as it clinks out quarters, she tosses the wallet in the trash.

ELLIS  
Damn, Takala! That was hardcore!  
Where'd you learn to do that?

Takala holds up a handful of quarters with a coy smile.

**CUT TO:**

Ellis and Takala play air hockey. They're both giggling.

**AT THE FOOD COUNTER**

Ellis receives two fresh milkshakes, and gives Takala one.

ELLIS  
I bet you could be some kind of  
master thief if you tried.

TAKALA  
I already am.

ELLIS  
You're pretty confident...

Ellis points out a BATMAN STATUE on the top shelf of prizes.

ELLIS (CONT'D)  
Could you steal that?

Takala sizes up the room... spots the one security camera... sneaks underneath it... pulls the straw out of her shake... and SPITS a wad of thick shake onto the lens, obscuring it.

**EXT. ARCADIA FOOD & GAMES - NIGHT**

Takala and Ellis RUSH outside, chased by a shouting Manager.

**IN THE ALLEYWAY**

Takala and Ellis stop to catch their breath, laughing. She hands him the statue with great ceremony... and curtsies.

ELLIS  
That was actually amazing.

Ellis sets down the statue. They stand in awkward silence...

So...	TAKALA	So...	ELLIS
-------	--------	-------	-------

TAKALA  
You first.

ELLIS  
This Saturday. If you're not busy--

WOOP WOOP! A Cop Car on the street SHINES a LIGHT on them.

Leaving the statue behind, they run down the alley onto

**THE OPPOSITE STREET**

But the Cops have turned the corner and are on the approach.

ELLIS  
Split up?

TAKALA  
Pick me up at seven!

He nods. She smiles. And they run their separate ways.



**INT. POLICE CAR - NIGHT**

Takala sits handcuffed in the back. Sheriff Tucker gets in.

SHERIFF TUCKER  
I can't wait to see what your dad  
has to say about this.

**EXT. FALSEWOOD MINISTRY - NIGHT**

A half-constructed church sits in the middle of a mini mall parking lot. And right next to the Hair Salon - the MINISTRY.

**INT. MINISTRY ENTRANCE - NIGHT**

Tucker uncuffs Takala and releases her into the custody of:

**YUMA RAINS (40s)**, her father. An intimidating, true believer.

One sharp look from his steady, piercing eyes forces a meek nod out of her, and sends Takala racing away to her bedroom.

SHERIFF TUCKER  
Yuma.

YUMA  
Tucker.

**INT. TAKALA'S BEDROOM, FALSEWOOD MINISTRY - NIGHT**

Takala uses her computer in bed. There's BANGING at the door. She rolls her eyes... fastens ear buds... plays loud music... as Two Rivers silently sneaks up behind her...

**EXT. FALSEWOOD MINISTRY - NIGHT**

While Sheriff Tucker's cop car pulls away from the front...

**IN THE BACK**

Two Rivers tosses a bound and gagged Takala in a car trunk.

BUT WATCHING THROUGH BINOCULARS

**FROM INSIDE A DISTANT CAR**

is **KULLIX KULLY (20s)**, an observant Pend D'Oreilles, with a composed and affable personality. She starts up her engine...

And as Two Rivers drives away... she follows after him.

**END ACT TWO**

**ACT THREE****EXT. FALSEWOOD CEMETERY - DAY**

A FINE MAHOGANY COFFIN slowly lowers into an empty grave.

Almost a hundred people have gathered for the funeral.

And most prominent among them, lingering at the edge of the grave, is the Stevens family. Courtney, Ayesha, JJ, and Ryan.

Ayesha cradles Courtney's shoulder as she sobs, and tosses a handful of dirt down on top of the sinking coffin.

But Ryan's eyes are miles away... focused far across the cemetery... where a second funeral's being held.

**CUT TO:**

Zoe stares at her mother's coffin... Only Yuma is with her. Her bloodshot eyes have no tears left.

YUMA

Is there anything you want to say?

She shakes her head... He uses a remote to lower the coffin.

But when Ryan appears at her side and stands silent...

She finds herself crying all over again.

**CUT TO:**

Zoe and Ryan walk through the graveyard side by side.

ZOE

There's something weird going on in this town.

She stops abruptly and grabs him by the arm.

ZOE (CONT'D)

I think my mother was murdered.

RYAN

No, Zoe. Don't think like that. I know you don't want to believe--

Zoe looks around, and spots a MAN in sunglasses STARING at her from a distance. Something about it makes her skin crawl.

ZOE

--Come on. I'll explain on the way.

**INT. FALSEWOOD DINER - DAY**

Wynono sits at a booth, focused only on his LAPTOP as he scrolls through endless pages of complex computer code.

But when his cellphone rings he immediately answers it.

**INTERCUT WITH:**

**EXT. HUNTING LODGE, DEEP IN THE WOODS - DAY**

*Siksika holds a phone to her ear with a sickly sweet smile.*

SIKSIKA

Bring the drive to Walking Bear's old hunting lodge. Eight PM.

WYNONO

No.

*Siksika looks in through the dilapidated lodge's window...*

*at Takala, who's roped to a chair with Two Rivers beside her.*

SIKSIKA

Pity. Takala has such good looks. Eight PM. Don't be late.

Wynono slaps his phone down... rage rising... as outside:

**KUILIX' BLACK CROWN VIC**

speeds down the road... Kuilix at the wheel. Freaking out.

**EXT. FLATHEAD INDIAN RESERVATION - DAY**

There's traffic today. Busses and cars all heading towards:

**EXT. HELLGATE CASINO - DAY**

Kuilix pulls right up to the front entrance and gets out, leaving the car running as she scurries

**INSIDE THE CASINO FLOOR**

where hundreds of people swarm the slots and card tables.

Kuilix storms immediately towards the nearest PIT BOSS.

KUILIX

Where's my father?

**INT. DRESSING ROOM, HELLGATE CASINO - DAY**

A dozen STRIPPERS stand in a line, attentively watching:

**NOTAKU KULLY (40s)**, the messily dressed but well-built Pend D'Oreilles chieftain, and CEO of the Hellgate Casino.

He passes out photos of an OLD CHINESE MAN, and envelopes.

NOTAKU

Take a long look... Because one of  
you is going home with him tonight.

Inside they each find a stack of cash, and a lipstick vial.

NOTAKU (CONT'D)

Remember. It has to be within two  
feet of his laptop for at least  
five minutes, or it won't work.

Kuilix storms into the room and walks straight for Notaku.

NOTAKU (CONT'D)

Whoever the lucky girl is gets an  
envelope twice as thick next time.  
Now get out of here.

They scatter as he turns to Kuilix... and sees her fear.

**CUT TO:**

Notaku rubs at his face in indecision... concerned...

NOTAKU

No. I don't want you  
involved.

KUILIX

Father, please!

NOTAKU

I said no! I won't have you get  
hurt over their damn blood feud!

KUILIX

But they'll kill her.

NOTAKU

Let them then! ... Kuilix. It's not  
your place to interfere. The  
Kootenai and Bitterroot have always  
been at odds, and they always will.

Kuilix turns away, pissed, and stomps out of the room.

NOTAKU (CONT'D)

I forbid it! You hear me!? Kuilix!

**INT. HALLWAY, HOSPICE - DAY**

Ryan and Zoe smile innocently at a passing Nurse, then duck

**INSIDE DR. NICOLE DAVENPORT'S OFFICE**

and start searching for something... anything incriminating.

RYAN

What are we looking for? ... Zoe?

Ryan rummages through papers, looks inside the desk...

while Zoe's attention gets pulled towards a Cuckoo Clock hanging on the wall... where the **1** is really a keyhole.

ZOE

Hickory... dickory... dock?

Ryan watches her in confusion as she searches the display cabinet of glass figurines beneath the clock...

and finds among them a statue of a mouse... and underneath:

A key! She holds it up to his surprise, and once inserted into the clock, opens a hidden safe. Inside's only a folder.

It's marked: **PROJECT CADUCEUS**... and inside's a medical file.

They share a concerned glance as they study its pages.

ZOE (CONT'D)

Phase two testing results?  
Mitochondria samples? What is this?

RYAN

Hopefully some kind of proof. We need to figure out what it means.

ZOE

I know who we can ask for help.

**INT. CLASSROOM, FALSEWOOD HIGH - DAY**

Mr. Powers watches an old Feynman lecture on his phone...

while his class of EIGHT TROUBLEMAKERS enjoy their detention.

TAP TAP! Zoe raps on the door window and gets his attention.

**INT. AN EMPTY CLASSROOM, FALSEWOOD HIGH - DAY**

Ryan and Zoe wait patiently as Powers reviews the file.

MR. POWERS

What is this? Some kind of joke?

ZOE

No... Why would you think that?

MR. POWERS

Where did you get this?

ZOE

I...

RYAN

We stole it from the Hospice.

MR. POWERS

This can't be real.... It sounds  
just like Parasite Eve...

ZOE

What's that?

Powers grabs some chalk and DRAWS OUT A CELL on the board.

MR. POWERS

Almost every cell in the body has  
mitochondria. They're kind of like  
passengers that ride along with us,  
and in exchange they provide our  
cells with energy. A symbiosis.

RYAN

So what?

MR. POWERS

All humans share a common ancestor.  
Mitochondrial Eve. A single woman  
from whom all MTDNA descends...  
That file... It's a progress report  
for the invasive replacement of  
patients MTDNA with a completely  
new strain.

ZOE

What does that mean?

MR. POWERS

Our brains only work due to the  
interaction between axons and  
dendrites. And that interaction's  
only possible due to the energy the  
mitochondria provides. Replace the  
strain... and it could have all  
kinds of disastrous side-effects.

RYAN

Like seizures?

MR. POWERS

Sure. At the very least...

He flips through it, shaking his head in disbelief.

MR. POWERS (CONT'D)

But there's no such thing. All  
MTDNA varies by mutations, sure.  
But they're all one strain. There'd  
be nowhere to get any other kind.

ZOE

But this doctor. She has some?

MR. POWERS

That's the strange part. Not only  
does she have it, there's even data  
on how to introduce it en masse.

He points out the bottom of the last page.

MR. POWERS (CONT'D)

Conclusion. Sample F nineteen meets  
threshold for liquid dispersement.  
Implementing immediate release into  
population for phase three.

RYAN

Into the population? Like...  
poisoning everybody?

ZOE

En masse. How would that even be...

MR. POWERS

Problem. How do you introduce an  
unstable liquid pathogen to a whole  
bunch of people without them  
knowing? Hypothesis.

ZOE

The ball! The founder's ball!  
Tonight! That has to be it! The  
whole town will be there.

MR. POWERS

Wait a minute. You don't really  
believe- it's a hoax! It has to be.

Zoe and Ryan share a resolute nod... Powers sighs.

MR. POWERS (CONT'D)

So what's this doctor look like?  
What? I can't let you go alone.

**EXT. FALSEWOOD MINISTRY - DAY**

A CHERRY RED HUMMER pulls to a stop... and out steps Ellis, looking snazzy in his tuxedo, top hat, and red boutenniere.

**INT. FALSEWOOD MINISTRY - DAY**

Ellis finds Yuma sitting in a pew chatting with an Old Woman.

ELLIS  
Is Takala ready?

YUMA  
She's not here.

ELLIS  
Huh? Where is she?

YUMA  
I haven't seen her in a few days.  
Try calling her.

ELLIS  
She hasn't been answering...

YUMA  
Okay... Is there something else?

ELLIS  
Umm... No. Thanks. See ya.

Ellis turns away and leaves... wrought with confused concern.

**EXT. PARKING CIRCLE, SWAN ESTATE - NIGHT**

It's a night of high fashion for Falsewood's Junior and Senior class, and dozens of couples are arriving. Among them:

Ryan and Zoe, dressed for the occasion, walk with Mr. Powers.

**INT. THE BALL ROOM, SWAN ESTATE - NIGHT**

Speakers play a waltz for the crowds, as the kids intermingle with the town's upper crust chaperoning the event.

Mr. Powers grabs a handful of finger sandwiches from a tray.

ZOE  
Maybe we should split up.

MR. POWERS  
Remember. If you see her, just text me. Don't do anything stupid... and don't drink anything. Just in case.



**EXT. HUNTING LODGE, DEEP IN THE WOODS - NIGHT**

Siksika waits at the door with a smile as Wynono approaches.

SIKSIKA  
Wise of you to show up.

She points at the assortment of tomahawks on his belt.

SIKSIKA (CONT'D)  
Expecting a fight?

WYNONO  
Where's Takala?

SIKSIKA  
Bring her out!

Two Rivers drags Takala outside... and releases her into Wynono's arms. He unsheathes a knife... cuts Takala free...

tosses the flash drive into Siksika's waiting hand...

and starts walking Takala away at a quick pace.

WYNONO  
This isn't over.

Siksika WHISTLES, and THREE MANKILLERS emerge from the woods.

SIKSIKA  
Oh, I think it is.

They lunge for Wynono, charging at him with axes raised.

WYNONO  
Takala! Run!

He draws his tomahawks and engages them in a flurry of quick combat, disarming two of them before getting knocked down.

Takala runs off into the darkness of the forest...

as the Mankillers surround Wynono and taunt him to fight.

**INT. THE BALL ROOM, SWAN ESTATE - NIGHT**

**REBECCA SWAN (40s)**, the prim and proper hostess of the event, taps an empty champagne glass and draws everyone's attention.

REBECCA  
Attention... Attention! Make room everyone! Couples please come forward for the founder's dance.

And as the crowds shift, Madeline spots Ellis on his way in. She grabs her DATE by his hand and drags him over to Ellis.

MADELINE

Where have you been? We're about to get started... Where's Takala?

ELLIS

I don't know... She stood me up.

**EXT. HUNTING LODGE, DEEP IN THE WOODS - NIGHT**

Four Mankillers surround Wynono waiting for him to act first. They laugh, curse, and spit, waving their knives in his face. Wynono closes his eyes... breathes... and centers himself.

Then with a smile, he becomes a whirlwind. His hands and arms weave effortlessly, blocking and striking as he spins.

Wynono's sweeping kick sends them all to their backs, and though they get back up, they're simply no match for him.

And one by one Wynono beats them all bloody... that is until

SIKSIKA

Enough! He's mine.

The Mankillers back away from Wynono as she draws a sword.

SIKSIKA (CONT'D)

Find the girl and take care of her.

They run off into the forest... Wynono picks up a fallen axe.

**INT. THE BALL ROOM, SWAN ESTATE - NIGHT**

Ryan circles the room, searching, when Rebecca stops him.

REBECCA

Ryan. I'm so glad you were able to make it! Did you bring a date?

RYAN

Hi Mrs. Swan. Umm... I think so.

He spots Zoe across the ball room and chews at his lip.

REBECCA

You'd best run along and get her! Quickly! You're a founder, Ryan. That means you have to dance!

**EXT. HUNTING LODGE, DEEP IN THE WOODS - NIGHT**

Wynono and Siksika are evenly matched. Every strike of her sword goes blocked or dodged, and for him it's just the same.

And yet... Siksika's slowly pressing him back towards a SHED.

WYNONO

Siksika. Think about what you're doing. You're betraying Coyote.

SIKSIKA

You're too late. It's already done. Whatever you're trying to accomplish, you've failed... Concede defeat and go home.

Siksika BACKFLIPS onto the roof of the shed, glaring at him.

SIKSIKA (CONT'D)

Don't make me kill you.

Wynono FRONTFLIPS onto the roof and presses his attack...

But she had the high ground, and a few sparking clashes of her sword on his axe gets followed by a POWERFUL KICK!

Wynono gets FLUNG BACK off the roof and tumbles to a heap.

But when he rises... wiping blood from a scratch on his cheek

Siksika SHEATHES her sword with a sad, disappointed sigh... and Wynono slowly comes to the realization of his folly.

He stares at the poisoned blood in his hand... then runs.

**INT. THE BALL ROOM, SWAN ESTATE - NIGHT**

Madeline's eyes scan the crowd and land on Zoe and Ryan.

ELLIS

I'm gonna look like an idiot.

MADELINE

No you're not. C'mon.

**CUT TO:**

Ryan approaches Zoe with an uncomfortable awkwardness.

ZOE

Nobody's seen her. I don't even think she's here. Where's Powers?

RYAN

So umm. You know how I'm a founder?

Madeline immediately interrupts them with a smile.

MADELINE

Ryan! There you are! Let's dance.

She takes him by the hand, and though his eyes remain on Zoe, allows himself to get swept away and onto the dance floor.

ELLIS (O.S.)

Hey Zoe...

Zoe turns to find Ellis offering his hand out to her...  
and she takes it.

**EXT. DEEP IN THE WOODS - NIGHT**

Takala runs through the darkness... fleeing for her life...

THWACK! A stone HITS her head and she face-plants the ground.

She cradles her wound, blood streaking her cheek, when she spots Two Rivers walking towards her... murder in his eyes.

**INT. THE BALL ROOM, SWAN ESTATE - NIGHT**

A waltz plays as the Junior and Senior class couples dance.

Zoe with Ellis. Ryan with Madeline. And while Zoe and Ryan clearly cannot dance, their partners guide them gracefully.

MADELINE

So like. Are you and Zoe a thing?

Ryan looks to Zoe... who's laughing as she dances with Ellis.

RYAN

No...

Madeline smirks, and pulls him in a bit closer to her.

**EXT. DEEP IN THE WOODS - NIGHT**

Takala scrambles away on her hands and knees...

Her back's against a tree when Two Rivers raises his axe.

WHAM! Two Rivers falls... knocked instantly unconscious.

Kuilix stands behind him... holding a log... Breathing hard.

**INT. THE BALL ROOM, SWAN ESTATE - NIGHT**

Ellis and Zoe perform a dance where their hands don't touch, each of their palms upstretched, but each always inches away.

ELLIS

I knew we'd wind up like this.

ZOE

(sarcastic as hell)

I know right. It's totally fate.

**MEANWHILE, IN THE KITCHEN**

Waiters FILL CHAMPAGNE GLASSES from large oak barrels, and once filled, they're placed on trays, and walked away.

Mr. Powers stalks into the kitchen, weaving past the busy staff, when he spots Nicole lingering in the corner...

But when she slinks away... he chases after her.... down

**INTO THE WINE CELLAR**

where he turns a corner... and finds her waiting for him.

MR. POWERS

I read your files... You're insane.

NICOLE

Is that so?

Nicole pulls a syringe from her pocket with a coy smile.

**EXT. BY A ROAD, DEEP IN THE WOODS - NIGHT**

Wynono rushes into the street, where he finds Kuilix with Takala. He pulls her into his arms, and takes out his keys.

KUILIX

She's okay. Just lucky I was there.

WYNONO

Thank you Kuilix. You have wheels?

KUILIX

That's my car over there.

Wynono lifts Takala onto his MOTORCYCLE, and starts it up.

WYNONO

I got her. Get out of here! Go!

Kuilix watches as Wynono speeds off... then runs.

**INT. WINE CELLAR, SWAN ESTATE - NIGHT**

Nicole drags Mr. Powers' dead body into a darkened corner.

**IN THE BALL ROOM**

The dance has ended... and everyone's clapping.

And as waiters start passing out glasses, both Ryan and Zoe pull out their phones and gasp. They've each gotten a text!

**EXT. GARDEN, SWAN ESTATE - NIGHT**

Zoe and Ryan creep towards a person waiting in the shadows.

ZOE

Mr. Powers? What's going on? Why'd  
you want to meet us out here?

But it's Nicole who steps out into the light... smiling.

**EXT. ON THE STREETS OF FALSEWOOD - NIGHT**

Wynono pulls his bike over... stumbles off... and falls down.

Takala rushes to his aid... turns him face up... and gasps.

His veins are blackened with pox, and his eyes are bleeding.

TAKALA

Oh my God! Wynono! What's  
happening? I have to call 911.

He coughs up blood, pulling his sister close to whisper.

WYNONO

Takala... It's up... to you now...  
You have to... save... Coyote...

Wynono dies in Takala's arms... leaving her in anguish.

**EXT. GARDEN, SWAN ESTATE - NIGHT**

Ryan and Zoe face Nicole in front of the BALL ROOM'S WINDOWS

NICOLE

Game's over children... Look.

**WHERE INSIDE:** Led by Rebecca, the gathered crowd of hundreds raises up their champagne glasses in a shared toast...

and drinks.

**END ACT THREE**

**ACT FOUR****INT. ZOE'S BEDROOM, ZOE'S HOUSE - DAY**

Zoe opens the curtains to a beautiful, BRIGHT sun-shiny day.

**EXT. ZOE'S HOUSE - DAY**

Zoe walks down the driveway and opens her fence's gate...

Outside the town is silent. The roads are empty. She shrugs,

**PASSES THROUGH THE GATE**

and the eerily peaceful town TRANSFORMS to a world of chaos.

An ALIEN PURPLE SKY looms above her. Distant SIRENS wail. The house across the street's OVERGROWN with plants. Dogs bark.

Zoe backs up... world of peace... Walks forward. Chaos.

**EXT. MAIN STREET, FALSEWOOD - DAY**

Zoe strolls down the middle of the road in a state of wonder.

A PACK OF WILD HORSES rush past her side, and one by one, gallop in through the DOORS OF THE BAKERY beside her...

She peers into its windows... at the VAST MEADOW inside, where macarons grow like flowers stretching to the horizon.

SCARED OLD WOMAN (O.S.)

Help! Somebody help!

Zoe looks across the street. It's coming from the Dentist's.

**INT. DENTIST'S OFFICE - NIGHT**

Zoe enters a horror scene, where blood-stained walls are accompanied by flickering lights, and unseen SCREAMS.

A HIGH-PITCHED DRILL whines from inside the nearby office...

Zoe tip-toes towards the cries for help... and sneaks into

**THE PATIENT ROOM**

where **THE DENTIST (50s)**, a fat creep in a bloody lab coat, works on SAWING something unseen behind a curtain partition.

And when he and Zoe make eye-contact, he tosses aside a bloody hand saw, and picks up his BUZZING electric drill.

## THE DENTIST

Take a seat. I'll be right with you.

Zoe BACKS into something, and turns to find A HANGING MAN, arms and legs REMOVED, and in their place: bandaged stumps.

## THE HANGING MAN

Kill me. Please. I have to wake up.

She goes for the door! But it SLAMS SHUT and locks itself!

The Dentist FOLLOWS as she backs away in fear, circling her around to the other side of the curtain where she TRIPS!

Falling into a GROUP OF FIVE PEOPLE bound with DENTAL FLOSS, their shirts bloody, mouths pried open and teeth all missing.

And when they see her THEY MOAN for help... for freedom.

The Dentist TOSSES floss, and it magically binds her tight.

## THE DENTIST

Relax... You're having a bad dream.

ZZZZ!!! He leans in close with his frightening buzzing drill.

KAPOW!! The FLOORBOARDS BURST in a shower of splinters as Ryan FLIES UP into the room, and comes to a hovering stop.

## THE DENTIST (CONT'D)

What!? I'm gonna kill you first!

Ryan's hair is spiky, radiating up with inner golden power, and he's wearing really cool sunglasses... He takes them off.

## RYAN

Omae wa mou shindeiru.

And as the Dentist's eyes widen, Ryan PUNCHES his face so hard that the Dentist DISINTEGRATES in a fusion of red light.

One by one, Ryan points his finger at the Victims, and shoots out a beam of energy that makes each one of them disappear.

Then as gallant as a knight, he unties Zoe and lifts her up.

## RYAN (CONT'D)

I saw you in a dream before we met.

## ZOE

I don't remember my dreams...

Zoe stares deep into his eyes... and kisses him.



**INT. ZOE'S BEDROOM, ZOE'S HOUSE - DAY**

Zoe squirms under the sheets... smiling in her sleep...  
but as she WAKES UP and rubs at her eyes... her smile fades.

**IN THE BATHROOM**

Zoe spits toothpaste into the sink... rinses out her mouth...  
And takes a long moment to stare at herself in the mirror...

**IN THE KITCHEN**

Zoe fries eggs in a pan, and pours herself some orange juice.

**CUT TO:**

She eats at the table... across from an empty wheelchair...  
when to her surprise: the PHONE attached to its side RINGS.

**INT. LAWYER'S OFFICE, FALSEWOOD - DAY**

Zoe sits across from her mother's ESTATE LAWYER.

ZOE

What about like... taxes?

THE LAWYER

I don't know why, but the town's  
classified the house as an  
historical site. You're only  
responsible for the utilities.

ZOE

So I really can afford to stay.

THE LAWYER

She also left something else.

**EXT. DENTIST'S OFFICE, MAIN STREET - DAY**

Ryan sits at a park bench... watching from across the street.  
And when the door opens and the Dentist walks outside...  
Ryan crosses the street and follows him down the sidewalk.

**INT. SAFETY DEPOSIT ROOM, FALSEWOOD BANK - DAY**

A BANK ATTENDANT leads Zoe inside, then leaves her alone.

**CUT TO:**

Zoe stares at A BOX on the table... working up her courage.

And when she finally opens it... inside she finds:

A PHOTOGRAPH: of her as an infant, cradled in the arms of her father, **ABRAHAM CLARK (29)**, handsome and smiling bright.

and A POCKET WATCH just like the one that James left Ryan!

she lifts its cover. It's engraved: *ABRAHAM CLARK. 1991. HGS.*

**EXT. ALLEYWAY, MAIN STREET - DAY**

As the Dentist walks by... Ryan PUSHES him into the alley and backs him up against the wall, enraged. Arm at his throat.

RYAN  
You sick freak!

THE DENTIST  
What do you want?

RYAN  
I was there! I saw you!

THE DENTIST  
Calm down. It was just a dream!

Ryan keeps him pressed against the wall, breathing angry.

RYAN  
A dream? No. That just. It just...

THE DENTIST  
Look around. Do you see any dead bodies? I haven't done anything.

Ryan releases him and takes a step back... suddenly confused.

THE DENTIST (CONT'D)  
What did you just wake up? It's all over the news! Shared dreams. Everyone's having 'em.

The Dentist straightens his jacket and starts walking away.

THE DENTIST (CONT'D)  
Have a nice day!

**EXT. TRAILER PARK, FLATHEAD INDIAN RESERVATION - DAY**

Crowds of people exit their homes and gather around Takala, as she parks the motorcycle and cradles Wynono to the ground.

**INT. KOOTENAI ELDER'S RV, TRAILER PARK - DAY**

Takala sits at the dinette booth facing her grandfather:

**LUSIO RAINS (70s)**, the calm and measured Kootenai chieftain.

LUSIO

An eye for an eye will blind the world Takala. I'll take no action.

TAKALA

The Bitterroot have gone too far! Grandfather, please. Listen to me.

LUSIO

I mourn for your brother. But I will not violate our terms with the Pend D'Oreilles and put our tribe's welfare in jeopardy.

TAKALA

Then Wynono died for nothing!?

LUSIO

Wynono died because of a blood feud that goes back hundreds of years.

TAKALA

Yes! The Bitterroot hate us!

LUSIO

(with a sigh)

You're too young to know of such things. Now go. And do not make me regret being so lenient with you.

TAKALA

It's not my fault! I was kidnapped!

LUSIO

I told you. I will resolve the matter. You're no longer in danger, as long as you do nothing foolish.

**EXT. MAIN STREET, FALSEWOOD - DAY**

Ryan walks the sidewalk, head down, staring at a newspaper:

**THE HEADLINE: FALSEWOOD HAS A NIGHT TO REMEMBER!**

He crumbles it up... tosses it in the trash...

and walks straight into the POLICE STATION.

**INT. FALSEWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY - DAY**

Zoe finds herself an isolated table and drops her book bag.

**CUT TO:**

The table's cluttered with open books on FALSEWOOD HISTORY...

But her eyes are focused on the cover of her pocketwatch, and the intricate raised patterns in its fine polished silver.

With a thought, Zoe sets down the watch, covers it with paper, and uses her pencil to rub out a tracing of them.

**EXT. WOODED AREA, TRAILER PARK - DAY**

Takala sits against a tree... staring... thinking silently...

When a SQUIRREL races into her field of vision, LEAPS onto the trunk of the tree just in front of her... and freezes.

Right above it a GREAT SPOTTED OWL sits waiting. Watching.

Takala anticipates the squirrel's imminent demise... but when it spots the Owl and SCURRIES AWAY in panic... The owl stays.

Choosing instead to stare at Takala... right into her eyes...

**EXT. MEDICINE HOUSE, TRAILER PARK - DAY**

Takala approaches the front door and knocks...

As an unseen MAN nearby watches her. He takes out his phone.

OUTGOING TEXT: *she's talking to Kotori*

INCOMING TEXT FROM "SS": *good. she'll lead us right to them.*

**INT. MEDICINE HOUSE, TRAILER PARK - DAY**

Takala shares a steaming hot cup of tea across from

**KOTORI (80s)**, a venerable Kootenai medicine man, whose face is covered by a COYOTE TATTOO extending over his bald head.

KOTORI

Coyote sent you. He told me you would come.

TAKALA

Look... Kotori. I'm sorry. I know some of the old stories, but the way you and Wynono talk about Coyote, it's as if he were real.

KOTORI

Takala. Tell me. Who am I?

TAKALA

Medicine man of the Kootenai?

KOTORI

No. I am the chieftain of the  
Ktunaxa. A tribe within our tribe.

TAKALA

What? Who else knows about this?

KOTORI

All men learn of the Ktunaxa when  
they reach their eighteenth year.

TAKALA

Then why are you telling me?

KOTORI

Wynono entrusted you with his quest  
to save Coyote. Now I honor him.  
Takala... The Kootenai and the  
Bitterroot are allies. But we  
Ktunaxa are as sunlight to the  
darkness of the Black Robes.  
Servants of Fox who threaten the  
balance of nature itself.

TAKALA

The girl who took me. She's a black  
robe. She had a fox tattoo.

KOTORI

Siksika. She is their chieftain,  
and no matter what Lusio has told  
you... she will be coming.

TAKALA

So what am I supposed to do? My dad  
won't believe any of this.

KOTORI

We need allies. Isaac Stevens,  
founder of Falsewood, learned of  
Coyote's grave and created a tribe  
to protect it. Hellgate Society.  
Find them... and warn them.

Kotori tosses Takala a pair of car keys.

KOTORI (CONT'D)

You can use my car.

**INT. INTERROGATION ROOM, POLICE STATION - DAY**

Ryan sits waiting as Sheriff Tucker enters and joins him.

SHERIFF TUCKER  
So what's this big emergency of yours that just can't wait?

RYAN  
It's about the dreams.

Tucker rubs his face, aggravation and frustration showing.

RYAN (CONT'D)  
Look. I've been in and out of dream clinics all my life. I've got this rare disorder. So when it comes to dreams I've kinda got some insight.

SHERIFF TUCKER  
Jesus, kid. Cut to the chase.

Ryan slides the **PROJECT CADUCEUS** folder over to Tucker.

He opens it up... flips through a few pages.

SHERIFF TUCKER (CONT'D)  
What am I looking at here?

RYAN  
Bottom line. The doctor from the hospice poisoned the drinks at the ball last night, and it's messing with everyone's brains.

Tucker stares at him for a long moment... shuts the folder.

SHERIFF TUCKER  
Tell you what. I'll look into this.

He stands up, files in hand, and leads Ryan to the door.

RYAN  
Really? You believe me?

SHERIFF TUCKER  
Go home. If any of this checks out, I'll need to bring you back in.

RYAN  
Okay...

SHERIFF TUCKER  
And lets keep this between us.

**INT. FALSEWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY - DAY**

Zoe shuts a book in frustration...

sets it on a growing stack, and opens up another...

She rubs at her weary eyes and focuses in on: A MAP OF TOWN.

And at its center... marked by an OBELISK... the town square.

With sudden inspiration, she grabs her tracing of the watch and overlays it onto the map. It lines up! Centered on...

**EXT. TOWN SQUARE, MAIN STREET - DAY**

THE OBELISK: A monument to the founding of Falsewood town.

Standing at its base, Zoe holds up the pocketwatch, and orients herself so she's facing 12 o'clock on the watch...

then finds herself staring straight at: THE CEMETERY GATES.

**EXT. MAIN STREET - DAY**

Ryan walks down the sidewalk... when a passing STATION WAGON SCREECHES to a halt, makes a quick u-turn, and pulls over.

Takala jumps out of the car and rushes up to him.

TAKALA

Ryan, right? We need to talk.

**INT. ARCADIA FOOD & GAMES - DAY**

At their booth, Ryan watches in wonder as Takala manically unwraps a burger and ravenously devours the entire thing.

TAKALA

Take it out. I want to see it.

RYAN

Here? But there's people...

TAKALA

I don't have time for games, Ryan.  
This is important.

RYAN

Fine.

Ryan reaches in his pants... and takes out the pocketwatch.

She pulls it from his hands and opens it up... HGS...

RYAN (CONT'D)

So all the founders are in it, huh?  
That includes Madeline's family.  
Maybe we could ask her about it.

Takala turns the watch to face Ryan.

TAKALA

Does that look like a map to you?

**EXT. PARKING LOT, ARCADIA FOOD & GAMES - DAY**

Takala and Ryan get in the station wagon and start it up...

**BUT INSIDE A NEARBY SUV**

Siksika, Two Rivers, and the Three Mankillers are watching.

And when Takala drives away... they follow.

**EXT. HISTORICAL CEMETERY ENTRANCE, MAIN STREET - DAY**

Zoe hesitantly pushes open the rusty gates and walks inside.

**CUT TO:**

**A TALL BLACK MONOLITH**

marks the center of the cemetery. Dark clouds loom overhead.

And as Zoe approaches its base... it starts to rain.

She holds up the watch in front of her, aligns the monolith symbol on its pattern... and orients herself to face 12...

And in front of her: ANOTHER GATE to an inner courtyard.

**EXT. SHADOWED COURTYARD, HISTORICAL CEMETERY - DAY**

Shielded from the rain and light by tall oak canopies, the gray stone courtyard has all the ambiance of midnight.

And at its dark heart: A MARBLE MAUSEOLUM.

**INT. MAUSOLEUM, SHADOWED COURTYARD - DAY**

Its HEAVY DOOR gets pushed inward by Zoe, who holds her cell phone's light up to the enclosed space... and discovers:

A STATUE of Isaac Stevens as we saw him at Hellgate.

And at its feet: A CLOSED SARCOPHAGUS.



RYAN (O.S.)  
Takala! This way!

Zoe spins on her feet and looks out into the Courtyard:  
where Ryan and Takala are running straight for her!

RYAN (CONT'D)  
We can hide in -- Zoe!?

They push past Zoe into the Mausoleum.

SIKSIKA (O.S.)  
Takala!

### IN THE COURTYARD

Siksika steps out into the light... and for a long moment,  
Ryan, Zoe, and Takala stare back at her from the doorway.

SIKSIKA (CONT'D)  
There's no need to run. You've  
nothing to fear from me.

TAKALA  
You killed my brother you bitch!

SIKSIKA  
I gave him a choice.

Two Rivers and the Three Mankillers join her side.

SIKSIKA (CONT'D)  
And now I'll give one to you.

Siksika bids her men to stay back as she steps forward.

SIKSIKA (CONT'D)  
I don't know what Kotori told you,  
but the Fox tribe does not want to  
see Coyote dead.

TAKALA  
Then what do you want?

SIKSIKA  
I want your friend's watches.

Ryan and Zoe gasp at their sudden material involvement.

RYAN  
You have one too!?

Zoe awkwardly reveals the pocketwatch in her hand.

ZOE  
It was my dad's.

SIKSIKA  
Hand them over to me now... and  
you'll never hear from us again.

Both Ryan and Zoe offer up their watches to Takala...

TAKALA  
And if I refuse?

Siksika chuckles at the sheer audacity of Takala's tone.

SIKSIKA  
Brave girl. Foolish girl. You don't  
even realize who you're talking to.

TAKALA  
Neither do you.

Takala PUSHES CLOSED the heavy Mausoleum doors with a THUMP!  
Shutting the Mankillers out... and

**TRAPPING THEM INSIDE**

Ryan LIGHTS UP his phone, as Takala BRACES against the door.

RYAN  
Takala! What are you doing!? Let's  
just give them the watches!

TAKALA  
We can't.

RYAN  
We can't just STAY HERE and hope  
they go away! This is crazy!

KKKKKHHHHH! Zoe SLIDES open the top of the Sarcophagus, and  
reveals an EMPTY SPACE large enough for her to fit into.

And engraved on the inside of the empty tomb: **HGS**

KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK! Someone's TAPPING on the door outside.

SIKSIKA  
(muffled)  
Takala! Open the door!

TAKALA  
Ryan, please... We can't trust her.

RYAN  
It's not even your decision to  
make! Zoe, what do you think?

But when Ryan looks to where Zoe was just seconds before...

RYAN (CONT'D)  
Zoe!?

She's gone.

RYAN (CONT'D)  
Where the hell did she go!?

SIKSIKA  
(muffled)  
This is your last chance!

Ryan and Takala share a quizzical look...

**EXT. MAUSOLEUM, SHADOWED COURTYARD - DAY**

As Siksika and the Mankillers watch...

Two Rivers PUSHES OPEN the door to reveal: AN EMPTY ROOM.

**INT. HIDDEN PASSAGEWAY - DAY**

Takala and Ryan follow Zoe through a red brick walkway.

**INT. HELLGATE SOCIETY, BENEATH TOWN HALL - DAY**

Zoe, Ryan, and Takala enter from behind a SLIDING BOOK SHELF,  
and push into the dark, well-furnished basement...

ABRAHAM (O.S.)  
Welcome to Hellgate Society.

LIGHTS TURN ON, revealing the room, and most importantly:

**ABRAHAM CLARK (40s)**, a handsome man with a warm vibe.

ABRAHAM (CONT'D)  
Hello Zoe.

Zoe's shocked to the core... Confused... Happy. Betrayed.

RYAN  
Zoe?

She clutches her chest... as Abraham stares into her eyes.

ZOE  
Dad!?

**INT. WAREHOUSE - NIGHT**

Siksika strides through the darkness of a VAST OPEN SPACE...  
towards THE SHADOWED MAN lurking at its center.

And as she gets closer we find his back is turned to us...

She stops at his side. Both of them gazing into the abyss.

SIKSIKA

Why have you brought me here?

THE SHADOWED MAN

I've something to show you. A  
reward, for your faithful service.

SIKSIKA

I'll take nothing from you. I serve  
only Fox. Or have you forgotten?

THE SHADOWED MAN

You should fall to your knees.  
Is that not the custom...

LIGHTS TURN ON: revealing a MASSIVE CHUNK OF RED-VEINED ICE.

THE SHADOWED MAN (CONT'D)

... when faced with your Gods?

and frozen deep within... **THE TWIN SPIRITS** of **Coyote** and **Fox**.

Two DARK FIGURES locked in its icy core. Obscured... Hidden.

Siksika drops to her knees in awe... as the Shadowed Man:

**MAXIMILIAN BALTHAZAR (70s)**, exits the shadows into the light.

Draped in a flowery white and gold trimmed papal robe, he is  
every bit the Pope in countenance and fashion if not in name.

And this time when he offers her his ring... She kisses it.

**EXT. FALSEWOOD CEMETERY - NIGHT**

Rain falls on the tombstone of Victoria Clark... as below...

**INSIDE HER COFFIN**

Victoria rests in peace... that is... until...

HER EYES OPEN

END OF EPISODE