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FADE IN:

EXT. LAKE - NIGHT

Moonlight illuminates the face and upper arms of A YOUNG WOMAN in the water. She giggles then calls out.

YOUNG WOMAN  
Come on in, chicken.

LAKE SHORELINE

An owl hoots, leaves rustle, a stick snaps.

A YOUNG MAN hops out from behind a tree holding his left foot.

YOUNG MAN  
Arrgh.

YOUNG WOMAN (O.S.)  
What happened?

YOUNG MAN  
Nothing... I'll live.

YOUNG WOMAN (O.S.)  
Come on in then... water's  
wonderful.

The young man limps toward the water.

IN THE WATER

The young woman somersaults, flashing her bare bottom.

LAKE SHORELINE

The young man laughs.

IN THE WATER

The young woman pops back up, flailing, gasping, terror in her eyes.

YOUNG MAN (O.S.)  
My God! What's wrong?

Yanked down by something unseen, the young woman goes back under.

LAKE SHORELINE

Horrified, the young man dives into the water.

EXT. LAKE SHORELINE - DAY

Sun glistens off two parked vehicles.

Fish and Game Officer, JEFF SANDERS, 32, movie-star handsome, focuses on the ground and all that's left of a man's mutilated body, the upper torso, arms and head.

Beside him, SHERIFF PAUL TRAVERS, 46, hint of gray, snaps a picture

PAUL  
Who found him?

JEFF  
Fisherman.

PAUL  
Boating accident?

JEFF  
Where's the rest of the body?

PAUL  
Good point.

They head up the shoreline, eyes searching. Jeff picks up his pace.

JEFF  
What's that?

Paul follows Jeff over to a pale object caught beneath some twigs. Jeff squats and uncovers a severed leg, shredded flesh and muscle tissue remaining just above the calf.

Paul snaps a picture.

Jeff picks up the leg.

JEFF  
Not his... no hair... and too small.

PAUL  
 Damn... a woman. Not good.

Using a knife, Jeff digs into the bloodied end of the leg.

PAUL  
 What'cha got?

JEFF  
 A tooth?

Jeff digs out the two inch long, flat, razor sharp object.  
 Paul stares at it.

PAUL  
 Yep. Tooth all right.

JEFF  
 Bear?

PAUL  
 Too flat.

JEFF  
 What then?

PAUL  
 Don't know... but I'm damn sure  
 gonna find out!

EXT. BOAT - DAY

On a 22-foot Bayliner, MARY TRAVERS, 42, perches beside her husband on the passenger seat. Paul shoots her an affectionate smile.

Behind them in a one-piece speedo, their daughter, KYRA, 18, holds the observation flag.

IN THE WATER

Throwing up a rooster tail from her single ski, JENNA TRAVERS, 16, sporting a wet-suit vest and bikini bottom, carves a turn behind them.

Paul grabs his ringing cell, opens it. Jeff's name appears.

PAUL  
 Jeff... what's up?

JEFF (V.O.)  
Got another body.

PAUL  
Damn, where are you?

JEFF (V.O.)  
Jessop's Cove. Can you meet me?

PAUL  
Be there in ten.

Paul SNAPS his cell closed.

MARY  
What's wrong?

PAUL  
Another body.

EXT. JESSOPS' COVE - DAY

Jeff leans over the side his 16-foot, green fiberglass, State issue, Boston Whaler and snaps pictures of a...

MAN IN THE WATER

Slumped against the headrest of a float tube, look of terror frozen on his lifeless face.

On his Bayliner, a few yards from Jeff's whaler, Paul calls out.

PAUL  
You know him?

JEFF  
Never seen him before.

PAUL  
Heart attack?

JEFF  
Maybe.

PAUL  
Your boat, or mine?

JEFF  
Mine.

Paul positions the Bayliner closer to the body. Jeff maneuvers the Whaler until the dead man is between them.

JEFF  
Can you pull him up?

Paul leans over, grabs the dead man under both arms, pulls.

JEFF  
Oh my God!

Paul looks down at the body he's holding, recoils, drops it. The legless man flops back down on the tube.

Grim faced, Jeff stares at the body.

Paul yanks out his cell phone.

EXT. THE DOCK - SAME TIME

Mary fidgets on a lounge chair. Her cell phone rings, she snatches it up, puts it to her ear.

MARY  
Paul?

PAUL (V.O.)  
You make it home okay?

MARY  
No... wanted to wait here for you.  
The girls are swimming.

PAUL (V.O.)  
What! Get them out. Now!

MARY  
Why? What's wrong?

PAUL (V.O.)  
Mary, Now!

Mary jumps up, runs to the end of the dock, calls out.

MARY  
Girls, get out of the water!

IN THE WATER.

Kyra and Jenna toss a beach ball back and forth.

Jenna looks toward the dock.

JENNA  
Awww... Mom. Ten more minutes?

MARY (O.S.)  
No! Get out now!

ON THE DOCK

Mary grabs Jenna's arm helps her up. Kyra climbs the ladder.  
A turbulent SWOOSH breaks the surface beneath her feet.

KYRA  
What was that?

Mary looks down in the water, a fearful look in her eyes.

JENNA  
Mom, what's wrong?

PAUL (V.O.)  
Mary? You there?

Mary yanks the phone to her ear.

MARY  
I'm here. The girls are safe.

JEFF (V.O.)  
Thank God.

MARY  
What's in the lake, Paul?

PAUL (V.O.)  
I'll explain when I get home.

KYRA  
Mom, what's going on?

MARY  
Later. Get your things.

EXT. JESSOPS' COVE - SAME TIME

Jeff reaches into the water and retrieves a floating can,  
tosses it into his boat, looks over at Paul.

JEFF  
What lives in fresh water that's  
big enough to eat a human?

PAUL

Pike?

PAUL

No way. Biggest on record is only  
60 pounds.

Jeff wipes his wet hand on his pants.

JEFF

What did the lab say about that  
tooth?

PAUL

Unidentifiable. Let's get this guy  
into your boat. We need some  
answers.

INT. PAUL'S HOUSE - DAY

Paul enters a rustic log cabin, beautiful hardwood floors  
with a rock fireplace. A deer head adorns the wall above the  
mantle.

Paul removes his gun belt and hangs it on a hat rack.

PAUL

(calls out)  
Mary?

MARY (O.S.)

We're out here.

Paul opens french doors to a beautiful covered porch  
overlooking the lake. Mary and the girls sit around a wicker  
table, drinks placed on coasters, a bowl of chips between  
them.

Jenna jumps up and hugs her father then leans back, a curious  
look on her face.

JENNA

What's in the lake, Daddy?

PAUL

Don't know yet but the water  
festival might have to be canceled.

Mary looks at him, fearful.

MARY

Is it that bad?

JENNA

But Daddy, I'm going with Billy Cooper!

PAUL

Who is Billy Cooper?

JENNA

Only the, hottest new boy at school!

MARY

(to Jenna)

Jenna, we'll discuss that later.

PAUL

No! Let's discuss it now!

(to Mary)

Since when does my little girl think boys are hot?

Kyra laughs.

MARY

Paul, please let me fill you in later.

PAUL

Why am I always the last one to hear about these things?

JENNA

Daddy, if you'd ever pay any attention to anything I say, maybe you'd know what's going on.

Jenna runs into the house.

KYRA

I'll make sure she's alright.

Paul scratches his head.

PAUL

(to Mary)

What did I say?

MARY

Paul please... Sit down and tell me what's going on.

INT. PAUL'S OFFICE - DAY

Paul sits at an old metal desk typing. The ceiling fan above his head barely keeps the sweat on his forehead from dripping into his eyes.

Jeff comes through his open door.

Wiping his face on the cuff of his sleeve, Paul looks up.

PAUL  
Heard back from Forensics about the  
first victim.

JEFF  
Yeah...

PAUL  
Blood alcohol twice the legal  
limit.

JEFF  
Nice. What about the female?

PAUL  
Nothing from the leg.

JEFF  
(frowns)  
Good thing we're not trying to  
solve murders here.

Jeff flops down on a chair.

PAUL  
Maybe we'll get more from the tube  
guy.  
(off Jeff's look)  
Hey buddy... you okay?

Jeff turns away, stares out a window.

JEFF  
I met this girl on the Internet.

PAUL  
You what?

Jeff turns back, indignant.

JEFF  
A lot of people meet that way.

PAUL  
But why? You're a good looking  
fella... you could...

JEFF  
...find someone in town? Yeah  
right.

Jeff shrugs, looks away again.

JEFF  
Name me two single girls that live  
here... other than your daughters.

PAUL  
Well there's...

Jeff laughs.

JEFF  
Exactly! Anything new on that  
tooth?

PAUL  
Not yet.

JEFF  
What kind of scientists are we  
dealing with?

PAUL  
Said there's a lot of eliminating  
to do. I'm thinking about sending  
pictures of it to Kelly.

JEFF  
Kelly?

PAUL  
My sister.

JEFF  
Little Smelly Kelly?

PAUL  
Ah, you do remember her?

JEFF  
Of course, she had a crush on me  
when we were kids.

PAUL  
Well, she's a paleontologist now.  
Maybe she can identify it.

JEFF  
Can't hurt.

Jeff stands.

PAUL  
So you gonna see this Internet  
girl?

Laughing, Jeff heads for the door.

JEFF  
Couldn't even get lucky there.  
She's getting married!

EXT. A PONTOON BOAT - A QUIET COVE ON THE LAKE - DAY.

Three COLLEGE GUYS chugging beer, Thee bikini clad GIRL  
FRIENDS tanning.

SARAH  
Can you believe those idiots? How  
much beer can three boys drink?

CARLY  
If one of them pukes, I'm not  
cleaning it up.

DANIELLE  
(calls out)  
You do know that are three HOT  
babes over craving a little  
attention?

CHAD  
(whispers to Tom)  
What do you say we give Danielle  
some attention.

TOM  
(devious smile)  
Why not?

CHAD  
You gets her hands. I'll get her  
feet.

GREG  
What do you want me to do?

CHAD  
Keep Sarah and Carly busy.

GREG  
Piece of cake.

The three boys walk over to, Danielle.

CHAD  
Sorry baby, you know how it is? A  
little male bonding.

Danielle stretches her arms to Chad. Tom grabs her hands.

DANIELLE  
What are you doing?

CHAD  
Hold em tight, dude!

Chad grabs her feet and they scoop her up toward the side of  
the boat. Danielle struggles.

DANIELLE  
Chad if you do, I swear I'll...

CHAD  
(laughing)  
You'll what, baby?

TOM  
Alright, on three.

Swinging her back and forth.

DANIELLE  
(laughing)  
Put me down.

TOM  
One...

DANIELLE  
Don't you dare!

CHAD  
Two...

SARAH  
Tom if you do, you'll sleep alone  
tonight.

CHAD  
Three...

They release her sending her splashing into the water.

Carly bolts from her lounge chair.

CARLY  
I can't believe, you creeps did  
that.

GREG  
Who's a creep?

Greg runs over and tackles Carly into the water.

IN THE WATER

CARLY  
Argh, it's freezing.

Chad and Tom dive head first into the water.

GREG  
Get in here Sarah. It's great.

SARAH  
No I'm good, really.

Sarah removes her bikini top, lays face down on her lounge chair.

The kids are swimming, splashing and dunking each other having a good time.

TOM  
(looking around)  
Greg? Where'd you go dude?

Tom frantically searches the water. The others oblivious to what he is saying.

TOM  
(serious)  
Quit messing around man. Where are  
you?

Sarah hears Tom. She quickly covers her breasts with a Tee-shirt and rushes to the side of the boat.

TOM  
Does anyone see Greg?

CARLY  
He was right behind me a second  
ago.

Everyone stops playing. They look for Greg.

CHAD  
(shouting)  
Greg?

CARLY  
Greg, where are you?

TOM  
Dude? This isn't funny any more!

Sarah points to the other side of the boat.

SARAH  
(hysterical)  
My God! He's over here.

Tom reaches Greg facedown in the water, grabs his head and pulls it out.

TOM  
Talk to me, dude. You alright?

SARAH  
Get him on the boat.

CARLY  
(crying)  
Oh my God!

Tom and Chad drag Greg to the boat. Sarah reaches for his hand.

TOM  
(to Sarah)  
Hold him.

In one motion, Tom is on the boat, drags Greg up onto the pontoon. The others join them on deck. Sarah stands back, hands covering mouth, expression of horror in her eyes.

CARLY  
Talk to me, baby!

Carly kneels next to Greg.

CARLY  
He's not breathing.

CHAD  
Flip him over I know CPR.

Tom turns Greg onto his back, Carly screams. The sight of Greg's entrails causes Tom to gag, hysteria overtakes them all.

CHAD  
Everyone calm down. We need to get  
him to a doctor!

TOM  
A doctor? Dude, he's dead!

Sarah grabs a beach towel, tosses it over Greg.

CHAD  
Let's get him to the marina.

Tom starts the boat.

EXT. THE MARINA - DAY

Sarah, Danielle and Carly console each other on the dock.  
Paul lifts the bloody towel, examines Greg. Jeff grimaces.

PAUL  
Where were you kids when this  
happened?

CHAD  
Anchored in some cove, partying.

JEFF  
Partying?

TOM  
Enjoying the water, chillin.

Paul drops the towel, stands.

PAUL  
So, you were in the water when the  
attack took place?

TOM  
Attack? Naw man, it ain't like  
that.

JEFF  
What else would you call it?

CHAD  
Greg was just gone. A minute later  
he was floating on the other side  
of the boat.

JEFF  
No one heard anything? No  
disturbance in the water?

Tom gets in Jeff's face.

TOM  
You sayin we did this?

PAUL  
Take it easy, no one's accusing you  
of anything. We just need to know  
the facts.

EXT. PARKING LOT OF THE MARINA - MINUTES LATER.

Paul and Jeff stand next to Paul's car, an ambulance, lights  
flashing behind them. Two medics load a gurney, body bag  
strapped down.

PAUL  
We need answers Jeff.

JEFF  
Maybe it's time to call in experts.

PAUL  
Experts of what? We don't even know  
what were dealing with.

JEFF  
Marine biologist?

STAN (O.S.)  
(shouting)  
Hey, Sheriff?

Paul and Jeff glance toward the marina.

PAUL  
Great, just what I need.

STAN JOHNSON, trots toward them.

STAN  
What do you think caused the  
accident?

PAUL  
Not sure it was an accident, Stan.

STAN  
Someone did this on purpose?

PAUL  
No Stan, nothing like that.

STAN

Well, what then?

PAUL

Still gathering information.

STAN

Well, you better figure it out pretty damn quick. Saturday is the big Labor Day water festival.

PAUL

Yeah, about that... I'm making a recommendation to cancel the festival.

STAN

You nuts? Those tourists pay your salary!

PAUL

Look Stan, I understand about that but...

STAN

...But nothing. Look... Just cause, some drunk college kid falls in the water and gets chopped by a boat prop doesn't mean you can cancel the festival?

JEFF

Stan, it wasn't a boat prop and it wasn't just one college kid.

STAN

Someone else was get hurt?

JEFF

In the last two days, we've recovered three other bodies from the lake.

STAN

I didn't hear nothin about that.

PAUL

That's because we were keeping it under wraps. But now, I think it would be best if we informed everyone of the danger.

STAN

Why now?

PAUL

We think there might something in the lake.

STAN

Something in the lake?... You make it sound like there's a damn monster or something. We've never had any problems like this before.

PAUL

What about, Henry Slocum? Remember, he said some of his cattle went missing?

STAN

Henry's a damn drunk. He probably sold em then forgot about it.

PAUL

His cattle waded in the lake to cool off.

STAN

So now, this monster is eating cattle too?

JEFF

Mr. Johnson? No one said anything about a monster. At this point we don't know what it is.

PAUL

That's right, Stan so don't go starting any rumors.

STAN

(smiling)

Hey, this might be just the thing to bring in more tourists. You know, like that Loch Ness Monster thing they have over there in England.

JEFF

Scotland, Mr. Johnson.

STAN

What's Scotland?

JEFF

The Loch Ness Monster. It's in Scotland, not England.

STAN

Yeah, what ever... They say tourists come from all over the world just to peek at that thing.

PAUL

Stan, you better get those dollar signs out of you eyes right now! I've got four bodies on ice and the last thing we need is a bunch of yahoos running boats all over this lake trying to get pictures of this thing.

STAN

What's wrong with a little free publicity, sheriff?

PAUL

I'm warning you. Keep your mouth shut or I'll arrest you and lock you up on public endangerment charges.

STAN

You can't do that!

Stan looks at Jeff.

STAN

Can he?

JEFF

Like yelling, fire in a crowded theater.

STAN

(angry)

You know what, Sheriff? You piss off the right person, you might just get sued for lost wages or something.

PAUL

I wouldn't push this.

STAN

Yeah, we'll see.

Stan stomps away in a huff.

JEFF

Can you really arrest him for telling anyone?

PAUL  
No, but he doesn't know that.

Paul's cell rings. He snaps it open.

PAUL  
Travers!

KELLY (O.S.)  
Hey, big brother. It's, Kelly.

PAUL  
Hey Sis, how you doing?

KELLY (O.S.)  
I got your pictures.

PAUL  
What did you think?

KELLY (O.S.)  
First question. Where did you get  
that tooth?

PAUL  
I dug it out of a girls foot.

KELLY (O.S.)  
Very funny. Seriously, did you buy  
it on Ebay?

PAUL  
You don't believe me?

KELLY (O.S.)  
Paul, that tooth belongs to an  
Ichthyosaurus.

PAUL  
A what?

KELLY (O.S.)  
An aquatic animal that lived 250  
million years ago.

PAUL  
Not this one. It came from this  
lake, yesterday.

KELLY (O.S.)  
Impossible. The Ichthyosaurus was a  
salt water dweller, not fresh.

PAUL

Well, maybe this one got lost?

KELLY (O.S.)

Any way you could send it to me?  
Verify it's origin?

PAUL

Sorry Sis, it's evidence.

KELLY (O.S.)

Why would a fossilized tooth that  
someone stepped on, be evidence?

PAUL

Fossil?... Kelly, she didn't step  
on it, she was eaten by what ever  
lost it.

KELLY (O.S.)

What?

PAUL

Yeah. We also found a man who was  
bitten in half.

KELLY (O.S.)

You're serious? Aren't you?

PAUL

As a heart attack.

KELLY (O.S.)

I'll be there tomorrow... CLICK.

Paul closes his phone.

PAUL

She'll be here tomorrow.

JEFF

Tomorrow?

PAUL

Yeah... Oh and she said she's  
anxious to see you again.

Jeff points at himself.

JEFF

Why?

PAUL  
 Something about those, rugged good  
 looks.

A goofy grin settles on Jeff's face.

JEFF  
 She said that? About me?

PAUL  
 No, she didn't say that... I'm just  
 messing with you, buddy.

JEFF  
 (serious)  
 You're not a very funny man, you do  
 know that? Right?

Paul laughs.

JEFF  
 She doesn't still wear those braces  
 and head gear, does she?

PAUL  
 The head gear was gone years ago.

JEFF  
 Braces too?

PAUL  
 Yeah.

INT. PAUL'S OFFICE - NEXT DAY

KELLY, 32, super model tall sits on the edge of Paul's desk,  
 Paul leans back in his chair.

KELLY  
 Is the tooth here?

PAUL  
 Yeah, but the so called experts in  
 Raleigh are expecting it so you'll  
 need to verify it's origin quickly.

He opens the desk drawer pulling out a zip-lock bag, hands it  
 to Kelly. She removes the tooth, holds it up, examines it.

KELLY  
 You're not joking? You really  
 recovered this from the lake?

PAUL  
I told you I did.

KELLY  
Can I borrow your computer?

PAUL  
Help yourself.

Paul rolls his chair to the side, Kelly moves behind the desk, taps on the keyboard.

KELLY  
Take a look, Paul.

Paul leans over.

KELLY  
See these pictures? They are identical to this sample you have.

PAUL  
So, you're saying this is an ichy...? You know?

KELLY  
Yes, a perfect match. Tell me again exactly where you found it.

PAUL  
Like I said, we found a foot. I dug the tooth from the torn flesh.

KELLY  
If that's true, we've got a problem.

PAUL  
Why is that a problem?

KELLY  
These creatures were carnivores. This surviving specimen probably can't differentiate a human from say... any other fish or animal in its natural diet.

PAUL  
Well So far, it's claimed four victims.

KELLY  
Any chance you could get me some SCUBA gear?

PAUL

SCUBA? You're not thinking of getting in the water with that thing? Are you?

KELLY

You know a better way of observing it?

PAUL

No way Kelly, I forbid you to go into that lake!

KELLY

Sorry, big brother. This is just another research project for me.

PAUL

But Kelly, it's dangerous.

KELLY

Look, I'm a highly trained driver. Besides, I dive with sharks all the time. This shouldn't be any more dangerous than that.

JEFF (O.S.)

Knock, knock.

Kelly and Paul both look up.

KELLY

(smiling)  
Jeff?

JEFF

In the flesh.

KELLY

Wow, I can't believe it. You look...

JEFF

...Grown up?

KELLY

Yeah.

JEFF

How long has it been, Kelly?

KELLY

I don't know. The last time I visited the lake I was eight years old?

JEFF

No More braces, I see.

She blushes.

PAUL

Well, I'm glad you two remember each another.

KELLY

Are you kidding? I used to have a crush on, Jeff.

JEFF

You did?

KELLY

(trying to be serious)  
Yeah, but that was a very long time ago.

Jeff leans against the door frame and crosses his arms.

JEFF

(smiles)  
So, Little Smelly Kelly had a crush on me.

She laughs.

KELLY

I can't believe you remembered that name.

Paul's cell rings.

PAUL

I'll let you two get caught up. I'm taking this in the other room.

Paul walks out.

KELLY

Paul tells me you've had some real excitement up here lately.

JEFF

If that's what you want to call it.

KELLY

This tooth definitely belongs to an Ichthyosaurus.

JEFF

A what?

KELLY

A type of dinosaur that lived about 250 million years ago.

JEFF

Then, how did a live one get into our lake?

KELLY

Scientists often find extinct animals frozen. Maybe this one survived the freezing process.

JEFF

How could it do that?

KELLY

Fish that live in the Arctic Ocean are able to stay alive in the icy water because of a protein in their blood that keeps it in a liquid state.

JEFF

This thing is a fish?

KELLY

No, a mammal.

JEFF

So, it breathes air from the surface, right?

KELLY

Precisely. I guess the only way to know for sure is to find it.

JEFF

And how do you plan to do that?

KELLY

I was hoping one of you could get me some SCUBA gear.

JEFF

SCUBA? As in, get in the water with that thing?

KELLY

You know, I just had this very same conversation with my brother.

Paul enters the room.

PAUL

And like I told, her. I don't think it's a good idea.

KELLY

Look boys, I appreciate your concern but I am a big girl now. I know what I'm doing.

PAUL

Well, in that case I suggest you hurry. That was Raleigh on the phone. They're sending out a team day after tomorrow.

KELLY

Then, I guess that only leaves tonight.

PAUL

Tonight? What about tomorrow?

KELLY

Nocturnal feeders are best observed at night... Problem?

JEFF

I guess, I'd better get my gear.

KELLY

You're, coming with me?

JEFF

Someone has to cover your back if this thing shows up.

KELLY

Alright then, you can hold the flashlight.

JEFF

Hopefully, that's all I'll have to do.

PAUL

I just want to go on record as being opposed to this damn fool dive but... I'll cover you both from the safety of the boat anyway.

KELLY

Coward.

EXT. LAKE SHORE - NIGHT.

Jeff is standing next to a tent, Wet suits and SCUBA gear are laid out next to it.

Paul's cruiser pulls up.

INSIDE THE CRUISER

PAUL

Damn, I left my rifle at the house. You go ahead and get ready. I'll be back in a few minutes.

KELLY

Rifle? Paul, you really think that's necessary?

PAUL

A rifle is what kept, Chief Brody alive. Remember?

KELLY

Alright, but hurry. This may be a long night.

Kelly gets out of the cruiser, walks toward the tent. Jeff holds up a wet suit.

JEFF

I think this will fit you. You can change in there.

KELLY

Thanks.

Kelly takes the wet suit into the tent, zips it closed.

KELLY

(from inside the tent)  
No peeking.

Jeff walks down to the boat, places the gear inside, turns back toward the tent.

A lantern inside, casts a perfect silhouette of Kelly's curvaceous female form on the side of the tent. Jeff watches, mesmerized as she bends forward stepping into the tight suit. Her ample breasts jiggle. His concentration suddenly broken as the tent's zipper races up the flap, Kelly emerges.

KELLY

All ready.

She slowly rubs her hands over the curve of her hips.

KELLY

Fits like a glove. Don't you think?

A look of awe on his face, Jeff stares in admiration.

KELLY

Jeff?

JEFF

Oh yeah, sorry. Looks good.

KELLY

You alright? You look like you've just seen a ghost.

JEFF

I'm good, just a little concerned about the dive.

KELLY

You sure?

JEFF

Of course, why?

KELLY

Paul sort of mentioned that you weren't seeing anyone.

JEFF

Oh great! He make me sound like some kind of desperate loser?

KELLY

No, nothing like that. He only told me because he knows I'm still single, too. Actually, I think it's kind of cute.

JEFF  
How do you figure?

KELLY  
My big brother, trying to play  
match maker? You should be  
flattered.

JEFF SANDERS  
Okay, I'll bite.

KELLY  
Think about it silly, I'm his baby  
sister. He must really think a lot  
of you to try and get us together.

JEFF  
I suppose.

KELLY  
Don't worry though, I assured him  
that I do have a life in  
California.

Jeff hangs his head, scratches his foot in the dirt.

JEFF  
I'm sure you do.

She rubs his arm.

KELLY  
Jeff, I'm sorry... You know, it  
really is good to see you again.

He smiles.

JEFF  
Yeah, it has been a long time.

Paul arrives up in his cruiser.

JEFF  
Just in time.

KELLY  
Yup.

Paul walks toward them.

PAUL  
You two behave yourselves?

Kelly ignores his question.

KELLY

(to Paul)

If for some reason you do have to fire that thing? Just remember that we're both down under the water.

PAUL

I'll be careful.

Kelly walks toward the boat, Paul whispers to Jeff.

PAUL

Everything, all right?

JEFF

Oh yeah, just ducky.

Jeff follows Kelly.

EXT. ON THE LAKE - LATER.

Moonlight illuminates the wake from the 75 horse Johnson.

Jeff throttles down and cuts the motor.

JEFF

This is the general area the attacks took place.

KELLY

What we are looking for, is a creature that resembles a porpoise. Only the snout is longer and it has a long tail.

JEFF

Like Flipper?

KELLY

Flipper on steroids maybe.

PAUL

Do they see well in the dark?

KELLY

Oh, yeah!

Kelly and Jeff put on the SCUBA gear.

KELLY

(to Jeff)

Try not to splash when you enter  
the water.

JEFF

Will that ring the dinner bell?

KELLY

Something like that.

Kelly and Jeff gracefully exit the boat and slowly dissolve into the darkness below. Paul watches nervously, bubbles form on the surface and pop, He picks up the rifle, chambers a round.

#### UNDER THE WATER

Kelly's flashlight brightens the dark clear water. Jeff follows closely, tightly grips his flashlight with one hand, K-bar knife in the other.

As their descent nears the bottom, Half eaten fish litter the lakes eerie barren landscape. A hollowed out log catches Kelly's attention. Approaching cautiously, her light dispels any mystery quickly changing her curiosity from intrigue to shock. She recoils in disgust almost colliding with Jeff. He steadies her with his hand then shines his light into the log. A dismembered hand rests in the hollow, small fish tear flesh from the ragged wrist.

Jeff removes the severed appendage and places it into his dive bag. A look of relief emanates from Kelly's eyes. She continues forward, following the beam from her light. Suddenly, Jeff grabs her shoulder. She turns, Jeff is frantically shinning his light in all directions, his K-Bar poised for defense. Kelly reaches out and clutches his wrist gaining his attention. With fear in his eyes, he motions for her to surface.

#### ON THE BOAT

A spot light has been placed over the side, Paul fidgets, focusing his stare from the water, to his watch. Without warning, a large BUMP, jars the boat. Paul leaps to his feet simultaneously cradling the rifle stock between his cheek and shoulder. His eyes nervously search, waiting. His finger, ready to eliminate whatever caused the disturbance. He waits, anticipation reaching a fever pitch... SWOOSH!... a dark figure breaks the surface.

## IN THE WATER

Jeff surfaces, looks toward the light, a Winchester 30-30 eighteen inches from his nose.

PAUL

Jesus Christ! You about gave me a heart attack.

Jeff removes his face mask, tosses it into the boat.

Paul lowers the rifle.

PAUL

Where's Kelly?

Bubbles break the surface. Kelly's hand reaches up through the froth, grabs the edge of the boat. She flips her face mask to the top of her head.

KELLY

Jeff, what's wrong?

JEFF

You didn't see it?

KELLY

See what?

JEFF

That thing! It passed right by us.

KELLY

You saw something?

JEFF

Why else would I have you surface?

KELLY

I don't know, that's what I'm trying to find out...

PAUL

... Well, while you two were down there playing. Something tried to eat the boat.

KELLY

What do you mean?

PAUL

I mean, something rammed the boat.  
It about knocked me off my seat...  
I thought you said this thing  
didn't eat boats.

KELLY

It was probably just responding to  
the light.

JEFF

I told you I saw something.

PAUL

What exactly were you looking for  
down there, anyway?

KELLY

Feeding habits. There were several  
half eaten fish.

PAUL

What does that tell you?

KELLY

Either this thing isn't hungry, or  
it hasn't found anything that suits  
it's appetite yet.

Jeff reaches into his dive bag, tosses the severed hand into  
the boat. Paul trips trying to get away from it.

JEFF

Tell that, to who ever lost this.

PAUL

(disgusted)  
Damn Jeff, a little warning next  
time!

JEFF

Sorry.

KELLY

It was inside of a log.

JEFF

It looks like it could belong to a  
woman.

KELLY

Probably the same one who lost the  
foot.

Looks at his watch

PAUL

It's getting late. Can we go home now?

KELLY

Just as well, it knows we're here.

EXT. AT THE LAKE - DAY

Morning sunlight drenches the wet boat ramp, Paul chats with an older gentleman, DR. HUGHES, while two younger men unload a boat from it's trailer.

PAUL

You're going to find this thing and kill it?

DR. HUGHES

Precisely. We feel that this creature poses a threat to anyone who encounters it.

Jeff strolls down from his truck, hands in his pockets.

PAUL

Just out of curiosity, how do plan on doing that?

DR. HUGHES

With explosives, of course...

JEFF

... Whoa, not on my lake you're not!

DR. HUGHES

And you are?

JEFF

Jeff Sanders, North Carolina Fish and Game.

Unimpressed, Dr. Hughes rolls his eyes.

DR. HUGHES

Well young man, I'll see your State authority and raise you one Federal authority.

PAUL

Federal? You're not from Raleigh?

DR. HUGHES  
Didn't they tell you?

PAUL  
They? No one told me anything. Who exactly are you people?

DR. HUGHES  
Agent Johnson told me that he had made all of the arrangements with the local authorities. I assumed that he had told you.

PAUL  
Agent Johnson?

DR. HUGHES  
Yes, with the FBI.

PAUL  
Agent Johnson's first name wouldn't be, Stan? Would it?

DR. HUGHES  
As a matter of fact I believe it was.

Jeff Laughs.

PAUL  
You didn't actually meet agent Johnson, did you?

DR. HUGHES  
He contacted me by phone. Said you local boys had a situation that you couldn't handle.

PAUL  
You got his number?

Dr. Hughes opens his cell, punches buttons.

DR. HUGHES  
Right here...(828)555-2222

Jeff hangs his head, holds back laughter, Paul smiles.

DR. HUGHES  
Something you'd like to share with me?

PAUL

Dr. Hughes, I'm afraid you've been scammed.

DR. HUGHES

I don't understand.

PAUL

Hit redial, I think you will.

DR. HUGHES

But, he said...

PAUL

Just call the number, please.

He hits redial.

STAN'S VOICE (O.S.)

Thank you for calling the Lake Robbins Marina. Our Summer hours of operation are, Monday through Friday 8 AM to 4 PM... Saturday 6 AM to 6 PM... We are closed Sunday.

Dr. Hughes SNAPS the cell closed.

PAUL

Satisfied?

DR. HUGHES

If this man is not with the FBI, who is he?

PAUL

Someone who is in big trouble.

DR. HUGHES

And you know where to find him?

JEFF

Oh yeah.

DR. HUGHES

Good, he owes for expenses.

PAUL

I'll be sure and let him know that... Now, exactly who are you people?

DR. HUGHES

Doctor Thadeus Hughes, Marine Biologist.

Paul points toward their boat.

PAUL  
They with you?

DR. HUGHES  
Private contractors. I use them to  
help me remove unwanted animals.

JEFF  
Animal mercenaries?

Offended, Dr. Hughes steps closer to Jeff.

DR. HUGHES  
I assure you young man that I am a  
qualified Doctor of biology.

Jeff puffs out his chest and steps forward.

JEFF  
In that case, Doctor... Even though  
I'm just a, piss ant State fish  
cop. I assume you won't mind if I  
ask to see your permit.

Dr. Hughes fidgets in his pockets as if looking for  
something.

DR. HUGHES  
Permit?

JEFF  
You need a permit to hunt and kill  
anything in this lake?

DR. HUGHES  
But, Agent Johnson said....

Jeff pulls a ticket book from his back pocket, slaps it  
authoritatively it into his other hand.

PAUL  
Hold on a minute, Jeff... Doctor,  
if you can show me see some I.D.  
I'm sure that we can work something  
out. What do you say, Jeff?

JEFF  
That'll work.

MATT, rugged, 35 and STEWART, Australian, 30 walk up from  
the boat.

DR. HUGHES  
Gentlemen, Matt and Stewart.

MATT  
Everything alright, Doc?

DR. HUGHES  
I'm afraid not Matthew.

STEWART  
These blokes ave' some kind of  
problem?

Paul squares up with Stewart.

PAUL  
Actually, you're the one with the  
problem.

Kelly rides up on a trail bike, removes her helmet, shakes  
her hair. The men look up at her.

STEWART  
Well now. And just who might this  
Beaut be?

Paul steps forward.

PAUL  
This "Beaut," happens to be my  
sister, Kelly.

JEFF  
Yeah, and my fiancée.

Paul is surprised by Jeff's comment.

STEWART  
No worries then, Mate... Now, what  
is the problem here?

JEFF  
Problem is, you guys don't have a  
permit.

Paul steps forward.

PAUL  
The real problem is the man who  
hired you doesn't work for the FBI.

MATT  
We gettin paid, Doc?

PAUL

Stan Johnson is a local business man. He's good for the money.

STEWART

Bloody right, he is!

Kelly walks down.

KELLY

Hey big brother, these the men from Raleigh?

PAUL

No, they've come to hunt and kill, our Creature.

Kelly displays intimidating body language.

KELLY

Over my dead body!

PAUL

Take it easy sis. I think Dr. Hughes here has had a change of heart.

DR. HUGHES

Yes, I have.

PAUL

You'll have to excuse my sister, Doctor... like you, she is a scientist.

Dr. Hughes hesitantly extends his hand to Kelly.

DR. HUGHES

And what is your field of study, young lady?

KELLY

Paleontology...

STEWART

Bugger... that bastard in the lake would have looked good on my wall.

Stewart walks toward the boat.

Kelly rolls her eyes.

KELLY

Who was that, Neanderthal?

MATT

Guess you won't be needing me then,  
Doc? Think I'll see what the local  
tavern is serving up.

Matt joins Stewart at the boat.

PAUL

Doctor, we can't pay you but if  
you'd like to join us you're  
welcome.

DR. HUGHES

I'm afraid my scientific curiosity  
had gotten the best of me. Thank  
you

INT. JEFF'S TRUCK - NIGHT.

Jeff and Kelly are driving on a mountain road.

KELLY

Thank you for asking me to dinner,  
Jeff.

JEFF

Well, you know? You being, the new  
girl in town and all.

Kelly laughs.

KELLY

It's good to get away from work.

JEFF

This place has the best baby back  
ribs in the mountains.

The Jeeps headlights illuminate a marquee for the White Oak  
Tavern.

Country music coming from the tavern.

JEFF

Hope you like country music?

KELLY

You kidding? Is the band any good?

JEFF  
Remember Billy Parker?

KELLY  
Bud Parker's little boy?

JEFF  
Yeah, only he's not so little  
anymore. He sings pretty good too.

INT. THE TAVERN - MINUTES LATER

Dim lighting bathes the red and white checkerboard covered booths that surround two pool tables. Over in the corner, Billy's band belts out an impressive cover of Beer for my horses. A sexy, 20 something waitress, Daisy Duke's, tight low cut blouse tied in a knot above her navel walks to the table.

WAITRESS  
Hey, Jeff.

JEFF  
Tracy, I'd like you to meet Kelly Travers.

WAITRESS  
Travers? As in Sheriff Travers?

KELLY  
His sister. Nice to meet you.

WAITRESS  
What kin I get you'uns

KELLY  
PBR.

JEFF  
Make it a pitcher, two glasses.

WAITRESS  
Coming right up.

The waitress leaves the table.

JEFF  
Bet this a lot different from,  
California.

KELLY  
Yeah, but it's pretty here.

JEFF  
You like living way out west?

KELLY  
Sure. We have the beaches,  
desserts. You know?

JEFF  
(smiles)  
Miss the mountains?

KELLY  
It is nice to visit.

The waitress the pitcher and two chilled glasses.

WAITRESS  
Decide what you'd like for supper?

KELLY  
Jeff was bragging on your baby back  
ribs.

JEFF  
Make it two, Tracy.

WAITRESS  
I'll have Jinx burn a couple racks.

She walks toward the kitchen.

KELLY  
Jinx?

JEFF  
The cook.

KELLY  
Oh.

Jeff points toward the bar.

JEFF  
Isn't that the two who were at the  
boat ramp?

Kelly turns around.

KELLY  
Yes, I think so.

Stewart and Matt clumsily clink beer glasses.

JEFF

Glad they won't be joining us  
tomorrow.

KELLY

I'd say, they'll be hurting in the  
morning.

JEFF

What do you think we'll find in the  
lake?

KELLY

Guess that all depends on how  
cooperative the creature is.

JEFF

The creature? Sounds unscientific.

KELLY

Until I actually see it myself. I  
won't stake my reputation on what  
it is.

Stewart stumbles to their table, half full beer glass in his  
hand.

STEWART

Hey Mate, how about a dance with  
your fiancée?...

KELLY

...He's not my fiancée and no I  
wouldn't like to dance.

STEWART

Well Missy, Id say this is between  
me and your beau.  
(to Jeff)  
How bout it, Mate?

KELLY

This has nothing to do with Jeff.

Stewart talks directly to Jeff ignoring Kelly.

STEWART

Sometimes the Sheila's don't know  
what they want... Do they Mate?

Kelly stands up, gets right in Stewart's face.

KELLY

I don't know how the girls across  
the pond do it. But over here, the  
Sheila's speak for themselves.

Annoyed with Kelly, Stewart puts his hand in front of her  
face. Kelly grabs Stewart's hand and bends it back toward  
him. Stewart collapses face first onto the table. his beer  
glass crashes to the floor.

STEWART

(pleads)

Bloody hell! You're breaking my  
arm.

KELLY

Maybe now you'll listen to the  
Little Sheila?

All eyes are on Kelly.

KELLY

I said, I don't want to dance. Now,  
Bugger off Mate!.

STEWART

Anything, just let go of my arm.

Kelly releases his arm. Stewart slowly gets up, leaves the  
tavern. The crowd applauds.

JEFF

Remind me not to piss you off.

KELLY

Why did he think I was your  
fiancee?

JEFF

He made a derogatory comment about  
you today. I might have told him  
that I didn't appreciate him  
talking about my fiancee like that.

KELLY

You defended my honor?

JEFF

Maybe a little.

Billy guitar plays the beginning licks to Sweet Home Alabama.

KELLY  
I love this song.

Kelly jumps up and extends her hand to Jeff.

JEFF  
Ooooh, I don't know. Not much of a  
dancer.

Kelly grabs Jeff's hand, drags him out in front of the stage.

KELLY  
You'll blend right in. Look,  
everyone's getting up.

Jeff moves awkwardly, watches others to see how they dance.  
Kelly gets right into it.

KELLY  
(talking over the music)  
I knew you could do it.

JEFF  
I feel like a spaz!

KELLY  
You're good.

Jeff's moves improve.

The song wraps up.

BILLY  
We're gonna slow things down a bit  
now with a little George Strait...

The slide guitar moans the opening chords.

BILLY  
*Our love is unconditional, We knew  
it from the start  
I can see it in your eyes,  
You can feel it from my heart....*

JEFF  
This one I can handle.

Jeff extends his hand to Kelly.

KELLY  
Look, the waitress put our ribs on  
the table.

Kelly walks toward the table.

Jeff stands there dumbfounded for a second then, follows her.

JEFF

I thought you wanted to dance.

KELLY

We did, now I'm hungry... Boy,  
these smell wonderful.

JEFF

(disappointed)  
Yeah, their great.

INT. JEFF'S TRUCK - LATER.

Silence fills the cab as they drive toward, Paul's cabin.

KELLY

I had a really good time tonight.  
Thank you.

JEFF

Me too.

More silence.

KELLY

I'm really excited about tomorrow.  
This could turn out to be the  
discovery of a lifetime.

JEFF

Or a big disappointment.

KELLY

There are no guarantees on  
scientific expeditions.

More silence.

JEFF

Think we'll be safe?

KELLY

As long as we work in teams we  
should be fine.

Paul's cabin appears in the headlights, only the porch light  
is lit.

Jeff shuts off the engine.

JEFF

Here we are.

KELLY

Yup... Well, I guess I'll see you  
in the morning?

She awkwardly offers Jeff her hand. He hesitantly shakes it.

KELLY

Thanks again, Jeff. I had a  
wonderful time.

Kelly let's herself out of the truck, shuts the door, walks  
toward the cabin.

Jeff starts the truck, turns on his headlights, waits until  
she safely opens the door.

Jeff backs the Jeep, throws a little gravel as he leaves.

EXT. THE LAKE - DAY

Jeff carries SCUBA gear to his boat.

Paul's truck pulls up, Paul and Kelly get out.

PAUL

Beautiful morning, Jeff.

Jeff looks at the sky.

JEFF

(sarcastic)  
Yeah, beautiful.

Jeff continues to load his gear into the boat.

Kelly unloads gear from the back of Paul's truck.

PAUL

(to Kelly)  
You two have a fight last night?

She throws a cold glance toward Jeff.

KELLY

He's a big boy... Did You remember  
the batteries?

PAUL

In the glove box.

Kelly stomps to the cab to retrieve the batteries.

Paul walks down to the boat with Jeff.

PAUL  
Hey brother, what happened last  
night?

JEFF  
Nothing...

Glance toward Kelly.

JEFF  
...Absolutely nothing.

Jeff continues checking the gear.

PAUL  
I see... Guess I'll get back to you  
on that.

Paul walks back up to his truck, removes a couple of tackle  
boxes.

KELLY  
Be careful with those. That is very  
expensive, gear.

PAUL  
No problem, Sis.

He walks toward to the boat.

PAUL  
(mumbles)  
This oughta be a pleasant day.

Dr. Hughes pulls up next to Paul's truck, gets out.

DR. HUGHES  
Good morning, everyone.

PAUL  
Hey, right on time.

Jeff and Kelly ignore Dr. Hughes.

DR. HUGHES  
(to Paul)  
Did I say something wrong?

PAUL  
A lovers quarrel I think.

DR. HUGHES

I hope they act accordingly when  
the research begins.

PAUL

I'm sure they'll be alright.

Kelly carries gear down to the boat.

KELLY

I brought extra batteries for the  
sonar. Have you worked with  
equipment like this before?

JEFF

(sarcastic)

I think I'll manage.

Kelly firmly sets down her box.

KELLY

What is your problem this morning?

JEFF

My problem? I'm not the one with  
relationship phobia.

KELLY

Is that what this is all about?

She pauses, calms down.

KELLY

Jeff, look, I'm sorry about last  
night but, like I told you. I have  
a life in California.

JEFF

You mean, a boyfriend?

KELLY

Nothing like that, my work is my  
life. I don't have time for  
relationships.

He turns toward her.

JEFF

You know what Kelly? I'm the one who's sorry... I guess I expected you to just... Ah hell, I don't know what I expected. It's just that when I saw you for that first time after all those years and saw what a beautiful woman you'd become...

Kelly blushes.

KELLY

You think I'm beautiful?

JEFF

Yeah, I do.

KELLY

You're not making this any easier, you know.

He smiles.

JEFF

I'm not trying to.

KELLY

Friend's?

Jeff shrugs his shoulders, Kelly hugs him.

PAUL'S TRUCK

PAUL

That's better.

Dr. Hughes smiles.

EXT. IN THE BOAT - LATER.

Paul is driving the boat. Kelly's eyes fixed on a fish finder.

KELLY

Slow the boat down, I think I saw something.

Jeff and Dr. Hughes lean closer to the monitor.

KELLY

You see? There.

Kelly points.

JEFF

Looks like a school of bait fish to me.

DR. HUGHES

I don't think so. See how uniformly it moves.

KELLY

He's right. Fish dart around, sporadically.

DR. HUGHES

Sheriff, cut the engine. Let's see what this thing is up to.

Paul cuts the engine.

KELLY

Jeff, lower the camera down.

Jeff lowers an underwater camera down into the water.

Kelly opens the case on another monitor, plugs the camera in.

DR. HUGHES

The picture is kind of grainy, too dark.

KELLY

Can you lower that light down along side of the camera?

Jeff puts the light over the side. They all huddle around the monitor.

KELLY

Check out the fish finder now!

DR. HUGHES

It seems that light may have sparked some interest.

KELLY

Oh my God, I don't believe it.

DR. HUGHES

What is that?

A large black object appears on the monitor.

KELLY  
I've only seen one of these,  
preserved in a glass case.

Paul leans over to look at the monitor.

PAUL  
What is that, thing?

KELLY  
Gentlemen, I give you the  
Ichthyosaurus.

JEFF  
Look at the size of that thing.

KELLY  
I can't believe this is actually  
happening.

PAUL  
Tell that to the families of it's  
victims.

KELLY  
I'm going down there.

PAUL  
You're what?

KELLY  
Well I can't very well study it  
from the boat.

JEFF  
Kelly, he's right, it's too  
dangerous... Dr. Hughes, tell her.

DR. HUGHES  
She is a scientist. I'm afraid she  
will do, what she feels she must  
do.

Kelly puts on her SCUBA tanks.

JEFF  
Kelly, please. You don't even know  
how this thing will react to you.

KELLY  
Jeff, I have to.

Kelly buckles the strap on her tank, Jeff picks up the other  
set of tanks.

PAUL  
(to Jeff)  
What do you think your doing?

JEFF  
Someone has to have her back.

KELLY  
Jeff, you don't have to do this.

JEFF  
Keep talking, I'm almost convinced.

Paul reaches for a spear gun and hands it to Jeff.

PAUL  
If you're going to be a damn fool,  
at least take this.

JEFF  
Thanks.

Kelly puts on a head mounted video camera.

KELLY  
This things wireless, you'll be  
able to see what I see on the  
monitor.

PAUL  
That makes me feel much better. Now  
I can watch this thing eat you.

KELLY  
Hilarious.

PAUL  
Jeff, take care of my sister.

JEFF  
Holy shit, I can't believe we're  
doing this.

Jeff and Kelly slip into the water. They disappear below the surface. Only bubbles remain.

INT. UNDER THE WATER - CONTINUOUS

Kelly is slowly swimming while filming. Jeff is right behind her. He is cautiously looking all around them. They head to the bottom. Jeff turns on a flash light and shines it ahead of them.

EXT. IN THE BOAT - CONTINUOUS

Paul and Dr. Hughes, are intently watching the monitor.

PAUL

She always was stubborn.

DR. HUGHES

That, I'm afraid is what makes her a great, scientist.

PAUL

Do you, Doctors always stick together?

DR. HUGHES

Relax sheriff, your sister is a professional.

Paul points to the monitor.

PAUL

Look at that. There's cloudy water coming from that small cave.

DR. HUGHES

You're right. You know what I think that, might be?

PAUL

No. What?

DR. HUGHES

I've seen that only, one time before.

PAUL

Well, what is it?

DR. HUGHES

When fresh water mixes with saline, it forms cloudy water.

PAUL

Saline? English man.

DR. HUGHES

It's salt water, sheriff.

PAUL

Salt water? But this is a fresh water lake.

DR. HUGHES

That's correct. But, if you'll remember your history. You'll remember that at one time the entire earth was covered by a, great ocean.

PAUL

And now there's a lake. So, why is there salt water seeping into the lake.

DR. HUGHES

It's probably been trapped in that cavern for thousands of years. Probably, due to some kind of geological pressure.

PAUL

Geological pressure?

DR. HUGHES

Why volcanic, of course.

PAUL

Of course.

DR. HUGHES

These mountains, are well known for their hydro-thermal activity.

PAUL

And you think, that thing has been in that cave all of this time?

DR. HUGHES

Very possible. Some scientist theorize that the dinosaur became extinct due to the earth's rapid cooling.

PAUL

You mean, like the ice age?

DR. HUGHES

Precisely. If this theory were true, this particular specimen may have become trapped in that cave and froze. It only survived because of a protein in it's blood...

PAUL

(interrupting)

I know this one...It's a protein that keeps the blood in a liquid state, even when the temperature drops low enough to make any other animal's blood freeze.

DR. HUGHES

Very good, sheriff. I am impressed. Jeopardy?

PAUL

No, my sister Kelly.

Suddenly on the monitor, something large quickly move across the screen. It completely covers the monitor for a second. Then, without warning, the camera seems to wildly spiral toward the bottom free from, Kelly's hands.

PAUL

My God, what was that?

INT. UNDER THE WATER - CONTINUOUS

Kelly, is lying on her back on the lake bottom. She is clutching her chest and grimacing. Jeff holds the spear gun in the ready position. He is quickly turning from side to side, searching for the creature that just attacked Kelly.

EXT. IN THE BOAT - CONTINUOUS

Paul, is now standing. He has a hand on each side of the monitor. He intently watches, waiting to what happens next. The camera has landed on it's side, on the bottom. It is showing a sideways view on the monitor. Paul can just barely see Kelly on the edge of the screen. He can see that Jeff is about ten feet from Kelly. Jeff is in a, defensive position.

PAUL

(very excited)

Come on, Sis. Get up.

They watch, as Kelly slowly rolls back over into the upright position. She begins to swim toward Jeff, all the while holding her chest. Jeff turns toward her and puts an arm around her. Kelly points toward the surface.

INT. UNDER THE WATER - CONTINUOUS

Jeff is holding Kelly, helping her to the surface. He keeps the spear gun readied with his free hand. They slowly begin their ascent.

EXT. IN THE BOAT - CONTINUOUS

Paul nervously watches, as Kelly and Jeff go out of view from the camera.

PAUL

Well at least, they're heading for the surface.

DR. HUGHES

She appears to be a very lucky, young lady.

PAUL

Yeah, well. I'll feel a whole better, when they are both safely in this boat.

Dr. Hughes hears a motor coming from behind him. He turns around. He sees someone on a jet ski heading for their location.

DR. HUGHES

Anyone you know sheriff?

Paul picks up some binoculars and puts them on the driver of the jet ski.

PAUL

Well, I'll be damned.

DR. HUGHES

Who is it?

PAUL

Doctor, you're about to meet Detective Johnson.

Paul puts the binoculars down and looks down into the water.

Suddenly, Jeff and Kelly surface. Paul quickly reaches down and helps Kelly into the boat.

PAUL

Kelly, are you alright?

Kelly sits on the seat rubbing her chest.

KELLY  
Yes, I think so.

PAUL  
What happened?

Dr. Hughes, helps Jeff into the boat.

JEFF  
That thing, attacked Kelly.

PAUL  
What's wrong with your chest? Do  
you need to go to the hospital?

Kelly unzips her wet suit, revealing a red mark between her  
breasts.

KELLY  
I'm sure, I'll be fine. Just a  
little sore.

She zips her wet suit back up.

PAUL  
Well, what happened?

KELLY  
It came from the side of me. I was  
looking at the camera viewer and...

Kelly suddenly has a realization.

KELLY  
Oh crap, the camera. I dropped it  
when the creature rammed me. That's  
an expensive piece of equipment.  
I've got to go back down and get  
it.

PAUL  
Forget about it. No one gets out of  
this boat until we reach dry land.

KELLY  
But Paul, it's not mine.

PAUL  
No, I'll buy you another one.

JEFF  
Besides Kelly, that thing just  
tried to make a meal out of you.

KELLY

It was only trying to see what I was. If it was going to eat me, it wouldn't have missed.

They all turn around at the sound of, Stan Johnson, roaring up on his jet ski.

Stan shuts off the jet ski and comes coasting up to the boat.

STAN

Sheriff, I heard you might be out here, this morning.

PAUL

Stan Johnson? Mister, you are in big trouble!

STAN

Me? What did I do?

PAUL

Let's see. How about we start with impersonating a Federal agent?

STAN

What are you talking about? Who told you that?

PAUL

Dr. Hughes did.

Stan begins to look around, like he is innocent.

STAN

Who is, Dr. Hughes?

Dr. Hughes raises his hand.

DR. HUGHES

I am.

Stan looks at, Dr. Hughes and swallows hard.

STAN

Oh.

Jeff smiles.

PAUL

Stan, I'm afraid you owe, Dr. Hughes here an apology.

STAN  
(sheepishly)  
Dr. Hughes...I'm Sorry I had to lie  
to you. But....

DR. HUGHES  
(interrupting)  
Not to mention, you owe me for my  
time and equipment.

STAN  
You mean money? How much?

DR. HUGHES  
Well, let's see. My usual fee is  
\$500 just to show up. Then, there  
is a capture fee..oh and let's not  
forget the 350 miles I drove to get  
here.

STAN  
Capture fee? But you didn't capture  
anything. No, I won't pay it.

PAUL  
Oh, you'll pay it alright. You'll  
pay him, or go to jail.

STAN  
Jail? For what?

PAUL  
What did I tell you about public  
endangerment Stan?

STAN  
But, I only told him. This is  
extortion!

PAUL  
Take your pick, Stan.

STAN  
(angry)  
Oh, all right. Come by the marina.  
I'll pay you, this afternoon.

DR. HUGHES  
I would appreciate it.

Stan, stands up on his jet ski. He turns the key to start it.  
He cranks the engine but, it won't start.

STAN

Now what?

Stan looks behind the ski and sees a plastic bag sticking out of the jet ski's water intake.

STAN

Sheriff? Can't you do something about the litter bugs around here?

Stan leans over and reaches under the jet ski to remove the plastic bag. Suddenly, a violent disturbance next to the jet ski, rocks the ski. Stan tires to grab the seat for support but, he misses it and falls into the water. Everyone gasps.

Stan comes to the surface and tosses his head to the side. He wipes water from his eyes.

STAN

What in the hell, was that?

KELLY

Mr. Johnson! Get out of the water, quickly.

Stan reaches for the runner of his jet ski. Without warning, he is hit from under the water. Stan jerks, his face contorts with pain. Blood begins to pour from the corners of his mouth. He releases the jet ski and slowly sinks below the surface. The others look on in disbelief. Kelly turns her head and closes her eyes. Jeff puts his arm around her.

JEFF

What do we do now, Paul?

PAUL

We get the hell out of here. That's what we do.

DR. HUGHES

But that thing is still in the lake. Look, sheriff. I've got some toys in my truck that we might just be able to use to get this thing.

PAUL

What do you mean by, toys?

KELLY

And what do you mean? Get this thing? You mean kill it?

PAUL

Kelly, up to this point I was all for trying to capture and study the creature. But now, after seeing what it can do. I just wonder if maybe we'd all be safer if this thing were, dead.

KELLY

We can't just kill it. As scientist we don't have the right to destroy possibly the only living link, to the past.

PAUL

Kelly, that thing just killed, Stan Johnson. Not to mention four others. It's not giving us much choice.

DR. HUGHES

As a fellow scientist I can appreciate where you're coming from, I really can. And sheriff, I can also appreciate your situation. Perhaps I can satisfy, both of you.

Paul and Kelly both look at the Doctor.

PAUL/KELLY

How?

DR. HUGHES

Well, I have a device that can put this thing to sleep. That is, if we can get close enough.

KELLY

Sleep, as in kill?

DR. HUGHES

No, I mean knock it out.

PAUL

I'm listening. Does it involve getting in the water with it?

DR. HUGHES

Thankfully no.

PAUL  
Alright then, let's go get your  
toys. Jeff, put a tow line on  
Stan's ski.

JEFF  
you got it.

Paul starts the boat. Jeff ties a tow line to the jet ski.  
They slowly head toward the shore.

EXT. THE DOCTORS TRUCK - LATER

Doctor Hughes opens a steel truck box, in the bed of his  
truck.

KELLY  
What exactly, can this thing do?

DR. HUGHES  
Well, it will emit a high voltage  
into the water. This should,  
temporarily paralyze the creature.

JEFF  
I know what this thing is. It's  
like the device we use to count the  
fish population each fishing  
season.

DR. HUGHES  
Precisely. Only this packs more of  
a wallop.

PAUL  
Is it safe to operate that thing,  
standing in a boat.

DR. HUGHES  
Not yours, it's made of metal.  
We'll take mine, it has a  
fiberglass hull.

PAUL  
Sounds good. We'll transfer Kelly's  
sonar equipment from my boat into  
yours.

Dr. Hughes gets into his truck, and begins to back his boat down to the water. The others walk along side of the boat trailer.

EXT. STAN'S MARINA - CONTINUOUS

There are two teenage boys fishing and two teenage girls sunning themselves in bikini's, on the dock of the marina.

Stan's wife MARNI, walks out of the marina office to talk to the kids.

MARNI

JOSH, will you and your friends take a couple of the jet ski's and go find your father?

JOSH

Sure mom, where is he?

MARNI

He said, he was going over by Jessops Cove to find the sheriff. He left about an hour ago and I can't reach him on his cell phone.

JOSH

You guys, up for a little ride?

BRENT

Is the pope catholic?

TINA

Yeah, I'm getting hot anyway.

LISA

Can I can ride with you, Josh?

MARNI

Alright, when you find your father. Remind him that he still has three jet ski's to service before next week end.

JOSH

Alright mom. Come on guys, let's mount up.

The boys, untie two of the jet ski's

EXT. JESSOPS COVE - LATER

PAUL

This is probably the best place to start.

DR. HUGHES

Jeff, would you give me a hand.

JEFF

Sure.

KELLY

You're sure this thing is safe?

DR. HUGHES

I've safely used it on alligators, down in Florida.

Dr. Hughes lowers the probe down into the water.

DR. HUGHES

Now, all you do is press this button on the controller. It will send an electrical shock into the water.

PAUL

What kind of radius does that thing have?

DR. HUGHES

Anything within about thirty feet of the probe will be effected. What we need now, is something to attract the creature.

PAUL

I've got an idea.

Paul picks up an oar, and begins to beat it on the water.

KELLY

Good idea, most predators are attracted to the sound of thrashing in the water.

Paul continues to beat the water. Kelly turns on her sonar and monitor.

KELLY

Nothing yet.

PAUL  
Maybe it's not lunch time yet.

JEFF  
This is a big lake. It probably  
just went some where else.

Kelly switches over to the camera mode on the monitor.

KELLY  
It must have gone into sleep mode.  
The screen is black.

JEFF  
Why would it do that?

KELLY  
When there's no motion detected,  
the camera shuts down until motion  
is detected again... I'd still like  
to go back down there and get it.

PAUL  
(authoritative)  
No! No one is getting out of this  
boat.

They all turn toward the sound of approaching jet ski's.

PAUL  
This, we don't need right now.

Paul stands up and tries to wave off the jet skiers.

They ignore him and continue toward the boat.

JEFF  
Apparently, they don't understand.

Josh Johnson and his friends, come roaring up to the boat.

They shut off their engines and coast up to the boat.

PAUL  
Josh, what's the matter with you?  
Didn't you see me, waving you off?

JOSH JOHNSON  
Oh, is that you were doing? I  
thought you were just saying hello.

Josh reaches out and grabs the rail of the boat.

PAUL

Josh, we have a situation here. I need you and your friends to go back to the marina, right now.

JOSH JOHNSON

Well, my mom sent me to find my dad. Have you seen him?

Paul, Kelly, Jeff, and Dr. Hughes all look at each other.

PAUL

Son, about your father....

JOSH JOHNSON

What? What's wrong. Where is he?

Suddenly Lisa screams.

LISA

Oh my God!

Lisa points to the monitor next to Kelly.

The camera has come back on, Stan Johnson appears on the monitor. Both of his legs are missing.

JOSH JOHNSON

Oh my god, what happened to him?

PAUL

Josh, there's something in the lake.

JOSH JOHNSON

(very upset)

Dad told us that you said there was some kind of monster in the lake....you knew about it, and you didn't do anything.

JEFF

Josh, Paul tried to warn your dad.

PAUL

That's not important right now, Jeff...Look Josh, your dad came out here to ask me about what ever this thing is. He fell off of his ski, and well...

Josh wipes tears from his eyes.

JOSH JOHNSON

What do mean he fell off. Dad was a great rider.

PAUL

Actually, that thing knocked him off.

KELLY

Wait a minute. I think it's back

Kelly is studying the monitors.

KELLY

That's probably why the camera monitor suddenly came back on.

Brent quickly pulls his legs up stands up on the seat of his jet ski.

BRENT

Dude, what is this thing.

Lisa pulls her legs up and puts them on the seat.

DR. HUGHES

It must be the jet ski's.  
The sound of them in the water,  
attracted the creature.

PAUL

Kids, why don't you calmly but quickly, climb onto the boat.

BRENT

No problem dude.

Brent jumps from his ski onto the bow of the boat. When he does, he pushes the ski away from the boat with, Tina still on it.

TINA

(scared)

Hey, what about me?

PAUL

Brent, I sad calmly...Tina just relax, we'll get you.

Jeff picks up an oar and tries to row the boat over to Tina on the jet ski. She is now about twenty feet away from the boat.

Josh and Lisa, carefully climb onto the boat.

JOSH JOHNSON  
What about our ski's?

Paul's efforts of rowing are useless.

JEFF  
This isn't working. There's too  
much weight in the boat.

PAUL  
Tina do you think you can start  
that thing and slowly ride it over  
here to the boat?

TINA  
I don't know, I've never driven one  
of these things before.

JOSH JOHNSON  
Tina, it's easy. Just turn the key  
till it starts. There is a thumb  
throttle on the handlebar. Once it  
starts, ride it just like a bike.

TINA  
Okay, I'll try.

Tina turns the key and the engine starts.

JOSH JOHNSON  
Alright now, very gently press your  
thumb on the throttle.

TINA  
You mean like this?

She mashes the throttle all the way down. The jet ski  
suddenly lurches forward, causing Tina to fall backward into  
the water. The jet ski continues to float away from her.

TINA  
(screaming)  
Help me.

JOSH JOHNSON  
Swim for the boat!

PAUL  
Come on honey, swim toward the  
boat.

Kelly looks at the monitor.

KELLY

Oh my gosh, it's coming...swim  
Tina!

CREATURES POV.

Tina is floundering in the water trying to swim over to the boat. From the creatures view, it is closing in on her.

EXT. IN THE BOAT - CONTINUOUS

Kelly is watching the monitor.

KELLY

She's not going to make it. It's  
getting closer.

Without warning, Jeff stands up and dives into the water. He swims toward Tina.

PAUL

(shouts)  
Jeff, what are you doing.

They all watch, as Jeff reaches Tina. She is very scared, she reaches out for Jeff, and tries to climb him. Jeff goes under the water and pushes away from her. He resurfaces about ten feet from her.

JEFF

Honey, I know you're scared, but  
you're going to drown both of us.  
I'm coming to help you okay?

TINA

(upset)  
I'm sorry, okay.

Jeff swims over to Tina and puts an arm on her back.

JEFF

Now, let's swim together.

TINA

Okay.

They begin to swim toward the boat.

KELLY

Paul, look.

Paul glances at the monitor. The creature is almost to Jeff and Tina.

PAUL

(shouting)

Swim Jeff!

Dr. Hughes stands up, He climbs onto the other jet ski.

KELLY

What are you doing?

DR. HUGHES

Someone's gotta do something.

Dr. Hughes starts the jet ski and races over to Jeff, and Tina. Jeff and Tina are swimming for the boat. Dr. Hughes pulls up along side of them. He throws a tow line to Jeff

DR. HUGHES

Grab the rope.

Jeff puts his hand through the loop at the end of the rope.

JEFF

Alright Tina, hold on tight...Go  
Doc!

Dr. Hughes takes off, dragging Jeff and Tina toward the boat.

INT. UNDER THE WATER - CONTINUOUS

We see the jet ski, Jeff, and Tina all closing on the boat. The creature is about twenty yards behind them.

EXT. IN THE BOAT - CONTINUOUS

Paul is at the back of the boat with his hand out waiting to help Jeff and Tina into the boat.

The Doctor pulls up along side of the boat. Paul reaches down and grabs Tina by the hand. With one motion, Paul pulls Tina up out of the water. Jeff reaches up and pushes on her bottom to help Paul. Tina falls into the boat. Jeff grabs the ladder on the side of the boat, and climbs up. As soon as Jeff's foot clears the water, there is a big swirl in the water caused by the creature.

DR. HUGHES  
That was close.

PAUL  
Jeff are you alright?

JEFF  
I'm fine. You okay, Tina?

TINA  
(shivering)  
Yeah, just scared.

PAUL  
Doctor, I think maybe you should  
get back in the boat with us.

DR. HUGHES  
That would probably be a prudent  
thing to do.

Dr. Hughes stands up on the jet ski. He is about to climb onto the boat, when Suddenly, the creature strikes the bottom of the jet ski causing Dr. Hughes to fall into the water.

PAUL  
Doctor!

Dr. Hughes comes to the surface.

DR. HUGHES  
(shouting)  
Deliver the shock, now!

PAUL  
But you'll be electrocuted.

DR. HUGHES  
Just do it!

Jeff lunges for the controller. He presses the button. Dr. Hughes' eyes are big, his face has a look of pain. Suddenly, Dr. Hughes closes his eyes and goes limp in the water. Jeff drops the controller.

Paul sticks his finger in the water, then quickly withdraws it.

PAUL  
Just checking.

Paul reaches his hand into the water and grabs Dr. Hughes by the arm.

PAUL  
Help me Jeff.

Paul reaches down, and they both lift Dr. Hughes into the boat. He is unconscious.

KELLY  
Is he alright?

JEFF  
If he's anything like a fish, he should be fine.

Paul looks down into the water.

PAUL  
I wonder if we got it?

Kelly and the others all look around the boat.

JOSH JOHNSON  
I don't see anything.

LISA  
Me either.

Dr. Hughes jerks, then opens his eyes.

JEFF  
Doctor, are you alright?

The Doctor wipes the water from his face. He raise up.

DR. HUGHES  
Yes...I think now I know how the fish feel...that really sucks.

They all laugh.

DR. HUGHES  
Did we get it?

PAUL  
No sign of it yet.

Dr. Hughes sits down on a seat.

KELLY  
Since this thing is an air breathing mammal, it has built in buoyancy compensators. It may take a few minutes for it to float up.

They all continue to scan the water.

BRENT  
Out there Dude.

Brent points into the water.

They all watch, as the creature slowly breaks the surface in front of the boat.

KELLY  
It's remarkable.

JEFF  
Hey Doc, how long will that thing stay stunned?

Dr. Hughes reaches down and opens a tackle box. He pulls out a syringe and a bottle.

DR. HUGHES  
Unfortunately, not long enough.

He inserts the syringe into the bottle and draws out some liquid.

DR. HUGHES  
However, If I can inject it with this, we should be able to safely transport the creature to shore.

Dr. Hughes climbs onto the bow of the boat. He leans down to the water, and sticks the creature with the needle.

DR. HUGHES  
I hope I've used enough.

PAUL  
I hope you did too. You think we can tow it to shore?

JEFF  
I don't see why not.

Jeff gets a tow line, and ties it around the creatures tail.

JEFF  
How's that?

PAUL  
That looks like it should work.

Paul starts the boat.

PAUL

Alright, everyone sit down. We're going to take it nice and easy.

They slowly start for the shore.

EXT. BACK AT THE DOCK - LATER.

Paul is on the dock tying the boat up. Jeff is untying the towline, that is attached to the creature.

JEFF

Hey Doc, can you help me get this thing to the shore?

DR. HUGHES

Certainly.

KELLY

I still can't believe that we actually captured a living breathing dinosaur.

PAUL

Yeah, now that we caught the damn thing, has anyone given any thought as to what were gonna do with it?

KELLY

Study it, of course.

PAUL

No, I mean right now.

DR. HUGHES

Sheriff, I have an un-assembled cage in the bed of my truck.

PAUL

That's what that thing was. I saw it earlier.

DR. HUGHES

I do try to be prepared.

Jeff and Dr. Hughes, reach the end of the dock.

JEFF

Here Doc, if you'll take the end of the rope and walk toward the boat launch, I'll get in the water, and keep this thing from beaching.

KELLY

Doctor, toss me your truck keys,  
I'll back it down to the water.

Dr. Hughes reaches into his pocket and tosses Kelly the keys.  
Kelly goes to get his truck.

PAUL

Why don't you kids go up to my  
truck. I'll be up there in a  
minute.

Josh is grieving the loss of his father. Lisa is walking with  
him, She has her arm around his waist.

BRENT

Dude, I'm sorry about your dad.

TINA

Josh, if you need anything...

The kids walk up to Paul's truck, and get in.

JEFF

How long will those drugs, keep  
this thing sedated?

DR. HUGHES

Well, I've estimated it's weight  
and gave it the dose of a Grizzly  
Bear. If it's metabolism is that of  
a whale, it should stay out another  
thirty minutes or so.

Jeff is standing in waist deep water. He is holding the  
creatures snout, keeping it out in the deeper water.

JEFF

This thing is actually, really  
quite amazing.

Jeff is stroking it's head.

JEFF

This kind of reminds me of petting  
the dolphins at Sea World.

DR. HUGHES

Be careful. Remember, your standing  
at the business end of that thing.

Kelly backs down to where Dr. Hughes, and Jeff are.

DR. HUGHES  
That's fine Kelly.

Kelly gets out and walks down to the water.

KELLY  
What do you want me to do?

DR. HUGHES  
If you'll switch places with me,  
I'll prepare the cage.

Dr. Hughes hands Kelly the rope. He begins to remove the pieces of the cage, onto the ground.

JEFF  
Doc, you sure that cage will hold  
this thing?

DR. HUGHES  
It should. It once contained a  
bear, overnight.

KELLY  
Do you realize what this discovery  
means to my, research?

JEFF  
(disappointed)  
I guess you'll be leaving with the,  
creature huh?

KELLY  
I know your disappointed, Jeff, but  
I really don't think it would be  
fair to either one of us if we took  
our relationship any further than  
it is right now. Do you?

JEFF  
No, I guess you're right.

KELLY  
(smiles)  
Your a terrible liar. You know  
that?

Paul walks over.

PAUL  
Can you believe we caught that  
thing? I guess you're going to be  
famous now huh, Kelly?

KELLY

We all get credit for this find.  
The offers for sponsorship will be  
pouring in.

JEFF

Sponsorship? Is that what this is  
about, money?

KELLY

(defensive)

Of course not! I can't believe  
you'd even suggest that it was. You  
know what, Jeff? If you weren't  
being so selfish, you'd know that.

JEFF

Selfish? I'm not the one who is  
walking away from something that  
could be great.

Paul, watching Jeff and Kelly start to argue, backs up. He  
tucks his head and sneaks away from the argument.

KELLY

That's exactly what I'm talking  
about. You're so concerned about  
being alone that you would expect  
me to just drop everything in my  
life and come up here to be  
your...your....

JEFF

(interrupting)

My what?

KELLY

I don't know. Girlfriend, lover,  
Wife?

JEFF

My wife? I take you out for some  
ribs and a pitcher of beer and now  
you want to be my wife?

KELLY

I never said that. I was just  
saying....Argh! Why are you men so  
impossible?

JEFF

(very calm)

Because...when we see something  
worth keeping, we fight for it.

KELLY  
 (dumbfounded)  
 You think I'm worth....I Mean  
 you...

Jeff walks over to Kelly and takes her in his arms. He leans forward and tries to kiss her. Kelly ducks out of the way.

Jeff looks at her, then releases her.

KELLY  
 Jeff, I'm sorry. I just can't.

JEFF  
 That's, alright. Just as soon as we  
 get this thing crated up, you can  
 go back to your life in California.

Jeff walks back out into the water, toward the creatures head.

Without warning, the creature jerks to life. It's head goes under the surface and grabs Jeff's ankle. Jeff throws his head back in pain.

JEFF  
 Argh...It's got me!

KELLY  
 Oh my God, help!

Paul, and Dr. Hughes run for the water.

PAUL  
 Quick, pull the rope.

Paul and Dr. Hughes both grab the rope from Kelly. They start walking it up the hill away from the water.

Jeff falls backward into the water, as he is being drug toward the shore with the creature. Suddenly, the creature goes limp again and releases him.

Kelly runs into the water and picks Jeff up onto his feet. She helps him as he limps out of the water.

KELLY  
 Are you alright?

JEFF  
 I think so.

They all gather around, Jeff. Dr. Hughes bends down and examines, Jeff's ankle.

DR. HUGHES

The wound seems to be superficial.

A small amount of blood is trickling from a half a dozen small punctures down Jeff's wet leg.

PAUL

I thought you said you sedated that thing?

DR. HUGHES

I did. I think what just happened was more of an involuntary spasm, rather than an attack.

JEFF

Well it sure found it's target.

KELLY

He's right Jeff. If that thing would have attacked you, you'd be missing your whole foot right now.

PAUL

I hope you've had a tetanus shot.

JEFF

I'm good.

DR. HUGHES

Kelly, if you wouldn't mind. I have a first aid kit in the cab. I'd like to get this cage assembled as quickly as possible.

KELLY

Jeff, can you make it to the truck?

JEFF

yeah.

Jeff puts his arm around Kelly for support. She walks him to the cab of the truck. Jeff opens the door and sits on the seat with his leg hanging out the door.

Kelly reaches into the glove box and removes the first aid kit. She kneels in front of, Jeff and begins to administer first aid. She rolls up his pant leg.

KELLY

This doesn't look too bad.

Jeff looks down.

JEFF

I don't know, It may require surgery.

She laughs.

KELLY

Why are men such big babies?

She dabs at the punctures with a cloth.

JEFF

You have gentle hands.

She gently supports his calf with one hand as she cleans his ankle.

KELLY

Jeff please, stop it. It just wouldn't work out.

JEFF

How do you know?

KELLY

Because....I have my work....

DR. HUGHES (O.S.)

Alright, that was the last one.  
Let's see how Jeff's doing.

Paul and Dr. Hughes walk around to the cab of the truck.

PAUL

Ahem!

Jeff and Kelly both look up.

KELLY

(frustrated)  
What?

PAUL

Is he going to live?

JEFF

(sarcastically)  
Oh yeah, I'll be fine.

DR. HUGHES

Well, if you two are done we could use some help with our new pet.

JEFF

No problem. Are we done here,  
Kelly?

KELLY

yes.

They all walk down to the water.

JEFF

What do you need me to do?

DR. HUGHES

If we can get the cage into the  
water, we should be able to just  
float the creature into it.

KELLY

Don't forget, this is an air  
breathing mammal. That cage can  
only be partially submerged.

DR. HUGHES

Alright then, let's drag the cage  
out.

All four of them grab a corner of the cage. They drag it out  
to where the creature is.

KELLY

That should be deep enough.

DR. HUGHES

Now all we have to do is drag the  
creature into the cage. Once it's  
in, we'll secure the top closed.

STEWART (O.S.)

Look mate, they're even going to  
gift wrap it for us.

Paul, Kelly, Jeff, and Dr. Hughes all look up the hill to see  
Stewart and Matt behind them.

Stewart is pointing a high powered rifle at them.

DR. HUGHES

Stewart? Matthew? What are you  
doing?

STEWART

Sorry Doc. This isn't personal,  
just business.

KELLY

What do you think you're doing?

STEWART

Getting bloody rich, that's what!

From the truck, the kids see what is going on, they quickly duck down in the truck. Stewart and Matt don't see them.

KELLY

I don't understand.

STEWART

Well, I have a couple of mates across the pond who are willing to pay five hundred thousand for this creature.

DR. HUGHES

But, this is not an item to be sold. This is the discovery of a life time. Mathew? What about you? Are you really willing to risk everything for money?

MATT

Like the man said, it's just business.

PAUL

I have to ask. Do you really think you'll get off this mountain before you're caught?

STEWART

I'd say our odds are favorable. Especially since no one will know about it until we are safely out of the country.

PAUL

What are you going to do, kill us?

STEWART

I may be a lot of things, but a killer? No mate, everyone's coming with us. We'll release you just as soon as we are aboard the plane.

PAUL

I see, so you're going to add kidnapping to the charges?

JEFF

If you're not a killer, then why shouldn't we just walk away right now. I mean, you won't shoot us, right?

Stewart raises the rifle and fires a bullet right next to Jeff's foot.

STEWART

Don't press your bloody luck, pretty boy.

DR. HUGHES

None of this is really necessary, I'll pay you the money.

STEWART

You doc? Where are you going to get half a million, American?

DR. HUGHES

It may take me a week or so, but I can get it.

STEWART

No thanks, I'll take my chances. Now, let's get that fish tied to the back of your boat.

They float the creature into the cage and secure the top.

KELLY

Where are you going with it.

STEWART

I have a truck waiting across the lake. Now, let's get hopping.

INT. IN THE BOAT - LATER.

They are all in the boat, slowly heading to the other side of the lake. Matt is driving the boat and Stewart is leaning against the rear transom holding the rifle. The cage is tightly pulled up against the rear transom. It is tied to some cleats.

EXT. BACK AT PAUL'S TRUCK - CONTINUOUS

The kids are standing next to the truck. Brent is talking on a cell phone.

BRENT

No Sir, this isn't a joke. They have Sheriff Travers and Jeff Sanders with them...yes Sir...okay, we'll wait here for the deputies.

Brent closes the cell phone.

LISA

So, what did they say?

BRENT

The calvary's coming!

INT. IN THE BOAT - CONTINUOUS

KELLY

You don't really expect to get away this, do you?

STEWART

And who is going to stop us little lady, you?

Suddenly, one of the cleats pulls out of the fiberglass transom. The cage drops to one side.

STEWART

(shouts)

Stop the boat, mate!

Matt stops the boat. Stewart grabs hold of the cage with his free hand.

STEWART

Come back here and let's get another rope on this cage.

Matt makes his way back to the rear of the boat.

STEWART

String a line from that cleat on the side to the cage.

Matt ties a new line to the cleat on the side of boat, then pulls it to the back. He starts to attach it to the cage.

STEWART

Just a minor delay, boys and girls.

Matt has his hand inside the cage trying to wrap the rope through it. Suddenly, the creature jerks back to consciousness. Matt tries to retract his hand from inside the cage, but it's too late. Before he get's it out, the creature snaps at it. Matt screams out in pain. He pulls out his arm and stares in disbelief while blood gushes from the end of the stump.

MATT

Son of a bitch, my hand!

Stewart recoils in disgust.

STEWART

Bloody hell, Mate.

In the commotion, Paul see's his chance and punches Stewart hard. Stewart falls backward into the water, the rifle falls into the boat. Jeff quickly picks up the rifle. Matt, who is now panicking, falls onto the cage. The weight of Matt, added to the weight of the cage is too much for the one remaining cleat that is holding the cage. Without warning, the cleat pops out of the fiberglass and the cage quickly drops into the water and disappears below the surface. Matt flails around in the water.

KELLY

The creature will drown in that cage. We've got to go after it.

PAUL

Kelly, the waters too deep out here.

KELLY

But Paul, it will drown.

PAUL

I'll radio for help. Maybe we can get a diver out here in time.

Paul picks up the radio that is lying on the dash. Suddenly, a helicopter appears over head.

VOICE OVER LOUD SPEAKER (O.S.)

This is the State Police, don't anyone move.

They all look up. Paul tunes the radio to the police frequency.

PAUL

This is Sheriff Paul Travers. We have the situation under control down here.

VOICE ON RADIO

10-4 sheriff. We'll meet you at the marina

PAUL

Roger that, can you have an ambulance waiting for us.

VOICE ON RADIO

That's affirmative sheriff. Over and out.

PAUL

Alright mate, back in the boat.

JEFF

(pointing the rifle at Matt)  
You, swim over here.

Matt dog paddles with one hand toward the boat.

INT. PAUL'S CABIN - NIGHT.

Paul, Jeff, Kelly, Mary, Jenna, and Kyra are all sitting in Paul's living room talking.

PAUL

Kelly, I'm really sorry about the creature.

KELLY

Well, if it weren't for those two morons, it would still be alive right now.

PAUL

I doubt those two, will be causing any trouble for quite awhile.

JEFF

How many years do you suppose they'll get?

PAUL

Kidnapping, armed robbery, grand theft for the boat? I'd say at least twenty a piece.

MARY

Kelly, what will you do now?

Kelly looks at Jeff, then the others.

KELLY

Would you all mind if I stepped out on the porch alone with, Jeff for a few minutes? There's something I need to discuss with him.

MARY

No, you two go ahead. I'm sure we'll be fine.

KELLY

Jeff, would you mind?

JEFF

What's this all about?

KELLY

Please, we need to talk.

Kelly stands up and walks to the porch. Jeff follows her, he closes the french glass doors behind him.

JEFF

Alright, you have me alone. Now what?

KELLY

Jeff, I know your disappointed, but....

JEFF

You're going back to California in the morning, aren't you?

KELLY

Please Jeff, just hear me out.

JEFF

Alright.

KELLY

I given this a lot of thought. These past couple of days, being back up here in the mountains, seeing you again. It's made me realize something.

JEFF

Oh?

KELLY

Yes. It's made me realize how lonely I've been...My work has been the only thing that has kept me sane.

Jeff smiles.

KELLY (CONT'D)

...Since the creature is dead now, I can have it put on ice and study it when ever I feel ready to.

JEFF

You mean you're not ready?

Kelly puts her finger to his lips.

KELLY

Let me finish, please.

Jeff nods.

KELLY

There is nothing that is making me go back to, California right away anymore.

JEFF

But?

KELLY

But, there is something that is making me stay here.

JEFF

And what's that?

KELLY

You're going to make me say it, aren't you?

JEFF

(grinning)  
Probably.

Kelly has a nervous look on her face.

KELLY

Oh, what the hell.

Kelly leans forward and grabs the back of Jeff's head. She pulls him toward her and kisses him deeply.

Cheers erupt from inside of the house.

After a long while, Kelly pulls away from the kiss.

KELLY

Jeff, I think I might be falling in  
love with you.

Jeff smiles.

JEFF

Oh, you might be huh? Well then,  
lets make it official.

Jeff grabs her, and kisses her passionately.

FADE OUT.