# UNDEAD EXPRESS

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# OVER BLACK

"The boundaries which divide Life from Death are at best shadowy and vague. Who shall say where the one ends, and where the other begins?" - Edgar Allen Poe

FADE IN:

#### INT. STUDIO APARTMENT - DAY

JAMIE TORRES (21), Hispanic female, is fresh-faced, opposite her sluggish demeanor. MICROBIOLOGY textbooks CRASH in a donate box.

She moves around a minimal, but bleak, surrounding.

Behind Jamie is an empty twin bed. That side of the room feels cold and lost.

On her desk are fluoxetine (antidepressant) and alprazolam (anxiety) medications. She takes a poster of a PERIODIC TABLE and dumps it into the box; tapes it shut.

She receives a video call on her laptop from "Piper."

Jamie accepts the video call ...

PIPER

Hey stranger. Ready for tonight? What's with the box?

JAMIE

Just getting rid of some stuff I don't need.

PIPER Have you talked to sis?

JAMIE

Yeah. Not good news. I don't want to talk about it. I'm not sure going to this party is a good idea.

PIPER

You should come. I have a surprise for you. Besides, we haven't seen you around campus lately.

JAMIE Are you going to pick me up? PIPER No. I'll send a ride. I still got to help out Chris.

JAMIE Thanks. See you tonight.

PIPER

Byee-ee.

They disconnect. Jamie flops herself on her bed and scans the room, contemplates her loneliness.

Outside her window--

SCREECH

Jamie jolts up, scared out of her skin.

She takes a deep breath and takes her anxiety medication.

# INT. JAIL - HOLDING CELL - DAY

A BAILIFF escorts a FEMALE INMATE.

Her long beautiful hair with green streaks covers her face. Her handcuffs are released.

She signs her release papers and collects her belongings. One of the items is an iridescent EYEBROW RING. She puts it on.

# INT./EXT. UBER CAR - NIGHT

UBER DRIVER (60), male, drives an ugly colored Prius with lime green rims drives on the open road. Jamie sits anxiously and still.

On the radio...

RADIO ANNOUNCER (O.S.) In a controversial move, the U.S. Government secures a contract with Craven Corp. military communications and weapons. The approval adds to an already stacked portfolio for Craven Corp. that includes pharmaceuticals, research and development, digital devices, information technology, and household goods.

A SHOOTING STAR darts over the eerie night sky.

The radio turns to STATIC. He turns it off.

## UBER DRIVER

Depression? You young people. You get depressed from not getting enough views on your ticky-tok videos and lack of the facebook comments. You want to know what depression is? I'm sixty, and I can't retire for another ten years.

JAMIE Depression is the leading cause of disability in Amer--

UBER DRIVER -- Fake news, sweetie.

JAMIE (sarcastic) Yeah, cause science isn't real.

Driver pulls up to...

# INT./EXT. UBER CAR - SAME

The driver pulls up.

JAMIE What are we doing here?

UBER DRIVER We have one more person to pick up.

JAMIE

Umm. Ok.

She text Piper: "Who r we getting?"

Piper: "you'll see."

# EXT. BUS STOP - SAME

The air from the exhaust is visible in the crisp cold air.

BELA (21), the female inmate from earlier, approaches the car. She's street smart and doesn't give respect unless earned. She wears a colored leather jacket.

INT./EXT. CAR - SAME Bela gets in the back passenger side, next to Jamie. BELA JAMIE Shit. Shit. The girls are TWINS. They get a text from Piper: "Surprise." JAMIE (CONT'D) Damn, it Pipes. BELA (re: Prius) I can't believe I'm gonna be seen in this. JAMIE Do you prefer the back of a squad car? BELA Yes. UBER DRIVER You girls twins? JAMIE BELA Fraternal. Fraternal. UBER DRIVER What does that mean? BELA Google it. (to Jamie) Still not driving? JAMIE Not everyone heals as fast as you. BELA Not fast enough.

She pulls back her long hair to reveal a SCAR on her face. The driver shifts uncomfortably. The tension in the air is so suffocating, he opens the window to breathe. BELA (CONT'D) (sarcastic) I can't believe you didn't bail me out. What the fuck?

JAMIE I told you I would but only if we went to see mom. It's almost been a year.

BELA I'm not ready yet.

Jamie exits the car and gets in the front passenger seat.

JAMIE I don't think we should go this party.

#### EXT. TRAIN MUSEUM DEPOT - NIGHT

Idle trains date back from the mid-1800s to modern. Some restored and others halfway between garbage and history.

A creepy, old black steam engine is attached to cars from different eras on the main track. This is the PARTY TRAIN.

CHRIS (21) wears a prince costume with a sword on his hip. He's the type who wears a pink polo shirt, teal shorts and eludes rape charges.

PIPER (21), Chris's girlfriend, wears a nurse costume that compliments her body but undermines her intellect.

Chris smacks Piper's ass. He stops the TRAIN STEWARD. She's early 40s, but looks older. With pride, she wears a lanyard that reads "TWU 180 UNION = STRONGER TOGETHER."

CHRIS C'mon! What's taking so long?

TRAIN STEWARD It was a last-minute booking for our express train. We fell behind.

CHRIS Fuckin' unions.

Train Steward pulls out a set of KEYS.

TRAIN STEWARD Please be aware that your private car locks automatically. Also-- Two DJs load the FOG MACHINES.

VINCENT (22) is easy on the eyes and wears a Vampire costume. He's a girl's best friend but smart enough to stay out of the "friend zone."

> CHRIS What's taking those girls so long?

PIPER Bela just got out of jail. Jamie texted. They're on their way.

CHRIS Bela was in jail; that's hot.

VINCENT (worried) I thought you said she was nice.

CHRIS No, you're meeting Jamie. Her twin.

VINCENT She's a twin. That's hot.

Piper is annoyed by the boys' toxic masculinity.

VINCENT (CONT'D) I'm just playing. I'm excited to meet her.

He hugs Piper like a sister.

#### INT./EXT. UBER CAR - NIGHT

The uber pulls into the train museum parking lot. A WHITE CAT with a COLLAR dashes in front of them... The driver breaks hard--Twins brace themselves--Car swerves... Misses the cat--Driver brakes before going off the curb. He parks. Jamie holds on tight to the dashboard, frightened. Bela rests her hand on her twin's shoulder.

# BELA

We're okay.

Jamie snatches her garment bag and storms out.

UBER DRIVER Uh... Please leave five stars.

Bela removes her phone from the charger.

The lock screen displays a picture of her, Jamie, and their mother, MARIA, in *Dia De Los Muertos* attire.

# EXT. TRAIN MUSEUM DEPOT - PARKING LOT - SAME

The cat looks back, realizing its close call, and scurries away, unharmed, toward the train yard.

Jamie pops a couple of her anxiety meds, careful that Bela doesn't get a glimpse.

# INT. TRAIN MUSEUM DEPOT - LOBBY - NIGHT

Tacky Halloween décor saturates the antique lobby.

Rowdy COLLEGE STUDENTS assemble in their Halloween costumes. They are more cosplay than costumes with the amount of detail. They take this shit seriously.

Jamie and Bela navigate through the crowd.

A voice comes from a TUBE TV...

FEMALE VOICE Your life matters and better health means a better you.

An advertisement for a new antidepressant medicine comes on the screen: Happy faces, stars, a flash of light form a logo that reads "Craven Corp."

# EXT. PARTY TRAIN - NIGHT

CONDUCTOR (40s), his eyes alert, and body ready for a busy night. He checks his watch.

With him is the ENGINEER (50s), gruff man with eyes that tell many stories as a former military officer. He walks to the CABOOSE CAR (last car).

In haste, NORMAN (20s), a likable spaz, runs to them and tucks in his shirt. Conductor shoves the manifest to Norman.

CONDUCTOR Fifty students, five crew, with eleven cars.

ENGINEER There should be ten cars. You forget to detach the last car?

NORMAN Uh, my bad.

THUD

NORMAN (CONT'D) What was that?

CONDUCTOR Probably a squatter. Go check it.

NORMAN What? Why me?

ENGINEER I'll take care of it.

He pulls out his flashlight. Conductor and Norman leave the Engineer alone to investigate the noise.

# EXT. CIRCUS CAR (#10) - NIGHT

Faded words appear on the car doors "The Greatest Show on Earth." Engineer slides the door open.

ENGINEER Come out now!

THUD

He hears the noise again and turns on the flashlight. It flickers then goes off. He peeks into darkness.

# INT. CIRCUS CAR - SAME

Engineer hops inside. He turns on the flashlight again, but no light. He searches anyway...

ENGINEER Come out now! Goddammit! He pushes the cap on the flashlight tight. It turns on. He discovers the White Cat with the collar.

The flashlight flickers through his hands--

In pain, MEOWWWWW. It takes one last breath and dies--

Blood comes out of the poor cat's eyes and ears--

The cat's stomach moves--

He bends down for a closer look--

POP

The cat's stomach explodes. Blood splatters on him.

A TINY PARASITE squirms into his nose. He wipes the blood, smearing it across his face.

He stumbles back and passes out...

# INT. CREW CABIN (#3) - NIGHT

The car has an 80s-style kitchenette. The Conductor hops on. Train Steward enters.

TRAIN STEWARD Fucking entitled brats.

CONDUCTOR You tell them about the last car?

TRAIN STEWARD They'll figure it out.

CONDUCTOR I can't find the Engineer. You see him?

Steward shakes her head.

# EXT. TRAIN PLATFORM - NIGHT

Jamie and Bela meet up with Chris, Piper, and Vincent. Piper hugs the twins. She gives Bela a bigger hug and a kiss. Pretty close to her lips.

> PIPER So glad you two made it.

JAMIE BELA Thanks, Pipes. Thanks, Pipes. Piper checks out Bela. PIPER (lingering gaze) It looks great on you. Check this out. Piper pulls out a small battery pack from Bela's inside jacket pocket and flips a tiny button. The green lining of Bela's jacket LIGHTS UP. BELA That's awesome! JAMIE I'm not staying. (to Piper) I can't believe you bailed her out. PIPER Don't be mad, please. Someone had too. C'mon Jamie. If I didn't then she definitely wouldn't be able to see your mom. You still have until tomorrow to convince her. JAMTE I shouldn't have too. PIPER Everyone deals differently. You know that. Please stay. Chris butts in. CHRIS (to Jamie) This is my bro, Vincent. Vincent, this is my friend Jamie. VINCENT (Dracula voice) Hi. It's nice to meet you. Jamie can't help but crack a small smile. VINCENT (CONT'D) I'm sorry that was tacky. Let me try again. Hi, you can call me Vince if you like.

He extends his hand. Jamie does the same.

Vincent kisses her soft hands.

BELA She's not staying. So I wouldn't get too romantic.

VINCENT Well, that's the worst news I've heard all day. Stay. It'll be fun.

CHRIS Yeah. I got a private car for us.

JAMIE Thanks, but I'm not in a Halloween spirit.

VINCENT C'mon. I'll talk in a Dracula voice all night if I have to.

CHRIS

No. Don't.

Norman approaches the group.

CHRIS (CONT'D) Hey Norm-y. Thanks for the hookup.

NORMAN Of course... Bro. Oh, who are your friends?

He goes straight to Piper --

CHRIS Don't you got somewhere to be?

NORMAN

Probably... Hey, you guys want a tour of this locomotive? That means train.

CHRIS I got to stay here with my peeps; ya know, host and everything. But why don't you two go?

He looks to Jamie and Vincent. Jamie thinks about it.

BELA (to Jamie) I thought you were leaving.

CHRIS (to Jamie) Once you see how dope this train is, you're gonna stay.

#### VINCENT

It'll be fun.

Piper edges Jamie closer to Vincent.

#### INT. OBSERVATION CAR (#8) - NIGHT

Windows sprawl across the car with seating and upholstery from the 1970s. More mellow than tacky, except for the bright shag carpet.

NORMAN Ok, so this car is called the Observation car for obvious reasons.

VINCENT So, I hear you're studying Microbiology--

JAMIE I was. I mean, I am or should be.

NORMAN

What's that?

JAMIE The study of microscopic organisms.

They move into ...

# INT. ROOSEVELT CAR (#7) - SAME

The car provides a decadent atmosphere and embeds a feeling of true luxury and style. The furniture has art-deco patterns with glass panels and mahogany walls.

> NORMAN This is the Roosevelt car. Franklin Roosevelt stayed in this very car when he visited. Everything you see is in its original condition.

VINCENT You're not going to school?

JAMIE Please don't tell anyone.

VINCENT

I won't.

NORMAN Hey, you guys listening?

JAMIE

Um, hmm.

VINCENT

Yeah.

#### EXT. TRAIN MUSEUM YARD - NIGHT

A student dressed as a CLOWN (19), distances himself from the rest of the party.

He removes his clown shoe and pulls out a blunt. Lights it.

## EXT. TRAIN MUSEUM YARD - NIGHT

The Engineer is on his knees. He opens his eyes with a purpose.

Clown approaches.

Another shooting star flies above them.

CLOWN Hey, buddy, you ok?

Engineer is unresponsive. Blood runs down his ears.

CLOWN (CONT'D) Nice makeup. Here.

He takes a puff and passes the blunt to Engineer.

He coughs, spraying blood specks on his blunt and hand.

CLOWN (CONT'D) Quit playing around. Just. Say. No.

Clown wipes the blood off his blunt, takes a puff then stashes it in his horn.

Engineer props up on his feet.

Yellow lights from antique fixtures flood the car, creating more of an eerie mood than a fun one.

There is a modern bar in the corner lined with booth seating and armchairs from the 1950s.

NORMAN This car is the lounge car. I like to chill here on my breaks.

VINCENT Why don't you want to stay for the party?

#### JAMIE

My sister...

Jamie sees the Engineer and Clown outside the window.

The Clown jolts and falls out of her view.

The group moves to ...

# INT. BUSINESS CAR (#5) - SAME

Rows of high-end seats and closed overhead compartments...

NORMAN You guys won't be spending too much time in this one.

Conductor enters.

CONDUCTOR Norman, have you seen the Engineer?

NORMAN

Nope.

JAMIE I just saw him outside.

CONDUCTOR Where? I must of missed him.

CUT TO:

# INT. HEADEND CAR (#1) - NIGHT

The oldest car on the train. Grimy and scary with knobs and switches on a dashboard. A large lever is in the floor.

The Engineer has LARGE and gross VEINY HAND.

CUT TO:

# INT. BUSINESS CAR (#5) - SAME

JAMIE Can we hurry this up, please?

NORMAN We can end it here. Ahead of us are a couple of cars just for the crew, and of course, the front car called the headend.

JAMIE Thank you for the tour.

#### INT. HEADEND CAR (#1) - NIGHT

Conductor enters.

The Engineer's back faces him ...

CONDUCTOR Everything ok?

He taps him; the Engineer whips his head around, startles the Conductor. Engineer has watery, RED EYES.

CONDUCTOR (CONT'D) You look terrible. I'll get you some coffee.

He exits.

The intercom goes on...

Static....

In the scariest voice imaginable...

ENGINEER

All aboard.

# EXT. TRAIN PLATFORM - NIGHT

The rest of the students in their Halloween costumes, board the train.

Clown boards with the students. He has red eyes like the Engineer. Clown COUGHS without covering his mouth.

# INT. PRIVATE CAR (#9) - NIGHT

Chris unlocks the door with the keys and leaves it open. Vincent and Jamie catch up with them. They enter.

Elaborate Halloween decorations hang on wood paneling, complements of first-class luxurious upholstery. Colorful LED lights illuminate premium liquor at the bar.

Bela and Jamie bump each other as they head to the restroom.

BELA Excuse you. I need to take a dump.

# JAMIE

Classy.

BELA I've been holding it in. You ever tried taking a dump in front of a drag queen named "Tickled Tuck"?

Jamie steps aside. Bela enters the restroom.

Norman invites himself in.

CHRIS Private party. Laterz.

He pushes Norman out. The door auto locks.

CHRIS (CONT'D) This door remains closed from now on.

# INT./EXT. HEADEND CAR (#1) - SAME

The big headlight turns on--

Engineer pulls the train horn--

HONK

Engineer's strong, yellow-nailed hands pull the big LEVER in the middle of the floor--

The train wheels ROTATE faster and faster--

SMOKE blasts from the smokestack into the cold, crisp air--

# INT. VARIOUS TRAIN CARS - CONTINUOUS

Everyone jerks as the train moves. The rowdy students scream and shout in excitement.

# INT. PRIVATE CAR - NIGHT

The friends stare at Jamie.

JAMIE What the hell? No last call.

PIPER See, you're stuck with us. It'll be fun. We have the whole night ahead of us.

# INT. PRIVATE CAR RESTROOM - NIGHT

Bela applies her fake tattoo that resembles a computer circuit board. She pulls her phone and charger from her duffle bag and plugs it in a nearby outlet.

She has one bar of signal.

# INT. PRIVATE CAR (#9)

Bela exits the restroom. The tattoo covers her scar.

PIPER (re: covered scar) You didn't need to do that.

She strokes Bela's face. Bela shrugs. Piper removes her phone from her cleavage and takes a selfie with Bela.

CLICK.

She attempts to post on social media.

PIPER (CONT'D) I can't get a signal. CHRIS We're in the middle of nowhere.

Bela leaves space for Jamie to sit next to her, but she doesn't.

Piper takes the seat instead.

CHRIS (CONT'D) (to Jamie) Relax. You look like your head's about to explode. Vince, make her a buttery nipple.

He sticks out his tongue and makes a licking motion.

Vincent grabs shot glasses and fills them with vodka.

JAMIE I'm not drinking.

BELA

I am.

JAMIE Going a few days in prison without booze must've been hard.

BELA Jail, bitch.

She downs her shot. Piper shoves shots into hands and gives Jamie a water bottle.

PIPER C'mon, girls, how about a toast? Okay, everyone. For all the years we've been friends, to graduation, and what the future holds. To my career as a fashion designer, Chris working at his dad's firm, and Vincent joining that non-profit. To Jamie's residency, to Bela who--

JAMIE

Has no future.

She takes a swig of her bottled water. The comment hurts Bela. Fuck it... She drinks. Vincent looks confused. Piper is upset.

# CHRIS

Cheers!

He drinks. Bela does a shot. Piper takes it away.

PIPER (to Bela) Take it easy. (to Jamie) That was a bit harsh.

# ROOSEVELT CAR (#7)

The DJs type on their laptops and blare SYTHWAVE MUSIC throughout the train. One of the DJs turns on a fog machine and plays a synthesizer.

#### HEADEND CAR (#1)

Conductor enters with a mug that reads "BEST MOM." Engineer's eyes are red with a single yellow dot in each eye.

He drinks from the mug.

# CREW CABIN (#3)

Tired, SERVICE ATTENDANT, 50s, pulls out a sandwich.

Conductor enters with the empty "BEST MOM" mug.

TRAIN STEWARD (re: mug) There it is.

Train Steward takes the mug and fills it with water.

TRAIN STEWARD (CONT'D) I'm going to go lay down. Those dirty badgers gave me a headache.

SERVICE ATTENDANT Dirty badgers?

TRAIN STEWARD Millennials.

# PRIVATE CAR

Chris holds a pipe and lighter. He flops himself next to Vincent on the loveseat.

VINCENT When do you start work for your dad?

CHRIS Week after I graduate.

VINCENT That blows.

CHRIS Yeah, I was hoping to have a little bit more freedom before I became a cog in the system.

He puts his hand down his pants.

VINCENT What are you doing?

CHRIS This costume doesn't have any pockets.

He pulls out a bag of weed from his crotch.

VINCENT That's gross, dude.

CHRIS You don't wanna know where I had my pipe.

He takes a couple hits and passes it to Vincent, who refuses.

SIGNAL LIGHTS from the tracks whip by. Bela stares into them.

## EXT. STREETS - NIGHT [FLASHBACK]

DIA DE LOS MUERTOS

In the Barrio, CHILDREN run amok with painted sugar skull masks as little girls wear colorful long dresses. The boys wear suits with bow ties.

Women have colored flower headbands, while men's hats are decorated with web designs and black flowers.

MEXICAN DANCERS lead beautiful floats. FOOD TRUCKS line up, busy with starving CUSTOMERS.

BYSTANDERS hold candles for their deceased loved ones, dressed in costumes and colored face paint.

MARIA, 50, wears a long black dress with red lace trim. A rose is tucked behind her ear, with little make-up. She doesn't need it.

The twins wear matching outfits and exquisite make-up. They are happy together. There is no space between them.

Colorful lights WHIP around them as they dance with their mom, Maria and celebrate the dead as a family.

END FLASHBACK

PRIVATE CAR

BELA Are we going to stay in here all night or what?

Bela fills her flask with liquor and takes a drinks.

CHRIS Fuck no! Let's do this!

PIPER Picture first.

Bela and Jamie stand distantly from one another. The friends pose for the picture.

CLICK

CHRIS Enough of this mushy shit. Let's fucking par-ty!

Bela exits, flask in hand.

Vincent snatches the KEYS from Chris before he can put them down his pants.

Vincent, Chris, and Bela bolt to the next car.

Piper sits next to Jamie.

JAMIE She acts like she doesn't care. Drinking and getting herself in trouble.

PIPER She's struggling, too. Just like you. If you two would just talk to each other-- JAMIE Why are you on her side?

PIPER I'm not. I'm team twinzies, K? You two are all you have. Don't shut her out.

JAMIE Why not? She did it to me.

Piper sighs. She can't reach Jamie's compassion and empathy.

PIPER When you're ready to talk, I'll be here. We're all here for you, Jamie.

She hugs Jamie and leaves with a drink in her hand.

Jamie sits idle, dwelling in anger like a teenager.

# HEADEND CAR (#1)

Yellow specks in the Engineer's eyes GLOW.

He loads coal into the engine.

His arm muscles are larger than before, veins bulge.

He stops shoveling coal to scratch his scalp.

It FALLS off...

He looks at the pieces of flesh, intrigued.

He honks his horn, blows out his bloody blunt, and catches it in midair. A student pulls out a lighter and takes a hit. He passes the blunt to BURLESQUE BABE who takes a drag.

- He looks dehydrated, stumbling to a keg. He snatches the hose from someone and chugs. He wipes his mouth.

- PRISON INMATE snatches the keg hose and drinks. He hands it off to HOCKEY MASK KILLER for a swig.

- Clown squints as he storms off...

# **OBSERVATION CAR (#8)**

Norman flirts with GYPSY WOMAN, she digs him. Her hand is in his back pocket.

Clown bursts in and bumps into Norman. Gypsy Girl pulls out her hand, the MANIFEST falls out. Clown runs through the crowd.

#### RESTROOM

Clown huffs and puffs. He vomits chunks into the toilet ...

He examines himself in the mirror, his eyes... RED.

His hearing fluctuates...

He sticks his finger in his ears. BLOOD.

He coughs violently and vomits again.

He dies.

Or does he?

#### PRIVATE CAR (#9)

Jamie sits alone, listening to the rhythm of music and fun. She unlocks her phone to check the time. Her phone's wallpaper is the same as Bela's with their mom.

PARTY MONTAGE - VARIOUS TRAIN CARS

She grabs her garment bag and enters the restroom.

- Piper whispers to DOCTOR, three guys dressed as FIREMEN stand next to her and admire her body.

- S.W.A.T. OFFICER takes out his baton and tests the SAMURAI WARRIOR'S armor. He hits him on his chest plate.

- They all do shots. S.W.A.T. Officer has red watery eyes.

- VIKING plays beer pong with red, watery eyes. He sinks his ball in 80S PUNK ROCKER's cup and lifts his shield in victory. Punk Rocker drinks.

- ASTRONAUT and GRUESOME BAT CREATURE toast and drink, but their helmet and mask are in the way. They giggle and remove their masks. RED. WATERY EYES. They cough.

- Bela laughs with three KARATE GUYS. Karate Guy #2 and #3 get in fighting stances and do kick moves. One falls down.

END OF MONTAGE

The Karate Guys flirt with Bela.

KARATE GUY #1 You're Jamie's twin, right? Is it true if one of you gets hurt, the other one feels it? What about a kiss?

He moves in aggressively. She hits him in his nuts.

BELA (to Karate Guy #2) Did you feel that?

Karate Guy #2 shakes his head, #3 laughs.

Norman eyes the commotion. He's attracted to Bela. He approaches the group and fake laughs to fit in.

NORMAN (to Bela) Just wanted to say, cool costume.

Norman throws her a flirtatious smile.

NORMAN (CONT'D) Mine isn't a costume. It's a uniform. I'm Norman. I assist in coupling and decoupling the trains.

Bela listens and nods.

NORMAN (CONT'D) It's called bleeding the lines. What you do is, there is this main line, like a large hose, and you disconnect it, and the air--

BELA I gotta go. Talk later.

Norman stands awkwardly, alone.

CUT TO:

Jamie enters wearing a bad-ass AVIATOR STEAMPUNK costume, equipped with googles and plastic <u>forearm guards</u>. She navigates through the party. Vincent intercepts her.

VINCENT (O.S.) Jamie! There you are! (re: costume) You look so cool.

He stares at her like he's looking into her soul. Jamie can't help to reveal some swoon.

#### JAMIE

Thanks.

Bela watches Jamie in the near distance.

CUT TO:

BELA At least someone's making her smile.

PIPER You deserve to smile too.

Piper dances up against Bela, to get her to smile.

A male FIGURE slinks into the room catching the girl's attention. He wears a lab coat with a "CRAVEN CORP" arm patch and a sack over his head with eye holes cut out.

Chris cuts in on Piper and Bela's dance.

PIPER (CONT'D) (re: Craven Corp costume) If I didn't make your costume, you could have shown up looking that tacky.

The Figure strolls past Vincent and Jamie who are very much into each other. Vincent scoffs at the "Craven Corp" patch.

VINCENT That costume's in poor taste.

JAMIE Not a fan of Craven Corp? They pretty much run everything.

VINCENT Do you know how much animal testing they do?

JAMIE They're the leader in pharmaceuticals. Some people need medication.

(MORE)

# JAMIE (CONT'D) Craven Corp's antidepressants cut down most dosages by a third.

VINCENT There are other ways to get over depression. Spiritual, medicinal herbs, exercise--

JAMIE Or just stop being sad, right?

VINCENT You can't be on pills forever.

JAMIE You sound a lot like my sister. It's so easy to shame others when you're looking from the outside.

# VINCENT

I'm so sorry. I shouldn't be so insensitive. What's with you and her? It must be serious for you not to talk to your twin.

Jamie stays silent.

VINCENT (CONT'D) Strike two, huh. Shit. I just want to get to you know, and I'm being such a dick.

JAMIE You're not. Don't worry about it.

Hockey Mask Killer drapes his arms over Jamie, with a beer.

HOCKEY MASK KILLER

Jamie!

Hockey Mask Killer pauses and leans into her face. He squints, studying her face.

HOCKEY MASK KILLER (CONT'D) Hey, want some?

He puts the drink toward her face. She moves his hand away and shakes her head. He tries again.

VINCENT C'mon man. HOCKEY MASK KILLER. Hey, I hear your twin is here. You think she'll do shots with me since you're too scared? VINCENT (CONT'D) Jamie, you don't have to.

HOCKEY MASK KILLER That's what I'm talking about.

Before Jamie takes a swig... Chris SLAMS into her. The drink spills on her.

JAMIE What the hell, Chris?

VINCENT (to Chris) Be careful, bud. (to Jamie) You alright?

PIPER (to Jamie) Go get cleaned up, I'll take care of him. Vince, can you go with?

Jamie and Vincent pass sickly students.

Bela sees the commotion from the distance and follows them.

HOCKEY MASK KILLER (to Chris) Watch where you're going, loser.

CHRIS Fuck you, bro. This is my party.

They exchange shoves. Chris punches him in the face, knocking off his mask, revealing red, watery eyes. He punches Chris in the face, cutting his cheek.

PIPER Stop it! Knock it off!

Piper and Viking pull Chris away. Karate Guy #2 pulls off Hockey Mask Killer. Chris gets in the last hit.

# PRIVATE CAR

Jamie and Vincent enter, shutting the door behind them.

JAMIE I'll be back. She goes into the bathroom as Vincent sits. Bela enters.

BELA How's my sister?

# VINCENT

Wet.

Bela raises an eyebrow.

VINCENT (CONT'D) (nervous) I mean... she's drying off in the bathroom.

BELA Thanks for keeping her company tonight. It's nice to see her finally smile.

Vincent nods. Piper and Chris bang on the door. Bela UNLOCKS the door and lets them in. Drunk, Chris enters.

VINCENT What happened?

CHRIS Protecting my kingdom.

He whips out his fake sword, raising it in victory.

VINCENT

You going to be okay?

He puts the sword to his crotch and gyrates. He kisses Piper hard. She shoves him back. Chris bows and falls to the floor. Jamie joins the group.

> CHRIS (to Jamie) Can you take a look at my cheek?

BELA Jamie isn't studying to be that kind of doctor. She studies microbiology.

CHRIS

Huh?

BELA Explain it to this doofus. JAMIE I'm actually not studying anymore.

BELA What do you mean?

JAMIE

I quit.

The air leaves the room.

BELA You're almost done. Why?

VINCENT She's just going through a rough time.

BELA You told him?

Jamie throws her a "yes" look.

BELA (CONT'D) I'm your sister!

JAMIE Than act like it!

They get in each others faces.

THUMP

THUMP

MUSIC SKIPS

PIPER What was that?

CHRIS Sounds like me and Piper banging on a full moon.

CRASH

BOOM

Music stops.

CHRIS (CONT'D) What's up with the music? I'm not paying these DJs to jerk off. SCREAMS

Lights flicker.

Everyone peeks through the door window. They can barely see: ROBIN HOOD and Burlesque Babe lay face down on the floor.

Suddenly... LIGHTS GO OUT.

More SCREAMS.

CHRIS (CONT'D) Fucking, great. I'll be back.

VINCENT I'll come with.

CHRIS It's cool, bro. I wanna make sure I get my deposit back.

VINCENT You mean your dad's.

They flip each other off with a smile.

Chris exits. The door LOCKS behind him.

VINCENT (CONT'D) It's probably a trick Chris set up to scare the candies out of us.

# INT. OBSERVATION CAR (#8)

A glow stick illuminates a bite mark on the face of UNDEAD BALLET DANCER and other costume students on the floor.

Lights flicker.

The bodies SEIZURE...

Blood DRIPS out of their ears.

Lights turn on in the observation car.

WHAM.

UNDEAD CLOWN slams Chris into the door and bites his neck. Chris screams and punches him.

# INT. PRIVATE CAR (#9)

#### VINCENT

Chris!!

He opens the door and rescues him, but Chris's sword gets stuck in the vestibule doorway.

Bela holds the door open.

# INTERCUT OBSERVATION CAR/PRIVATE CAR

UNDEAD VOODOO DOLL and UNDEAD ROBIN HOOD slowly get up.

Vincent helps, but Chris's franticness makes it impossible.

VINCENT (CONT'D) Move your hand!

UNDEAD BURLESQUE BABE grabs Chris's arm and takes a bite.

#### CHRIS

Awww! Fuck!

He accidentally smacks Vincent hard on the mouth. His lip bleeds.

Chris knocks down Undead Burlesque Babe.

Vincent unbuckles his belt and drags him out of danger.

BACK TO:

#### PRIVATE CAR (#9)

Bela shuts the door. Piper and Vincent lay Chris on the couch. Bela places throw pillows under his head.

Bela puts pressure on the neck wound.

Jamie can't move. Can't talk. Can't cry.

# INT./EXT. CAR - (FLASHBACK)

Note: This is the same DIA DE LOS MUERTOS flashback as Bela.

Jamie wakes up with an airbag in her face and glass around her. The front windshield is shattered into pieces.

JAMIE

Bela? Mom?

Jamie adjusts slowly, in pain. Bela is knocked out with her face cut against the broken side window.

BELA

Jamie?

JAMIE Are you okay?

BELA I don't know.

JAMIE

Mom?

No answer.

She looks out the windshield and sees their mom sprawled out on the asphalt.

BELA Mom? Mom. Wake up.

#### JAMIE

Mom!

Bela musters all her strength and pries open her door. She runs out to their mom. Dead. She's in disbelief.

Jamie gets out and checks on mom, but it's too late.

Jamie can't move. Can't talk. Can't cry.

END OF FLASHBACK

PRIVATE CAR

CHRIS Fuck! That asshole just bit me.

BELA (to Piper) Get me some towels.

PIPER There's so much blood.

Vincent grabs the towels and knocks over the ice bucket, soaking his phone. He gives the towels to Bela and puts them on the neck wound.

> BELA What the hell happened?

#### CHRIS

Blood everywhere. Everything trashed. People on the floor.

He goes in and out of consciousness.

Jamie rushes to the "emergency stop" cord.

# JAMIE

Everyone hold on to something!

The friends brace themselves. She pulls the cord.

Nothing.

She pulls again and again. The cord unravels off the hinges and falls to the floor.

CUT TO:

# INT. HEADEND CAR - SAME

Engineer grabs the emergency cord with his bulgy hands and bites the cord off with his deformed, yellow teeth.

CUT TO:

# PRIVATE CAR

The group continues to brace themselves.

VINCENT Why aren't we stopping?

Jamie shows him the broken cord.

BELA You broke it!

JAMIE No, I didn't.

ELA I can't stop the bleeding.

VINCENT Hey, buddy? C'mon, stay with me. We're going to get help.

Chris seizures and his chest expands for one last breath.

# Chris!

Bela checks his pulse.

Chris is dead.

Piper cries. Bela hugs her.

Jamie stares at the blood and curls up in a ball.

Vincent sheds tears. He covers Chris with his cape and flops on the floor.

# **OBSERVATION CAR (#8)**

Motionless bodies with bite marks litter the floor.

Undead Burlesque Babe slams her body against the window, moans, and grunts.

UNDEAD POLICE OFFICER staggers up and chomps.

# PRIVATE CAR (#9)

Silence, as members of the group process their emotions.

Jamie reaches for her pills, knocks them back.

Bela chugs on hard liquor.

Vincent and Piper cry alone in their respective corners.

Unknown to everyone... Chris's body slowly moves underneath the cape.

UNDEAD CHRIS POV: CAPE SLIDES OFF. HE SEES HIS FRIENDS IN INFRARED.

WHAM.

UNDEAD CHRIS jumps on Vincent's back--

Piper screams.

#### JAMIE

# CHRIS!

Bela rushes to help Vincent--

Undead Chris's teeth are inches away from Vincent's face--

The twins pry Chris off, but no luck--His ears are full of blood--Bela grabs Jamie's prop gun from her Steampunk costume and hits Chris, but he's relentless... Piper restrains Chris--He pushes her; She falls back and twists her ankle--Bela hits Chris across the face with the prop gun--CRACK Bela caves in his nose--Vincent takes his cape and throws it on Undead Chris--Bela kicks him into the restroom--Vincent shuts the door --BELA He was dead! I checked his pulse! JAMIE You didn't do it right. BELA I know how to check a pulse! JAMIE Clearly, you don't. VINCENT Stop! Both of you! PIPER My ankle... BELA (re: swollen ankle) It's sprained. JAMIE We need to find help. Where is the crew? PIPER We can call for help. Where's my phone ?! I can't find my phone. Bela finds it near the antique mirror where she fell.

The phone is broken. BELA Sorry, Pipes. VINCENT (grabs wet phone) It doesn't matter, anyway. There's no signal. BELA (points to restroom) Yes, there is. PIPER Are you kidding me? VINCENT I'll get it. BELA No. I will. JAMIE Quit rushing into things! We'll wait for the crew. PIPER It's too dangerous, Bel. Ouch. Piper gets up to stop Bela from doing something stupid. BELA Sit down, Pipes. (sits her down) There's not that much room. I'm smaller. (to Vincent) Besides, if anything happens, you need to take care of my sister and Piper. JAMIE No, let's just wait! The undead pound harder and harder at their door. BELA We don't have time! (to Jamie) Open the door. Reluctant, Jamie s-l-o-w-l-y and quietly... Opens the door.

### RESTROOM

Undead Chris sits on the toilet... Still.

The cape covers his eyes. Bela steps cautiously.

She detaches her phone from the charger and turns it on.

PING

The phone boots up--

Bela nervously turns to Undead Chris--

He doesn't move--

No signal... She moves to the shut window above him but can't reach the latch. She steps between his legs.

VINCENT (whispers) What are you doing?

Bela hovers over Undead Chris, a loud BUZZING is heard through the car. The lights FLICKER fast.

She holds the phone out the window. It shows one bar of signal. Phone reads: "emergency calls only."

LIGHTS OUT.

BELA (whispers) I got a signal.

LIGHTS ON.

Her foot slips and hits Undead Chris, knocking off the cape.

UNDEAD CHRIS POV: CAPE FALLS OFF, REVEALING BELA IN INFRARED.

He clutches onto her with a snarl.

The phone falls out the window. She peppers him with punches. He let's go. She jumps off the toilet, Undead Chris grabs her in midair and slams into Jamie. The twins hit the floor.

Vincent can't overpower him and loses his grip. He attacks the twins.

He bites Jamie on the arm but can't penetrate her forearm guard.

Vincent jumps on his back, releasing her arm from his mouth. He flings Vincent away, who hits his head, knocks him out.

Undead Chris tosses Bela to the floor like a rag doll, leaving her dazed. Jamie scrambles for freedom.

Piper uses what strength she has, grabs the ICE PICK, and stabs Undead Chris.

He turns his attention to Piper and crawls toward her...

She stabs him again but loses her balance. He bites her swollen ankle, tearing tender flesh off the bone.

BELA (CONT'D) JAMIE Piper.

Nooo.

Bela blitzes Undead Chris. She takes the stuck ice pick from his back and stabs him in the head. Chris is dead for good.

Bela checks on Piper. Jamie checks on Vincent. She examines his head.

BELA (CONT'D) How is he?

JAMIE I can't wake him.

Bela spots the bite mark on Jamie's plastic forearm guard. Jamie knocks on the plastic.

JAMIE (CONT'D)

I'm ok.

Bela takes off her utility belt andr uses it as a tourniquet for Piper's leg.

# PIPER

What is that ?!

A chubby and gross PARASITE, slithers out of Undead Chris's ear. It WIGGLES chaotically toward the group.

# JAMIE

It's a parasite.

Bela goes to step on it...

JAMIE (CONT'D)

Don't!

Jamie pushes her sister aside before she can squash it.

BELA

PIPER Kill it!

Jamie takes Bela's empty flask from her jacket pocket and traps the parasite with it.

BELA (CONT'D) You're kidding me right?

JAMIE I know what I'm doing.

# INT. VESTIBULE - SAME

Undead stare at Piper, drawn to her blood... BAM. BAM.

#### PRIVATE CAR (#9)

What the hell?!

Undead weaken the door. It creaks and cracks from the pressure of the horde.

PIPER

Now what?

JAMIE We wait here until the train stops or the crew finds us.

BELA I don't think they know what's going on.

JAMIE Why wouldn't they?

BELA What if the crew are dead, or worse? One of those things?

JAMIE We don't even know what those things are?

BELA

Exactly.

## WHAM

Undead smash the window--

### BELA (CONT'D) We need to leave, now.

Jamie wakes up Vincent but no response. She struggles to drag him. Bela grabs Piper.

PIPER Take the ice pick.

BELA I'm sorry, Chris.

Piper looks away before Bela yanks the ice pick from Chris' head. She slips it into her back pocket...

They move to the CIRCUS CAR.

Jamie drags Vincent. The keys fall out of his pocket and wedge the door, preventing it from closing behind them.

#### VESTIBULE

Bela leans Piper against the wall. The twins struggle but open the big and heavy metal circus car entrance.

Piper hops inside. The twins gather Vincent and enter, but they forget to shut the door.

#### CIRCUS CAR (#10)

Cold wind hits them. Moonlight beams through, hitting chains and shackles. Various sized cages and crates line the car.

The twins look up in unison and see the wind originates from holes in the roof, where giraffes would stand. There's an old SPRINKLER SYSTEM above them.

> BELA We need to get off this train.

> > JAMIE

How? Jump?

BELA

Maybe.

PIPER Wait, wait. What?!

JAMIE Are you nuts? We can't jump. We're going too fast. We won't make it. JAMIE (CONT'D) Piper can't make the jump with her ankle like that.

BELA You got any better ideas? We can jump from the last car.

JAMIE Even if we did, we're in the middle of nowhere. No food or water. We could be out there for days.

#### CREAK

Everyone turns to the noise. Bela readies her ice pick and cautiously approaches the sound. Jamie stays back.

MICHAEL (late 40s), jumps out, frantic. He has more white hair than he should at his age and dark circles around his eyes. He has a MOLE on his hand.

MICHAEL Don't hurt me!

BELA What are you doing back there?

JAMIE Are you okay?

BELA Who are you?

MICHAEL Michael. I'm part of the train personnel.

She examines him. Michael wears a collared shirt and slacks with a belt.

BELA Where's your uniform?

#### JAMIE

Bela, stop.

Jamie turns to him with a sympathetic expression. In response, Michael loosens up and moves closer to Jamie.

MICHAEL I was running late when one of these cages fell on my head. See?

Michael shows them the bump on his head.

# PIPER

Ouch. Fuck!

MICHAEL (re: Pipers' injury) That looks like a bite mark. How'd you get that?

PIPER It doesn't matter, now. He's dead. We think.

MICHAEL What does that mean? What's happening?

BELA We need to get off the train.

MICHAEL (re: Vincent) Was he bit too?

JAMIE He's knocked out. Watch our friends, we're going to check the last car.

PIPER Be careful, girls.

The twins exit.

#### PRIVATE CAR (#9)

Undead rummage the car and LICK Piper's blood off the floor. Others sniff, grunt, and snarl as they search the area.

The keys leave the door slightly ajar and allow undead to slide the door open.

# VESTIBULE

Yellow "CAUTION" tape blocks the caboose car door. Bela rips it off. Jamie has trouble opening the door.

# INT. CABOOSE CAR (#11) - SAME

The door opens. Violent winds welcome the twins. The floor of the car is GONE. A few inches of floor are left along the edges.

JAMIE This is the train from --

BELA

-- Hell.

They look at each other ... For the first time in agreement.

### CIRCUS CAR (#10)

Michael analyzes Piper.

MICHAEL Do you know why you were attacked? How do you feel? Do you have any symptoms?

PIPER Huh? I'm in pain if that's what you mean.

Michael steps away from her. The twins rush in.

JAMIE Vincent. Please wake up.

PIPER What's wrong?

BELA We can't jump. There is a big hole in the floor.

PIPER Can we jump from another car?

MICHAEL No. We risk getting sucked underneath at this speed.

## EXT. WILDERNESS - NIGHT

Rain drizzles. In the middle of nowhere, the speeding train passes a vast landscape of mountains and endless trees.

# INT. CIRCUS CAR (#10) - SAME

Jamie wakes up Vincent to no avail.

PIPER Now what?! We can't go through them!

Bela points to the roof. Jamie shakes her head in disagreement. Bela stacks crates as they wobble.

BELA (to Michael) Help me with Piper.

Reluctant, but he helps.

JAMIE This is crazy.

## VESTIBULE

In a frenzy, the undead force themselves to the circus car. They yearn for Piper's blood.

# CIRCUS CAR (#10)

Michael and the twins look back and see the undead.

MICHAEL What the hell is that?

BELA

Keep going.

Out of fear, he lets go of Piper and pushes Bela, cutting her hand on a damaged crate. BLOOD drips. The undead smell her blood and go berserk. Michael bolts to the roof.

#### PIPER

Wait!!

The crates underneath Michael fall, but he makes it.

BELA Motherfucker!

### EXT. CIRCUS CAR ROOF - SAME

Michael slips but hangs on.

MICHAEL Hurry up!!

### INT. CIRCUS CAR

Michael observes from above.

Bela wraps her hand with her glow-in-the-dark bandana and assists Piper.

The twins and Piper push Vincent to Michael.

Piper is up next...

The twins help Piper, she reaches for Michael to help her, but she struggles and takes too long.

PIPER Help me! I can't!

MICHAEL

Leave her.

BELA

JAMIE

No!

No!

The twins won't leave Piper, so he helps.

Jamie gets on the roof.

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JAMIE (CONT'D)
(to Bela)
Watch out!
```

UNDEAD ASIAN PRINCESS slips past the door and targets Bela's bloody hand. Bela stabs her in the head with the ice pick.

## INTERCUT: INT./EXT. CIRCUS CAR

Vincent is laid out on the roof. Jamie holds onto his leg with one hand and stabilizes Piper with the other.

Rain drizzles and wakes Vincent.

VINCENT What the fuck?!

Undead Prison Inmate blitz after Bela, she throws a small crate at him to create distance.

VINCENT (CONT'D) Where's Bela?

# PIPER

Down there.

Vincent frantically looks down a giraffe hole and watches Bela fight off Undead Prison Inmate.

Rain pours. Piper's hands slip, but Vincent catches her.

BELA (O.S.)

Go!

Jamie hesitates.

BELA (CONT'D) Go! I'll be right behind you.

#### JAMIE

Everybody, move up!

Undead Prison Inmate jumps atop of Bela. She stabs him in the eye with the ice pick. It gets stuck. Another undead enters and attacks Bela.

Jamie puts on her goggles to see better in the heavy rain. She crawls across the roof.

Piper and Vincent crawl forward.

Jamie goes back for Bela.

JAMIE (CONT'D) Bela?! Bela?!

Jamie's hand slips. Her body slides to the edge of the train.

A hand shoots out and takes her foot before she can fall...

It's Bela. She saves her twin from falling off.

Undead Viking snatches Bela's leg as Jamie pulls her up.

Bela knocks him off the crates and escapes.

The twins move forward.

### EXT. PRIVATE CAR ROOF - NIGHT

The train approaches a tunnel. Everyone looks ahead.

MICHAEL We won't make it.

BELA Yes, we will.

They hurry across the roof. But it's difficult with the constant sway of the high speed and rain.

They dangerously slip and slide.

#### EXT. OBSERVATION CAR ROOF - NIGHT

Bela peaks in the window but can't open it. She crawls to another window.

The bloody bandanna causes Bela to lose grip. She falls over the edge... Jamie catches her foot just in time.

Bela opens the window with one hard jerk.

MICHAEL Any of those things inside?

BELA

No.

Michael darts inside the observation car, knocking her back, again. She regains her grip.

#### INT. OBSERVATION CAR (#8) - SAME

No undead in sight. A few COSTUME PROPS are scattered across the floor:

Broken arrow

Horn

Kung Fu Fan

Handcuffs

Michael falls in. He gets up quickly.

A faint moan comes from behind the small bar. He approaches with extreme caution.

At the small bar is a student dressed as a MERMAID. She whimpers in pain. She reaches to him for help. Michael studies her quickly.

There's a deep bite on her ankle that penetrated the tail of her costume.

Beside him is an open first aid kit with a pair of scissors.

## EXT. OBSERVATION CAR - SAME

Bela eyes the upcoming tunnel.

BELA Everyone inside!

# INTERCUT: INT./EXT. OBSERVATION CAR

Vincent and Piper stumble in followed by Jamie.

Bela looks up... The tunnel is right in front of her.

Her eyes widen.

Bela falls inside before the tunnel decapitates her.

#### INT. VESTIBULE - SAME

Vincent sees the undead search the private car. He quietly barricades the swinging door.

PIPER I thought you weren't going to make it.

BELA How you feeling?

PIPER It's getting harder to put pressure on it.

VINCENT Where's the old guy?

Bela runs to the next vestibule to look for Michael. In the parlor car, she sees several undead, idle. Jamie examines Piper's bloody and discolored leg wound.

PIPER I need a first aid kit. Twins frantically search for a first aid kit. She hears a noise behind the small bar and moves closer.

Michael is crouched down next to Mermaids' dead body.

She has scissors in her neck.

BELA What are you doin'?

MICHAEL I wanted to make sure it was clear.

BELA Bullshit! Get up!

She grabs him by the arm like a child in trouble.

MICHAEL

Let go of me.

Bela tosses the first aid kit to her twin.

JAMIE What the hell, Bela? We don't have time for this.

BELA Stop worrying about me and focus on Piper.

Jamie douses Piper's leg with alcohol and cleans around the wound; it's worse.

MICHAEL The infection is accelerating at an alarming rate.

BELA Do something!

JAMIE I'm trying!

. . . . . . . . .

Michael notices the tension between the twins.

VINCENT Stop yelling. Those things can probably hear us. Let go of him.

PIPER

Please, Bel.

Bela lets releases Michael. Piper holds her wound in tears.

JAMIE It doesn't make sense.

Michael scans the inside of the parlor car.

The undead sway from side to side. Michael observes the blood coming from their ears. He TAPS the window hard. The undead don't react.

VINCENT We should wait here until the train stops.

BELA Sooner or later, those things will know we're in here. (to Piper) We need to get you help now.

MICHAEL Your friend won't make it.

BELA You. Shut up. You don't know that.

She assaults Michael. He latches onto her injured hand. Jamie pulls her back, and Vincent clutches Michael.

JAMIE Knock it off. Hitting him isn't going to help.

BELA No, but it'll make me feel better.

VINCENT That's enough, Bela.

BELA (to Vincent) Hey, new guy. Shut it.

JAMIE Don't talk to him like that.

PIPER (devastated) So... I'm going to die...

Everyone goes quiet as despair and failure hurdle at their tired faces.

Bela glances in the parlor car ahead of them.

BELA There's not a lot of them.

JAMIE No way, Bela. We can't.

VINCENT What are you girls talking about?

JAMIE Bela wants us to fight through them.

MICHAEL No. No. No. We can't. We've been lucky so far. We won't make it. Especially with that one.

Michael points to Piper.

# HEADEND CAR (#1)

A large piece of the Engineer's ROTTED, DISCOLORED SKIN falls out his pant leg. He steps on it. It sticks to his boot.

The last portion of SKIN falls off his face. He turns knobs and switches, colors them with his blood.

His muscles are abnormally enlarged and BULGE as he shovels coal into the engine.

#### **OBSERVATION CAR** (#8)

Everyone slumps, exhausted while Michael is on edge. Bela's hand bleeds.

PIPER What do we know about these things?

BELA They're strong. And they --

JAMIE

-- Hold on.

She builds a barrier on the floor with bottles and cans.

She takes out the flask and unscrews the cap. Jamie releases the parasite inside the barricade.

The parasite appears dead ...

A drop of blood falls from Bela's hand on a beer can. The parasite squirms fast for the blood and SIPS it with nasty mini TENTACLES.

JAMIE (CONT'D) Blood draws their attention.

BELA I broke Chris's nose, so he wasn't able to smell our blood.

JAMIE And blood coming out of their ears...

Jamie crushes a beer can nearby, the parasite doesn't react.

JAMIE (CONT'D) They're deaf.

Vincent pulls out Chris's lighter to get a better look.

JAMIE (CONT'D) Give me the lighter.

Vincent complies. She waves the lighter. The parasite follows the flame.

MICHAEL Heat vision.

VINCENT So anything that is alive and bleeds attracts them.

Michael kills the parasite.

JAMIE Why'd you do that?!

MICHAEL I uh, overreacted.

BELA You asshole.

VINCENT Why don't we all have one of those things in us?

JAMIE Everyone must have ingested something. PIPER Don't you think people would noticed drinking that hideous thing?

MICHAEL Not if it starts as microscopic.

BELA How do you know?

MICHAEL

I... Read....

JAMIE The parasite transfers through saliva and blood. It grows inside the host.

BELA All our drinks came from the private bar.

VINCENT How come Chris changed so fast?

JAMIE I'm not sure, but with rabies the virus travels from the site of the bite to the brain as it moves through the nerves. Maybe the closer the bite mark to the brain, the faster the infection spreads.

PIPER How do we get it out of me?

BELA So it's rabies?

JAMIE

No. It's worse and far more contagious. The parasites feed on blood.

PIPER So let's get off this fucking train.

JAMIE We have to be careful with Piper's wound. PIPER

Look--

Piper spots a map of the train.

TRAIN MAP: "YOU ARE HERE".

BELA There's a train station ahead.

VINCENT (looks out window) I think I can see it.

PIPER We should be slowing down.

VINCENT Shit. We're going to pass it.

BELA Find something to write with.

Everybody searches.

Jamie frantically looks for something, her anxiety meds fall out her pocket--

Michael grabs the pills and hands them to her. She takes them making sure the group didn't see. Michael notices.

BELA (CONT'D)

Hurry!

Nobody can find anything.

Out of time...

Bela rips the map insert from the wall. With blood from her hand, she writes:

"TRAIN OUT OF CTRL HELP."

She puts the note inside a liquor bottle and throws it out.

# EXT. ARGENTO'S TRAIN STATION - NIGHT

The bottle LANDS near the gate. No one in sight.

BACK TO:

# INT. OBSERVATION CAR (#8) - SAME

WHAM

UNDEAD VIKING snatches Bela's hair from the rooftop.

JAMIE

Bela.

Undead Viking pulls Bela's hair. He chomps and tugs. She hangs out the window. Jamie pries Undead Viking's grip.

Michael takes the scissors from Mermaid's neck and tackles Piper. Vincent struggles with Michael for the scissors.

> VINCENT (to Michael) What are you doing?

Jamie beats on Undead Viking.

Undead Viking clutches Bela's face closer and closer to his face. He TEARS off her eyebrow ring with his teeth.

Jamie takes a bottle and bashes it over his head, and stabs him in the eye. Undead Viking releases Bela, and he falls off the train.

Vincent gets the scissors from Michael and punches him.

MICHAEL

(re: Piper) I thought she turned into one of those things and was going after Bela.

PIPER You're an asshole. I'll never hurt my friends.

BELA No more close calls with you.

Vincent opens the window. Bela grabs Michael to throw him out the window.

PIPER Stop. What happened to me was out of anybody's control. But what you two are doing isn't.

Bela and Vincent release Michael.

PIPER (CONT'D) (coughing) Besides, someone will find the bottle.

### JAMIE

If we can keep them from smelling our blood or see us, I think we can get to the front, maybe stop the train or find a radio.

# VINCENT

How are we going to keep them from seeing us?

Jamie searches. She grabs a small fire extinguisher.

JAMIE This will help bring down our body temperatures.

MICHAEL That's not enough for all of us.

JAMIE No. But it might be enough for two.

BELA Me and Vincent can go.

#### MICHAEL

It's too dangerous, you're both bleeding. You'll put me at risk. I mean... Us.

BELA (to Michael) But you aren't.

JAMIE Me either. We can bring back help.

# BELA

(to Michael) You're going with her. Or do you want to stay here with me?

Michael lifts his arms for the spray down. Bela sprays his face first and works her way down.

MICHAEL

Hey!

He's covered head to toe. He gets ready to open the door. He reaches for a sharp, broken arrow on the floor. Bela steps on it and gives the arrow to her twin.

# BELA Cover your face.

Jamie lifts her arms and sprays her from feet to head.

## VINCENT

(to Jamie) Be safe. Any trouble come back.

He wants to kiss her and she does him but all things considering, they don't.

BELA (to Michael) If anything happens to my sister, I'll rip your guts out. Vince, help me with this.

She and Vincent reinforce the barricade.

### **ROOSEVELT CAR (#7)**

The DJs' illuminated keyboards light up the corner, and their half-eaten bodies are spread out on the floor.

All the undead face in one direction, including UNDEAD KARATE GUY #1 AND #2.

UNDEAD 80S PUNK ROCKER holds the keg hose; beer flows out into a large puddle of blood on the floor.

These undead are different.

They have scale-like hard skin.

No blood comes out of their ears.

Jamie and Michael go around them. They move slowly forward, deeper into the horde.

On the floor is a broken Viking shield with sharp edges. It's next to a police baton.

UNDEAD POV: JAMIE AND MICHAEL MOVE PAST THE UNDEAD. THEY CAN'T BE SEEN IN INFRARED.

The fire extinguisher idea works.

#### **OBSERVATION CAR** (#8)

Bela finds a bottle of tequila and opens it for a drink. With the destruction and the exhausted group, a moment of clarity hits her... She doesn't drink--

She unwraps her blood-soaked bandanna, pours alcohol on her wound, and wraps it back up.

She hands Piper the bottle and she takes a swig. Piper's symptoms are worse.

BELA I'm so sorry.

PIPER None of this is your fault. You can't protect everyone, Bel. I'm just glad you're ok.

BELA I won't let anything else happen to you.

### **ROOSEVELT CAR (#7)**

Michael maneuvers ahead quickly and steps on a plastic cup.

CRUNCH.

Undead perk up, waiting for another sound. Jamie and Michael whisper.

JAMIE I thought they couldn't hear.

MICHAEL They can't, unless... they're mutating--

CO2 trickles off them.

UNDEAD POV: CO2 FALLS OFF JAMIE AND MICHAEL; THEY'RE VISIBLE. Michael moves quickly, more CO2 comes off of him.

> JAMIE (miming) Slow down.

Bela's foot lands on the train manifest Norman dropped earlier. Bela reads under "Train Crew" and doesn't see "Michael" listed.

BELA

Shit.

VINCENT

What?

BELA Michael's not on here.

CUT TO:

#### ROOSEVELT CAR (#7)

He bumps an undead, they close in on him. Jamie's eyes widen in fear for Michael.

MICHAEL Give me the arrow.

JAMIE (gives the arrow) What are you going to do?

Michael snatches the arrow and cuts Jamie with it. She bleeds. He darts to the next car and clips one of the undead, who sways into another...

A domino effect. They GRUNT.

Jamie covers her wound with her hand. Undead become erratic as they sniff and snarl for her blood.

Jamie's CO2 melts.

Undead block her path to the next car. She cautiously crawls to a small closet behind the fog machine.

It's full of janitorial supplies.

She takes a bottle of vinegar and pours it into the fog machine. She switches it on and enters into the vestibule.

CUT TO:

#### **OBSERVATION CAR** (#8)

Bela and Vincent see Jamie wave her hand.

BELA (re: Jamie's wound) She's in trouble.

VINCENT What's she saying?

BELA She wants us to go to the wall.

#### **ROOSEVELT CAR (#7)**

Vincent slowly slides the door open. They're all hit by a wave of fog. They cringe and squeeze their noses in disgust.

BELA I got it. Make sure Jamie is okay.

He acknowledges and grabs the <u>Viking shield</u> off the floor, vanishing into the fog.

Bela slowly pulls Piper along. She buries her head into Bela's shoulder.

PIPER I can't keep going.

BELA Yes, you can. Keep moving.

#### VESTIBULE

Vincent enters and hugs Jamie. The fog dissipates.

JAMIE

Bela and Piper?

VINCENT They're right behind me. What happened to your hand, where's Michael?

JAMIE

He left me.

VINCENT We should have thrown him off the train when we had the chance.

# ROOSEVELT CAR (#7)

Blood trails from Piper's injury...

UNDEAD FIREMAN #3 appears through the fog.

Fog clears and the undead sniff hard and fast.

Bela halts to pick up the baton from the floor. A last-ditch effort for survival. Bela readies to take them on.

PIPER

Wait.

She lifts her head. Her eye has a yellow speck.

BELA Come on, Pipes. Just one step at a time. We're almost there.

She places her hand on Bela's face.

Piper gazes longingly into her eyes. She moves to kiss Bela's lips. Piper stops and kisses her softly on her scar, where the tattoo is FADED.

BELA (CONT'D) We can make it. We can make it.

PIPER No, we can't. But ... you can.

#### CLICK

She gently squeezes Bela's hand... Piper handcuffs herself to a table.

Bela toggles at the handcuffs.

BELA No. Please.

PIPER I can't turn like Chris and hurt anybody. Especially you.

The fog is completely dissipated.

She pushes Bela away. Piper pulls off her tourniquet, blood flows, alerting the undead.

PIPER (CONT'D)

Run.

Undead smell her blood and blitz after her. They feed.

Bela sobs. She moves along the wall as arrows of defeat pierce her heart.

#### VESTIBULE

Vincent pulls in the distraught Bela and shuts the door.

The undead busy themselves with Piper's body.

JAMIE (to Bela) Where's Piper?

Bela's non-verbal answer says everything.

Jamie and Vincent peek inside and see Piper engulfed by the horde.

The twins embrace as to balance the weight of pain and grief.

VINCENT C'mon, we need to keep moving. I can't do this by myself. I need both of you.

JAMIE

This is all my fault. I shouldn't have said anything to scare Piper.

VINCENT You told us the truth. That's what counts. Piper would want us to get out of here alive.

The twins look to each other. Jamie extends her hand lovingly to her twin, Bela. They get to their feet.

#### JAMIE

(undead) They're evolving.

VINCENT

Into what?

JAMIE Whatever increases their survival rate. Michael is frantic and alone, or so he thinks...

TAP

# MICHAEL

Uhhhh...

NORMAN I thought I was the only one.

MICHAEL Were you bitten?

Norman shows him he isn't bitten.

NORMAN I heard all this screaming--

MICHAEL How many more cars to the front?

NORMAN

Just two.

MICHAEL That doesn't give me much time.

Michael takes out a leather pouch, reveals multiple vials, syringes, and a notebook.

NORMAN What are you doing?

Michael stabs a syringe into Norman's temple.

CUT TO:

## VESTIBULE

Vincent leads them with the Viking shield.

Ready...

Bela wipes her tears with new motivation, raising her baton. Ready...

Jamie balls up her fist.

Ready...

# LOUNGE CAR (#6)

Halloween décor is replaced with human flesh and blood.

Vincent opens the door, and immediately grabs the attention of the undead millennials...

The twins and Vincent FIGHT.

ON VINCENT

He rams the undead with the shield, a charging star. He knocks down UNDEAD BASEBALL PLAYER and UNDEAD BIKER CHICK.

ON JAMIE

Jamie pushes Undead Biker Chick, she falls and her helmet flies off. Jamie grabs the helmet and clobbers her with it.

ON BELA

Undead Baseball Player gets up and chases her.

She swings her baton at him. He forces her back and makes her slip on the bat. She crashes into a keg, breaking the spout. Beer sprays everywhere.

He jumps on top of her. They brawl, and his fingernails burn her jacket, and nearly her face.

BELA Don't let them touch your skin!

She shoves him and snatches a liquor bottle, breaks it over his head, and skewers him in the neck. But their scale-like skin prevents easy penetration.

Bela finally breaks the skin and kills him.

ON JAMIE

UNDEAD SEXY CHEERLEADER takes her down. They struggle on the floor and roll over dead Fireman #2.

Jamie elbows her, gets up, and whacks the bat across her knees. She cracks her on top of the head. Cheerleader is down for good.

Vincent and the twins get overrun by UNDEAD HOCKEY MASK KILLER and UNDEAD GRUESOME BAT CREATURE. Jamie beats the mask killer's head with the bat.

UNDEAD KARATE GUY #3 scrambles for Bela. She grabs the wizard staff from the floor and swings hard.

UNDEAD SAMURAI grabs Jamie from behind.

JAMIE

Bela!

# BELA

Hold on--

To the rescue... She kicks and strikes Samurai with the staff.

### JAMIE

His armor--

Bela takes his back, and they fall to the ground. Samurai lands on her.

Jamie removes his headgear, and Bela turns her face away as a precaution from the oncoming blow. Jamie pounds his head. He's dead for good.

Bela rolls the corpse off.

The undead are still coming...

Vincent takes hold of an AX.

They exit.

## VESTIBULE

Vincent slams the door behind them, sealed in a tight space. Bela strives to open the business car; it's locked. They look through the window and see Norman on the floor.

JAMIE

Hey! Open up! Norman!

Undead hammer and beat on the vestibule door.

JAMIE (CONT'D)

Norman!

VINCENT Is he one of them?

BELA I think he's dead.

She snatches accessories from Jamie's costume to pick the lock.

What are you doing?!

BELA

Hold here.

Jamie holds a pin in place.

JAMIE When did you learn all this?

BELA Remember, sixth grade Ms. Rockwood's class and the missing candy?

JAMIE That was you? She blamed me.

Vincent struggles with the undead, cutting off their hands. The undead stack atop one another.

One of the undead snatches Vincent. Jamie keeps the undead hands off of him, but he loses his ax in the horde.

Bela opens the door and nabs Vincent before he gets sucked into the undead swarm.

#### BUSINESS CAR (#5)

Bela shuts the door behind them. They investigate Norman.

BELA

Norman?

VINCENT Don't get too close.

JAMIE He's dead. I just need to see if there's another parasite... (inspects body) He's infected, but there's no bite.

She pauses at the temple where an odd bruise is. She leans close and stretches the skin noticing a dot.

JAMIE (CONT'D) Someone injected him.

Michael jumps out of an OVERHEAD COMPARTMENT--

He takes Bela and holds the broken arrow to her throat.

JAMIE (CONT'D)

Bela!

BELA (re: Norman) Did you do this?

MICHAEL We can't have any whistle blowers. I needed to tie up loose ends.

Jamie and Vincent distant themselves from infected Norman.

Vincent notices the mole on Michael's hand ...

VINCENT Son of a bitch. Your the guy in the Craven Corp lab coat. You're one of them.

Michael's silence confirms this.

JAMIE You knew about everything?

## EXT. CRAVEN CORP. - NIGHT [FLASHBACK]

Near the train museum is CRAVEN CORP, a huge building that resembles a meat packing facility.

#### INT. CRAVEN CORP. LAB - NIGHT [FLASHBACK]

White LED lights dangle above several SCIENTISTS, early-40s.

Three cages with mice are labeled. They make noises of distress.

Michael enters. He wears a lab coat over dress clothes, the same ones he's wearing later on the train. He runs lab tests on the mice and examines their behaviors.

A GRAY ROCK sits on a table, cracked open. Green goo glazes the inside. He scrapes some of it off and injects it into the mice. The three mice exhibit different emotions.

Suddenly... they all become erratic. Angry, he snaps their necks.

Behind him are diagrams and notes scrambled on a whiteboard: EMOTIONS? POTENCY?

POP

Michael investigates one of the mice and sees a TINY PARASITE wiggle out of the dead host's stomach, covered in blood. It squirms toward Michael and launches tiny tentacles.

He steps back and writes on the whiteboard; HOSTS next FOOD SOURCE? INFECTION?

## MONTAGE:

- From a nearby cage, he grabs a White Cat.

- The cat thrashes as he drops the Tiny Parasite in its ear. Seconds pass, one EYE turns yellow. Suddenly, the cat dies. He leaves the carcass on the table.

- The cat's leg twitches hard. Is it dead?

- SCIENTIST #1 enters and leaves the door ajar. Michael writes in a small notebook and pulls out a two syringes to draw blood from the cat.

- The cat is gone. Michael notices the door is open and rushes out to search for the cat.

#### EXT. CRAVEN CORP. - LAB - [FLASHBACK]

The cat runs toward the Halloween Party. Michael pursues.

#### EXT. CIRCUS CAR - NIGHT - [FLASHBACK]

Michael takes a blood sample from the cat, jots in a SMALL NOTEBOOK, and places the sample in a pouch strap.

He hears the engineer approach, he grabs a feed sack, tears out two holes, to make his makeshift disguise.

A heavy crate crashes on Michaels head and knocks him out, falling out of sight.

END OF FLASHBACK

#### BUSINESS CAR (#5)

MICHAEL But I do now... Thanks to all the test subjects.

BELA Fuck you! Those were our friends. You could have warned us instead of lying.

MICHAEL I'm not the only one lying. How are those pills working for you, now?

BELA What is he talking about?

JAMIE

After the crash, I blamed myself. I felt useless and guilty. I thought if I can just find anything to get through the day. I was willing to try it.

BELA I'm so sorry, Jamie. I wasn't there for you like I should've been.

Norman wakes...

UNDEAD NORMAN Muahhhhhhh...

Vincent and Jamie can't pass Michael--

MICHAEL I wonder what stage of evolution it'll show us...

Undead Norman rises--

Michael tightens his grip. Bela notices his pouch and the small notebook.

Undead Norman regurgitates...

The group is confused, scared...

BLAP

Norman vomits WHITE BILE... The bile sizzles... And burns a hole in the floor... it's acid.

Norman goes after Jamie.

WHAM

WHAM

The undead bang on the door.

Michael turns, distracted--

Vincent lunges for him--

Bela gets free and rips off Michael's pouch--

MICHAEL

No.

Vincent and Bela fight Michael--

Norman is on Jamie and he vomits, but she moves her face in time. The acid bile burns a hole in the floor next to Michael.

Desperate, Michael opens the door --

Undead pour in--

Vincent front-kicks them, creating a trench of undead--

VINCENT

Go.

JAMIE

No.

VINCENT (to Bela) Take her.

Bela leads Jamie out.

Michael passes Vincent--

He grabs his Michael's foot and keeps him from escaping--

The undead drag Michael into the blood-thirsty gang--

Vincent is awarded the same fate ...

# INT. RADIO CAR (#4) - NIGHT

The twins enter. There is an old radio station inside a wire cage against the wall.

Jamie spots a radio in the cage. She dashes to it.

BELA Does it work? She throws the radio down.

The sisters share a familiar and dispirited silence.

JAMIE (CONT'D) Everything is my fault... Vincent, Piper, mom...

BELA The accident wasn't your fault.. Michael, Craven Corp., they're responsible for Vince and Piper...

In unison...

JAMIE I wish mom was here. BELA (CONT'D) I wish mom was here.

They console each other.

Bela opens the pouch and removes the contents within. First, the vials of blood and the notebook.

BELA (CONT'D) Can you make anything out? I took this from him.

JAMIE

You mean stole.

She and Bela share a moment of levity.

She gives the notebook to Jamie, who flips through it.

BELA Is there a cure or a way to take out the parasites?

JAMIE

If you force out the parasite it might cause permanent damage to the host. Doctors can prescribe antibiotics to kill them but I don't think that would work.

BELA Can they die on their own?

JAMIE They die when the host dies, but in this case they don't. (MORE)

# JAMIE (CONT'D)

We saw that with Chris. The parasite attempted to hijack another living organism.

BELA I didn't see any parasite come out of the other bodies.

### JAMIE

I think we're dealing with a new species. The notebook does mention that there could be a way to detox the body and force the parasite without damaging the host.

She stuff the contents in her costume.

#### EXT. TRAIN - SAME

The train approaches a curve.

## INTERCUT: EXT. TRAIN/INT. RADIO CAR

WHAM

The undead push like a Spartan army. The twins hold the door shut, mostly.

# JAMIE

I can't hold it.

### BELA

I'll bait them into the cage. I'm getting these bastards Pipe--

JAMIE And for Vince. I'll hide by the door and lock it behind them.

Jamie ducks by the cage door.

BELA JAMIE (CONT'D) 1... 2... 3... 1... 2... 3...

ON CAGE

Bela opens the door and sprints through the cage. The undead burst in and hunt her down. She gets clear and shuts the gate behind her.

On the other end, the last undead goes inside and Jamie locks the gate. The undead are trapped like rats.

They got this ...

The train maintains its high speed on the curve...

It.

Tips.

Over.

Jamie hangs on the door handle. The radio slides near her. Bela slams hard into the wall.

```
JAMIE (CONT'D)
```

Bela!!

ON BELA

The undead fall against the cage as the car tips. The weight of the undead legion BREAK the mesh cage and CASCADE on a window beside her.

An undead clutches the back of Bela's neck, digging its nails deep. She shrieks as they sizzle on her neck.

#### BELA

Radio!

Jaime kicks the radio to her twin.

Bela catches it by the cord and beats the undead--

The window breaks underneath them, and the undead leak out ---

Bela almost goes with them --

#### EXT. VARIOUS CARS

The track straightens, and the cars tumble back into position.

### INT. VARIOUS CARS - SAME

One by one, the train cars fall back on the track.

The twins slam against the cage. An undead seizes Bela.

She struggles to scrape it off. Jamie helps her kill it. They sprint to the next car...

### INT. TROOP SLEEPER CAR (#3) - SAME

They enter a tunnel.

DARKNESS.

Bela turns on her jacket. The green lights ILLUMINATE the car, revealing closed curtains ominously surrounding them. They walk forward with caution.

They hear a moan ahead.

They stop.

UNDEAD HANDS...

Slowly emerge from behind the curtains and reach for the twins as they zoom by. One hand nabs Bela. Jamie can't pry its hand, Bela struggles to get her free.

UNDEAD TRAIN CREW ascends from the curtains.

They look older than their former selves; their pale grey skin is rotted and wrinkled. Red Eyes stare at them.

Bela grabs Jamie, and they enter...

### INT CREW CABIN (#2) - SAME

LIGHT.

No bodies here. Dead or alive.

BELA These ones are stronger.

JAMIE I don't think they do. Why aren't they attacking?

BELA

(ransacks cabinets) Lets not find out. Find something we can fight with.

The twins ransack the cabinets for a weapon. They toss out useless plastic utensils. Nothing.

Ahead of them...

THUMP

The twins stop dead in their tracks. In unison, they stare at the HEADEND CAR door. The door has no window. Bela puts her ear against it.

BELA (CONT'D)

Listen.

The twins go quiet.

Hope gleams in their eyes. Bela opens the door. It's unlocked.

THUMP

### **HEADEND CAR (#1)**

Twins enter in shock noticing blood covers the control panel. Bela locates the radio... It's busted... She scans the car...

They step on pieces of rotted, wet skin on the floor. A SHOVEL sits near.

A deep GRUNT, like no other, comes from behind them... They turn...

The Engineer is completely SKINLESS.

His yellow eyes WIDEN and DILATE.

He's fascinated by them ...

## INTERCUT: ENGINEER/UNDEAD CREW

The undead crew eyes DILATE ...

They're being controlled by Engineer.

Engineer steps forward to the twins.

Undead train crew step forward.

The girls look behind them and see the menacing train crew wait at attention.

ENGINEER Duplicate life forms. Fascinating.

JAMIE Are you the train Engineer?

ENGINEER

I am more.

Jamie is more curious than scared.

# JAMIE

What is--

Bela places her hand on Jamie as a signal to stop talking.

ENGINEER The human host becomes an incubator for the genetic receptors that spread through everyone on this train. We multiply from incubator to incubator. Never-ending.

The twins share a quick glance...

Bela reaches for the shovel--

Engineer kicks Bela in the chest and strikes Jamie--

She grabs the shovel and swings it across his face--

He maneuvers the attack with ease.

The twins escape to ...

### CREW CABIN (#2)

Bela and Jamie breathe hard.

BELA What the fuck?!

JAMIE

I know!

BELA It talks!

JAMIE

I know!

### SLEEPER CAR (#3)

The undead crew launches an attack on the twins. Bela flails the shovel to keep them at bay. Jamie stays close.

### RADIO CAR (#4)

The twins barrel through the broken cage--

### THUMP

Engineer tears the door off.

Undead stand at attention like a mob ready to collect a debt. Twins move to...

#### BUSINESS CAR (#5)

Jamie points to the overhead compartments. They each get into one of them.

Engineer charges in... Passing Bela's compartment. He rips off the compartment doors and searches for the twins. He misses a few behind him.

OVERHEAD COMPARTMENTS. The twins quietly huddle.

Engineer scans the area; his undead crew halt.

The twins stay quiet.

The Engineer and his horde continue to the next car.

The girls wait for them to clear; hop out the compartments --

TWACK

A ROAR from behind grabs their attention...

They turn to see--

Undead Train Steward--

### CUT TO:

The Engineer and the undead train crew race back to them.

The Undead Steward blocks the exit.

Engineer grabs Jamie, Bela cuts him deep in the back with the shovel. He grimaces in pain.

The undead crew is confused. Engineer touches his back, fresh blood.

Bela jabs the shovel into the back of his head--

They struggle, he tosses her to the floor and takes the shovel out from his head. The Engineer staggers. His blood OOZES from his wound. Jamie stabs Engineer with the syringe and collects his blood... He barely feels the needle prick... He swipes at Jamie--Bela tackles her out of the way just in time. They fall, knocking over Undead Steward. The twins get up fast and run away ... Engineer and his crew halt at a loud RUMBLING of footsteps. Blood OOZES from his wound. Undead millennials target his blood--They ATTACK the Engineer. Their acidic nails burn him--The crew intervene and form a barrier to protect their Engineer--The older undead battle the younger undead...

### ROOSEVELT CAR (#7)

He grabs her--

The twins rush in. No undead here.

JAMIE Dead or alive, they can't get off this train, even if we don't make it.

BELA

How?

Jamie grabs her anxiety pills from her pocket...

JAMIE (opens bottle) Together...

She dumps them on the floor...

Bela stops mid drink and dumps the liquor out.

BELA You need to get to the front and stop the train. Here.

Jamie exchanges the lighter for the shovel.

### JAMIE

I can't even drive a car, let alone a train.

BELA You can. (opens window) This is the only way around those things.

Jamie climbs out the window.

Bela doesn't follow and locks the window behind her.

JAMIE What are you doing?! We can do this.

BELA We are. I trust you. See you up front.

She leaves, out of sight from her twin.

Jamie scrambles forward with determination in her eyes, believing in herself for the first time in a long time.

### EXT. BUSINESS CAR ROOF - MAGIC HOUR

The CITYSCAPE is near. The rising sun shines a light on the black train. It's even more ominous.

Jamie crawls fast to the Headend Car.

### INT. TRAIN - SAME

SERIES OF SHOTS: Bela vs. Undead

Bela races through the train. Devoured and bloody cadavers litter the historic train upholstery.

- ROOSEVELT CAR (#7) Bela jumps over UNDEAD ROBIN HOOD. He grabs her foot. Her other foot gets caught in his bowstring.

- Undead close in as she gets free. An undead falls on top of Bela and attacks, smears her fake tattoo, exposing her scar.

- She sees Piper's eaten corpse, fights him off and frees herself from the bowstring.

- OBSERVATION CAR (#8) She stumbles in. S.W.A.T. Officer attacks her to the floor. They struggle. She grabs the Kung Fu fan and drives it into his eyeball.

- She gets up and runs past the Clown; he swipes at her.

- PRIVATE CAR (#9) The train crew and undead students track her down. Bela passes Chris's dead body.

- CIRCUS CAR (#10) She steals a whip from the wall of the Circus car and makes sure the horde of Undead are on her tail. She lodges a chain between the door to hold it open.

- CABOOSE CAR (#11) She slides the Caboose door open.

### INT. CABOOSE CAR (#11) - MAGIC HOUR

Undead chase Bela. She darts out of the way. They fall into the massive hole in the floor into speeding tracks.

Undead Evil Sorceress tracks her further into the Caboose Car. She slips and falls under the train. Her severed arm flies back into the car, and almost hits Bela.

Bela slips but catches herself on a window handle.

### EXT. TRAIN - MAGIC HOUR

The train races across a bridge above a river.

### INT. CABOOSE CAR (#11) - MAGIC HOUR

Train Steward and Undead Conductor surround Bela with caution. Each one takes a side; moving carefully and calculated as a team, unlike the millennial undead.

Train Steward loses balance and falls out. Bela uses the whip against the conductor, but he catches it. Bela tugs on the whip hard, and down he goes under the track.

### CIRCUS CAR (#10)

Relentless undead chime in. Bela hurls crates and generates distance between the unwavering undead. She enters...

### PRIVATE CAR (#9)

Bela flings liquor bottles at them, breaking on impact. ALCOHOL flies everywhere.

She uses the lighter to make a MOLOTOV COCKTAIL and tosses it into the Circus Car, *igniting* the left-over undead.

### CIRCUS CAR (#10)

The excess undead engulf in flames.

SPUTTER SPUTTER SPUTTER

The water douses the undead, extinguishing the fire--

SMOKE emits from their decaying bodies; free to pursue her --

#### VESTIBULE

Bela struggles to shut the door --

A look of realization covers her face and remembers what Norman told her--

She cautiously looks over the rail--

A large hose connects the MAINLINE ...

Bela finds the long rod hanging on the edge of the car and DECOUPLES the circus car.

The cars disconnect.

Safe, Bela watches from the private car as the undead tumble out of the train, and break apart on the track.

The circus and caboose car with the undead are detached from the rest of the train.

Their car rattles as they turn on a track--

It derails--

BOOM

Bela watches more relived than happy as the undead-filled car bashes against the side of the cliff.

### INTERCUT JAMIE/BELA

Jamie climbs down from the roof and into the Headend Car. Bela heads to the front of the train... To her twin. WHAM. UNDEAD MICHAEL surprises Bela from behind. He has the same physical traits as the Undead Train Crew. His intestines are exposed. The city lights close in as the train speeds down the track. Jamie pulls on a couple of levers to slow the train down. No luck. Alas, she pulls the last lever, the train reduces speed... As the train slows, Undead Michael and Bela lose their balance and he falls against Bela. Michael bites Bela's neck. CHOMP Bela pushes his face off her neck. Michael shoves Bela off the train--She holds onto the rail--Michael slips and falls to his death --Bela holds on to the rail, barely--BELA Uhhhhh.

She pulls herself -- Slips --

CUT TO:

### HEADHEAD CAR (#1)

The city lights are near...

Jamie slumps, exhausted and shaky.

CRASH

Engineer bursts through the heavy door breaks it in half like rotten wood.

Engineer throws Jamie like a rag doll--

Jamie musters all her courage, lunges at him with the shovel--

He kicks her down--

He grabs her throat and squeezes; she turns purple--

He prepares to throw her off the train--

She slices his knee, and he falls with the shovel--

She stabs him in the neck, again and again, decapitates him... He slumps over dead.

### INT. CITY TRAIN STATION - DAY

Underground. At long last, the train comes to a stop.... It stands out among the modern, shining passenger trains.

It's a ghost town... No one in sight...

Jamie hops off the train and runs to the end.

JAMIE Bela! We made it!

No answer.

JAMIE (CONT'D) Where are you?!

Jamie notices the Circus and Caboose Car are gone. She boards the last car, now the Private Car.

#### INT. PRIVATE CAR - DAY

Jamie grabs Bela's bandanna off the floor at the edge of the rail, collapses.

JAMIE Please come out... I don't want too lose you too.

### BELA

Jamie!

She pops out of the Headend car.

They run to each other and hug.

BELA (CONT'D) Where is everyone?

Jamie shrugs.

They move closer to the station exit.

SIRENS come from the city streets above. They run and come to a closed, chained-up gate.

SUPER: MEXICO

NOVEMBER 1ST - DIA DE LOS MUERTOS

### EXT. CITYSCAPE - DAY

Jamie peeks through the gate ... CHAOS.

Screams and yells of panic and torment flood the air.

The undead eat people in the middle of the *Dia de Los Muertos* festival.

A BUS crashes into a colorful FESTIVAL FLOAT.

A WOMAN is attacked by an undead whose flesh is falling off.

Undead eat people at a FOOD TRUCK.

SHOOTING STARS pass a tall Craven Corp. building and crash.

They're NOT stars at all, but the PARASITIC-FILLED METEORS.

Bela coughs.

#### BELA

I don't have that much time.

She reveals a BITE mark...

Jamie holds her hand tight and pulls out Michael's pouch, and smiles... The sisters open the gates...

TOGETHER

FADE OUT.