

THE CONTRACT MURDERS OF MIKE AND MARK DORSEY

by

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BASED ON THE "DORSEY CASE" OF 1977

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FADE IN:

EXT. NEW YORK CITY - BROWNSTONE - NIGHT

TITLE CARD: "June 7th, 1997"

POV: DESCENDING THE STEPS OF A BROWNSTONE IN NYC, MID AFTERNOON.

We see the world through an unseen MALE NARRATOR's eyes and his eyes alone.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

And as I descended the staircase on East Second Street and Avenue B on the Lower East Side of New York, I felt the best part of the day had passed...

UP THE STREET, A CRANBERRY AND CREME IDLES IN THE RED ZONE WITH ITS HAZARDS ON.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

I saw my mother had found parking on the next street...or rather up the street, but I didn't rush back. I just stood there taking in the warmth of that June 7th. I looked up and saw the leaves give truth to the existence of a warm breeze, and there was this stillness...in me and all around, the kind of day I used to lay out in, in my dad's backyard, where the sun blankets you in warmth only to be washed away by the tide of a passing breeze. I could never tell which one I liked more, the warmth of the sun or the relief of the chill which washed it away.

POV: BASKING IN THE SUN AT THE TREES ABOVE AND FOR A MOMENT...

We see him, from across the street, the figure of youth, 17 and thin, veiled betwixt a collage of parked cars, trees and city.

AS WE RETURN TO HIS VANTAGE HE EXAMINES THE SURROUNDINGS BEFORE HIM.

MALE NARRATOR (V.O.)
 And then I remembered... I remembered the woven hats selling on the corner.

INT. ASTRO VAN - BACK SEAT - NIGHT

Blinds from the back cab area of an Astro van separate and the back of a young man is seen taking in a street vendor.

MALE NARRATOR (V.O.)
 ...The audition is so close. When are we gonna be back here, in this area? Mom wouldn't mind. It's him, he never likes to wait for me or check things out.

POV: HE LOOKS DOWN TO THE STREET WHERE AN OLDER STREET VENDOR SELLS HATS. A RESTAURANT, "JP'S," CATCHES HIS EYE.

MALE NARRATOR (V.O.)
 Let me see what he's got quick-- I waited too long, he'll be down soon and I'll never hear the end of it.

POV: HE LOOKS BACK UP THE STREET TO THE ASTRO VAN THAT WAITS HAUNTINGLY STILL UP THE STREET, THEN TO THE DOUBLE DOORS HE JUST EMERGED FROM AND BACK TO THE VENDOR IN THE DISTANCE. HE EMBARKS TOWARDS THE CORNER.

A cloud passes over the sun shrouding the street in the dark of day.

MALE NARRATOR (V.O.)
 And as I took that first step, something felt amiss, like I was suddenly ill, or off. Off course, like I was passing through a threshold... Like I was walking through my--NO. He has some time yet, I told myself. Not really. I'll be, I'll be quick. I wouldn't what I came to find out years later was A.D.D. had plagued my decision-making ability for years and the general of anyone who had the misfortune of being at my side while buying a pack of least of all a yarn hat. Plus, what was I hurrying for?

He begins to walk away from the brownstone, away from the Astro van, away from the warmth, entering the unknown.

MALE NARRATOR (V.O.)

All these justifications, the justifications of a 17-year-old...
 "We weren't getting along, all I had to look forward to was being ignored in the van while he pretended to pass out, or to do homework..."

(beat)

Still a feeling told me NO, not go back, not run, just NO. And yet I kept walking, walking away from the inner sense that something was wrong. And it was, although in my adolescent time on this earth I could never imagine the horror I would witness on that day.

POV: FROM ACROSS THE STREET WE SEE THE YOUNG MAN WALKING FARTHER AND FARTHER AWAY.

MALE NARRATOR (V.O.)

To this day all these years later, I still wonder, not about that feeling, the thing people chock up to coincidence, afraid to face, because it means accepting that which we are not shown in a physical sense. No, that I know. That I have always known...

FROM BEHIND WE SEE THE YOUTH DISAPPEAR INTO THE CITY.

MALE NARRATOR (V.O.)

No, to this day I wonder where the other me is now...the one that turned back, the one who listened, the one who turned right instead of left.

INT. ASTRO VAN - SAME TIME

Inside the Astro van, MARYANN (40s), pretty, dressed in a black lycra skirt and casual top, sits listening to opera, her mind trying to find solace among the sounds of the city.

Suddenly a distant scream catches her attention. She is out the door in an instant. Multiple screams can be heard as we remain inside the van not privy to their origin.

MARYANN
What's going on! What? What
happened?!

MALE VOICE MUFFLED.

YOUNG MAN (O.S.)
Get in! Get in! Start the van, Mom!

MARYANN
What?! What happened?

Gunshots can be heard, followed by a scream.

POV: THE SCENARIO UNFOLDS FROM THE PASSENGER SEAT AS MARYANN
ENTERS HASTILY. AN UNSEEN PASSENGER RIDING SHOTGUN ENTERS.

YOUNG MAN (O.S.)
GO! GO! GO!

MARYANN
OKAY! OKAY! ALRIGHT! WHAT HAPPENED?

We hear muffled voices O.S., almost as if the memory is
fading.

MALE VOICE MUFFLED.

YOUNG MAN (O.S.)
(panicked)
I SAW SOMETHING, MOM. JUST START
THE CAR! PLEASE! MOM, GO!

MARYANN'S VOICE MUFFLED.

MARYANN
What?! What did you see?!

YOUNG MAN (O.S.)
NOTHING, JUST GO, MA!!

MARYANN
(beat)
ALRIGHT. ALRIGHT!

Immediately Maryann looks to the rearview mirror and springs
into action shuffling the obscured figure into the back seat.

MARYANN
GET IN THE BACK! Lock your doors!
Just do it!!

MALE VOICE MUFFLED.

As Maryann returns to the driver seat a GUNSHOT hits her windshield.

A man approaches and punches through the broken glass tearing at Maryann's blouse.

Undeterred, she slams the van into reverse, dragging her attacker backwards.

Two young men seen only from the side lunge over Maryann's shoulders from the backseat grabbing the assailant arm as he fires widely into the van, knocking out the windshield.

Maryann screams as the man attempts to choke her.

She bites his hand drawing blood then floors the van into the car parked ahead, dragging the assailant several feet forward.

MARYANN

NO!! NO!!

The man shakes his gun wildly releasing live rounds into the car unable to free himself of the son's grip.

Feet scurry to the back of the van.

An arm raises.

Maryann glances into her rearview mirror and screams.

MARYANN

DOWN!

She floors it into reverse knocking the attacker from behind to the ground, violently.

MALE VOICE MUFFLED.

YOUNG MAN (O.S.)

Roll it up! Roll it up!

MARYANN

Sit back! Now!

The two young men roll up the driver-side window sending sharp glass into the remaining attacker's arm.

The van screeches as it peels out into the distance followed by more gunshots and sound of sirens.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

And then I knew my youth was over.

EXT. LOWER MANHATTAN - STREETS - CONTINUOUS

The Astro flies street by street in an attempt to flee the scene, tailed by a black El Camino releasing rounds.

The El Camino is temporarily side-tracked and slowed by a car at an intersection and loses the Astro van.

EXT. MANHATTAN PRECINCT - NIGHT

Maryann pulls up almost to the front door of the precinct and exits the astro van. She runs around the car opens the back door.

Identical twins DILLON and MARK (17) exit. They race up the concrete steps towards the glass doors.

The black El Camino pulls up shortly after.

The three narrowly escape into the precinct.

INT. PRECINT - NIGHT

Maryann enters and guides the two young men toward the back of the lobby. Bloodied and bruised, she begins to scream.

MARYANN

HELP US HELP US HELP US!! We're
being attacked!!

Several cops run past and out the door. The El Camino pulls away slowly.

INT. MANHATTAN COURTHOUSE - DAY (WEEKS LATER)

PROSECUTOR TERRANCE CHANCELER (55), a tall, genial man, sits alongside a distraught Maryann.

Two US Marshals stand.

AGENT MANZO (39), a hardened and tough woman inside and out, joins the marshals and stares, unsympathetic, across the room, momentarily exchanging a glance with Maryann.

JUSTICE CHANCELLOR

An official request for protection
was submitted by myself as well as
the New York City Police Department
to the Department of Justice.

MARYANN

Okay.

JUSTICE CHANCELLOR
Maryann, this is unlike any other
case they or I have ever seen--

MARYANN
And you feel like this is the only
way?

JUSTICE CHANCELLOR
Yes I do.

MARYANN
So what happens next? Where do we
go? What do I do?

US MARSHAL 1
You haven't informed her?

MARYANN
Informed me of what?

US MARSHAL 1
Ms. Mochetto, the Department of
Justice arranges a preliminary
meeting for the US Marshal service
to report their findings. From
there, that agency submits their
conclusions directly to the US
Attorney General who weighs in on
the matter.

US MARSHAL 2
Due to the severity of the case and
the power of your sons' testimony
to the prosecution of this
racketeering ring, the United
States Marshal service has
recommended to the Department of
Justice that the witness in this
case...

(beat)

...your son, be admitted
immediately, especially in light of
the retaliation which has already
been exacted on your family.

(beat)

I'm very sorry. It's--

MARYANN
Devastating.

US MARSHAL 2

Yes, as such in an effort to ensure your very best chances for survival--

MARYANN

I don't care about me--

AGENT MANZO

To ensure your sons' survival we need your cooperation.

MARYANN

Cooperation? What does that mean?

AGENT MANZO

We can't protect them. Not like this. What happened to your sister and her husband last week. That was just a warning.

MARYANN

A warning? She's dead. She was a mother of two daughters. Run off the road and shot unarmed--

AGENT MANZO

These individuals are criminals. They will not stop until your sons are dead. Your son witnessed the murder of an elected official in broad daylight. They cannot let him live.

JUSTICE CHANCELLOR

Permission has been granted by the Attorney General and the Department of Justice warranting the admittance of your son into the Witness Security Program effective immediately.

MARYANN

(nods)

Oh my God...

US MARSHAL 1

Unfortunately because of the highly unusual circumstances which surround his identity, the agency has determined that it would be impossible to allow you to--

MARYANN
(flabbergasted)
What?
(beat)
To what?

US MARSHAL 1
To place you together.

Agent Manzo hands Maryann a form.

MARYANN
What what is this? You think I'd
sign something like this? Are you
out of your minds? Over my dead
body.

A long moment of silence begets tears.

US MARSHAL 1
This is a "Memorandum of
Understanding." You are his legal
guardian. As such you need to
release him from your custody.

MARYANN
I already told you, that's not
gonna happen-- You can take this
back to whomever you like, I really
don't give a shit. OVER MY DEAD
body you're taking my kids.

AGENT MANZO
No, over theirs.

MARYANN
What did you say, bitch?

AGENT MANZO
That's right, your sons. That's who
they want, and that is who they
will put a hit on until they
succeed, until he is dead. And in
this case that might be at the
expense of--

MARYANN
What are you saying to me?

AGENT MANZO
Your son witnessed the murder of an
elected official on the streets of
New York City in broad daylight. He
can put away one of the biggest
(MORE)

AGENT MANZO (CONT'D)
criminals the tri-state area has
ever seen. His testimony could end
a racketeering era.

(beat))
Your sister--
(beat)
That was nothing to them.

MARYANN
Don't you even mention my sister.
If you fucks had done your God-damn
job--

AGENT MANZO
Then let us do it now.
(beat)
This man, this person who your son
can identify, I can't even tell you
the depravity and pain this man has
caused in the lives of so many. His
crimes, his destruction know no
bounds. They have no age
requirements, Maryann, and the
lengths he will go to to silence
your sons, not even the crime scene
photos can do it justice. They'll
knock off your family one by one if
they have to.

Maryann begins to sob.

MARYANN
This is the hardest decision I will
ever make in my life. Not these
hands.
(beat)
Not with these hands. No mother can
sign away her child's life.

US MARSHAL 1
One that wants them to have one.
Some semblance of normalcy outside
of these four walls with a camisole
covering his face.

MARYANN
On one condition.

AGENT MANZO
Name it.

INT. COURT CHAMBER - DAY

Over the shoulder of two young men whose faces are only partially DISCERNIBLE, we stay close on Maryann.

Maryann sobs as she sits positioned between her two sons.

MARYANN

I'll see you again. Do you understand me?

[[WHO?]] (O.S.)

No. No, you won't.

MARYANN

I don't care what their contract says. I don't give a FUCK. I will see my sons again when all this is over. My sons. We'll walk side by side down the streets of Salem.

(beat)

Do you two remember? Like in the picture of us when you two were young? It was so windy and you were dressed as a little ghost and Dracula. Do you remember? We were so happy heading to the Hawthorne hotel after the carnival.

(beat)

That's where I want you to go in your minds. When you miss me. That's where I'll go too and that way we'll never be apart. We'll always have that memory. That's where I'm going to meet you both when this is done. When this is long over.

Maryann loses it.

MARYANN

And this won't matter. I love you with every ounce of my soul. Do you two understand me? You carry me with you. You care for each other no matter what. I'll see you both. Love never dies. It never dies.

MONTAGE: BLACK-AND-WHITE STILLLS

INTERCUT with TWO YOUNG MEN, 17, DILLON AND MARK DORSEY, wide eyed and young, featured alongside Maryann burn one after the next.

EXT. OHIO UNIVERSITY RYERSON HALL - DAY (2007)

TITLE CARD: "10 YEARS LATER"

Two voices can be heard INSIDE.

[[WHO?]] (O.S.)

I think it's foolish. I think it's a waste of talent and incredibly naive to think someone's just gonna walk up and offer you an internship without seeing what you can do!

(beat)

This essay is exceptional. It's socially relevant, it's now. It's important and it needs to be read. You know how many writers never get to be where you are? Your voice, it's poignant and it's important for people to know this.

(beat)

Please let me publish it for you. I'm friends with the editor of the New Yorker. That magazine is seen by everyone in the tri-state area. What? You're shaking your head?! Please. Please! Why not? What are you afraid of? Getting your voice out there?

(beat)

Fine we'll work on the scholarship but I'm not gonna give up on this.

EXT. MANHATTAN - EARLY MORNING

A restored 1973 Buick Riviera pulls away from a storefront making its way into the distance.

INT. BETA EPSILON HOUSE - EARLY MORNING

The alarm on a young man's watch goes off. From another part of the house a voice calls out.

[[WHO??]] (O.S.)

JULIAN!

Tired but awake, JULIAN (23) shuts off his alarm and turns toward the blue light creeping through his window.

He smiles, puts on jeans, a flannel shirt and boots, and throws some serious camping gear over his shoulder.

As he leaves he grabs his watch off the dresser and steals a quick glance in the mirror before heading out.

INT. BETA EPSILON HOUSE - EARLY MORNING

Julian descends the stairs of the frat carrying a full pack on his back, as he approaches the end of the hall he stops in front of a door with the letters P&J hung upon it. He goes to knock and is taken aback by the sound of his alarm again.

[[WHO??]]
Fucking snooze, man!

Quickly he fumbles with and shoves it in his boot, making haste down the stairs.

EXT. OHIO U - BETA EPSILON HOUSE - EARLY MORNING

The young man exits the front door, locks it, and as he turns is accosted by a ghost decoration which lands on top of him.

He stumbles back a few feet then laughs it off.

JULIAN
Starting a little early, guys?

Julian heads across the front lawn with his oversized raincoat and goes around back in the early morning fog.

As he pulls the large white wooden garage door out and up, 2 high beams pull into the driveway behind him.

JULIAN
(blinded)
Can you shut off your high beams,
man?

The high beams fade out and someone exits in the morning fog.

JULIAN
Are you lost, man? Do you need
directions?

THE SHAPE of a man stands in the distance.

Julian turns and continues to load his trunk.

JULIAN
Fucking pledges.

From the reflection in Julian's rear window we can see the shape nearing us.

JULIAN
(turns quickly)
I'm sorry, I didn't mean to yell at
you, but I didn't--

Julian is shot several times in the chest with a silencer. His speech carries on as he falls to his knees.

POV: FROM ACROSS THE STREET WE CAN VAGUELY MAKE OUT THE SHAPE AS THE WHITE GARAGE DOOR SLOWLY CLOSES.

EXT. OHIO U - CAMPUS - DAY

TITLE CARD: "OCTOBER 30TH"

Open on a WIDE SWEEPING SHOT revealing the fall colors.

The quad is brimming with undergrad and doctorate students alike, tossing pig skins and congregating about on the sprawling lawns.

Two similar-looking individuals, MIKE DELAHE and MARK T'SOL, cousins of indeterminate age, walk single file. Their style, hair, and dress couldn't be further apart.

Mark's perfectly kempt jet-black hair, retro dark-rimmed glasses and ass-kicker steel-tipped boots give the facade of style. He walks affected, as if listening to a conversation being held about him.

Mike emanates an air of renewal, almost as if he's experiencing life for the first time. He sports a bright blue dress shirt and khakis.

As they hit the campus sidewalk the two walk side by side. Mark looks over his shoulder, then again several times.

MIKE

What? What's the matter?

MARK

Nothing. It's nothing.

MIKE

Don't get spooked. Halloween isn't
till tomorrow!

Mike howls in the mid-day sun, exchanging the odd call with fellow passersby.

MARK

Cut the shit.

MIKE

Lock the doors, bolt the locks!

MARK

I'm serious, Mike.

MIKE

What? Remember the movie... I'm just trying to have a little fun.

MARK

We look like imbeciles when you do that shit. Act your age.

MIKE

I am acting my age.

MARK

No you're not, you're acting like fucking Count Chocula, now cut it out.

Mike is silent. They walk quietly passing several buildings.

MARK

What, you're angry now? Mike, you're mad? What, because I'm not parading around the street like a fairy over some stupid holiday that means nothing to me--

MIKE

Exactly. It's a holiday, Perry.

MARK

So?

MIKE

So it's supposed to be fun. We're graduating in four weeks, man--

MARK

SHUT UP!

MIKE

What? No one can hear me.

MARK

Just shut the fuck up, Mike. We're not out of the woods yet.

MIKE

Okay. Listen, don't rag on me because I want to enjoy Halloween the last couple of weeks we're ever gonna have here.

Mark lightens.

MARK

Sorry, man. Just a really persistent professor who won't take no for an answer regarding some of my work. It got me all spun out.

MIKE

The wind blows and you get spun out.

Mark laughs a bit.

MARK

I suppose. Listen I gotta take off--

MIKE

Wait--

Mike lifts his hair line exposing a lighter patch of hair.

MARK

What? ... Oh, Again?

MIKE

Yeah... The new stuff only lasts about 6 weeks.

MARK

God your really annoying me today.

MIKE

Lets' get it over with. I'll do your's too.

INT. NEW YORK CITY - LOWER EAST SIDE BAR - DAY

A man sits alone at a table smoking a cigar tapping his fingers pensively. Before him is a magazine, whose front cover is obscured from view.

OVER THE MANS SHOULDER THE HEADING READS "THE NEW YORKER". The man sighs then moves 2 revolvers over and takes a sip of espresso.

EXT. BETA EPSILON HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Mike and Mark arrive. BENNY, 24, a gregarious super senior from England, Mike's best friend, cracks up.

BENNY

Oh well what do we have here? What are you girls dressed as this year?

The two are mildly amused.

MARK
Can you let me by?

BENNY
Honey we have a lovely couple at
the door--

KRISTOPHER comes to the door, 22, extremely well built.

KRISTOPHER
Oh my word, it is, its a beautiful
gay couple. Well I bet your names
are something darling like Jack and
Me off? Am I close?

MIKE
No there "fuck"

MARK
And "you".

KRISTOPHER
OOOOHHHH. It's like they're
identical so in sync! Do you boys
know 'N Sync?

MIKE
Yeah I think your mom was the lead
singer.

KRISTOPHER
No. She wasn't.

BENNY
Well that's not very nice you
wanker.

KRISTOPHER
I bet they know all the words! Our
little Phineas will be so upset!

The 4 laugh, Kristopher exits.

KRISTOPHER
Happy Halloween ladies, I have to
go, be safe, wear reflective gear
and a rubber and don't let any
Gamma Phi's near your little
pussy's.

MARK
Who was that guy?

BENNY

Um Kris, he's our Fraternity brother, slightly retarded, socially embarrassing... and threatening but mostly to the opposite sex.

MARK

I'm talking about the dude who was here when we walked up.

Mike grabs Mark's wrist.

MIKE

Chill.

BENNY

Who?

MARK

That guys that guys that guy!!

BENNY

Relax Columbo you don't know him. He was just dropping off something for Julian.

MARK

No ones heard back from him yet?

BENNY

You guys worry too much. He's probably on a bender--

(beat)

Or laced out of his mind in a national park. That is his modus operandi.

MARK

I don't think so.

MIKE

Remember though... last time though he didn't tell anyone, he left for like fucking 2 weeks in the middle of the semester, his mom and dad drove up twice looking for him.

(To Mark, stern)

Yeah he's mess can we go now?

The three laugh and pile in.

INT. MARK AND MIKE'S DORM ROOM - LINCOLN RESIDENCE HALL

JUSTIN, a late transfer, 24 stares into the cousin's room, he is the Fraternity president, a well put together, well spoken, fit rugby type. He marvels at the simplicity and bare nature of the room, which looks as if the two had been living out of bags for the past two years.

JUSTIN

Mike?

(beat)

Mark?

An oddness blankets the room, the still, and unsettled vibe.

JUSTIN

Men...

MIKE (O.S.)

Be right out.

Just then ESSEX, early 20's and wily, the fraternity's resident instigator joins Justin.

ESSEX

Don't tell me there in the shower together? What a joke.

JUSTIN

Go.

ESSEX

Kissing cousins its cool.

JUSTIN

Now.

Essex exits.

ESSEX

What are you gonna do when your besties are gone Jus--

JUSTIN

I'll make a project outta you--
Want me to start now?

Essex leaves.

JUSTIN

Come on men we gotta--

Just then the two emerge. Mike hastily as Mark follows with a towel wrapped around his shoulders, his hair now JET BLACK.

JUSTIN

Oh WOW. This is new. What's the occasion?

Mark sits on his bed. Mike quickly covers.

MIKE

Halloween. Just mix it up a bit. What you gonna be?

JUSTIN

I don't know yet, come on, we're late.

MARK

Well catch up.

He exits. Mark sees Michael's computer is open on his bed and flies across the room shutting it quickly.

MARK

What did I tell you about this? Your slipping.

MIKE

I'm not slipping. It was open for 4 minutes.

MARK

Never not ever. Anything over 6 minutes is traceable. We're so close.

EXT. OHIO UNIVERSITY CAMPUS - MID DAY

A large group of the Gamma Phi's, including Mike and Mark, Benny, Kristopher, Justin, Essex and others make there way across campus. They joke back and forth, and wrestle about, all while sporting their greek letters.

Mark turns to Mike.

MARK

I'm so over this.

MIKE

Me too were so close. 4 weeks.

Other competing frats can be seen making there way across the green. Mike and Mark hang back, Mark taking several huge breaths. Essex catch's this and rolls his eyes.

ESSEX

Fucking losers.

INT. STUDENT UNION - STAIRWELL MONTAGE

Each respective fraternity and sister sorority make their way down the varying stairwells which lead to the student union, each singing its Alma Matta. For the first time we see the camaraderie and sense of family which is inherent in the boys of Gamma Phi, especially Mike and Mark, who goad on the some of the younger pledges.

INT. STUDENT UNION - NIGHT

Crowds of Greek order fill the white walled room in the basement of old student union. LYNN TIERRE, late (40's), head of student affairs addresses the crowd. She is dressed business casual. She has a calmness about her which puts people, especially the men in the room at ease.

LYNN TIERRE

OK guys, Is this on? OK lets quiet down, I said lets quiet down, everyone, we brought you all here for a reason.

The Gamma Phi men stand at attention. Oddly Mike and Mark consciously distance themselves from one another standing at opposite sides of the room. PHINNY (early 20s), an upperclassman, the openly gay brother, who's intelligence and athleticism endear and ostracize him all at the same time, nears.

KRISTOPHER

(to Phinny)

I really wanna fuck Ms. Tierre.

PHINNY

Wow and I bet your just the Gamma to give it to her--

KRISTOPHER

Uh-huh.

PHINNY

I heard she doesn't like muscles--

KRISTOPHER

Well, if you weren't gay for pay we could always double team her?

Justin, the class president break into laughter, then quickly rebounds as Lynn Tierre looks directly them. He throws her an agreeing nod which he relays to his fellow brothers.

JUSTIN

Come on guys.

LYNN TIERRE
 (beckoning)
 Mr. Timet. Now.

Justin, and ALAN LEE, (23), Chinese approach the stage. Alan is the tall, uptight Vice President of the chapter. Alan turns to Justin.

Mike off to the side, now removed from his brothers stands among a rival Fraternity Pike. He eyes the exit several times as he clutches a pole nearby.

ESSEX
 Why is your cousin standing with
 the Pikes?

MARK
 Why do you care?

ESSEX
 He doesn't like basements?

MARK
 Maybe he doesn't like you.

Mark b-lines with Benny right behind.

ESSEX
 The feelings mutual.

LYNN TIERRE
 OK guys lets get it in line, lets
 listen to what Mr. Timet--
 (beat)
 Hey the quieter you all are the
 faster we can all leave.

As Justin hits the stage his Fraternity sends out a collective HOWL. Mike recoils.

MARK
 You good?

Justin turns to Alan and laughs. He returns a quick howl then motions for Alan to begin.

JUSTIN
 The administration as well office
 of student affairs has asked each
 of us to stand before you today as
 well as each other in agreement
 that all fraternal and sorority
 functions being held on Halloween
 this year be dry.

The room erupts in contention.

JUSTIN

There is a curfew in affect and myself as well as each of the presidents and Vice Presidents along with the Inter Fraternal Council have agreed collectively to abstain from hosting any event involving liquor.

There is an outburst from the audience.

FRAT GUY

This sucks!

FRAT GUY 2

What are you kidding? That wasn't even us?!

Mark stares at his cousin who is genuinely enjoying himself.

MIKE

I'm gonna miss this.

Perry nods, faking a smile.

MARK

Yeah... me too.

JUSTIN

Nobody is saying we can't party guys... ladies no one is saying you cant dress up! That would be criminal right...

BENNY

Especially for the Sigma Sigma's. Someone's gotta cover those faces!!

JUSTIN

Were supposed to have fun. That's the point! And the Greek order wants that, they do, but not at the expense of safety, and that's why were here tonight. We can't have a repeat of last years offenses.

(beat)

So just know that if you do plan to drink tomorrow it will not be at any of the houses along Greek row.

FRAT GUY 2

This blows!

Justin hands the Mic to Lynn.

JUSTIN

I tried. They're all yours.

Mike stares over his shoulder at the exit, the crowd grows denser and denser only fueling his anxiety.

The darkness of the hallway seems to bother him as he eerily searches the long empty breezeway.

FRAT GUY 2

What if were over 21!

LYNN TIERRE

Your not.

(beat)

75 percent of you aren't. Unless your all grad students? Are you guys all grad students?

Perry wide eyed acts as he hears something.

LYNN TIERRE

Because last I checked they don't partake it greek life.

(interjecting)

That actually brings up a good point.

(beat)

You, all of you by being part of a Greek organization have given this institution your word, if there's legitimacy to your crests and songs I heard storming down the hall just a few minutes ago, you'll stick by your word and the word of your Presidents.

JUSTIN

(quietly)

Oh we will.

Mike smiles halfheartedly. Benny latches onto him thrusting him back and forth jokingly. Sensing his discomfort he throws an arm around his friend tightly.

BENNY

(beat)

Lighten up, its almost over.

The crowd fills in a bit more, boxing Mike in. He looks once more to the darkness within the long hall, this time

knowingly. What sounds like a hissing sound comes from the dark. Mike's eyes widen.

LYNN TIERRE (O.S.)
 Make room for some of the late
 arrivals people.

Just as Mark reaches for his cousin, a hand takes his.

It belongs to OLIVIA "OVI" JACOBS, (26) a Caucasian graduate student and stone fox, she stands on the opposite side of the blue pillar which Mike is leaning. Her hair is shiny, her dress her own. She is an "Earthy Chick" She is one of the few in attendance who is NOT a GREEK. Immediately, he feels calm.

OVI
 (soft)
 Hi.

MIKE
 Hi. What are you doing here?

Mark looks over and catch's there brief exchange.

OVI
 I got bored I thought I'd come meet
 you, Some guy at your house told me
 you were here.

MIKE
 What guy?

OVI
 I couldn't pronounce his name.

LYNN TIERRE
 Last year we had a crowd control
 issue no University this size
 should ever face. Anytime outside
 enforcement is called in, It
 seriously calls into question the
 Inter fraternal councils ability to
 host on campus events.

(beat)
 Last year we had a near riot, an
 underclassman was hospitalized and
 nearly trampled to death.

OVI
 Wow there really coming down hard
 this year.

MIKE

They should. We deserve it. Last year was a mess.

LYNN TIERRE

Last years behavior was criminal and you have only yourselves to blame for the strict decorum in place. Curfew is 11PM.

There is a collective sigh.

OVI

The Witching hour.

MIKE & MARK

What

OVI

(lowly reciting)

At 11 PM on Halloween night, the goblins break free and witches take flight, Heckle and Jeckle with no end in sight, till 1 after 12 the following night. So face all your fears and fight for your life, For this is the Witching hour on Halloween Night. You never heard the rhyme? It's the Witching Hour.

MIKE & MARK

No.

MARK

No but now ill never sleep again thanks Olivia.

Lynn Tierre goes to leave the stage and stops dead in her tracks. For a moment she considers something to herself, then chuckles a bit.

LYNN TIERRE

I almost forgot...

(beat)

The most important thing I wanted to say about tomorrow... I wish you all a fun, safe, and Happy Halloween.

The crowd applaud's all despite the meetings somber message.

INT. STUDENT UNION - HALLWAY

Mike and Ovi stand close, the guys conversing in the background.

OVI
You wanna walk me to class?

MIKE
I do... but I cant

OVI
Why not?

Mike motions to the frat.

OVI
Right I forget sometimes... hey if
duty calls.

MIKE
It'll be over soon. Were not going
late tonight.

There is a long pause. Ovi looks saddened.

OVI
You gonna miss this?

MIKE
No.

OVI
Really?

MIKE
I'm ready for the next chapter.

INT. FOYER FRAT HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Alan Lee fumbles his key in the lock before entering the dark frat house. He races up the stairs, down the hall and to his room. Enters momentarily then exits with several pieces of minutes.

As Alan comes down the stairs he notices the front door is open. This stops him in his tracks.

ALAN LEE
Is anyone there? If your here
you're in deep shit. The council
meeting is mandatory...

Nothing.

ALAN LEE

There's a rule in life you know. If you enter a room you're supposed to shut the damn door behind you.

Just as Alan shuts the door a figure grabs him from behind by the mane of his hair and smashes his face into the door 4 times cracking his glasses.

INT. FRAT HOUSE - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Alan is being dragged down the hallway away from the open door.

POV: ALAN CAN SEE HIS BROTHERS NEARING THE QUAD HEADING BACK TOWARDS THE DORM.

ALAN LEE

No... No...

Alan grabs the door frame as his shrouded assailant drags him from behind.

Almost coming to Alan realizes the severity of his circumstances. He screams.

ALAN LEE

NO... NO!!

It's no use. A knife is driven down upon his crown and Alan is dead.

EXT. STUDENT UNION - EARLY DAY

As Justin, Kristopher, Essex, Benny, Mike and Mark and several others including LUKE and DERRICK cross the quad, they can see a prank has been staged on the football field. A rival Fraternity, the Pikes have adorned the goal post with male blow up dolls, all dressed as Kappa Gamma's in long dresses. Some of the brothers laugh, others desperately to tear down the inflatable's. Mark stands off to the side alongside several other less sensitive brothers. He see's Ovi walking far in the distance. She waves to which he lowers his head.

EXT. OHIO UNIVERSITY CAMPUS - DAY

Ovi walks across the campus as a friend calls out to her. LEANNE, (22) Filled with spunk she grabs for Ovi's ass.

LEANNE

What ya doing girl! You made me run all the way across the quad...

OVI

Sorry honey I spaced, what are you doing?

(indicating the kite)

What's this?

LEANNE

Oh I picked it up at the local store, It's a piece of shit but Lou and I were trying all afternoon to get it in the sky...

Ovi laughs.

LEANNE

Its super difficult. I've been running from one end of this damn quad to the other for an hour.

OVI

In literal flip flops.

LEANNE

In no bra. Well I had one on but the wire was coming out and poking me in the side, so intensely I had to let the ladies free.

OVI

Says the former cheerleader to the earthy chick.

LEANNE

No, what the cheerleader says to the earthy chick is... are we still going this weekend?

OVI

Where?

LEANNE

To the Sigma party! I got my costume. It's legit radical. I designed it myself and constructed it based off of early 20th century images of the stage in London's West End.

OVI

I don't know, I feel like such a loser I'm a child development graduate student and I'm going to dress up like a silly teen? I'm literally 4 years older--

LEANNE

26 year old's don't have fun?
That's lame. Do I have to stop
celebrating Halloween when I hit 26
too?

OVI

No. No. For me it feels weird, like
I should be acting older or
something. Like I should be the
chaperone.

LEANNE

Chaperone? Stop.

OVI

The last time I came by that girl
Michelle gave the "Who invited a
teacher?" Look.

LEANNE

She's insecure and said that
because you dressed like an old
woman that works in nursery.

OVI

WHAT!

LEANNE

It's true but that's what's so
wonderful about Halloween. We can
be anything we want to be with
limited judgement.

OVI

If you only knew me when--

LEANNE

When? 6 years ago? Olivia don't be
a stick in the mud.

Leanne turns towards her class in the distance then back to
Lou.

OVI

Go, go you have to go.

Leanne drops her kite.

LEANNE

I don't.

(beat)

What's the matter?

OVI
Let's go sit.

Ovi says nothing.

INT. CAFETERIA - LATER

The two young ladies sit across from one another on a bench.

OVI
I just... It's nothing.

LEANNE
Is it easier to keep it bottled up
then to release it?
(beat)
You've been off for a few weeks,
come on, you know me.

OVI
Its Mike. He's off and so I'm off.

LEANNE
Why?

OVI
Why? Because I love him, and he's
leaving. And he doesn't seem to
care. And I tried to play it cool I
thought I would get him back
but...I can feel him pulling away,
and it hurts to have someone move
on, especially when your still in
love. I feel so badly...

LEANNE
I'm sorry.

OVI
And it hurts more this way, this
gradual disconnect--

LEANNE
Yeah, I don't know why guys are
like that. They're so difficult to
read but then you beat em
senseless, drag em back to your
cave...
(beat)
Or nursery.

She wraps her arm around Ovi lightening the mood.

LEANNE

(serious)

And there they stay for a while,
but just for a while and
everything's good, and he's sweet
and sensitive and giving until the
spark goes out, or something goes
wrong, or it gets difficult or too
REAL for then they turn into
fairies, the same guy you couldn't
read in the beginning, only now
your stuck in the dark together,
trying to find your way out.

(beat)

Ovi, they can't communicate, maybe
they feel it makes them less of a
man. I never understood it.

(beat)

Maybe its like they say though, if
a mans really quiet they just have
nothing to say.

OVI

No that's beautiful, your right
...thank you, and I'm not trying to
argue you, I'm not, It just seems
different with him, like it's
something under the surface. Deep.

LEANNE

Splinters have a way of finding
there way out. One way or the
other.

The two laugh and walk off.

OVI

(trailing off)

So what are you gonna be for
Halloween! And how do deal with all
this shit with Lou.

LEANNE

Lou's a Neanderthal, Ovi. I give
him lots of compliments and enjoy
his dumb company.

(beat)

No... He's actually a bit deeper
than I initially gave him credit
for.

OVI

I KNEW IT!

LEANNE

Well you set us up.

OVI

I just had this feeling.

The 2 walk off. From across the quad we can see they are being watched by a shadowy figure.

EXT. STUDENT UNION - FOOTBALL QUAD - LATER

The frat stands in awe and sort of respect at the sheer mockery made of them. Essex is furiously pacing, on the defensive. He snaps at a nearby student walking by.

ESSEX

What the fuck are looking at dick head!

MIKE

Just shut up Essex, really.

ESSEX

Why isn't this bothering you?

MIKE

Its a damn joke! Get over it.

ESSEX

So that makes it OK to make a mockery of us... of our LETTERS?

MIKE

What about everything we've done to them man? It's always been a pendulum. It swings back and forth.

Lynn Tierre walks by noticing the Malay. She tries to calm Essex.

LYNN TIERRE

Son, it's just a prank. Nothing I would even fill a report out for. I'll have Mr. Jaxx take them down as soon as he can. No one will remember it in the morning..

Suddenly a call comes into the dean. She moves a few steps away from the men and answers her cell.

LYNN TIERRE

Hello... Oh hi yes, I wasn't able to reach anyone at the security switchboard this morning.

(MORE)

LYNN TIERRE (CONT'D)

(beat)

Is everything status quo over there?

(beat)

Wonderful. I was just about to drive to the main gate. You saved me a trip.

She hangs up her phone and moves on.

ESSEX

Great, so the whole school can mock us in the meantime.

LYNN TIERRE

There only laughing at us because your getting so upset Essex, no one cares.

ESSEX

I care.

MARK

I think it's genius.

ESSEX

You would.

(to Mark, his crony)

Help me dick heads.

Lynn Tierre walks off not before making eye contact with Mike and Mark. Essex continues to furiously rip at the inflatable's wrapped around the gal posts. Too short to successfully reach them he falls into the mud below begetting a ferocious laugh from the crowds and his brothers. Justin and Mark stand off to the side.

JUSTIN

I actually gotta give it to em' that's pretty fucking funny.

MARK

Which one's me?

JUSTIN

The one that looks like Tom Selleck.

The guys collectively look to Benny.

EXT. OHIO UNIVERSITY CAMPUS - QUAD DAY - LATER

The boys make their way across the campus. Essex rips off his shirt tossing it across the lawn. The brothers trail behind and alongside trying not to laugh.

ESSEX

Fucking sucks!!

The brothers bust out laughing.

MIKE

It was funny Essex, that's why were laughing no one abandoned you.

ESSEX

Might as well. Am I the only one with a fucking spine in this Frat?

KRISTOPHER

Your the only one who wants to fight in this frat... Once in a while cool man, but most of us are super seniors. God knows how old the cousins are. It was fine when we were Sophomores but come on man.

BENNY

(toting his blow up)

I don't mind a good ass whoopin every once in a while but that shit was funny! I'm keeping my blow up doll for a snoggin tonight.

ESSEX

What a crock of horse shit! Cant we just buy off one of the fucking security guards?

MIKE

I don't think its that easy. It's not that big a deal Essex--

ESSEX

For YOU. FOR YOU Mike. For you and Mark. Some of us actually wanna have a good time and maybe get laid this weekend.

MIKE

What's that supposed to mean?

ESSEX

Guess! GOD!... FUCK!!! Can't Phinny
just fucking blow the security
detail or the entire security
office...

(low to Derrick)

I mean why do we keep around
otherwise?

Some of the guys laugh, Phinny, used to this abuse, comes
back sharply.

BENNY

Easy dude, he's one of the coolest
bro's I don't care who he blows.

ESSEX

That's because he blows you!

BENNY

So.

KRISTOPHER

Are you mad because he wont blow
you and Derrick Essex or because he
can beat you up?

DERRICK

Whatever.

Everyone laughs.

MIKE

Come on man, it's just a stupid
party.

ESSEX

What? Like it matters to you
either-- you'll be home baby
sitting your sister.

MIKE

What are you talking about?

ESSEX

Oh right because were all just
supposed to act like were fucking
blind.

KRISTOPHER

Dude your a mess.

BENNY

Essex shut the fuck up before I
beat your ass proper.

ESSEX

God forbid I tell the truth.

MIKE

Don't rag on my cousin dude, What
are you mad because you thought you
actually had a chance at pussy
tomorrow? I don't think they sell
masks big enough to cover a KING-
SIZE DOUCHE.

The guys all laugh, including Essex. There is a moment of
silence and mutual respect.

ESSEX

That was actually pretty good.

MIKE

Really? Right out of thin air..

ESSEX

Your getting better, its about
time. It's only been 4 years.

MARK

Wait I have an idea.

JUSTIN

What is it?

MARK

What about old Solace Mannar?

JERRY

What about it?

MARK

Way back there in the woods. The
old residence hall.

KRISTOPHER

That's a great place for a
Halloween party. Are we all getting
tetanus shots tomorrow?

DERRICK

The place is a death trap, its
condemned. Like literally boarded
up.

ESSEX

Its not that bad.

DERRICK

What! How, do you know? You've gone in there?

ESSEX

Yes Mary, Some of us actually like to explore and live a little. I fucked a chick in there over winter break last year.

BENNY

ME TOO!

KRISTOPHER

ME TOO!

MARK

You sure you didn't fuck each other?

KRISTOPHER

So?

MIKE

Essex the young lady you slept with... Did they find her body yet? I'm just asking for the family... They need to know.

MARK

No but seriously. It's perfect. You heard Tierre, All there resources are being spent on the faulty electricity. They don't have the manpower to patrol the woods, every extra security will be on Main Street. We could play our music as loud as we want and no one would hear it.

Everyone is quiet.

JUSTIN

Yeah but we gave our word.

ESSEX

No. You gave your word.

DERRICK

He gave our word Essex.

ESSEX

Technically you wouldn't be breaking your word.

Justin gives Essex an odd look.

ESSEX

Look. You said, "If you plan to drink, just know it will not be at any of the houses along the row"

MARK

Solace Mannar is off the row.

MIKE

Wow, great moral compass guys.

JUSTIN

Solace Mannar is off the map. What if something happens?

KRISTOPHER

Then we deal with it. What are we in 6th grade?

MARK

It would be kind of cool to get Steve and his guys to play. And deck the place out --

DERRICK

Believe me it doesn't need it.

MARK

No but I mean get it to where we CAN put our beer down and not worry about a ghost blasting in it.

ESSEX

Don't make me actually start to like you two.

JUSTIN

A band might be a bit much don't you think...

MARK

Why Main street is deafening, you cant hear anything, especially out there. I think we could pull it off.

MIKE

I don't think it's a good idea, at all - I have a bad feeling about it.

ESSEX

You agree because your scared.

MIKE

I'm not scared. I don't wanna get expelled!

DERRICK

Let's table it until later tonight. Well convene after the pledge class leaves and make a sound decision.

The men disperse. Mike quickly on his own.

INT. UNIVERSITY CAMPUS SECURITY OFFICE - EARLY MORNING

The '73 El Camino enters the security check at the University of Ohio. A layer of morning fog obscures the driver from view. Two GUARDS, 40's, squint to make out the driver. He exits the car and approaches the booth.

SENIOR SECURITY OFFICER

First a new hire... then this?

SENIOR SECURITY OFFICER 2

Do you want me to check them in?

SENIOR SECURITY OFFICER

No. You're not on the clock yet. Just fill out your new hire paperwork.

The senior security officer exits the booth abruptly.

EXT. UNIVERSITY CAMPUS SECURITY OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

[[who/what]]

SENIOR SECURITY OFFICER

Hey man you can't idle your car here. You need to show your credentials at the call box.

Nothing. The character stands, obscured in the thick dense fog. A solo jet black figure.

SENIOR SECURITY OFFICER

Did you hear what I said!

Just then the officer from inside the booth exits and ties a garrote around the security officers neck. The two struggle a moment until a lone shot fires from the shadowy figure into the skull of the security officer. He dies instantly. Security officer 2 drags security officer 1 inside the check in booth. Moments later the gate lifts.

The El Camino enters the campus.

EXT/INT. SIGMA HOUSE - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Benny, Justin, Kristopher, Luke, Derrick, Mike and Mark come in through the door. LOU, 22, a Caucasian overweight/muscular character enters as well. Derrick turns to Lou.

DERRICK

Hey LOU!! We missed you my man!

LOU

Sorry I couldn't make it. I had the gym and a calculus test man.

Derrick then turns to Luke who enters last.

DERRICK

Where did you go Luke?

LUKE

Oh just had to take care of something.

DERRICK

You settled in upstairs?

LUKE

Completely.

Lou heads down to the basement. The others disperse.

INT. SIGMA HOUSE - BASEMENT - LATER

Lou and his girlfriend Leanne, ~~a small raven haired beauty of 20~~, hookup, Halloween decorations strewn all around. It rains outside the windows. Things grow more intense as Lou lays her down and removes her top.

LOU

You wanna take this to my bed?

LEANNE

(beating around the bush)
Nooooo.

LOU

Why?

LEANNE

Because then your gonna wanna, you know--

LOU

We can wait, I told you.

LEANNE

Yeah but I don't wanna keep doing this-- Making you...

LOU

What?

LEANNE

Giving you blue balls. Making you all worked up then not being-- not doing it... the deed, sex, everything all college guys think about.

LOU

It's not all we think about.

There is a long pause.

LOU

Alright it's mostly what we think about.

(beat)

I like you. If were on my couch kissing or in my bed completely undressed I'm still gonna wanna be with you--

LEANNE

I know.

There is a moment of silence.

LOU

Don't look so stressed. Getting heady?

Suddenly a noise from the corner of the room almost as if something was moving behind the walls.

LEANNE

What was that?

LOU

It's a 100 year old house. I'm not even supposed to have a bedroom down here and there's 4!! It must be one of the other dudes.

He removes his shirt. He's ripped.

LEANNE

I told you when we started this and you came up to me I'm a mess.

LOU

It doesn't have to be drama Bree--

LEANNE

No I know-- I jus--

LOU

It could be something nice that we both enjoy together.

LEANNE

I guess I'm just afraid you'll dump me after we have sex.

LOU

I told you I'm not like that.

(beat)

Lets take a break, I can put my shirt back on and you--

LEANNE

Scared you away huh --

LOU

It takes a lot to scare me, believe me, I'm not going anywhere.

(beat)

But we don't have to beat a dead horse. Thank you for getting the decorations, were gonna use the left over money for Mike and Mark's cake tomorrow.

He immediately covers his mouth and runs to the base of the stairs--

LEANNE

(to herself)

I thought it was just you down here?

LOU

It is normally but in this house
You never know especially with
those two.

Leanne studies Lou. She really does love him. She gets up
puts her bra on.

LEANNE

I thought you were gonna help me
with this spider. Thank God the Phi
Phi's saved a lot of this junk from
last year.

LOU

Junk this stuff is great, I used to
decorate the front lawn with my
cousins Connor and Michael when I
lived back home.

LEANNE

(holding up a fake knife)
Oh yeah... When can I meet them?

LOU

One step at a time.

His eyes widen, they eyes lock, and begin to kiss falling on
the couch.

LOU

Were not gonna get any decorating
done this way.

INT. SIGMA HOUSE - OHIO UNIVERSITY

Screaming can be heard coming from up the stairs. It's coming
from Mark and Mike's room. Inside a young pledge LONNIE, 18,
sits at Mark and Mike's desk with Mark's MacBook open. Mark
shuts it.

MARK

I don't care what you were
thinking, don't come into my room
and use this fucking computer! Do
you understand me! Not ever. Say it
not ever!!

LONNIE

OK Ill log off, I didn't realize it
was such a big deal, Miles comes
and uses Lou's all the time-

MARK
It is a big deal.

LONNIE
I'm still waiting for my computer
from my parents to come in. Chill.
Look they sent me a --

Lonnie makes the mistake of attempting to show Mark what he
was using the computer for.

MARK
I don't care!! I don't give a
fuck!! Don't touch it and don't
tell me to chill. When I am not
here, this computer is off limits,
do you understand me?

LONNIE
Fine Mark take it easy.

MARK
Don't call me...

LONNIE
What? Your name?

Mike enters.

MIKE
CALM DOWN Mark.

Lonnie gets up and pushes past Mark.

LONNIE
Dude what's the matter with your
cousin? He's completely insane.

Lonnie exits. Mike moves over to Mark who is fuming.

MIKE
Did you erase the Queue?

MARK
Yes.

MIKE
OK so then what's the issue? It's
OK.

MARK
No. It's not.

MIKE

It's been 10 years. It would of happened by now. We've been so safe. So incredibly safe. I need to live my life some semblance of a life or whatever's left of it. I suggest you do the same.

MARK

One slip up. That's all it takes. You remember what the Marshal's told us in those classes. We'll have to look over our shoulders for life.

MIKE

I don't know how much longer I can do it.

Mark storms out leaves. Derrick enters.

DERRICK

What the fuck is going in here?

MIKE

It's bullshit, they're squashing it.

DERRICK

Are you sure?

MIKE

It's over, he got mad because Lonnie dropped our mac book. We only have one between us. We can't afford to replace it.

DERRICK

Oh.

MIKE

Derrick?

DERRICK

Yup?

MIKE

Have you heard back from Julian yet?

DERRICK

No, nothing yet. I'm sure he's OK.

Mike looks a little concerned.

EXT - BETA HOUSE BACK YARD - SAME TIME

Mark lays atop a brick wall, hand covering face similar to before. Benny exits, with Justin.

BENNY

What the fuck was that all about
love?

Mark does not respond.

BENNY

(beat)

I'm speaking to you Mark. I'm
communicating. I said I'm speaking
to you.

MARK

No your speaking at me.

BENNY

Look who's talking then! The
barking dog at the Frosh class.
These kids look up to us man!!

PERRY

Why are... Can you not scream?

BENNY

You first. You first. You were
completely out of line.

PERRY

What are you talking about?

BENNY

Are you cracked?

JUSTIN

Come on Benny.

BENNY

That shit you just pulled on your
little brother.

Mark does not respond.

BENNY

You got nothing to say on it?

(beat)

That's just great. And graduation
not telling me your graduating,
that's... well I don't think even

(MORE)

BENNY (CONT'D)
we have a word for that where I
come from..

Mark says nothing.

MARK
I don't need you up my fucking ass
man!

BENNY
No you need a foot up it.
(beat)
Your acting like--

MARK
(sits up)
What! What am I acting like?

BENNY
Like a coward.

Mark is silent.

MARK
Fine.

BENNY
No. I don't think you are mate.
Every picture I have ever seen of
you, you look miserable, like your
not there in that moment. Like your
stuck.

MARK
If you knew why I was like this if
you could see it. You would
understand.

BENNY
So tell me.

MARK
I can't.

BENJI
Why not?

MARK
It would put you in danger. Listen
we have the meeting. Let's just
talk about it in a bit.

EXT. FRAT HOUSE - FRONT DRIVEWAY - LATER

The El Camino idles across the street.

POV the brothers decorate the house as best as these young men can.

INT. FRAT HOUSE - LATER

A group of 10, mixed race 20 something rushes come up from the basement stairs in their underwear and blindfolds tethered to one another in an obvious initiation. They are led safely to the door by Derrick, Luke, Lou, Kristopher, Mike and Mark. The men lead the pledges to the front door.

LOU

Now as we uncover your eyes, you will have 1 hour to race across campus to each respective founding fathers monument where you will enact poses of the sacred Kama Sutra upon one another in front of these structures.

Some of the brothers laugh. The rushes cringe.

LOU

Feel free to involve the stone structures in your nastiness... Then you will retire in shame to your dorms.

Lou looks to Mike and Mark.

LOU

Then you will await further instructions regarding the party tomorrow night.

(beat)

NOW GO!!

The ten underclassmen run from the residence unleashed like nuts onto the campus.

Speech at night after the pledges leave and plan to make a party. The last of the pledges leave and the men sit around and talk

INT. FRAT HOUSE - GREAT MEETING ROOM - NIGHT

All the brothers sit in different spots in the room. Some on couches. Some on the window bench and few by the fireplace.

In attendance are Derrick, Luke, Lou, Kristopher, Mike, Mark, Benji, Justin & Essex

DERRICK

Where the fuck is Alan? I've texted him like 20 times. I swear to god he better drop off the minutes tomorrow. Well we have to start. I've got class at 7.

MIKE

I know he has a class that goes pretty late...

MARK

So what do we think are we going to do this party?

MIKE

I really don't think it's a good idea.

ESSEX

YOUR GRADUATING!! Who cares fucking live it up for once! Stop moping around like some ghost fucked you in the ass. The two of you are so depressing!!

Lou and Derrick lose it. Uncontrollably laughing.

LOU

Your graduating?

ESSEX

They both are. I over heard them tell Justin not to tell anyone about it.

MARK

Shut the fuck up Essex!

MIKE

So why would say it now?

ESSEX

Don't we all deserve to know? Isn't one of our credo's solidarity above all else?

LOU

Why is it a secret?

MARK

It's not.

MIKE

It's not.

LOU

It seems like a secret. Were you just gonna leave? Without telling anyone, without telling your brothers.

A long moment of Silence. Mike and Mark don't know how to respond. Justin looks to them not sure whether to throw a life line.

LOU

Mike? Mark?

MIKE

No. We just didn't want to make a big deal out of it is all.

MARK

Maybe we should throw the party.

BENNY

Why don't you wanna move out while were all there?

MARK

No.

BENNY

You sure?

MARK

Yes, I'm sure. I'm sorry we didn't tell you all. I'm sorry were so damn secretive. We would of told you it's just...

The look to each other.

BENNY

Wow you don't seem so convinced.

LOU

Maybe we should have a party. We can send Boris and Natasha off in style.

ESSEX

Finally, some sense.

JUSTIN

I don't think it's a good idea.

ESSEX

Now you? WHY NOT!

JUSTIN

That place is a shit hole!

LUKE

You can have the pledge class clean it.

ESSEX

I knew I liked you... I know your a transfer, only 4 weeks in but that's an incredible idea.

JUSTIN

That's not bad. It will more than fulfil there camaraderie requirement. I'm so fucked if something goes wrong... Isn't it too late though? We wanna do this tomorrow night right?

KRISTOPHER

It's actually perfect. If you tell them too early we risk someone slipping, or too many people coming which will definitely get us caught.

JUSTIN

Yeah but how do we get people to come? That place is so fucking nasty.

MIKE

It's Halloween, Isn't it supposed to be kind of fucked up.

JUSTIN

I just don't want anyone to get hurt. The last thing I want is for us to lose this chapter over some dumb shit.

KRISTOPHER

So let's have the pledge class act as recon, then they can clean it from top to bottom.

MIKE

With what?

ESSEX

A fucking mop!

MIKE

What fucking moron frosh would do that? I mean besides you?

DERRICK

I mean, Lou and I can send out an email right after the meeting. Make it mandatory.

MIKE

Wait what about security? The dean said they would be hitting each house

LOU

We can stage a fake Party, and have some, a few of the pledges and some of us hang back, I'll have Leanne throw up some decorations.

MARK

I'll hang back.

JUSTIN

No its a good Idea.

(beat)

Can you imagine when Julian gets back, if he decides to come back tomorrow night to an empty house on the craziest night of the year.

KRISTOPHER

Serves him right, he's hasn't returned any of my texts, Mike said he had a couple missed calls from him right Mike?

MIKE

Yeah... It's really weird... So it's decided.

The guys, Derrick, Luke, Lou, Kristopher, Mike, Mark, Benji, Justin & Essex all place their hands in the center of the room.

ALL

SIGMA OMEGA!!

Benny gives Mark and Mike a discerning look.

INT. LYNN TIERRE - MANSION ON CAMPUS - NIGHT

The lights flicker as Lynn sits reading a book by the window. She gets up and marks her page then calls up stairs.

LYNN TIERRE
Girls are you up?

Nothing. The lights flicker once more.

INT/EXT. SECURITY OUTPOST - NIGHT

Lynn Tierre stands outside the security post as the lights begin to flicker, then go out.

Lynn enters.

LYNN TIERRE
Did we lose MAIN?

SENIOR SECURITY OFFICER 2
Yep.

LYNN TIERRE
Quick throw the switch for the back up generator before we lose everything.

SENIOR SECURITY OFFICER 2
OK.

LYNN TIERRE
Is it on.

She races to the door and looks out into the distance.

LYNN TIERRE
Oh thank God, otherwise you have to do it manually...
(beat)
Say.. Where's Sam?

SENIOR SECURITY OFFICER 2
Who?

LYNN TIERRE
Sam Morgan. Worked here 17 years.

Senior Security officer 2 reaches for his gun. Just then Lynn's phone goes off illuminating an image of her 2 daughters on the screen. The security officer genuflects.

SENIOR SECURITY OFFICER 2
 ...I wasn't supposed to say ma'am
 but the staffing company told me he
 has Covid.

LYNN TIERRE
 Oh. I had no idea. I'll give him a
 call tonight--

SENIOR SECURITY OFFICER 2
 Best to give it a few days ma'am,
 he's been dead to the world.

WE TILT DOWNWARD TO SEE SAM MORGAN DEAD UNDER THE DESK.

LYNN TIERRE
 Good Idea... Carry on.

INT. FRAT HOUSE - DERRICK AND LUKE'S ROOM

Derrick snores as Luke lies awake staring at the ceiling.
 Footsteps can be heard above.

WE PAN UPWARDS.

Scene between Mike and Justin

INT. FRAT HOUSE - ATTIC - CONTINUOUS

Mike sits by the window in silence, smoking. It storms out.
 The attic is unfinished in the best way possible but
 sprawling none the less. A few Sigma Omega insignia lie
 about. Justin comes up and looks around.

JUSTIN
 My god I haven't been up here in 4
 years!! We used to let people dorm
 up here. Like in the 70(s). I
 forgot we had all this shit. Now
 this is a job for the rush's
 instead of Solace. I'm sure there's
 some cool memorabilia up here.

Silence.

JUSTIN
 My god Donnie's weights are still
 up here. This dude was like a super
 senior when I was visiting from
 Lake Success. I need to text him.

Silence. Justin sits next to Mike.

JUSTIN

We know you guys are lot older
Mike. No one cares. What are you
and your cousin like 27?

MIKE

It's not about that? Not even close
my man

JUSTIN

Then what is it? What could be so
bad that your cousin acts up like
that. That would want to secretly
graduate without telling us.

MIKE

Something.

(beat)

Sometimes in life you need to let
sleeping dogs lie man.

JUSTIN

What does that even mean?

MIKE

It means when something is dead and
buried you don't unearth it. Some
thing's are better left in the
past.

INT. MIKE AND MARKS ROOM - LATE NIGHT

Mike enters and is met face to face by Mark who is indignant.
There are several weights which are positioned next to the
inside of the door. Mark looks to the weights then up to his
brother.

MARK

I told you not to do that. If you
leave you have to tell me so I can
secure it. What the fuck--

MIKE

Stop today was a lot with Lonnie--

MARK

Were almost out of here. We can't
slip up.

MIKE

That's right were almost of here
you need to keep it together.

MARK

No you need to follow the protocol that way laid out for us 12 years ago.

MIKE

I'm sick of it I'm sick of it.

MARK

It's what keeps us living. It's kept us alive for 12 years. What's the matter with you?

MIKE

I'm done I'm done I want a new life.

MARK

This is our life. This is it.

MIKE

No it's not. This is secrecy this is nuts. Do you want to live looking over shoulder for the rest of your life? What type of life is that?

MARK

What's the option. I'll tell you because I already know it. It's 6 feet below ground with matching headstones.

INT. MIKE AND MARKS ROOM - LATE NIGHT

Mike wakes up to the sounds of something coming from the bathroom. He looks to the door. It's secure, then Mark's bed which it's empty. He moves to the doorway to the bathroom and sees Mark sitting on the ledge of the tub crying. He moves inside next to his cousin placing his arm around him.

MARK

I ruined it for us. I made this whole experience difficult.

INT. MIKE AND MARKS ROOM - MORNING

Mark wakes up and sees Mike sleeping on his side. He stands moves to the door, slides the weights aside and leaves, not before locking it from the inside as well as with a key.

EXT. SOLACE MANNAR - MORNING

Mark comes outside and sits on the back porch. He smokes, then walks to the fence and puts out his cigarette on the slats. Mark walks towards the frat house when a shadow encroaches upon him. He turns to see Agent Manzo, one of the agents assigned to his case standing on the other side of the fence.

MARK

What are you doing here Agent Manzo?

AGENT MANZO

Just checking in.

MARK

You live 2 states away.

AGENT MANZO

Well were coming up on what we call in the agency a milestone.

MARK

A milestone?

AGENT MANZO

Your commencing in 4 weeks correct?

MARK

That's correct.

AGENT MANZO

How have you been Mark? Mike told me you've been struggling a bit.

MARK

I might... I... It's been difficult.

AGENT MANZO

What has?

MARK

Feeling like once this is over...

AGENT MANZO

Once this is over what?

MARK

What next? A new state, a new name a new identity, when does it end?

AGENT MANZO

When there's a conviction. The legal system unfortunately is like life. It's not a meritocracy it's also criminally slow. Once this last case comes to court.

MARK

NO. It's been 12 years for Christ's sake. It's making us sick inside. You have no idea what you've done to us. Were a fucking science experiment for the US department of Justice.

AGENT MANZO

We are so close. This is the sacrifice you made for your safety and the safety of mother and father.

MARK

You orphaned us. My mother and father? They wouldn't even be able to identify us in a line up.

AGENT MANZO

Isn't that better than identifying you in a morgue?

MARK

I'm not so sure anymore.

She pivots handing the disgruntled man an envelope with a plastic bag inside it.

AGENT MANZO

This is your last burner phone for the month. When they're minutes expire dispose of them immediately.

MARK

I know. I know. I have the same damn conversation with whichever agent you send down to show up and scare the shit out of me every month for the last 12 years.

AGENT MANZO

Scare the shit out of you?

MARK

Would you like to be snuck up on when life is already marked?

AGENT MANZO

Stay the course and one day I
promise you will come out of this.
You will laugh again and look
forward to the morning.

MARK

I doubt it.

The guys get to the house and begin to set up.

EXT. SOLACE MANNAR - 7 AM

Essex stands before the doorway to old Solace Mannar. He
stares at the ornate door, whose carvings and black stained
glass act as a mirror to not only the past but the dense
forest behind him. The wood depicts collegiate aged students
and the camaraderie they share which came long before this
class called the University of Ohio their home. The structure
itself is boxlike and 6 stories high, a lingering remnant of
the "OLD CAMPUS".

ESSEX

(After a long moment)

What a shit hole.

Essex tries the metal knob and slams against the door several
times which does not move.

ESSEX

How the fuck did we get in here
last time?

The sound of something whining catches Essex off guard. He
motions his head closer to the door and listens.

The sound is laborious like that of a slowed demise.

Essex slams the door once more and this time the locks opens.
Something seems to be weighted from the inside. As Essex
steps inside a dead deer lay before him at the base of the
foot of the door. It looks up then dies.

For a long moment Essex stares at the doe then takes the
creature up cradling it in both hands.

A loud sound is heard outside, Essex emerges with the doe in
his arms approaching a pickup truck. 10 rushing members
including SPENCER C, SCOTT, and MORGAN, (17-20) ride in the
back with Lou in the driver seat. They hop out.

SPENCER C

Dude is that a prop?

SCOTT

Whoa where was that?

ESSEX

It's dead. It was in front of the door.

MORGAN

Why are you holding it like that?

The rush class stand around it in awe.

ESSEX

Are you deaf or stupid Morgan?
Moron, It was blocking the door so
I scooped it up to move it. Is that
impossible to understand?

MORGAN

Sick man you should sanitize dude,
deer have ticks.

A somber tone overcomes Essex almost as if he's having a premonition of some sort.

ESSEX

Its a Doe.

LOU

Cool. Lets string it along with the
mannequins dressed up like Kappa
Gamma in dresses up from the roof
scare the shit outa of some chicks--

ESSEX

(affected)

Spencer, Scott. Drag it over by
that tree. Come on! We have a ton
of work to do.

LOU

Come on guys, unload the cleaning
supplies. You have 6 hours to make
this inhabitable...

Essex and Lou stare at one another disbelieving...

LOU

Just focus on the first floor.

Essex seems troubled, he looks at his phone, one missed call
"Julian".

INT. SOLACE MANNAR - CONTINUOUS

They step into the foyer.

LOU

OK. It's you ten for the next 6 hours... then the rest of the rush show up so show me you have what it takes to be SIGMA O material and which of you have the determination and strength to get this job done.

Lou flips a switch shockingly revealing some lights.

LOU

Wow, everything else on campus is a wash and this old dump has juice.

ESSEX

Wait so what are we having these guys do?

LOU

Work. Come on men.

Lou catches the pledge class acting up.

LOU

Hey dudes?

PLEDGES

What's up?

LOU

What the fuck are you doing? Were trying not to get caught.

MORGAN

I didn't know we were cleaning ladies.

LOU

Well you are and I have a perfect dress for you to wear Spencer.

Essex stares off.

LOU

Open all the windows, doors and just start cleaning.

The ten freshman head into different directions in the house. Lou turns to Essex.

LOU

This place is worse off than I thought.

ESSEX

Well what did you expect Lou, a fucking Marriot, the last time you saw it was 6 years ago on Hell night.

EXT. SOLACE MANNAR - ROOFTOP - LATER

Scott, Morgan, Spencer, Lou, and Essex break through the metal door leading to the roof top. It's uneven and aged but they can walk across it slowly.

LOU

I'm gonna fall through this piece of shit.

ESSEX

Stop carbo loading like a damn Neanderthal and you wont be such a fat ass.

Lou laughs.

LOU

Hey man, have you heard from Alan? I know he goes off the radar to visit his chick in Michigan but I got a call today from Tierre that he never showed up with the minutes.

ESSEX

Are you for real?

LOU

We could lose out letters.

ESSEX

What a fucking douche bag.

LOU

Don't lose it. I got them to give us an extension til Monday.

ESSEX

I'm gonna light that mother fucker up.

Essex steps off and pulls out his cell.

LOU

OK dudes. Let's string em up and make sure they face the front of the manor...

Essex stands off to the side as Alan's cell rings.

INT. GARAGE - CONTINUOUS

Alan's cell rings in the pocket of the dead young man. His body stacked atop that of Julian's who is also dead. The two men are cheek to cheek. Their faces' stone white and lips blue from the inclement weather.

A moment later the light on Alan's phone goes dark but that of Julian's comes alive. "ESSEX" can be seen on the screen. It rings 4 times then also goes dark.

EXT. SOLACE MANNAR - ROOFTOP - LATER

Essex hangs up his phone discouraged.

ESSEX

God damn it!! It's like these two fell off the earth man. Julian won't pick up either.

LOU

I mean do they know it's you... I don't answer 70 percent of your calls man.

Essex gives Lou the finger then changes direction deflecting his anger towards the rushes.

ESSEX

Let's go. Let's go. Let's go how fucking long does it take to hang a fucking mannequin off the side of this death trap? It doesn't have to look like the window's at Macy's you Mary's...

The rush's toss 10 mannequins dressed in various forms of lingerie and Kappa Gamma sweaters off the side of the old dormitory. Lou takes a steps and his foot goes through the roof.

LOU

Oops!! Stay off this side dudes! Come on let's go downstairs we have 4 hours left before the next wave comes it.

INT. FRAT HOUSE - LATE NIGHT

Mike can't sleep. He tosses and turns finally towards the bunk of Mark who's of course awake staring back at him.

MIKE

I have to tell her.

MARK

Do it.

Mike hops up grabs a shirt and leaves.

EXT. FRAT HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Mike exits the house and begins to walk in the direction of Ovi's dorm. He turns to see Mark in the second floor window starring back at him then continues on his way down the road.

INT. MINTEN MANOR - LATE NIGHT

Michael sits on the shag carpet of Ovi's room. He's still. Laid out are 2 costumes. One of a sexy waitress and the other a beekeeper.

OVI

I can't decide.

Silence.

OVI

What? What is it?

MIKE

I owe this to you. I don't have much time Ovi. Sit here with me and just listen.

OVI

No. I don't think I want to... What is this all about Mike?

MARK

The reason I never talk about our past is because it was erased... on purpose.

OVI

What? What are you even talking about?

MIKE

That's the reason Mark is such a miserable human being. I don't have
(MORE)

MIKE (CONT'D)

much time. When I was 17 years old
I witnessed a murder on the streets
of NY City.

OVI

NY what were doing in NY, your from
Oregon.

MIKE

No I'm not. Neither is Mark. Were
from Long Island at least we were a
very long time ago.

OVI

I don't understand.

MIKE

I witnessed the murder of a man
running for mayor who was being
blackmailed by the mob. We escaped
but they murdered several members
of our family including our...

(beat, labored)

NY State go involved but when they
couldn't ensure our safety they
decided --

OVI

Decided what?

MIKE

They decided for the first time in
US history to not only induct an
individual into the witness
protection program but to include
his identical twin...

OVI

What?

MIKE

Mark is not my cousin.

OVI

My God Michael who is he your
father? Your son?

MIKE

My identical twin.

OVI

Why are you tell me this?

MIKE

If I don't make... This was the reason. It had nothing to do with you and zero to do with how much I love you Olivia.

OVI

Love isn't lying Michael.

MIKE

I lied to survive. In return for identifying the men in court who murdered this individual I was granted a new life on one condition.

OVI

What?

MIKE

We had to leave our mother, our dad, and every shred of our lives that we knew in NY... For the first 6 years we were living under assumed identities in...

OVI

What does this have to do with Mike... Christ if that's even your name --

MIKE

Mark hates me because I stole from him a father, a mother and a life. I'm the one who witnessed the slaughter of this man. I'm the one who had to testify but because we share a face. Mark is the one who lost his life. We've been living on the run for 12 years.

OVI

So why now? After all this time? Especially if you testified already and why waste my time why involve me in something you knew could never develop into anything other than a fling?

MIKE

I only identified one of the men. The other man goes to trial in 4 months. That's why I'm graduating early. That's why Mark is on edge

(MORE)

MIKE (CONT'D)

all the time. That's why when I
leave this university I have to go
into hiding once more.

(beat)

You weren't a fling.

(emotional)

I really loved you.

Ovi takes a deep breath.

OVI

I loved you too.

Ovi cries and embraces Mike.

MIKE

I could lose my life just for
saying these words but I never felt
a connection like the one we shared
with you Olivia and I'm so scared
for what's to come but I'm even
more scared of not letting the
woman I loved know how much she
meant to me.

Ovi cries.

OVI

I'll find you again someday.

INT. FRAT HOUSE - NEXT DAY

Mark packs his bags as does Michael clearing out their
belongings from the large closet. Justin and Lou and Leanne
enter and begin and stare for a moment then begin to help the
two. There is an understanding and sadness felt between the
longtime friends.

INT. FRAT HOUSE - LATER

Lou and Leanne exit the room hand in hand. Leanne turns to
Lou.

LEANNE

Well that was sad.

LOU

Yes it was. But they're ready to
move on.

LEANNE

So am I.

LOU

What?

LEANNE

I want tonight to be our first night together. I want you to be my first.

She tenderly touches his chest and kisses him. The two walk off.

INT. FRAT HOUSE - FRONT - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

The house is decked out, staged to create the illusion of a fake gathering. Mike and Mark stand with Kristopher, Lou, Leanne, Benny, Derrick and two others named SPENCER C, (19), and SCOTT, (20), underclassman.

MIKE

You sure?

MARK

Yep.

MIKE

You sure, sure? I can have one of these tools do it man.

MARK

No I want to enjoy this dude. How often does a Sigma have this whole place to himself?

DERRICK

Uhm never... Including tonight. Lonnie's here. Don't worry he's not on you're damn computer but he's crashed out it in my room. I said it was cool.

MIKE

He's under the weather.

MARK

OK. I'll check in on him in a little bit.

DERRICK

He doesn't need a damn nurse man.

The collective laughs. Mike lingers for a moment with Mark.

MARK

I'm sure.

They leave.

INT. FRAT HOUSE - DERRICK AND JULIAN'S ROOM - LATER

Mark comes in. Lonnie is laid up watching UFC on his phone.

MARK

Lon?

LONNIE

Don't come any closer.

MARK

OK.

LONNIE

It's not COVID. I tested negative
but not sure what it is.

A long moment of silence.

MARK

Listen Lonnie. I apologize for my
behavior last week. It wasn't cool.
Not even close.

LONNIE

It's OK. My siblings are like that
about their stuff too.

MARK

I'm supposed to be your big brother
and I let you down. I'm sorry.

Lonnie nods.

INT. FRAT - LATER

Mark sits on the window ledge on the second floor landing but looks out the window noticing for the first time a stain of some sort on the concrete outside the garage. He places his book down and looks closer, even trying to open the window though it's painted shut. The doorbell rings.

LONNIE (O.S.)

I'll get it. Give me one sec--

MARK

Stay in bed. I'll get it. Seriously
Lon, it's cool.

Mark comes down the stairs slowly. He cannot see an identifiable person through the windows which line the side of the door. As he opens the front door we can see the back

door of the home open. A figure steps inside. Mark steps outside the home.

EXT. FRAT HOUSE - PORCH - CONTINUOUS

Mark stands on the porch. Suddenly an assault of 4 eggs hit the door behind him. He reacts dramatically then looks up to see several college students running by. Mark looks to his hands which shake.

BEHIND HIM WE CAN SEE THE FIGURE WHO ENTERED THE HOME WHEN MARK STEPPED OUT ONTO THE FRONT PORCH NOW MAKING HIS WAY UP STAIRS.

EXT. FRAT HOUSE - SAME TIME

Mark paces the yard trying to calm down then looks to the garage and the stain on the concrete. Slowly nearing Mark bends down and further examines the dark red stain.

MARK

Christ.

Mark makes his way around the side of the garage which is a removed structure from the Frat house. He looks into the window but cannot make out anything. Mark tries the lock several times then picks up a large stone and breaks the window. He reaches his arm in and opens the door.

INT. FRAT HOUSE GARAGE - CONTINUOUS

Inside the garage Mark hears the labored sounds of what sound like breathing. He looks to Julian's hatchback and notices the trunk is open. Mark makes his way around the car slowly only to find Julian laying on his back stacked with Alan as well as the security guard. Mark backs up to the wall and screams in disgust.

EXT. FRAT HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Mark comes out of the garage holding an ax. He is noticeably shaken and now sees the front door to the frat house is open.

Slowly and methodically dials Mike. Nothing.

MARK

Pick up your phone.

INT. SOLACE MANNAR - CONTINUOUS

Mike looks to his phone see's incoming call from "COUSIN". Derrick looks down and rolls his eyes.

DERRICK
Christ. Already?

MIKE
Not tonight my man. I just need one
night of quiet. One night for me.

Mike turns it on silent.

DERRICK
Come on. Let me show you the
rooftop. Essex is a genius he
rigged mannequins of the SIG EP
guys from the rooftop in their
underwear.

Mike laughs and the two enter the party which is in full
swing.

INT. FRAT HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Mark comes in through the front door and marches head down up
the stairs in the direction of Lonnie's room.

INT. FRAT HOUSE - DERRICK AND JULIAN'S ROOM - LATER

Mark comes in slowly hugging the wall. The ax in his
clutches. He slowly approaches Lonnie who is motionless under
the sheets. Mark pulls the sheets off Lonnie and cannot
contain himself.

MARK
Oh my god...
(beat)
Oh my god...

Mark is buckled over.

MARK
Oh my god...
(beat)
Oh my god...

EXT. LYNN TIERRE - MANSION ON CAMPUS

Mark carries Lonnie dead corpse wrapped in white bedsheets to
Lynn Tierre's house. She comes out the door and races to him.

LYNN TIERRE
What happened? Who is this.

MARK
You need to call this number. Say
into the line it's a code Condor.
(MORE)

MARK (CONT'D)

They're here on campus and they're more than one. They'll kill as many students as possible until were dead.

LYNN TIERRE

That's impossible. They assured me students would be safe. The interrogation would be seamless.

MARK

Do it now. I have to warn Nicholas.

LYNN TIERRE

Who?

MARK

My identical twin.

Mark lays Lonnie down on the front lawn and walks off.

INT. SOLACE MANNAR - ROOFTOP

The party can be heard below. Several brothers stand on the rooftop. There are at least 10 mannequins dressed up as rival collegiate fraternity SIGMA EPSILON which dangle from the top of the structure. Kristopher and Justin are arm in arm with Benny and Mike.

KRISTOPHER

Come on man. Aren't you gonna miss this?

MIKE

Of course I will.

KRISTOPHER

Aren't you going to miss us!!

MIKE

Of course I will.

BENNY

You will never find a more loyal group of friends then Sigma o -

MIKE

I know it!!

Luke joins them.

LUKE

I just want to say thank you dudes.
I've never been so accepted by a
chapter then I have with you guys.

BENNY

You're welcome man.

The four hug and hold up their drinks. Luke turns to Mike.

LUKE

Hey man, Can I show you something I
found downstairs... It's really
weird.

MIKE

Sure dude.

Benny interjects.

BENNY

No fucking way. I'm getting this
man on the dance floor before it's
too late.

JUSTIN

That's right!!

LUKE

Of course later.

The 4 march to the rooftop access door and head downstairs.

INT. SOLACE MANNAR - LOU AND LEE'S ROOM

The purple hue of lava lamps illuminates the room and dances
off the walls.

Lee naked rides Lou. Her breasts illuminated by the moon
through the boarded up windows. She lowers herself and kisses
Lou passionately their tongues intertwined. Lou turns her
over and Lee wraps her legs tightly around her lover. They
lock eyes.

LOU

I love you.

LEE

I love you.

They kiss passionately as Lou makes love to her for a long
while.

From across the room we can see through the reflection in an old armoire a shadowy figure approach with a knife.

INT. LYNN TIERRE - MANSION ON CAMPUS

Lynn races into the home to a nearby credenza where she riffles through a few drawers until she locates a small index card. She immediately picks up the land line and dials.

It rings 4 times until--

VOICE

This is the DOJ confidential line.
What is your numerical code?

LYNN TIERRE

It's 4122-06

VOICE

State the nature of your second
code.

LYNN TIERRE

This is code condor.

There is a moment.

VOICE

We've located you and are
dispensing officials to the site
immediately.

Suddenly the call goes dead.

The man from the security booth appears behind Lynn and strangles her from behind. She is dragged out of the room.

INT. SOLACE MANNAR - LATER

Mike dances on the floor of old Solace Mannar with Julian, Benny and Luke. From across the floor an older man of 47, approaches slowly as they live it up.

He taps Mike on the shoulder. Mike turns and looks at the man questionably. Luke clocks this.

MAN

Are you Michael Dorsey?

Mike doesn't respond for a second, then--

MIKE

What is it?

MAN

I'm Quinn Moore. I'm your cousins professor. Can I talk with you for a second?

MIKE

Uhm... Sure.

INT. SOLACE MANNAR - SIDE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Mike stands with the man Quinn Moore, 47.

MIKE

What are you doing here?

QUINN

I need to see your cousin. It's incredible. It's incredible.

MIKE

What? What's incredible?

QUINN

It's the most monumental news your cousin will ever receive. I've been texting him for a week. I wonder if he's been receiving my messages?

MIKE

I'm not sure. Listen, I should get back.

QUINN

It doesn't matter. I can tell you... I have to tell someone or I'll explode.

(beat)

Listen I got your cousin full circulation.

MIKE

What? What are you talking about.

QUINN

His solo independent study "My new identity".

MIKE

The story he told you not to run?

QUINN

I got it major circulation in 17 markets--

Mike's face goes stone white.

QUINN

They even ran an image of you both.

MIKE

You told him all material would be for inner office only...

QUINN

I'm sorry. It was too good. You're cousin is a remarkable writer. 1 in a million.

Mike looks down to see the front cover of THE NEW YORKER with the headline. "MY SECRET LIFE... My NEW IDENTITY" and a candid image of Mark and Mike on campus is splashed on the cover. Mike starts to shake.

QUINN

What? What is it? I thought you'd be thrilled for him. You're not one of those competitive set of cousins are you?

MIKE

No... I'm not one of those competitive sets of cousins you witless ideologue. You fucking moron!

QUINN

Are you out of your mind?

MARK

It's a true story you fucking imbecile!! Do you know what you've just done to us?

Quinn is slightly stunned.

QUINN

I'm sorry. I'm so sorry... I--

MARK

You're sorry? You're sorry? Get out!! Get out!! You're sorry... That's wonderful you can write it in our fucking obituaries!!

Mike ushers Quinn out the door and sits on the sofa.

INT. SOLACE MANNAR - SIDE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Mark makes his way into the room skirting a few underclassman to find Mike.

MARK

I need to talk to you like right now.

MIKE

I know. You just missed Quinn.

MARK

What?

MIKE

Congratulations you've been published. Mike tosses a copy of the New Yorker at Mark's feet.

Mark scoops up the copy and looks for a second then turns quickly to the cover story.

MIKE

It's only a matter of time.

Mark tosses the news paper and races to Mike.

MARK

They found us. They're here now.

MIKE

What?

MARK

It's a code condor. I just carried Lonnie's body to Lynn Tierre's. They shot him in cold blood. She's calling the investigators now. We have to get out of here now.

MIKE

This is not-- It's not possible. It's been 12 years--

Suddenly a massive explosion from the woods outside rings out. It's deafening and knocks several slats covering the windows lose. The party races from Solace Manor into the woods starting to clear it out.

MIKE

It's a diversion. We need to leave immediately.

Mike starts to head off. Mark stops him.

MARK

If we go through the woods were sitting ducks for them. That's what a marksman wants--

MIKE

Are you sure?

MARK

It's open season if we try to flee this way.

Kristopher and Derrick come in.

KRISTOPHER

We need to talk to you both.

MIKE

Same. Can you get the core together?

KRISTOPHER

Sure.

EXT. SECURITY BOOTH - CONTINUOUS

The second security officer approaches removes plastic gloves he used to kill Lynn Tierre and enters the booth. He takes a large ax and begins to dismantle the security system mainframe console.

INT. SOLACE MANNAR - SIDE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Kristopher, Benny and Derrick stand in shock having just heard what Mike shared with Ovi the night before. There is a mounting deafening silence. There is a knock on the door. Derrick opens it, there's still scattered individuals about. Spencer C. stands at the door.

SPENCER C.

Is everything OK?

KRISTOPHER

No. Clear everyone out. Make sure everyone leaves safely. We need some more time in here.

SPENCER C.

Oh man... This was the best party ever dude--

Kristopher shuts the door. This time locking it. Mike stands and double locks, then places a metal chair against the knob. Silence.

BENNY

Why didn't you tell us?

MARK

We were under a strict set of rules.

BENNY

From who?

MARK

The state of NY, the US government... does it matter!

BENNY

Of course it matters!! You put us in danger!!

KRISTOPHER

I think I'm gonna be sick.

MARK

I'm sorry.

KRISTOPHER

I'm sorry... I'm sorry? You inconsiderate fucks!!

BENNY

Not Lonnie man. I'm best friends with his sister.. He's such a good dude. He's only 20.

DERRICK

I'm outa here. I don't have to stay here and listen to this sick shit.

Mike gets up off the couch.

MIKE

If you walk out that door your a dead man Derrick.

DERRICK

What are talking about?

MIKE

Look through that peep hole.

Derrick does. Essex and Luke come stumbling to the door arm in arm. Drunk.

ESSEX

You know your actually pretty cool... for douche bag.

The two laugh.

LUKE

Come on guys open the door!!

DERRICK

It's just Essex's dumb ass and Luke, there's nothing wrong.

Derrick goes to open the door.

MIKE

Don't do it! It's a trap.

LUKE

Come on dudes, were still lit...
Let us in.

ESSEX

Mike, Mark you have to see this thing Luke showed me... e have to show them.

Mike whispers to Derrick.

MIKE

Tell them we left, We weren't feeling well.

DERRICK

They left man... It's just my chick and I in here. I think they went home.

Suddenly Luke's disposition changes intensely. He puts Essex in a full nelson choking him and shoots him in the temple twice... Spencer C. comes down the stairs behind Luke.

SPENCER C.

Well that's it were all cleared out.

Luke turns and shoots Spencer in the forehead. Derrick loses it.

LUKE

(Staten Island voice)

Thank god I don't have to suffer
this intolerable voice no longer.

Derrick turns to the others.

DERRICK

He fucking shot Essex in the
fucking head!!

(beat)

What do we do...

MARK

It's the consigliere.

DERRICK

What the fuck is a consigliere?

Luke hears this though the door and chucles a little.

LUKE

We don't actually use that word any
longer in my line of work. I
commend you for even knowing what
that is... No a consigliere is
meant to be someone who resolves
disputes within the mob. That's
sort of the opposite of what I'm
here to do. I'm what you would call
a button man. A much, much, much
more low level member with a
certain skill set which you men
will come to learn.

KRISTOPHER

We have to get you out of here.

BENNY

No we stand together. I'm staying.

KRISTOPHER

Fuck that he just shot our brother
in the head. These two lied to us
for 6 years. Let them deal with the
consequences of this. Why should I
have to die for something they saw?

BENNY

Then you go. I'm staying with them.
I lived with them, I'll die with
them.

DERRICK

You didn't see what I did.

MIKE

No leave... Seriously. It's the only way. Tell them it's the Dorsett case. They'll understand immediately and send someone. Tell them everything I said otherwise...

KRISTOPHER

Otherwise what?

MARK

Otherwise we died for nothing.

BENNY

No one is dying... Stop with this shit.

DERRICK

He killed Essex man and shot Spencer in cold blood.

BENNY

DAMN IT!! You should of told us!!

MIKE

Listen to me. There is no doubt in my mind if that man breaks through this door were all dead. Someone has to survive... someone has to live on. MARK!!

MARK

I'm sure.

DERRICK

We'll call for help!! Let's go Benny!!

Kris, Derrick and Benny break a few slats off a nearby wall and on their backs slide into an adjoining room with windows.

INT. SOLACE MANNAR - SIDE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Mike and Mark stand next to one another on the couch. The door begins to break down.

MARK

What do we do? We have to fight.

MIKE

I'm not going to die like this. I refuse to become a statistic of this sick case.

MARK

We have to run. There's no other option.

MIKE

Let's move.

Mark and Mike lift the couch as well as credenza against the door and find a weak spot on the far wall. They begin to use 2 massive old candle sticks to break through into the next room. They make a massive opening large enough to climb through.

INT. SOLACE MANNAR - LOU AND LEE'S ROOM

The room is oddly lit purple with the colors of several lava lamps dancing across the walls. It's oddly quiet. Mark and Mike approach the bed to see Lou and Lee have had their throats slit and Lou's arm is broken.

MIKE

If he could do this to Lou... If he could do this to Lou... how can we survive?

MARK

Don't lose it. Don't lose it. We have to use our minds.

MIKE

I can't. I can't!!

MARK

You can and we will. We have to find a way out.

The two look around for something to use in their defense.

INT. SOLACE MANNAR - LOU AND LEE'S ROOM

Luke comes to the door which is locked. He breaks through, methodically.

LUKE

Come out come out wherever you are identical's. There's no use in running. It always ends the same.

As Luke enters he can see Mike sitting bedside over the shirtless partially clothed corpses of Lou and Lee. As he nears he loads a few bullets into his smith and wesson.

We can now see it isn't Mike sitting bedside mourning his fraternity brother but rather Lou's corpse which is propped up and dressed loosely in Mike's clothes, Mike's foot positioned in the middle of his chest.

Just as Luke leans down close enough... Mike whispers to his fallen comrade.

MIKE

I'm so sorry Lou...

With a insurmountable drive not seen before Mike drives Lou's head directly into that of Luke's who stumbles to the floor. Mike jumps from the bed shirtless and Mark rushes Luke kicking him in the face several times then wrestling for control of the gun. Luke is insanely strong and drives the gun into Marks face, then shoots him in the shoulder. Mike then thrusts Lou's corpse off the bed and onto Luke knocking his head against the wooden floor. He's temporarily knocked out. Mike helps Mark and the two exit out the door.

INT. SOLACE MANNAR - FRONT HALL - CONTINUOUS

The two make it to the front hall and realize Luke has barricaded them inside. They race up the stairs several flights up.

INT. LYNN TIERRE - MANSION ON CAMPUS

Lynn Tierre stands before her credenza. The body of Julian in the backdrop on the front walk. Nervously she withdraws a card and unfolds it. She picks up the land line and dials.

LYNN TIERRE

Is this the confidential line of special investigator Dorsey. I was told I to use this line in case of a code Condor. The University of Ohio, in Athens. The subjects are located off the main row. 2 casualties as far as I can tell. You need to get here immediately, he's going to kill them both.

The line suddenly cuts off.

INT. SOLACE MANNAR - SPIRAL STAIRCASE

Mike and Mark make it to the rooftop access door.

EXT. ROOF - CONTINUOUS

The two storm out onto the roof and towards the ledge. Mark collapses.

MARK

I can't move any further. This is
it for me. I'm done

Mike rushes back to the door and places a few items in front of it then returns to his brother.

MIKE

I love you and I know that I did
this to us. I'm sorry, If I could
take it back for us I would. I'll
never forgive myself for what I did
to you and mom. I stripped you both
of love and life but I'm not gonna
let this son of a bitch hurt us.
Hell have to go through me first,
do you understand me?

(beat)

Don't say anything just let me go
look for something for us to use.

Mike runs to the roof. Mark is on his side.

INT. STAIRWELL - CONTINUOUS

From inside the stairwell Luke makes his way to the top of the landing and begins to charge the door. Suddenly Benny shows up and starts to throw wild body shots which catch the contract killer off guard. The two struggle for control of the knife that Luke. Unfortunately Benny is not strong enough for this confrontation and begins to lose his footing.

Luke pommels Benny into the door several times and then slowly drives the knife into his shoulder. Benny squeezes Luke's throat eliciting a sound from the massive man.

Luke then lifts Benny and tosses him off the stairwell where he falls several floors to his instant death.

EXT. ROOFTOP - CONTINUOUS

Moments later the door to the roof flies open and Luke marches through it.

Mike with a rope around his waist is standing at the roofs edge screaming for help as Luke marches toward the incapacitated Mark

MIKE

Stay back, get back, don't you take another step!! Help us!! Help us He's right here!! He's going to kill us!!

Luke moves steadfast to Mark lying on his stomach.

MIKE

Don't you fucking touch him you piece of shit!!

Michael becomes temporarily tangled in the ropes.

MIKE

NO!!

Luke withdraws his knife and drives it through Marks back only to find that this is one of the dummies Essex hung over the side.

Michael immediately pounces.

MIKE

Stupid fuck!!

Immediately Mark jumps from the top of the meatal rooftop access door where Luke just exited and tackles him. The two young men, Mike and Mark begin a fight for their lives against this contract killer. Mike smashes Luke's head into the asphalt several times until Luke backhands him in the mouth then kicks Mike him off. Mark punches Luke in the face several times then starts to strangle him.

Luke turns his head in Mark's direction slowly and smiles. He drives his hands between Marks releasing his grip and head butts him off of him. Luke stands slowly just in time to receive a steel pipe across the face and chest from Mike.

Mike winds up once more but Luke catches the metal pipe and knocks Mike out cold with it. Luke stands over Mike about to drive the metal down on his crown when 4 shots ring out. Mark continues to fire sending the oaf almost off the roof. 6 shot. The chamber is now empty. Mike begins to come to. Luke rips his shirt open exposing a bullet proof vest. Mark charges in an effort to force the man off the roof. From below Kristopher and Derrick as well as responding police officer as well as Justin watch in horror. The frat prods the officers.

DERRICK

Shoot him!! Shoot him!!

OFFICER

I can't get a clear shot.

The officer takes aim once more.

Mike stands and joins Mark. In an insane gesture of sheer will and strength Luke lifts both Mike and Mark up by the neck as the three dance closely to their demise. Mark wraps loose wire around neck of Luke and grips it with everything he has left. Two OFFICERS from below discharge several rounds into the back of Luke sending he, Mike and Mark several stories off the roof. Luke breaks his neck instantly and is killed when the wire around his neck catches.

Mark and Mike fall and land on opposite sides of the white picket fence which lines Old Solace Manor.

OFFICER

I need backup and a bus immediately to the University of Athens in Ohio. We have 1 dead and potentially more.

Mike C. Exits Solace Manor shaken.

Justin, Kristopher, Derrick, Lonnie and Scott approach.

SPENCER C.

They killed Lou. They killed Lou and Leanne.

The brothers rush past.

INT. HOSPITAL - THE NEXT DAY - MORNING

The surviving members of SIGMA OMEGA sit in a waiting area in utter shell shock. It's Derrick, Kristopher, and Justin surrounded by Ovi, and a few others. Suddenly the loud sound of crying catches everyone off guard. They rush with several staff down the hall to Mike and Mark's room.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - CONTINUOUS

As Derrick, Kristopher, Justin and Ovi enter, and a few staff move into the room they see Mark in bed and are shocked to find Michael sitting at the window wildly shedding tears of joy not anguish for once.

OVI

What? What is it!!

MIKE

It's the first time I've ever looked forward to the morning. It's
(MORE)

MIKE (CONT'D)
the first time I've ever wanted to
wake up.

Mike looks to Mark and reaches for his hand.

MARK
We did it. We did it.

EXT. SALEM MASSACHUSETTES - ESSEX STREET - WINTER

Mike and Mark stand atop a concrete ledge in the center of town square. Mike is still bandaged up, his arm in a sling. The two look down a flight of steps which lead to an office building below. The iron access gate to it's dissension is locked.

MIKE
Do your remember we used to run up
and down as children?

MARK
I do.

Suddenly from behind their attention shifts. Maryann, now 62, stands accompanied by several agents including Agent Manzo. She has flowers in her hands and stands in disbelief. She tilts her head a little.

MARYANN
My sons.

The two approach her and collectively they sob. Agent Manzo turns away for a moment as the reuniting of this family is too much to conceive.

Maryann is arm in arm with her sons.

MIKE
I almost forgot what you looked
like.

MARYANN
Not me. Love never dies. It never
dies.

MARK
We thought maybe you might of moved
on.

MARYANN
No. No mother could. I survived but
I wasn't living. Till now. Til now.

The three walk down the cobblestone road hand in hand.

The federal agents follow them.

FADE OUT.