

RISE OF THE DEPARTED

Screenplay by

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FADE IN:

EXT. GRAVEYARD - NIGHT.

Silent and morbid. The silence is as peaceful as the graves. Rows of headstones are perfectly aligned in rows in the greenfield. Some look melted from acid rain, others look brand new.

Laughter is heard approaching from just outside the entrance, disrupting the silence. It draws closer to the area.

MALE 1 (V.O.)
No, no, no it was George!

MALE 2 (V.O.)
(humorous)
You liar! Since when did George
know what planet he's on.

They laugh again. They are revealed to be four teenagers. They stop at the entrance. They are LIAM (17), CLAIRE (18), GARETH (18), DANIEL (18). Liam and Daniel are Male 1 and Male 2. They stop at the entrance. Liam looks around the graveyard. Gareth and Claire are holding hands.

LIAM
Yay, here we are.

DANIEL
Liam, what are you playing? Why
have you brought us here for?

CLAIRE
We're not gonna dig someone up are
we?

LIAM
No, much better.

DANIEL
Much better?

Liam takes out a piece of paper from his pocket. It looks old and A5 sized. It looks like a torn page from a book. He flashes it at them so they can see.

They lean in to get a closer look -

On the paper is a few written words. They seem scribbled like it was rushed, but clear enough to read.

DANIEL (CONT'D)
What do they mean?

LIAM
It's a spell to awaken the dead.

They look at each other and then at him. They start to chuckle and laugh. Liam laughs as well.

DANIEL
(laughing)
Are you having a laugh?

LIAM
(laughing)
No that's what it said in the book.
(pause)
I know, right. Utter crap.

CLAIRE
Is that from the book or did you write it?

LIAM
I took it from the book. Couldn't be arsed to write it down.

GARETH
Where on Earth did you get that from?

LIAM
I found it while I was away in...
(pause)
That's weird. I can't remember.

CLAIRE
You can't remember where you were on a holiday? I find that hard to believe.

DANIEL
He's had a lot.

LIAM
(laughing)
Just thought I'd try it anyway just to check if it's real or not.

CLAIRE
What? Your not serious!

LIAM
Yeah, why?
(pause)
You don't actually believe it's real do you?

CLAIRE
No, but...

DANIEL
 (interrupting)
 Then there's nothing to worry
 about.
 (pause)
 I never thought you'd be
 superstitious.

GARETH
 Why bring us?

DANIEL
 Too spooked to do it alone I bet.

Liam frowns.

LIAM
 (reluctant)
 No!
 (pause)
 Just needed witnesses.

Liam and Daniel walk ahead and walk into the graveyard. They walk down the front row of headstones. Claire and Gareth remain at the entrance.

CLAIRE
 (to Gareth)
 I don't think they should do it.

GARETH
 Claire, they're just having a
 laugh, it's not real.

CLAIRE
 I know that, but I just don't like
 the idea of it.

GARETH
 (mocking)
 Ok. If anything happens I'll keep
 you safe from the "undead".

CLAIRE
 Gareth!

GARETH
 Sorry. Look we're not in some
 Romero film where...

DANIEL (V.O.)
 He's reading it!!

Liam and Daniel stand in front of one of the headstones. Liam reads the writing out loud.

LIAM
 Laapo. Kluster. Hellaburn.
 (pause)
 Weird words.

Gareth and Claire stand at the end of the row nearest the entrance.

MOVEMENT occurs from a patch of ground behind Daniel. The grass is slightly lifted from beneath. No-one notices.

LIAM (CONT'D)
 Jeckula. Zombia.

DANIEL
 And?

LIAM
 That's it.

They look around the graveyard slowly, keeping an eye out. Claire grips onto Gareth tightly.

Nothing happens.

LIAM (CONT'D)
 Nothing. Told you! It's horseshit!

DANIEL
 George A Romero would be very disappointed.

LIAM
 Who?

DANIEL
 Never...

Suddenly someone JUMPS on Daniel and BITES him in the neck. Liam jumps back in a fright. Daniel screams and struggles. It's a ZOMBIE.

DANIEL (CONT'D)
 (screaming)
 AGGGG!!!!!! GET OFF ME!!!!

LIAM
 (shocked)
 FUCK!!

Another ZOMBIE bursts out from the ground beneath Liam. It grabs Liam's leg. He looks down at it. Tries to get his leg free.

LIAM (CONT'D)
 HELP! GET THE FUCK OFF ME!!!

It bites him in the ankle. Liam screams in pain.

More Zombies join in, and Liam and Daniel are overrun. Liam drops the piece of paper on the floor.

Gareth and Claire run towards the entrance.

GARETH
JESUS!!!

A Zombie jumps at them and knocks Claire away from Gareth. They fall on the ground and the zombie pins her.

It bites at Claire's neck. She screams.

GARETH (CONT'D)
CLAIRE!!!!

Before he can act another Zombie attacks him.

He struggles to get it away from him. The zombie keeps leaning it's head in, trying to bite him.

More zombies crawl around Claire and feast on her.

Gareth manages to push the zombie off him and runs towards the entrance, leaving the graveyard.

A horde of Zombies come walking slowly from within the graveyard and head for the exit, unleashed upon the world.

CUT TO:

TITLE:

Rise of the Departed

EXT. FRONT DRIVE - HOUSE - DAY.

The house seems quiet. The streets are also quiet. No cars are passing by, no people are in sight.

SLAM! The front door is slammed wide open from within. An old man and a teenage girl come running out of the house. They are SEBASTIAN (60) and FAYE (16). They are followed by a group of zombies that come pouring out of the house.

EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS

Sebastian and Faye come out from the drive front and run across the road, being chased by the zombies.

When they get half way across a BLACK VAN breaks and stops right in front of them. They are startled by it.

The side door slides open and two people with guns shoot at the zombies behind Sebastian and Faye. Both of them duck.

The driver pops his head out of the window. It's Gareth, but he looks older.

GARETH
(at Sebastian and Faye)
Get in!

Sebastian briefly looks back at zombies.

SEBASTIAN
Come on!

He grabs Faye by the arm and takes her with him inside the van.

The two gunmen slide the door shut just as the Zombies catch up to them.

The van drives away from them. They try to pursue it, but the van is too fast.

INT. VAN - DAY.

Sebastian and Faye sit together in the van. Faye is very shaken. Sebastian holds her tight, trying to calm her.

One of the gunmen sits opposite them. She is OPHELIA (40). The other gunman is NEIL (32) He sits at the back, next to a couple of boxes. The boxes have food in them. He looks at Sebastian and Faye suspiciously, like he's keeping an eye on them.

SEBASTIAN
Thank you very much. Who are you?

OPHELIA
My name is Ophelia, but I prefer Lia.

OPHELIA (CONT'D)
Good timing otherwise we'd never have found you.

Neil looks at Ophelia, disapprovingly. She rolls her eyes at him and turns back to Sebastian and Faye.

OPHELIA (CONT'D)
Who are you?

SEBASTIAN
I'm Sebastian and this is my granddaughter Faye.

OPHELIA
Nice to meet you.

Faye looks at Ophelia, but she doesn't say a word.

SEBASTIAN

Excuse her, she hasn't said a word since...

(beat)

She saw both her parents get killed.

OPHELIA

Jesus. I'm sorry to hear that, I've lost family as well.

SEBASTIAN

Are you from a refugee camp of sorts?

OPHELIA

I wish I was, but we're actually a small group trying to stop all this.

SEBASTIAN

(humorous)

Well I seriously doubt there's enough bullets in the world to help with that.

Ophelia smiles a little bit.

OPHELIA

Yeah, speaking of which. Neil, how many do we have left?

NEIL

Not a lot. About three in mine.

OPHELIA

Four in mine. I double checked.

She turns her attention back to Sebastian and Faye.

OPHELIA (CONT'D)

We know what started this.

She turns to Gareth, who is still driving.

OPHELIA (CONT'D)

Don't we?

GARETH

Sorry?

OPHELIA

You know how all this happened.

Gareth frowns.

GARETH
(quietly)
Yeah.

Sebastian looks from Gareth to her.

OPHELIA
Do want to tell them or should I?

GARETH
No I'll tell them.

Sebastian and Faye look at Gareth, listening.

GARETH (CONT'D)
I went out with some mates and one
of them, Liam. He wanted to go to
the local graveyard to try
something...

Gareth continues to tell them the whole story, which is
literally the whole beginning. Gareth seems to struggle
telling it.

GARETH (CONT'D)
When they were gone I went back to
find the spell and went looking for
someone who could help and that's
when I meet Lia.
(pause)
There you have it. Two years later
here we are.

Both Sebastian and Faye stare at Gareth, shocked.

NEIL
I know. Fucked up.

Neil looks at Ophelia. He shakes his head slowly,
disapprovingly. She gives him a "Fuck off" look.

CUT TO:

EXT. ABANDONED BUILDING - AFTERNOON.

The building is large, but hollow. There is overgrown grass
surrounding it. The road has rough edges like it wasn't
finished being laid out. There is a double door at the front
and appears to be locked with a padlock. The van comes in and
parks just outside of it.

Gareth steps out and goes to the doors. He unlocks the
padlock and opens both doors.

Everyone else steps out of the van. Ophelia and Neil carry
the boxes of food with them. Sebastian and Faye follow them
into the building.

INT. ABANDONED BUILDING - CONTINUOUS.

The room is hollow and big. There are two other doors present as well. Neil closes the doors behind Sebastian and Faye. He locks the door with the padlock.

SEBASTIAN

Is this where you live?

GARETH

At the moment.

SEBASTIAN

What do you do here?

OPHELIA

You really don't want to know.

(beat)

Actually I think you should.

(pause)

Gareth, you show them. I need to get back to work.

GARETH

What work?

OPHELIA

Same as usual. I'll tell you later.

Gareth signals Sebastian and Faye to follow him. He opens one of the other doors. A mumbling sound echos from within. Gareth leads them inside.

INT. UNKNOWN ROOM - ABANDONED BUILDING - CONTINUOUS.

Gareth turns the lights on.

SLAM! A zombie charges at them, but it's stopped by a glass wall. Sebastian and Faye jump in a fright.

The zombie claws at the wall like an animal. Sebastian and Faye are shocked by this, but Gareth isn't. Faye takes a step back.

GARETH

Lia has been trying to find a way to reverse the spell or maybe cure them.

(pause)

We keep them here so that we'd know if anything works or not.

SEBASTIAN

Good lord!

GARETH

I know.

(pause)

I'll show you where you can stay.

Gareth leads them out of the room and switches the lights off. Sebastian keeps looking back at the zombie. Faye pulls his hand and quickens her pace.

CUT TO:

INT. BACK ROOM - ABANDONED BUILDING - AFTERNOON.

The room has a lot of sleeping bags inside. There are no windows. There is a shotgun next to the door. Gareth opens the door and enters. Sebastian and Faye follow. They look around the room.

GARETH

You can sleep in here. There's more than enough sleeping bags, so take your pick.

SEBASTIAN

Where did you find them?

GARETH

From a store not far from here. It was empty.

Faye picks a purple one near her. Gareth stops her.

GARETH (CONT'D)

No, sorry that's Lia's.

She puts it down and picks a another one with a similar colour.

GARETH (CONT'D)

We put a bar up on the door every night, just in case they find us and manage to get in the building.

CUT TO:

INT. MAIN ROOM - ABANDONED BUILDING - SAMETIME.

Ophelia is sitting at a desk looking through pieces of paper and a book. Researching. Neil is near the main door.

Ophelia's eyes widen. She found something.

NEIL

We shouldn't have brought them here.

Ophelia doesn't look at him. Her eyes are glued to a page in a book, surprised.

OPHELIA

Sorry?!

NEIL

We shouldn't have brought them with us!

She turns her attention to Neil, but she doesn't turn to him.

OPHELIA

(sarcasm)

No, now that you mention it. Your right.

(pause)

We should have just drove past them and left them for dead.

NEIL

Did you forget what happened last time? They took half our food and stole our other van.

OPHELIA

They were three men with their own guns. This is just an old man with his granddaughter and they don't even have a knife on them. I think we can safely assume that they aren't a threat.

NEIL

Two years and you still don't see it do you!

(pause)

When everything turns to crap, we don't just all gather and support one-another...

She turns around on the chair and gives him a serious look.

OPHELIA

(interrupting)

Oh I see. You'd rather we just give up our humanity to survive and end up being the last human on Earth.

(pause)

You know if we're gonna isolate ourselves from what makes us human then we may as well be a zombie!

Neil turns away, dumbfounded. Ophelia turns back to the book.

She reads through it again. Rereading what she found earlier.

Her expression changes. She stares into it, startled.

OPHELIA (CONT'D)
 (surprised)
 You've got to be kidding me.

INT. BACK ROOM - ABANDONED BUILDING - AFTERNOON.

Gareth sits near the door. He is looking at his phone. On his phone is a picture of him and Claire smiling and looking happy together. He looks at it in grief.

Sebastian is asleep in a sleeping bag. Faye approaches him, holding a piece of paper and a pen. She kneels down next to him. Stokes his arm.

He opens his eyes and looks at Faye. She seems worried about something.

SEBASTIAN
 What's the matter?

She shows him the piece of paper. There is writing on it. It says "Can we trust them?".

Sebastian reads it and looks at Faye.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)
 They saved us. Not a lot of people
 would do that. That's enough for
 me.

Faye turns the paper around and writes something on it --

She shows it to him. It reads "They have one here!".

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)
 I know where your going with this.
 (pause)
 We wouldn't be here if not for them
 and they are trying to undo the
 outbreak.

Faye writes something else on the paper.

She shows Sebastian. It reads "You believe them?".

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)
 You always have to dwell on the
 negative don't you.
 (pause)
 Do you believe them?

She shrugs.

Gareth is looking at them. He looks back to his phone. He was listening.

EXT. ABANDONED BUILDING - AFTERNOON.

A zombie slowly walks past the building. A LOUD noise of footsteps is heard from not far behind it.

INT. MAIN ROOM - ABANDONED BUILDING - AFTERNOON.

Ophelia writes something down a old looking piece of paper. She looks at it in wonder.

OPHELIA
(whispers)
Worth a shot.

Neil is fidgeting with a butcher knife. A small footstep is heard from outside.

OPHELIA (CONT'D)
(struggles)
Aid-moz...

EXT. ABANDONED BUILDING - SAMETIME.

The zombie stops and turns to the building.

OPHELIA (V.O.)
...U-lak-cej...

The zombie suddenly SPRINTS towards the building, very fast like it's in hurry.

INT. UNKNOWN ROOM - ABANDONED BUILDING - SAMETIME.

The zombie in behind the glass wall, turns towards the door.

It charges at the glass.

It hits it and bangs on like crazy. Putting a large effort at breaking it.

INT. MAIN ROOM - ABANDONED BUILDING - SAMETIME.

The Zombie's banging on the glass wall is heard. Neil and Ophelia turn towards it's direction.

BANG! From the double doors. Neil jumps and quickly steps away from it.

NEIL
(startled)
What the fuck?!

A large number of footsteps are heard sprinting towards the doors from outside. He takes a step back, alerted.

Ophelia looks at the piece of paper and looks back at the doors, panicked

OPHELIA

Oh shit!

NEIL

(shaken)

What's going on? How did they find us?

OPHELIA

(shaken)

I've figured out how to the reverse the spell.

BANGING!! From the double doors. Moaning and grunting is heard from outside. Neil jumps in a fright. Both Ophelia and Neil are shaken by it. They get their guns out and point them at the door.

Neil moves back away from the door.

The double doors burst open! A horde of zombies come through all at once. They attack Neil while he Ophelia shoots at them.

INT. BACK ROOM - ABANDONED BUILDING - AFTERNOON.

Shooting and Ophelia's screaming is heard. Gareth grabs the shotgun and runs back into the main room.

Sebastian gets out of the sleeping bag. He and Faye quickly get up and follow Gareth.

INT. MAIN ROOM - ABANDONED BUILDING - CONTINUOUS.

Gareth comes rushing in. His face turns to shock and horror --

Neil is dead with zombies feeding on his dead body. There are some dead zombie bodies on the floor. The desk has been knocked over with the books and papers all over the floor. Ophelia is still alive, but surrounded. They are also biting into her. She screams in agony. She sees Gareth.

Sebastian and Faye enter. They instantly become terrified. Gareth grabs Sebastian's hand and drags him. Faye follows, terrified.

She steps on Ophelia's piece of paper which sticks to her shoe, she doesn't notice.

Some zombies notice them. Gareth runs to the back of the room. There is an emergency exit door there. He opens it and runs outside. Sebastian and Faye follow.

EXT. ABANDONED BUILDING - CONTINUOUS.

Gareth slams the door shut behind them. He looks around the ground for something.

He finds a large rock.

Moves it in front of the door.

SEBASTIAN

I don't think that will help.

GARETH

(snaps)

Got anything better?!!

Sebastian doesn't respond. Faye looks around the ground for something.

She spots the paper beneath her shoe. She bends her foot up. She takes it off and puts it in her pocket.

Gareth goes to edge of the building. He takes a peek round the corner to see --

The van is in tact and there are very few zombies present. They all seem to be focused on entering the building through the double doors.

Faye starts to whimper. Sebastian hugs her.

SEBASTIAN

Shh.. It's ok. We'll get out of here.

A hand lands on his shoulder --

A zombie attacks Sebastian. He pushes Faye away and attempts to fight back.

The zombie bites into his neck. Sebastian screams in agony. Faye screams.

FAYE

(screaming)

GRANDDAD!!

GARETH

Fuck!!

He grabs Faye's arm and takes her with him round the corner. The zombies around the van notice them and approach.

Gareth hits a few zombies with his shotgun hard while he and Faye run for the van.

He opens the passenger door and lets Faye in. He slams the door shut and runs to the other side.

He quickly gets in the driver's seat and slams the door shut.

INT. VAN - CONTINUOUS.

Gareth starts the engine quickly. The zombies outside start to bang their hands on the van and windows. Faye gets terrified by them.

EXT. ABANDONED BUILDING - CONTINUOUS.

Gareth quickly drives the van away from the building. The zombies pursue, but they aren't quick enough.

CUT TO:

INT. VAN - AFTERNOON.

Gareth is very tense. He seems to have a tight grip around the steering wheel. Faye breaks into tears.

GARETH
Please. Don't!

Faye looks at him. She starts to look angry.

She looks in front bonnet for something. She finds a clutch bag.

She hits him with it.

FAYE
(crying)
Turn around!!

GARETH
(shocked)
What?!

FAYE
GO BACK NOW!!

GARETH
Are you for real?!!

She hits him multiple times. Gareth struggles to stop her while driving at the same time.

GARETH (CONT'D)
For fuck sake!!! You can't help him!! He's probably one of them by now!!

FAYE
He's all I have left!

GARETH

Do you want to get yourself
killed?! You saw what happened!
It's a whole horde!!

Faye breaks into tears again.

Gareth takes a moment.

He stops the van and takes a deep breath. Turns his attention
to Faye.

GARETH (CONT'D)

Look. I'm sorry, but we...

Faye quickly gets out of the van and runs off.

GARETH (CONT'D)

Shit! Wait!!!

Gareth quickly gets out.

EXT. WOODS ROAD - CONTINUOUS.

Faye runs in the opposite direction, back to the building.
Gareth runs after her.

GARETH

Faye!

He quickly catches up to her. He grabs her, stopping her.

FAYE

Get off me!!

She struggles like a wild cat trying to break free.

GARETH

For fuck sake Faye!!

SUDDENLY a zombie attacks them from behind. Gareth pushes
Faye away and drops his shotgun. He struggles with the
zombie, but stops when he recognises it.

GARETH (CONT'D)

Claire?

The Claire Zombie attempts to bite him. Faye watches in
horror, too scared to act.

GARETH (CONT'D)

(at Faye)

Shoot it!!

Faye looks at the shotgun, hesitates.

GARETH (CONT'D)
SHOOT IT!!!

Faye picks it up.

BANG! Shoots the Claire Zombie, sending it to the floor.
Gareth stands back.

The Claire Zombie shakes like it's having a fit. Faye is shivering with fear. Gareth goes to her and tries to grab the shotgun off her, but she's held onto it tightly.

GARETH (CONT'D)
Give it here.

She doesn't. Shivering in fear. Her eyes are dead set on the Claire zombie, not blinking.

GARETH (CONT'D)
Faye!

She looks at Gareth.

GARETH (CONT'D)
(slowly)
Let go of it.

Faye slowly releases the shotgun. Gareth takes it off her.

He grabs her arm and pulls her up to her feet.

GARETH (CONT'D)
Let's go.

He pulls her with him back to the van.

The Claire zombie stands up. It has a shotgun wound at the side of its stomach. It drips of blood, with its Intestines hanging out. It limps quickly towards the van.

Gareth opens the passenger door for Faye. She glares at him, annoyed. Gareth looks back to her, confused by her expression.

She walks away fast from him and along the road. Gareth follows her.

GARETH (CONT'D)
Whoah... Where are you going?!

She ignores him and carries on.

GARETH (CONT'D)
So you'd prefer to be on your own?

She continues to ignore him. He stops.

GARETH (CONT'D)

Look I get it! You've got trust issues! I sort of assumed that when I overheard you and your grandad.

She slows her pace.

GARETH (CONT'D)

So did Neil! He kept telling us to just drive past you and leave you behind just in case you'd raid us like the last lot we helped!

(pause)

Your welcome for that by the way!

She turns around to him.

GARETH (CONT'D)

And anyway if that's the card your playing, just a few minutes ago you couldn't talk!

(pause)

Care to explain that?!

FAYE

My Grandad told you all why!

(pause)

I watch my family get killed and it's because of you!! You reading that fucking spell!!

His expression turns dark. He comes marching up to her. She doesn't move.

He grabs her arms tightly and keeps his eyes locked onto hers.

GARETH

Do you know what it's like watch all this shit happen around you? Knowing your partly responsible?!

(pause)

I let Liam read that spell out loud, which caused all this. If I listened to Claire and stopped him then...

He starts to break down in tears. He lets go of Faye.

He wipes the tears from his eyes. Faye's expression turns sympathetic.

GARETH (CONT'D)

If you want to go? Fine, but how long do you think you'll last without food and transportation.

He turns around and walks back to the van. Faye stands for a second.

She follows him back.

Gareth opens the passenger door for Faye. She slides open the side door instead. She enters the van and slides it shut behind her.

Gareth shrugs and rolls his eyes. He goes round to the driver's side and goes into the van.

INT. VAN - AFTERNOON.

Faye sits alone in the back of the van.

Gareth starts the van and drives.

EXT. VAN - SAMETIME.

The van drives along the road. Blood drips from the top like there's something on top of it.

CUT TO:

INT. VAN - MINUTES LATER.

Faye sits quietly. The van suddenly JOLTS like it's run over something.

FAYE
Why didn't you stop him?

GARETH
What?

FAYE
Why didn't stop your friend from reading the spell?

GARETH
Well... at the time I thought it was just horse-shit. I mean, it seemed like the kind of stuff you'd see in a horror film and I assumed it was a joke or some made-up fan prop.

FAYE
Sorry what I said. I didn't mean it.

(pause)
If I found a some spell like that I'd think it's horseshit as well.

GARETH

Thanks.

Faye folds her arms inside her jacket. She feels something inside. She takes out the old piece of paper from her pocket.

She looks at it. It's the spell for the zombie resurrection as seen in the beginning. There is some other writing on it, it's in plain English and appears handwritten.

FAYE

Gareth. What's this?

GARETH

What's what?

Faye reaches over the seats and shows Gareth. He looks at it briefly.

GARETH (CONT'D)

Look I'm busy driving here. Read it to me.

Faye pulls it back and she reads the writing.

FAYE

Laapo. Klusker...

Gareth's eyes widen and quickly turns around to Faye. He recognises the words.

GARETH

(interrupting)

NO! Don't read it! That's the spell!

FAYE

Oh.

She looks at the handwritten words.

FAYE (CONT'D)

There's something else handwritten on here. It looks more recent.

GARETH

Don't read anything off that paper!

FAYE

I don't think it's part of the spell.

(pause)

I can't read the handwriting.

GARETH

Is it Lia's handwriting?

FAYE

I don't know.

GARETH

Let me see.

Faye reaches over again to show Gareth. He looks at it for a moment, trying to stay on road.

GARETH (CONT'D)

Hold on. Let me stop.

EXT. WOOD - AFTERNOON.

Gareth parks the van in the middle of the woods.

INT. VAN - AFTERNOON.

Gareth turns off the ignition. He takes the paper off Faye and reads the handwriting. His eyes widen and he seems surprised.

GARETH

Shit. This is her handwriting.

(beat)

Where did you find this?

FAYE

I think it stick to my shoe when you left the building. I don't know why I kept it.

(pause)

What does it say?

GARETH

(slowly reading)

To reverse the spell say the words backwards.

Gareth and Faye look at each, confused.

GARETH (CONT'D)

You've got to be kidding.

FAYE

That's it?

(pause)

I mean I'm glad she found a way, but I would have thought it was something more complex.

GARETH

Yeah me too.

(pause)

(MORE)

GARETH (CONT'D)
 Few years and this is what she
 found out. Why didn't she read it
 out when she found out?

Faye shrugs. Gareth thinks for a minute.

FAYE
 It's worth a try anyway.

Gareth takes a minute to think.

He nods in agreement.

He opens the door and gets out of the van. Faye gets out
 through the side door.

EXT. WOOD - CONTINUOUS.

Gareth comes round to Faye.

Gareth starts to read through the paper, while Faye watches
 him.

GARETH
 (struggles)
 Aid-moz... U-lak-cej...

SCREAMING! From behind him. The Claire zombie jumps onto him
 from the top of the van. They fall to the ground and he drops
 the paper. Faye screams.

Gareth struggles with the Claire Zombie as it attempts to
 bite him.

Faye picks up the piece of paper and starts to read it.

FAYE
 (panicking/struggling)
 N-rub-all-eh...

GARETH
 HURRY UP!!

An echo MOAN is heard from within the woods. Faye looks
 around to see -

More Zombies are approaching from all directions. Faye looks
 around terrified. They are all limping very quickly towards
 her, more quickly than usual.

Gareth is still struggling with Claire. It is getting closer
 to biting him.

GARETH (CONT'D)
 FINISH IT FOR FUCKS SAKE!!!

Faye jumps and looks back at the paper.

FAYE
(panicking)
Rets-ulk...

The zombies are drawing closer and they are only a few metres from the van.

FAYE (CONT'D)
(screams)
OPAAL!

Suddenly they stop less than a metre from her. The Claire zombie also stops.

They all suddenly let out a loud tortuous scream. Faye covers her ears. They all fall down to the floor at the same time, lifeless.

The Claire zombie collapses on Gareth. He pushes it off him and stands up. Faye shivers in shock, holding on tightly to the paper.

Gareth takes a closer look at Claire's body. He does a little kick at it --

Nothing happens. All the bodies remain lifeless. He looks at Faye, who looks at him.

He looks back at Claire's body, kneels down beside it. He slowly closes her eyes with his hand.

He stands up and goes to Faye, who breaks down into tears. She falls to her knees and cries.

Gareth kneels down beside her and hugs her.

They hug each other quietly by the van while being surrounded by a lot of dead bodies.

END.