## The Baby's Room Original Screenplay by Jorge J. Prieto

FADE IN:

EXT. A RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD IN SOUTH WEST MIAMI -- NIGHT

All the homes in this short block are ranch type homes and have a white paint exterior and two car garages. There some cars parked in the garages driveway as well. It is a very quiet neighborhood.

EXT. LAURA AND DAVID'S HOME -- BABY'S ROOM - NIGHT

A small lamp light is lid on top of a dresser of Laura's and David's, new born, baby's room.

The crib is visible through the window of the ranch style, one family home. The three week old BABY BOY is sleeping.

MARIANNE (60's) the baby's grandmother, enters the room and checks on the baby.

EXT. CARIDAD'S HOME -- BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Through the bedroom window of this second house that faces the baby's room, CARIDAD (60's) a black, dressed in all white gown and hair wrap, Cuban immigrant, spiritualist who speaks very little English.

The black women is staring into the baby's room from own bedroom window which faces the new born baby's room.

Marianne approaches the window, noticing the black women, the two exchange a node and smile as a sign of agreement and a sigh of relief.

INT. THE BABY'S ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

Marianne, opens the bedroom door to exit the baby's room and crashes with the baby's young mother.

LAURA (29) deep dark eyes and a very stern character.

LAURA

Jesus, Marianne! You scared me to death!

MARIANNE

I--I'm sorry Laura...I--I

LAURA

And what are you doing in the baby's room? It's almost midnight!

MARIANNE

I--I just came to check on him.

LAURA

Check for what? (MORE)

LAURA (CONT'D)

(silence)

Marianne, are you still being haunted by that old Cuban, witch, stupid stories?

MARIANNE

I am and I believe everything she said about that—that statuette you insist in keeping in the baby's room!

SMALL STATUETTE of a small, angelic face, known as the Child of Atocha. His face changes to angry. He has its arms up with a smile. He is very well known, respected and trusted in the Cuban, Hispanic community of the 'santeria' religion.

His expression turns from happy to angry after he hears Marianne's remark.

LAURA

Marianne, I heard enough! You are my mother in law, and my son's beloved grandmother, but you have no authority in this house or in my son's well being. So, I'm going to ask you for the last time--

MARIANNE

But, Laura, that..! He--he....

The six inch tall child statute moves its head up and down, slowly, angry, triggering a change in Marianne's behavior.

She totally stops speaking and becomes expression less.

LAURA

Marianne? Marianne, are you alright?

Marianne turns around and exits the room as if she was sleepwalking.

Laura is relieved, but taken back by her mother in law's behavior. She goes over to the statue which now has it's original expression, a smile and it's usual angelic face.

LAURA (CONT'D)

Who in the world would be afraid of at little baby, angel face like you?

A child's voice, is echoed through out the whole in room.

STATUE (V.O.)

Kill him. Kill him now...

The statue's face turns evil now. Laura's expression becomes the same as her mother in law's. She looks at the baby's crib and slowly starts walking toward's it. EXT. BABY'S ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

Laura picks up a pillow and slowly brings over the crib.

Above a full moon illuminates the quiet neighborhood.

INT. LAURA AND DAVID'S HOME -- BABY'S ROOM - LATER

Laura is asleep in a rocking chair. She gets up and walks over to her baby. She notices the baby's color is not normal and that he is not breathing. She picks him up.

LAURA

(screaming)

No!

INT. CARIDAD'S HOME -- BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

The black woman looks out her window and she blesses herself with the sign of the cross in great sadness.

INT. LAURA AND DAVID'S HOME -- BABY'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Laura puts her baby back in the crib.

The bedroom door locks itself suddenly, as

HALLWAY

Marianne who heard the screams comes running towards the baby's room.

THE BABY'S ROOM

Laura walks over to a mirror in the wall and she crashes her face against the mirror breaking it. She Picks up a piece of glass and slashes her neck. Everything turns dark red

INSERT - title, credits and newspaper articles, some in English and others in Spanish, are flashed in the screen.

SEQUENCE OF SCENES

1st article: "BABY DIES MYSTERIOUSLY AND MOTHER KILLS SELF".

2nd article: (In Spanish) SANTERIA OR COINCIDENCE? Causes the death of a baby in South Miami's Little Habana?

The saint known as The Child of Atocha, in the Afro-Cuban religion called know as "Santeria" is the guilty one according to Spiritualist who lives across from the dead baby's home. Superstition or witchcraft?

EXT. A RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD IN SOUTH WEST MIAMI -- DAY

INSERT Six months later.

Six months later a FOR SALE sign is in front of the same house.

A late twenties COUPLE, and GAIL (50s) an experienced, well dressed, real-state agent, gets off a car in front of the house.

KALI (27) soft spoken, pure beauty, modestly dressed and very much pregnant has her arm around her husband.

Kali's, CALVIN (28) strong physique, handsome, fireman, walk's into the house.

Caridad the black Cuban neighbor is dressed in her usual long, white dressed is outside gardening. She notices them and slowly, nodes greeting the young couple. Fear is takes over her when she notices the young woman is pregnant.

INT. LAURA AND DAVID'S HOME -- BABY'S ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

The real state agent, opens the door to the baby's room for the couple to see it. The room is still furnished with the deceased baby's crib and dresser and other furnishings.

GAIL

And this as you can see, used to be the current owners baby's room. The baby's father said if you like, you can keep the furnisher and the crib, at no additional cost.

KALI

What happened to the baby?

GAIL

It--it died.

KALI

Oh, my God. How?

GAIL

S.I.D.S...He was about five days old.

CALVIN

Poor parents.

KALI

Poor mother. How it she?

GAIL

I--I think is best if...I just keep showing you the rest of the house and--

Kali notices the statue on top of the dresser.

KALI

Who is this suppose to be?

GAIL

I...I really can't say. It looks
like some kind of saint? I'll ask
the owner if--

KALI

I like him... Ask him if I can keep it. It's a child saint, even though we don't believe in having them, this one is perfect for our babies room.

CALVIN

Kali, honey we don't have to keep this room the way--

KALI

We'll take the house and we'll keep the baby's room just as is.

CALVIN

Honey, don't you think we should at least get a new crib and--

KALI

No, why should we? This room is perfect! And yes Calvin, of cause we need a second crib.

GAIL

A second crib? No! You're having?

KALI

Yes, we're having twins. Two boys.

The statuette expression changes from happy to angry.

EXT. THE O'OREILLY'S FRONT HOUSE -- DAY

Two weeks later a huge moving truck is parked in front of the young couple. THREE MOVERS are finished moving the O'Reilly's to their new residency. Calvin comes out after them as the are ready to leave.

CALVIN

Hey! Amigo, hold on! I almost forgot. This is for you and your partners.

Calvin hands him \$200.

MOVER

Thank you.

No, thank you. Good job.

Kali comes out with a trade and a pitcher of iced tea.

KALI

Cal, ask the guys if they like a glass of ice tea?

The Cuban neighbor approaches the mover and Calvin.

CALVIN

Sure, honey, bring it. Come on guys! Its 90 degrees out here! Have yourself a glass!

MOVER

Thank you, sir. That's very kind of you, senora.

Kali brings the iced tes to the side walk as Carida approaches them.

CARIDAD

'Scuse me,

(in Spanish) Spee-eke Spanish?

CALVIN

No, I'm sorry.

(to mover)

Can you ask her what she needs?

MOVER

(in Spanish)

Sure. The sir says how can he help you?

From this point on, the conversation between mover and Caridad is all in Spanish

CARIDAD

Tell him to clean the baby's room. To remove everything that's in it.

Brief pause.

KALI

What did she say?

MOVER

I--I really don't understand what she is trying to say, madam.

CALVIN

But, she mention the word baby. What about the baby?

/ .

CARIDAD

(in English)

You baby

(points to Kali's

belly)

Is boy?

KALI

Yes...Si--si, I'm having two--two boys.

Caridad puts her hands to her mouth, frighten and shaken up.

CARIDAD

Take the child out of the room.

Take him out or your baby's are in danger. Grave danger!

She runs back inside.

CALVIN

Pe--peli-gro? Isn't that danger?

KALI

Danger? Danger of what? Sir, did she say what kind of danger my baby's faces and from what?

MOVER

Miss, I--I don't understand what she's trying to say. She kept saying to take out the baby from the bedroom.

KALI

What baby?

MOVER 2

Superstitious crap. She is a crazy Cuban witch and everyone here knows it. Many fear her and respect her. Her religion, you know?

KALI

Why? What it she?

MOVER 2

Because she claims to have powers. How you say? S--spiritu--

KALI

Spiritualist. She's a spiritualist?

MOVER

Don't worry, senora. Here in this community you'll find hundreds of them who believe, but they are harmless.

(MORE)

MOVER (CONT'D)

It's a Cuban thing, Santeria, witchcraft... We have to go know. Thanks for the ice tea.

The three man start to get on the truck. Kali is a bit shaken up and baffled by the woman's warning.

CALVIN

Honey, she's crazy... Like the mover said, superstitious crap from a crazy old woman who's shaken by the death of the former owners baby.

KALI

You're right. Come on, you have a lot of unpacking to do.

CALVIN

Me! What about you?

KALI

No sweetie. I'm seven months pregnant and I need to rest.

CALVIN

Don't you worry. I'll take care of everything little by little.

KALI

I love you, baby.

CALVIN

And I love you more.

Caridad looks at them in sadness through her bedroom window. Her eyes tear up.

Kali looks back at the woman and sees her crying. A bit of fear over takes Kali as she walks into the house holding on to her husband.

INT. THE O'REILLY'S HOME -- KITCHEN - EVENING

Calvin is on the phone and Kali is clearing up the table after dinner and getting ready for bed.

CALVIN

Yes... Well yes. My wife wants to keep it in the baby's room if they don't want it. Oh, good...thanks for checking on that. Bye

KALI

Who was that?

The real state agent, Gail. She ask the previous owner if we can keep the statue and he said that everything that's in the baby's room we can keep or throw out.

KALI

Good, then we'll keep everything as is. All you need to get now is the other crib.

CALVIN

I already did. It will be here on Saturday morning.

KALI

Great, thanks honey and I'm sorry that I haven't been much help around here with the moving and all.

CALVIN

You've done more than enough. Your only concern right now should be those two precious boys growing inside of you, who will be here very soon too fill up this our new home, with laughter and joy.

He holds her.

KALI

We're going to be very happy here Cal, I know it.

CALVIN

And that's all I ever wanted for us and our children, to be happy and safe.

He hugs Kali and they kiss.

EXT. HOSPITAL -- NIGHT

In the parking lot outside a local hospital DAVID the thirtyseven year old widower of Laura gets out of his car and walks towards the hospital to visit his mother Marianne who had a stroke after the death of her grandson and daughter in law.

INT. HOSPITAL -- MARIANNE'S ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

David is seated by his mother Marianne who's making progress but her lips are still a bit distorted, her left arm is very week plus her speech is still impaired. DAVID

Mother, I finally sold the house and everything is already set up for you on our new place. Your room and your bathroom are all handicap accessible.

MARIANNE

(with difficulty)

What--what a--about the ba--baby's things?

DAVID

Ma, I already told you. I left everything that was in little David's room behind. As a matter of fact the agent who sold the house called me today to tell me that the new owners are expecting twins and they are going to use everything we left behind, plus they wanted to know if they can keep that baby saint statuette, remember the little--?

Marianne becomes very agitated and frighten.

MARIANNE

No--no!

DAVID

Ma, what's wrong?

MARIANNE

Tell--tell me so--some-thing

DAVID

Yes, what?

MARIANNE

What--what it she ex-pecting?

DAVID

What do mean? What is the new owner's expecting?

MARIANNE

Yes!

DAVID

Twins. It must be two boys, since she is keeping the room the way that we left it.

MARIANNE

Oh, no. Dave--David? The statue! The--the statuette. You--you got--to get it. Get it out of--of the baby's roo--room.

DAVID

Ma, please! First of all calm down! This is not good for you and secondly, you need to stop thinking that little statue killed my baby and Laura. Laura was suffering from postpartum depression and our son died from s.i.d.s.

MARIANNE

No! Please! U--you got--gotta warn them!

DAVID

Ma, please! Calm down!

MARIANNE

(extremely frighten)
Do--do it! Please! Do it!

DAVID

Okay! Okay! I--I promise you that--that, what day is tomorrow? It's Friday. On Saturday I'll go over and tell them that--that I changed my mind. No better yet, I'll tell them that, the baby saint statuette belonged to your mother and you want it back

MARIANNE

(relieve)

Yes, tell them that...then you--you take it...to a local church. No! Take it to--to one of th--those bo--tanical stores on 8th street.

DAVID

Okay, I'll do that. Now, rest and calm down, please.

MARIANNE

(crying)

I--I'm so sorry.

DAVID

Mom, please stop blaming yourself. You did nothing wrong.

MARIANNE

I--I knew. I was warned...

DAVID

Sh, stop it! You knew nothing and neither did I. This things happen and only God has the answer. No one else.

(MORE)

DAVID (CONT'D)

You need to forget about all the stories that Cuban woman across from us told you about that—that thing and her tragic story. It's superstitious bull shit and coincidence, that's all. But—but for your peace of mind, I will pick up that statuette on Saturday and I will bring it to the first botanical store that I find. I promise, okay...? I love you mother.

Marianne takes a deep breath of relief.

EXT. A RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD IN SOUTH WEST MIAMI -- NIGHT

The short street is dark and quiet as almost everyone is asleep or getting ready to sleep after the late, eleven o'clock local news, which is playing in some of the living rooms and bedrooms on t.v. sets, both in English and many more in Spanish speaking newscasters.

Through the window the young couples baby's room, it's lid with the small lamp on top of the dresser next to the child statuette.

Kali walks into the room and sits in the rocking chair. She looks towards the Cuban lady's bedroom, but is all dark at this moment.

INT. THE O'REILLY'S HOME -- THE BABY'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Kali gets up and approaches the small child like statuette. She smiles at it and touches it's face.

KALI

You're cute. I like you. I like you a lot.

As she turns to exit, the statue puts on a big happy smile, that Kali doesn't noticed as she is distracted by a candle light that's burning at the Cuban lady's bedroom.

Kali turns off the lamp in the baby's dresser and approaches the window. She sees that the candle is in front of a eight by ten picture of someone, but she can't make out if is a man, woman or child. She does notices Caridad, who as always is dressed in white, on her knees crying and praying to the the photo, at times her cried is so loud that Kali can hear it echoing outside the neighborhood.

CARIDAD (O.S.)

(in Spanish)

My baby! Oh, God. My sweet baby! OH...

Kali's curiosity intensifies. She decides to go over to the woman's window unnoticed and see who's in the picture.

EXT. THE O'REILLY'S HOME -- CONTINUOUS

Kali exits the house.

As she is about to cross the grassy green lawn a water hose slowly rises from the grass and as if held by an invisible force wraps itself to Kali's legs making her fall down violently on the lawn and seconds later she starts having belly pains. She screams in agony.

KALI

Oh! Oh! Oh, my God! Oh, my God! Cal! Calvin! Calvin! Cal! Cal!

INT. THE O'RELLY'S HOME -- THE BABY'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The small statuette has now a very serious, angry look.

EXT. THE OREILLY'S HOME -- CONTINUOUS

Calvin runs out of the house to assist his wife.

CALVIN

Kali! Kali, what's wrong? Why are you out here? What happened?

KALI

Calvin, my baby's! Oh! Oh! Call 911! Hurry! Hurry!

CALVIN

Oh, Kali! I'll be right back! Just hang on baby! Hang in there!

Calvin runs inside.

INT. CARIDAD'S HOME -- BEDROOM WINDOW - CONTINUOUS

The Cuban lady is concerned, observing the traumatic scene unfolding between the two houses . She blesses herself and begins praying.

CARIDAD

(in Spanish)

Oh heavenly Father! Save those innocent boys lives. Don't let Him take them

(to Kali)

Senora, I warned you. I told you to take the little saint out of your baby's room.

KALI

Senora!

(MORE)

KALI (CONT'D)

I don't-- No comprende Spanish. Oh-- oh! What are you saying?

CARIDAD

Me say to you, peligro! Peligro!

KALI

Danger of what? Oh! Are you crazy or something? Cal! Calvin! Oh! Oh, God! My baby!

Calvin runs back out to his wife.

CALVIN

Honey the ambulance is on its way. They told me to tell you to stay still

KALI

Oh, Cal I think I hurt our baby's with this terrible fall and it's all her fault!

CARIDAD

(crying, in Spanish)
I'm sorry, senora. I know what it
is to lose a child.

KALI

Cal, please tell her to shut up!

CALVIN

Honey, you need to ignore her and calm down! Senora porfavor, go, go away! Adios!

Caridad very sadly closes her window. A siren sound can now be heard approaching.

KALI

Oh, Calvin I'm--I'm sorry!

CALVIN

They're coming honey. They're almost - here.

As Kali hears the sirens her eyes start to close and open. She is very fatigue from pain.

INSIDE KALI'S BELLY an image of the umbilical cord wrapping around one of the baby's neck choking him.

Kali passes out in tears from the excruciating pain. Calvin desperately runs to the middle of the street flagging down the ambulance and returns to Kali with TWO PARAMEDICS.

CALVIN (CONT'D)

Oh, my God. Kali. Kali, honey hang in there! I love you baby, please don't die on me...
(to paramedics)
Hurry guys, please hurry!

EXT. JACKSON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL EMERGENCY ENTRANCE -- LATER

The ambulance rushes into the emergency drive up entrance.

TWO PARAMEDICS remove Kali on a stretcher and rush her into the E.R.

Calvin, parks his car and rushes behind them.

INT. CARIDAD'S HOME -- BEDROOM - NIGHT

The faithful woman is lighting a white candle and praying to it in Spanish.

CARIDAD

Heavenly Father of heaven and Earth. Please protect those baby's. They're innocent angels. Don't take them away from their mother... Please Lord.

Caridad looks towards the baby's room. She approaches her window.

CARIDAD (CONT'D)

Leave them alone you jealous one, Child of Atocha. Please, let them be born.

INT. HOSPITAL -- I.C.U. - MORNING

Calvin is in a chair next to his wife who's asleep after undergoing an emergency c-section.

Kali is awaken by pain and sourness from the surgery.

CALVIN

Kali, sweetheart? How are you?

KALI

Oh...pain... What--what happened?

CALVIN

Honey, you failed in our lawn and--and-

KALI

My baby's...? How--how are my babies?

CALVIN

Kali, please calm down.

KALI

Calvin, please tell me!

CALVIN

Nurse! Kali, you had some complications...

He presses the call button.

KALI

Calvin, what happened to our son's...? Cal, answer me!

A young FEMALE NURSE walks in with a syringe in hand.

NURSE

It she in pain?

KALI

Calvin, please! Answer me!

CALVIN

Yes and she's very--

KALI

(hysterical)

Calvin, please tell me! Tell me that our babies are okay..

CALVIN

Honey, please!

KALI

Tell me! Oh..oh, God!

Kali notices some bandages on her lower extremities.

CALVIN

Nurse, please.

KALI

I had surgery? Calvin, what did they do to me? What the hell did you people do to me..?

The nurse approaches Kali.

CALVIN

Nurse, do something!

NURSE

Mrs. O'Reilly I'm going to give you something for the pain and to help you relax. Okay, honey?

KALI

No! No! I wanna know what did you all do to me!

The nurse inserts the medicine in the syringe into Kali's I.V. Seconds later, Kali starts dozing off from the medication.

CALVIN

Sweetie you're going to be okay. You need to rest, so you can care for our baby.

KALI

Cal--Calvin.. Plea--please.. My--my babies...I--I wanna...see my...babies. I need to--to see my....babies.

Kali falls out totally.

CALVIN

Thank you, nurse.

NURSE

She's been through a lot and needs rest..and so do you. Why don't you go home and come back later. I promise I'll call you if anything new develops.

CALVIN

I can't go home. I--I need to be here and tell her that...that our..

He breaks down in tears and gets up clearing his eyes.

CALVIN (CONT'D)

Please, excuse me.

NURSE

Sure.

Calvin exits the room.

INT. HOSPITAL -- NURSERY -- MOMENTS LATER

Calvin walks up to the window and he looks at his only surviving son, who's hooked up to machines.

CALVIN

Fight baby. Fight for your life. Your mommy needs you. I--I need you.

INT. THE O'REILLY'S HOME -- THE BABY'S ROOM - MORNING

It's 5:15 a.m. and Calvin, who came home for a couple of hours, walks into the baby's room where there are two empty cribs. He stands in front of one of the empty cribs and recalls the doctors words telling him that one oft his baby's didn't make it.

DOCTOR (V.O.)

I'm sorry Mr.O'Reilly, but we lost one of your son's... The umbilical cord was wrapped around the baby's neck cutting the flow of oxygen.

Calvin grabs one of the little pillows, angry and sad he breaks down crying.

CALVIN

Why? Why? Why? Oh! Oh, God. Oh, Jesus! Oh, OH!

EXT. CARIDAD'S HOMES -- BEDROOM WINDOW - CONTINUOUS

Caridad who's been watching Calvin, blesses herself with the sign of the cross, closes her eyes, nodding her head in great sadness.

INT. THE O'REILLY'S HOME -- THE BABY'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The child statuette smiles.

EXT. MIAMI HIGHWAY -- MORNING

It's Saturday and David is driving to his former house, as he promised his mother, to pick up the statue.

INT. DAVID'S CAR -- CONTINUOUS

His cell-phone rings, he answers through his blue tooth technology on his ear.

DAVID

Hello.. Yes, mother is me... Well guess where I'm heading..? Over to the old place to pick that up as I promised you.

INT. HOSPITAL -- MARIANNE'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

MARIANNE

Da--David, son be-be very careful.

DAVID (V.O.)

Ma, what should I be careful of?

MARIANNE

You...you know very--very well what I'm referring to.

DAVID (V.O.)

Mother, I'm doing this just to give you peace of mind, but you know very well that--

Over the phone we hear a LOUD BLOWOUT SOUND.

DAVID (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Oh, shit! What the hell!

MARIANNE

David...what--what's wrong?

Over the phone we hear a second BLOWOUT SOUND.

DAVID (V.O.)

Oh my God! Oh my God!

MARIANNE

(horrified)

David! Oh, David! Hello...? Hello!

EXT. MIAMI HIGHWAY -- CONTINUOUS

David's car is spinning out of control and in a split second two wheels that have blown out come off causing the fast speeding vehicle to spin around, like a coin that's been tossed up in the air then dropped, finally blowing up in flames.

INT. HOSPITAL -- CONTINUOUS

MARIANNE'S ROOM

MARIANNE

(crying)

Da--David! My--my son!

INT. HOSPITAL I.C.U -- MORNING

Kali who has just been told by Calvin the news about one of her baby's dying is crying and screaming inconsolable.

KALI

No! No! NO..! My baby, my baby...! Oh..! Oh, God..!

CALVIN

It's all right honey. It was God's will.

KATıT

Calvin, oh, oh...

CALVIN

Baby, please control yourself.

KALI

How can I? How..?

CALVIN

Remember you have another baby that needs you. Do it for him, please...

Calvin holds his wife, fighting back tears and trying to be strong for the both of them. Kali's sobbing echoes through out the hospital hallways as nurses node their heads in compassion for the young mother's pain.

SPLIT SCREEN -- HOSPITAL ROOM / CARIDAD'S ROOM.

INT. HOSPITAL -- MARIANNE'S ROOM - AFTERNOON

The same cries of pain is going on inside Marianne's room.

Same at Caridad's bedroom, who after all this years can stop crying for her dead baby as she lights a candle in front of his picture as night approaches once again.

INT. THE O'REILLY'S HOME -- THE BABY'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The Child of Prague statue is smiling and waiting patiently for his next move when he's new mom comes home.

EXT. THE O'REILLY'S HOME -- NIGHT

Out front of Calvin and Kali's home there are about four cars parked. ONE CAR EXITS as ANOTHER CAR parks.

INT. THE O'REILLY'S -- LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The young couple is having co-workers of Calvin, FIVE FIREMAN and their WIVES, for a get together after the service they had for their deceased baby.

The front door opens and a TALL FIREMAN with a fireman t-shirt walks in, but there is someone following him, someone who at first because of its shorter frame no notices.

As the fireman walks passed the entrance the subject behind the tall men is being block by the same.

Calvin who notices his friend and fireman brother, greets and hugs EMILIO (30s) tall, strong, Cuban-American.

**EMILIO** 

Cal, sorry for your lost, brother.

CALVIN

Thanks, Emilio.

The subject who walked in behind the six-two fireman is still unnoticed by Calvin. Emilio goes over to Kali who is seated in a chair, still inconsolable by the lost of her baby.

EMILIO

Kali, I'm so sorry. Everyone at the firehouse sends their condolences.

Kali sees the person behind Emilio as he leans over to kiss her. Caridad is standing there, very sadden, but with an angry look in her eyes. KALI

Thanks Emilio... Excuse me, Emilio. What is she doing here..? Cal..? Did you invite her in?

CALVIN

No, of cause not... I'll handle it. Madam?

Calvin grabs Caridad's arm. She pulls away. Looking at Kali in sadness.

CARIDAD

(in Spanish)

I told you to get the baby saint out of this house, that your babies were in danger and now look what happenned.

(angry)

Its your fault, that your baby boy is dead!

KALI

What it she talking about my baby's?

CALVIN

Emilio, can you tell her to please leave or I'll be forced to call the police.

**EMILIO** 

Sure.

(In Spanish)

Madam, please you need to leave.

CARIDAD

You tell them that the other baby boy is also in great danger. They must take the child saint out of the house.

KALI

Danger! That I understand. Why does she keep saying that we are in danger? Danger from what?

CALVIN

Emilio?

**EMILIO** 

Listen guys, I--I don't think she's all there. If you know what I mean.

KALI

Please, tell me what she said?

CARIDAD

Tell them!

EMILIO

She said, she warned you already once about...about...I--I...

Emilio freezes, shakes his head as he suddenly forgot what the old woman said.

KALI

About what...? Emilio? She warned us about what...?

EMILIO

(confused)

I--I...Calvin, Kali... This lady is obviously crazy!

CARIDAD

(in broken English)

No! Me, no crazy!

Calvin's mother who was in the kitchen approaches them at the climax of the chaos.

KALI

That, she understood! So, she speaks some English.

ELLEN

Cal, Kali? What's going on?

CALVIN

Ma, it's nothing.

(grabs Caridad by arm)

Okay enough! Out of here!

CARIDAD

(breaking off)

Your baby is in danger of dying. He is not going to allow any other male infant in this house, which is his home now. You--you are now his parents!

Ellen who understands Spanish is a bit shaken by the black lady's warnings.

KALI

Will you get this--this monster out of my site!

Caridad who understood the word monster and who sees how much Kali hates her can help tearing up as she is showed the door.

CARIDAD

(voice shaken)

You'll be sorry... You've all been warned!

(crying, broken English)
I sorry...bery, bery sorry..

CALVIN

Out I said! Emilio, tell her if she tries to come near us again I will get a restraining order and she can go to jail.

ELLEN

Calvin, at least let her explain herself. She seems truly concerned about--

CALVIN

Ma, please! Look at her. Can't you see she's...forget it! Emilio, just tell her what I said.

EMILIO

Sure. Madam, please don't come near this family again or you can go to jail.

CARIDAD

He..he took my baby and he is doing the same to yours. He already took one from this house, not long ago, now he just took one of your twins and he'll continue to do so until he's the only little king of this cattle.

(pointing to Kali)
You, you're he mommy now!

KALI

What? What did say about me..? Emilio?

**EMILIO** 

Look, Kali is best--

CALVIN

No, stop! I'll handle it. You are out of--

Calvin grabs the woman by her arm and escorts her out as she shouts, worried.

CARIDAD

He won't be stopped!

CALVIN

Out of here I said--!

CARIDAD

He can't be stopped! Please listen to me! Please!

CALVIN

(slamming the door)

Adios..! Jesus, what a nut case! Sorry everyone, please sit down! Ma, is the coffee ready...? Mother is the coffee--?

ELLEN

(frozen)

Yes--yes it--its ready. I--I'll get it.

CALVIN

My mother seems shaken and you Emilio, you look concerned... Don't tell me that witch got to you and I'm sorry to call her that because she's Cuban like your parents, but--

**EMILIO** 

I--I wish I understood clearer what she was trying to say...

CALVIN

You mean she didn't make sense or you just couldn't understand her words? I mean, I know you speak perfect Spanish. So...?

**EMILIO** 

(confused)

Yes, but some how I--I didn't understand half of the things she said. I--I understood them at first and then I--I.... Forget it, now I'm not making any sense either.

CALVIN

She's nuts. Look at the way she dresses. She's nothing but a fanatic and one of those crazy Cuban, voodoo shit...and again, I'm sorry if I'm offending you or your parents by--

EMILIO

Hey, I have to agree. My people do have some beliefs like "santeria", which we never practiced or believed however...

KALI

I--I wish I knew what the hell she was trying to tell us.

Honey, forget about it. Go help mother with the coffee?

KALI

Yeah, come on girls and please forgive us for this incident.

TWO WIVES, who are present and they node in agreement as they go with Kali to the kitchen.

CALVIN

Emilio, you were going to say something about that religion San--?

**EMILIO** 

Santeria. I was going to say that although we don't believe in it or practice it. We all in our community do respect it and--and sometimes even fear it.

CALVIN

(laughing)

Oh, come on! That's all crap, Emilio.

EMILIO

(serious)

I wouldn't say that if I were you. She came to warn you, that much I remember and what scares me. Plus the fact that, I--I didn't or couldn't understand the warning, its mind boggling. I--I just went blank..

CALVIN

Come on, let me get you a drink, you need it. How about a Cuba libre?

**EMILIO** 

(worried)

Yeah, thanks, I can use one...

INT. THE O'REILLY'S -- MASTER BEDROOM - LATER

The bedroom is dark. Kali is awake and still shaken by the earlier scene with Caridad, thinking of all that has happened in the last few days. Fear and concern is written all over her face.

KALI

Calvin? Are you up?

CALVIN

Yes.

KALI

You can't sleep either?

No I can't.. I won't find any rest until we have little Calvin home with us and out of danger.

KALI

I'm scared Cal... For the first time since we moved in here I'm scared.

CALVIN

Scared about what honey..? Don't tell me that crazy woman is getting to you.

KALI

I--I don't know... I'm--I'm afraid
and don't know why or of what.

CALVIN

(holding her)

Honey, you have nothing to be afraid of. Our son will be home soon and time will pass... We will healed even though we will never, never forget our little angel...the son we never got to know, to love and protect.

KALI

(crying)

Oh, Calvin... I--I'm sorry...

CALVIN

It wasn't your fault. You heard what the doctor said. I--I love you Kali and--and we will have other babies. We will be the happy couple that we have always been. That I will promise you.

They embrace and kiss.

INT. THE O'REILLY'S HOME -- GUEST ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Ellen is reading a paperback novel, but stops reading with a look of concerned.

ELLEN

I understood everything that women said, but I--I just don't know to what or whom was she referring to when she said that he won't allowed any--any other male child to--to live in this house?

Ellen gets up and walks to the window and looks over to Caridad's house.

ELLEN (CONT'D)

I gotta talk to that woman. My Spanish is better than ever and if she speaks slowly, I know I will understand every word she says.

INT. THE O'REILLY'S HOME -- THE BABY'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The room now only has one crib. The child statue is on the dresser smiling and staring out into Caridad's bedroom across the way. We can once again see the lit candle in front of the picture from the baby's room.

INT. CARIDAD'S HOME -- BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Caridad is having her recurring dream of her grandmother's voice telling her that the baby saint wants Caridad's baby dead.

WOMEN'S VOICE (V.O.)

(In Spanish.)

Caridad! Caridad, please take the child of Atocha out of your house or he will take your son Carlito's to the other world...

CARIDAD

No. No! No! Carlitos! Carlitos, Son, my baby, my sweet baby, boy!

She awakens screaming, gets up crying as she looks at the black and white picture of her three year old, deceased son.

INT. HOSPITAL -- NURSERY - LATER

Kali's newborn son is still on a respirator.

They're TWO NURSES in the nurses station talking.

Little Calvin's tiny nose begins to close as if two invisible fingers was squeezing it.

The heart monitor alarm goes off as the baby goes into cardiac arrest. One of the nurses runs towards little Calvin.

NURSE TWO

Oh, God. Quick! Call for code blue!

INT. THE O'REILLY'S HOME -- THE BABY'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The child statue now has an even bigger smile and is nodding happily.

INT. THE O'REILLY'S HOME -- MASTER BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Kali wakes up frighten.

KALI

(panting)

Calvin! Oh, my baby!

CALVIN

What--what is it, honey?

KALI

Calvin! Our baby! Our Baby!

CALVIN

Honey, our baby is fine. You had a nightmare that's all.

KALI

Call-call the hospital!

CALVIN

Kali, it's almost one in the morning
and--

The phone rings.

KALI

Oh, no! Calvin! Calvin, our baby!

CALVIN

Kali, calm--calm down. Let me answer
it.... Hello? Yes--yes, speaking...

Long silence. Calvin is trying very hard to hide his emotions of the alarming news he's hearing.

KALI

Calvin, what-- whats happening?

CALVIN

Thank you. Hello, doctor..? Are you sure everything is fine...? We--we wanna see him. Yes, now of cause... Yes... Okay. Thanks for calling. Good bye.

KALI

Cal--Cal, what happened? Calvin, please!

Ellen knocks their door.

ELLEN

Calvin! Its mother! May I come in?

CALVIN

Yes, ma!

ELLEN

I'm sorry, but I heard the phone--

It was the hospital... Our son is stable, but he--he went into cardiac arrest earlier-

KALI

(sobbing)

Oh, no! No! I--I sense it! I felt it...

CALVIN

Kali, listen! That was the doctor and he assured me that he's fine. He's a strong baby and he is fighting. He--he will make it no matter what. Now, get dressed. I told the doctor we wanted to see him. Ma, you wanna come?

ELLEN

Of cause. I'll go get dressed right away.

Ellen exits

CALVIN

Kali, please. I need you to be strong, for our son's sake.

KALI

I'll try, that's all I can tell you.

CALVIN

Thanks baby. Hurry, get ready.

They hug and she starts to undressed.

INT. HOSPITAL -- NURSERY - MOMENTS LATER

Kali is seated by her baby's incubator. She holds his little hand. Ellen is also by her side.

KALI

Fight baby, fight hard for your life. Mommy and daddy love you very much... We need you in our lives. I promise you that we will protect you from now on so that nothing bad ever happens to you again.

ELLEN

He is going to be fine sweetie. I have faith in God that from this moment on, he'll get better and stronger. You watch and see.

KALI

Thanks ma, and thanks for being here with us.

ELLEN

There's no other place I rather be and I promise I will not leave you two until that baby and you specially are 150% safe and sound.

KALI

What do you mean?

Calvin interrupts their conversation

CALVIN

I spoke to the doctor and he explained everything. He just needs two more weeks of incubation until his lungs are fully developed and then we'll be able to take him home.

KALI

Oh, Cal...look at him. He's so beautiful.

CALVIN

Just like his mother and of cause strong and brave like his fireman dad. Right ma?

ELLEN

Of cause.

KALI

That he is.

They all smile and sigh in relief.

INT. THE O'REILLY'S HOME -- THE BABY'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The child statuette, who's heard the conversation, angry knocks down a porcelain toy from the dresser and it breaks as it hits the floor.

INT. THE O'REILLY'S HOME -- KITCHEN - LATER

Ellen is boiling water for tea as Calvin walks in after making sure Kali was asleep. Ellen gets her son a cup of tea.

ELLEN

How is kali?

CALVIN

Sleeping finally.

ELLEN

Here, drink this, it's chamomile it will help you sleep... Poor Kali, she's been through so much in such a short time. She really needs to rest or she'll get really sick. Don't forget she just went through two traumas, a surgery and the lost of a child.

CALVIN

Ma, please I don't want any more negative thinking in this house. We had enough fear placed on us by that woman next door.

ELLEN

About that... I--

CALVIN

Please don't tell me that you believe her superstitious crap too!

ELLEN

I didn't say that. But, I--I understood almost everything that she said and--

CALVIN

That's right! I forgot. You've been taking Spanish classes for--for almost two years?

ELLEN

Three. I've been practicing it for over three years at the senior center since your dad passed away. So, I'm really good at it

(in Spanish)

mi querido hijo. That means, my dear son.

CALVIN

Wow, I'm impressed and proud of you. Then, again I shouldn't be, because you were an excellent teacher.

ELLEN

Thank you son... Calvin, that women was trying to warn you and Kali of a danger, that I'm sure of. The only thing I couldn't understand, to what thing or person was she referring to?

I'll tell you dear mother and then you'll agreed with us that she is crazy. The couple who lived here before us lost a baby. It died from s.i.d.s. and that woman thinks that somehow this house or in particular the baby's room is—is somehow cursed or something stupid like that.

ELLEN

No, no, no, that's not what she was talking about. She--she did mention that "it" what ever that "it" is took that other baby and that it will take your baby also because he-he wants to be the only baby or something like that.

CALVIN

Ma, listen to what you are saying... It makes no sense. None of it makes any sense.

ELLEN

I know and I agree. But, she seemed genuinely concerned.

CALVIN

Of cause! Because she really believes, like most of the people like her, in all that witchcraft and superstitious bull. Now, promise me for Kali's sake that you are not going to never again discuss that woman's comments or warnings in front of Kali... Ma, your silence scares me. Promise me.

ELLEN

Okay I... although, I really would have liked to have a chat with--

CALVIN

Ma!

ELLEN

Alright, alright! I promise.

CALVIN

Good. Now I gotta get to bed because tomorrow or rather tonight I have to report back to work and it's a twelve hour shift that awaits me.

ELLEN

My poor baby. Go--go to bed.

Thanks for everything ma. Kali and I really needed you here on this trying times.

ELLEN

Glad that I'm still alive and healthy to be here with you both. Don't you worry about nothing. I told Kali that I will stay as long as you both need me.

CALVIN

'Night ma.

ELLEN

God bless you and sweet dreams.

Calvin exits to his room. After seconds of pondering, Ellen rushes out of the kitchen.

INT. THE O'REILLY'S HOME -- FOYER - CONTINUOUS

The door to the baby's room closes and locks itself as Ellen approaches it. Outside the room she tries to open the door and to her surprise she sees that it's looked. She nodes in oddness and heads towards her bedroom.

BABY'S ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

The child statuette smiles devilishly.

INT. HOSPITAL -- REHABILITATION WARD - DAY

Marianne is going through the rehabilitation process trying to get more mobility in her right arm.

A male PHYSICAL THERAPIST is working with the sick woman. She can't stop feeling worried and terrified.

MARIANNE (V.O.)

Oh, God! How can I possibly get in touch with that couple? That thing killed my son! It killed my grandson and my daughter in law! I need to talk to those poor people. I need to warned them.

THERAPIST

Mrs. Johnson, what's wrong? You wanna stop?

Marianne can't barely speak

MARIANNE

I--I n-need...oh, Je--Jesus...

THERAPIST

Its okay. You'll speech will get better with time and therapy.

MARIANNE (V.O.)

Time... Time is what those poor people don't have!

THERAPIST

Lets take a break then we'll resume from here. Let me get you something to drink, okay?

The male therapist exits. Marianne's agony grows stronger by her helplessness.

MARIANNE (V.O.)

Gail... The real state agent! David said he got Gail to talk to that couple, but how am I suppose to reach her? How?

INT. THE O'REILLY'S HOME -- FOYER - AFTERNOON

Ellen exits her room where she encounters her son Calvin coming out of his room.

ELLEN

High sweetie, did you sleep well?

CALVIN

I did. Look at the time. Its almost 4:30 pm.

ELLEN

Yeah, but at least you'll be able to stay awake at work tonight and into the morning. Listen Calvin, why do you and Kali keep the baby's room locked?

CALVIN

Locked..? No, we haven't locked it. Why would we?

ELLEN

Well, I--I tried openning the door last night and-and it wouldn't--

Calvin opens it in that moment

CALVIN

See, its open.

ELLEN

That's strange. You sure? Maybe Kali..?

I don't think so. She's napping but if you wanna ask her later. Ma, I gotta have a cup of coffee and then get ready for work.

ELLEN

Sure, I just made a fresh pot. I'll join you.

CALVIN

Great! Come on.

He goes ahead and Ellen peeps into the room, but since the door is barely open she can't see the statuette. She follows Calvin into the kitchen.

INT. KALI AND CALVIN'S KITCHEN -- MOMENTS LATER

Calvin is finishing the breakfast his mother made him.

ELLEN

My--my you woke up hungry.

CALVIN

No, it was the way you made the pancakes.

ELLEN

You always loved my pancakes. So did your dad, God bless his soul.

CALVIN

You still miss him?

ELLEN

Always... One goes on, but the void is always there... Forty-six years we were married.

CALVIN

Wow...

ELLEN

Kali, hasn't waken up?

CALVIN

No. Poor thing, hasn't slept much since...you know the birth and the death of our baby.

ELLEN

She really needs to be careful. There's the danger of depression after child birth

KALI

I don't think she's depressed. She--she's just very worried about also losing little Calvin.

ELLEN

Calvin, that woman last night mentioned something about--about a baby saint taking another baby out of this same house--

CALVIN

Ma please, I already asked you to stop talking about that woman and specially in front of Kali!

ELLEN

But Cal, Kali is asleep and I really need to know what that woman was referring to and if you know you should tell me!

CALVIN

The couple that sold us this house, their baby died only days after he was born.

ELLEN

Oh, my God! How?

CALVIN

S.I.D.S.

ELLEN

That—that has always been a mystery to me. Then again life itself is a mystery and so it's death. So, that woman thinks that some kind of evil thing killed that other baby as well as your's?

CALVIN

Look, I don't know what the hell she thinks and I really don't care.

ELLEN

But, you should care!

CALVIN

Mother!

ELLEN

You have to care! If your family is in danger-!

CALVIN

Ma, please! Now you're beginning to sound like our crazy neighbor!

I rather be safe than sorry!

CALVIN

Ma, I'm grateful that you're here for us, but if you're going to continue feeding your brain with all the bullshit, crap that woman keeps saying, I rather you go back home now.

ELLEN

Calvin...

CALVIN

Kali and I, but her specially is going through a difficult time and I don't want her worrying anymore than she has to. So, you decide... Stop worrying about what that woman said and talking about it in front Kali or leave. I gotta go to work.

EXT. LOCAL SUPERMARKET PARKING LOT -- DAY

Ellen is coming out of the supermarket pushing a shopping card when she runs into Caridad who's walking in.

ELLEN

Hello?

CARIDAD

Please. Excuse me.

ELLEN

(in Spanish)

I speak Spanish. Please, I need to speak to you.

INT. SMALL CAFETERIA -- MOMENTS LATER

The conversation already in progress.

CARIDAD

He is and always will be the only male child to reign in the home that he's been brought into.

ELLEN

But, why?

CARIDAD

He is jealous. As he is also a child himself. He sees your daughter in law as his mommy.

ELLEN

What can I do?

CARIDAD

What I didn't do when my grandmother warned me. You must take him out of the house before the other baby comes home. He's already removed two baby boys from that home. He caused Kali's accident.

ELLEN

No! Oh, God!

CARIDAD

Now, there's only one child left and he will get rid of it, the minute he comes home.

(crying)

He did the same to my baby, to the Johnson's baby, to your unborn grandson and now your remaining grandson is in great danger as long as the child statuette remains in your son's home!

ELLEN

No! No! I--I gotta do something! I will do something!

EXT. A RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD IN SOUTH WEST MIAMI -- MOMENTS LATER

Ellen is driving very fast and frighten towards her son's home. She parks the car quickly and gets out scared and out of breath.

EXT. THE O'REILLY'S HOME -- CONTINUOUS

Ellen runs inside.

INT. THE OREILLY'S HOME -- CONTINUOUS

Kali is in the middle of the living room. Ellen tries to catch her breath and hide the fact that something horrible has entered her mind by Caridad's words.

KALI

Mother..? What's wrong?

ELLEN

(panting)

Nothing--nothing. Oh, God! This Miami heat is exhausting! I really don't know how you guys can take it.

KALI

Sit. I'll get you some iced tea that I just made.

Its okay. I'll come with you to the kitchen.

KITCHEN -- MOMENTS LATER

Ellen is finishing the iced tea with Kali by her side.

KALI

Feeling better?

ELLEN

Oh, yeah. Thanks sweetie

KALI

Ma, didn't you go to the supermarket to get the things that you needed for the lasagna?

ELLEN

Oh--oh, yes but...

KALI

Are you all right?

ELLEN

Kali, do you remember exactly how you fail the night that--that you--

KALI

Why, why are you asking me this?

ELLEN

Kali, I run into that woman, the neighbor, outside the supermarket. We talked and she told me-

KALI

Jesus ma! I can't believe you would even stop and listen to anything that witch had to say!

ELLEN

Kali, you don't know the things she knows. We spoke for a long time and she told me--

KALI

I don't want to hear it!

ELLEN

--that the death of the baby's couple who lived here was no accident! The baby's mother suicide was caused by--

KALI

What? No one told us that the baby's mother committed suicide.

Kali, there's a lot that you don't
know... Listen very carefully--

KALI

I don't want to listen.

ELLEN

That's what he wants!

KALI

What he wants! Who's he?

ELLEN

The baby saint in the baby's room!

KALI

What..? Oh, for God's sake ma! I can't believe it. You a smart, mature woman would believe in such superstitious bull shit!

ELLEN

That's why I believe in it, because I'm a smart, mature, old woman who's lived twice as long as you lived and I've seen and heard it all!

KALI

Well, I'm sorry but I disagree.

ELLEN

Kali, don't you rather have the benefit of the doubt and get that thing out this house right now?

KALI

If I did that I would be participating and believing in all the crap that witch has been feeding us since we got here. I refuse to fall into her spell and web of lies. I'm going to ask you to please never bring that subject or that women up ever again!

Kali exits the kitchen. Ellen worried, is thinking of a way to get the statute out the house tonight.

INT. THE BABY'S ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

The statute face is angry because he knows that Ellen now knows the truth about him.

The door to the room opens slowly and Ellen enters. She stands in front of the small angelic child-liked statute.

Just look at you and that angelic baby face... You listen to me. This is not your home and we are not your real family. Kali and my son already have a child and he is coming home, here to his room, not your's... and you will be out of here tonight once your mommy and daddy fall asleep. I'll make sure of that.

Suddenly a strong cold wind enters the room as the window opens wide.

Ellen rushes to close the window and as she is about to exit she looks at the baby saint one more time and with a big defying smile she tells him.

ELLEN (CONT'D)

You don't scare me. I'm too old to be scared by a little thing like you... I'll see later, so we can both go for a little ride.

As she exits the face of the statue turns angry and enraged. A SOUND of RAGE is heard through the small baby's room. The only remaining crib, which is beautifully dressed, is invisibly raised and turned upside down then dropped breaking into pieces.

KALI'S AND CALVIN'S BEDROOM -- NIGHT

Calvin comes out of the shower and lies next to Kali hugging her. She gives him the cold shoulder.

CALVIN

Honey, what's wrong?

KALI

Nothing, I--I'm tired.

CALVIN

Kali, I know you. Tell me what's
happened?

KALI

You know what your mother had the nerve to do today?

CALVIN

Tell me.

KALI

She approached that crazy woman on the market and they apparently had a long conversation.

Oh, God!

KALI

They talked about everything that's been happening to us and of cause that woman told her that its all caused by the baby statuette in the baby's room.

CALVIN

Kali, you know mother. She--she probably was being curious and--

KALI

I'm scared, Calvin. I'm really
scared!

CALVIN

Scared? What are you scared about?

KALI

About this house and the things that happened and--and are happening.

CALVIN

Things that happened?

KALI

That--that women told Ellen that the woman that lived here before us...she--she killed herself.

CALVIN

What? No, no, no that's not true!

KALI

She not only killed herself but her baby.

CALVIN

Kali, please stop it. You're getting yourself all worked up again by that witch's lies.

KALI

But we know for sure that a baby died in that room and--

CALVIN

Yes. But it was an unfortunate event and--

KALI

Calvin, are you sure that's what happened? Are you sure that the mother didn't do it and then committed suicide?

Kali, your behavior is the one that's scaring me now... You need to stop this! I already told mom this afternoon, that if she insist in pursuing that crazy lady's innuendos, she would have to leave. She's got you all worked up just like our crazy neighbor! I'm not going to allow this to continue. You need to be strong and well for our baby when he comes home in three days. Now I want you to forget everything mother told you and go to sleep. Okay, baby? I'll be right back.

KALI

Where are you going?

CALVIN

I'm going to grab a glass of milk. You want one?

KALI

You're hungry? I can make you-

CALVIN

No--no! I'm fine. You know we always cook at the fire house. Relax. I'll be back in a flash.

ELLEN'S BEDROOM -- MOMENTS LATER

She is getting ready to take a shower when a knock is heard at her door.

CALVIN (O.S.)

Ma! Are you up? Can I come in?

ELLEN

Yes, come in!

Calvin enters and for a brief moment just stares at his mother in silence.

ELLEN (CONT'D)

Kali told you?

CALVIN

Ma, I asked you for Kali's sake to stop paying any attention to that crazy woman's gossip, rumors, about this house and everything else she's--

ELLEN

But Calvin, you don't know the things she told me!

I don't wanna know!

ELLEN

But you should! Your son will be home soon and he's the one in grave danger!

CALVIN

Mother, enough! Enough!

ELLEN

(hurt)

Calvin...

CALVIN

Mother, I think that is best if--if you leave this house first thing tomorrow morning.

ELLEN

(teary)

Calvin, son... I--I only wanted--

CALVIN

Ma, please don't make this anymore difficult. You are welcome to come back after a few months once we've put all this behind us for good.

Brief pause.

ELLEN

Very well... I'll be out of here before both of you are up. Please, apologize to Kali for me. Tell her that I love her very much and... I love son.

CALVIN

(exiting)

I love you too. Good night, mother

Ellen crying alone. Thinks out loud.

ELLEN

I'll be leaving in the morning. But you're coming with me, you little bastard.

INT. THE BABY'S ROOM -- MOMENTS LATER

The statue smiling as always. The baby's room door opens by itself and footsteps are heard walking out and into the foyer.

INT. FOYER -- CONTINUOUS

The same small steps are heard walking towards the bedrooms. The door to Ellen's bedroom opens and the SUBJECT enters.

INT. ELLEN'S BEDROOM -- CONTINUOUS

P.O.V. ON THE BEDROOM FLOOR -- CONTINUOUS

The subject proceeds to the bathroom where Ellen is taking a shower.

Subject climbs onto the bath tub opens the curtain and laughs in a child's mischievous laughter.

Ellen hears it but ignores it a bit scared.

The laughter repeats itself.

Ellen, who's washing her face, doesn't notice the shower head being lifted from its hook and when she tries to rinse her face, the shower hose, which's attached to a long hose, strikes Ellen's face.

Ellen falls backwards, hitting her head on the pipe. Blood mixes with water.

The laughter is now louder and more evil.

The Child statuette rushes back to the baby's room.

INT. KALI'S AND CALVIN'S BEDROOM -- MORNING

Calvin is sleeping alone and awaken by screams from Kali.

KALI (O.S.)

Calvin! Calvin!

He gets up and runs to his wife

INT. THE BABY'S ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

CALVIN

What happened?

KALI

Who did this? I--I just can't believe that your mother would--

CALVIN

No. It had to the wind. It was a stormy night and we left the window wide open... Look.

KALI

Did we?

Honey, look at it! Is open and wet right here... Wait here. I'll get mother.

Kali walks around the room confused and now more afraid than ever. She looks over to Caridad's bedroom but the window is closed.

CALVIN (CONT'D)

(o.s)

Oh, my God! No! No! No!

Kali rushes out.

EXT. CEMETERY -- MORNING

Three days later Ellen's remains have been put to rest. At this point only Calvin, Emilio, his wife and Kali are left alone at the grave sight.

EMILIO

Take care yourself, brother. We'll continue to pray for you both.

CALVIN

Thanks, Emilio.

**EMILIO** 

Bye, Kali.

KALI

Thank you both for coming

Emilio leaves with his wife. Calvin breaks down.

CALVIN

Ma, I'm sorry. I'm so sorry. Oh Kali, I--I just wish our last conversation... I--I told her to get out of our house!

KALI

Honey, stop hurting yourself. She knew how much you loved her and like every mother she forgave you for what ever you said to her.

CALVIN

I--I tried to be strong for you, for both of us, but how much more do we have to endure. First your accident, then our baby dies, then the other one nearly dies and--and now this. Oh, God! God!

KALI

It's all right, Calvin. Cry--cry all you want.

EXT. THE O'OREILLY'S -- DAY

Three days later. Calvin drives up to his driveway with Kali and their baby in her arms. He opens the car door for her. Caridad is outside gardening and stares at them.

CALVIN

Honey, be careful.

KALI

Calvin, please. I gave birth weeks ago

CALVIN

I know, but you know me I'm always worried about you.

KALI

I know. That's why I love you so much. Come on lets hurry inside, that old witch is there. I still can believe she had the nerve to poison mother with all her superstitious crap.

CALVIN

Ignore her. She knows her boundaries very well by now and she won't come near us. Come on sweetie.

They enter the house. Caridad raises her head towards the sky.

CARIDAD

Oh, dear God. Protect that baby.

INT. THE O'REILLY'S HOME -- BABY'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Kali puts little Calvin Jr. on his crib.

KALI

Welcome to your room, Calvin Junior.

The child statue's face changes from happy to angry.

KALI (CONT'D)

Now, mommy and daddy will protect you... And you little guy, need to do the same. You hear?

She exits. The statue growls like a dog ready to bite in a rage of anger.

KITCHEN -- LATER

Kali is warming up a bottle of milk for her baby. She can get Ellen's last words out of her head.

ELLEN (V.O.)

We spoke for a long time and she told me that the death of the couple that lived here was no accident and that the baby's mother committed suicide!

Kali walks around the kitchen trying not to think. She stands in front of the refrigerator and notices the card of the real state company. She picks it up. She hesitates in front of the phone. She rushes out of the kitchen.

THE BABY'S ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

The baby is asleep. One of the pillows rises and placed over the baby's face.

Kali comes in.

KALI

Oh, my God! Oh, sweetie! Calvin, baby! Sweetie!

She picks the baby up, shaking him. The baby wakes up crying.

KALI (CONT'D)

Oh, thank God. You scared me you little guy! I--I thought... Its okay. I'm sorry I scared you, but mommy was scared too. I'm sorry. Its okay, its okay. My angel, my sweet angel...

She stares at the child statuette in a suspicious manner. She looks towards the neighbor's bedroom.

THE BABY'S ROOM -- EVENING

Same day. The baby is asleep. Kali opens the door slowly and walks in to check on him. She wants to make sure he is breathing.

KALI

Oh, for Christ sake Kali you are now being too paranoid!

As she is about to exit the room she stops herself at the door and goes back to her baby's crib and begins to remove all the pillows from around the crib or anything that might cause the baby to suffocate.

KITCHEN -- MOMENTS LATER

Kali walks into the kitchen and after a few moments of hesitation, she takes the real state's card that's stuck to the side of the refrigerator. She picks up the phone on the wall.

RINGING SOUND.

NORMA (V.O.)

Perfect Homes Realty. Good evening, Norma speaking, how may help you?

KALI

Hi. May--may I please speak with Gail

NORMA (V.O.)

Gail's not in at the moment. May I take a message?

KALI

No... No, no, thanks. I'll call back.

Kali disconnects quickly. She shakes her head. An expression of worry is written all over her face as well as fear. She picks up the phone again.

KALI (CONT'D)

Hi, Sonia. It's Kali... Well, he's back at work and in a way I think that's best... Yes, it's been hard on both of us. Sonia, I wanna thank you. Emilio and you have been great.. Listen, I called you because I wanted to asked if you knew of any good baby sitters? Little Calvin is now home and well...not at this moment, but just in case I need to run out to the store... Oh, you do? It she young..? Wow, that's young... Oh, okay. That sounds great! Yes, can I have her number...? Got it. Thank you so much, Sonia... I will... Bye.

She hangs up and seconds later the phone rings.

KALI (CONT'D)

Hello.

GAIL (V.O.)

Hello, Kali?

KALI

Yes, who's this?

GAIL (V.O.)

It's Gail. The receptionist said, that you called even though you didn't want to leave a message, we knew it was you by the caller I.d. Is everything okay? Any problems with the house or--?

KALI

Why are you asking me that, Gail?

GAIL (V.O.)

Well.., you--you called and--

KALI

Actually, Gail.. Everything is not all right!

GAIL (V.O.)

I'm, I'm sorry to hear that. If
there's anything I can do--

KALI

Gail, tell me something... I--I know that a baby died in this house, because you told us.... But, did you knew that the baby's mother had committed suicide?

Dead silence.

KALI (CONT'D)

Gail..? Are there, Gail?

GAIL (V.O.)

Kali, I, I, I really don't think--

KALI

Gail, please. I--I need to know.

GAIL (V.O.)

Yes, Kali... The baby's mother killed herself in the baby's room bathroom.

KALI

How?

GAIL (V.O.)

Kali--

KALI

Oh, my God! How...? Answer me!

GAIL (V.O.)

She...she, she slashed her neck with a piece of glass...

KALI

And...? What else happened, Gail?

GAIL (V.O.)

What--what do you mean?

KALI

Gail, what else happened in that room, which caused that poor mother to killed herself? I already know, but I wanna hear it from you.

GAIL (V.O.)

It's believed that..she smothered her baby with a pillow. Although it was never confirmed.

KALI

(shocked)

Oh, my God...

GAIL (V.O.)

Kali? Who told you? It was David,
right?

KALI

Who the hell is David?

GAIL (V.O.)

The previous owner. The husband...

He called me and told me he was coming
by to pick up the small statuette in
the baby's room, the one you liked
so much--

KALI

No one has come by to pick up anything. Are sure he told you he was coming?

GAIL (V.O.)

Yes. He insisted he needed the thing back because it was a sentimental value to his ailing mother. The poor old woman had a stroke caused by the tragedies of that horrible night. Are you sure he didn't call and maybe spoke to Calvin?

KALI

I--I don't know.

GAIL (V.O.)

Kali, I'm so sorry I didn't tell you all this sooner. I didn't want to worried you or Calvin.

KALI

Yeah, sure... Just do me a favor and give me their phone number. I need to pay them a visit and if they still want the baby statue, I will bring it to them.

(beat)

Go ahead, what it it?

(she writes)

Thanks, bye.

She hangs up angry, frighten and confused.

KALI (CONT'D)

Its true. Everything that mother said is true. God! What happened to that poor woman...? Why would she kill her own baby? Why?

EXT. THE O'REILLY'S -- NIGHT

It's 3:45 a.m. All is quiet and dark in this neighborhood. All is quiet except the baby's cry is heard loudly on the street.

EXT. CARIDAD'S BEDROOM WINDOW -- CONTINUOUS

Caridad is awaken by the cry of little Calvin.

Caridad opens her window and she notices Kali in her baby's room totally asleep in the rocking chair, while her baby cries hysterically. The shakes her head and fear overtake her. She puts on a gown and exits her bedroom.

EXT. THE BABY'S ROOM -- WINDOW - CONTINUOUS

Caridad goes over to the window and starts hitting on the glass, then yelling to get Kali's attention.

CARIDAD

Hello! Hello! Missis! Missis!
 (in Spanish)
Oh, sweet Jesus! Help me! Help me
get this woman's attention... Misses!
 (Spanglish)
Misses, plees!

Calvin's car pulls up the drive. Caridad notices it and rushes back to her home. Calvin notices her as he opens the garage door.

INT. GARAGE -- CONTINUOUS

As he exits his car, he hears the baby's cry.

CALVIN

Oh, my God. Kali! Kali! Kali! Kali! Kali!

He rushes into the house.

THE BABY'S ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

Calvin opens the door looks at his wife out like a light. He picks the baby up.

CALVIN

Oh, Jesus! Kali! Oh, sweetie! Its okay, its okay...

He shakes Kali, waking her,

CALVIN (CONT'D)

Kali! Kali!

She reacts.

KALI

Oh...oh, Cal..? Calvin, what, what happened?

CALVIN

Honey, are you okay..? I--I just got home and the baby was crying hysterically. He's all wet!

KALI

Oh, my God! Let, let me have him. I'll change him.

She takes the baby and desperately starts changing him.

CALVIN

Kali..? Its almost four in the morning.

KALI

I--I know.

CALVIN

Sweet heart? How long have you been asleep in that chair?

KALI

Oh, oh, my God, Calvin what, what, what happened to me? How could I--

CALVIN

Its all right, honey. You're just tired from not sleeping well in the last couple of days. You've been through a lot.

KALI

But--but our baby could have died... Jesus! He...oh!

CALVIN

Don't say that. Please, don't even think about such a thing.

KALI

He could have and it would have been all my fault... Just..just like that other baby.

CALVIN

What, what other baby?

KALI

(whispers, scared)
The one that died here in this
room...who's own mother murdered,
then committed suicide.

CALVIN

What? Who told you that? Don't tell me you now believe that lady's story.

KALI

It's the truth, Calvin. I confirmed it all today... Something horrible happened in this room before we moved in...

CALVIN

Kali, you're tired. Come on, baby. You need lay down and--

KALI

(hysterical)

No! No, no, no! I can't leave him alone!

CALVIN

Sweetheart, I'm here with him. Please go to bed or you're going to get sick on me and we need you well. Calvin Junior is fine now. Look at him. Come on, I'll tuck you in. Kali...?

Kali leans over the baby's crib and kisses him still crying.

KALI

I'm sorry, baby. Mommy loves you very much. Mommy promises you, that this will never again... He's asleep now....

Yes. He's fine. Its you who needs rest. Come on, get into bed. I going to make some chamomile tea.

She puts her tired head on her husbands shoulder and they both exit the room.

The statue makes an angry face.

MASTER BEDROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Calvin kisses, covering his wife, who's now asleep. He turns off the lamp on the night stand and exits the room.

THE BABY'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Calvin enters the room and checks on his son. He is taken after looking around the crib.

CALVIN

Where...? Where are all the pillows...? Oh, God. Kali, Kali what's happening to you?

He walks to the window. He notices Caridad looking out her window towards their baby's room. She smiles. Calvin smiles back and whispers, hitting his chest with a close fist, then point to Caridad.

CALVIN (CONT'D)

(whispers)

Thank you.

Caridad's becomes teary eye and smiles in contentment.

MASTER BEDROOM - LATER

The young couple is sleeping, however Kali is restless and dreaming.

ELLEN (O.S.)

Kali..., Kali, please do what I asked you. For my grandson's sake, take that thing out of this house before is too late...

Kali wakes up frighten to the SOUND OF THUNDER in the distance.

She gets up quietly, exiting the bedroom.

INT. THE BABY'S ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

Kali, opens the door, walking in, she checks on the baby who's sleeping. She stares at the statue, picking it up. She examines the bottom for name or date then puts it back down and exits the room.

INT. STUDY - MOMENTS LATER

Kali is front of the computer screen, searching on the internet.

On computer screen she Gooogle's incorrectly the word Santeria. She gets misdirected but is able to get multiple hits on the subject. She clicks on - SANTERIA Is Cuba's New Favorite Religion / VICE / United States.

She continues reading.

Santeria -- or "the worship of saints" - is gaining ground as a popular religious practice in Cuba.

Quickly she Scrolls down as she reads in whisper.

KALI

Samteria has been practiced in Cuba for hundreds of years, ever since the first slaves arrived from Nigeria. Many Cubans, even if they don't actively practice the religion, still consult santeros about issues in their lives.

Picture of a Santero holding flowers in right hand and a small statuette of a saint in left hand.

KALI (CONT'D)

Santeria is not regarded as an official religion by the state and therefore has no official places of worship. Animal sacrifice is an integral part of the rituals...

(terrified)
God..!

Picture of a goat's head, bleeding into an alter.

She continues scrolling.

KALI (CONT'D)

The Seven Saints...

ON Computer SCREEN.

Oricha/Olofi is the saint Christ.

Obatala is virgin of mercy.

Shango or Saint Barbara is God of thunder, lightning and fire.

Elegua/Holy Child of Atocha: messenger for all the Oricha, keeper of doors and crossroads, rules communication, chance, and hazard. Santeros always give this one candy and sweets as offering.

KALI (CONT'D)

Child...of Atocha...? Its gotta be it.

Kali presses the print key.

KALI (CONT'D)

(reading outloud)

He likes children and candy... So, why then...? Why would he want to hurt--?

A loud thunder is heard at the same time Kali feels a hand on her shoulder. She jumps up, taking a deep breath.

KALI (CONT'D)

Jesus Cal! What are you trying to do? Scare me to death?

CALVIN

Kali? What are you doing up, honey? No wonder you're falling asleep and dying to the world when our son needs you. What are you doing? What, what is that?

KALI

(shuts the computer)

Nothing.

(smiling)

I'm okay now.

CALVIN

Why are you happy all of a sudden?

KALI

Relieved. I'm relieved because I now know for myself that nothing bad is going to happen to our baby. Come on lets go back to bed and play a little.

CALVIN

Mm, this I like. I'm glad I woke up.

KALI

(laughing)

I'm glad I did too. Lets go fireman.

CALVIN

To your rescued, my lady.

INT. THE BABY'S ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

Baby laugher is heard coming from the small statue.

INT. THE O'REILLY'S - KITCHEN -- AFTERNOON

Kali is preparing a recipe from the Martha Stewart show which she is watching on T.V. in her kitchen. The phone rings.

KALI

Hello?

GAIL (O.S.)

Kali, is Gail!

KALI

Hi, Gail! Listen, please forgive me for the way I treated you on the phone yesterday. I, I was--

GAIL (O.S.)

That's okay. Kali, you haven't spoken with any of the Johnson family?

KALI

You mean David or --?

GAIL (O.S.)

Gail, that poor man was killed a couple of weeks ago as he was coming to your house to retrieve the statue!

KALI

What? Oh, my God! What happened?

GAIL (O.S.)

A car accident. But listen, I got a call from his mother's sister. His mother needs to speak with you urgently, in person!

KALI

Speak to me...? About what?

GAIL (O.S.)

I don't know. She didn't say, but she sounded really worried. I don't want to upset you, Kali, but you should try to make it over there and find out what this is all about. It-it might have a lot to do with what happened in the baby's room that night and--and well she--she did say...

KALI

What..? Gail, what did she tell you?

GAIL (O.S.)

Oh, Kali, I, I, I don't even know if you should even pay any attention to--

KALI

Gail, for God sake, tell me!

GAIL (O.S.)

The sister said to tell you thatthat your baby, you and your whole family could be in grave danger. Look, Kali I don't--

KALI (O.S.)

Give me the address.

GAIL

But, Kali, I, I--

KALI

Gail, Please give me the address now, for God sake!

INT. THE BABY'S ROOM -- MOMENTS LATER

Kali is standing in front of the small statuette.

KALI

What are you..? Who are you..? Where did you come from? Are you a protector or a destroyer? Are you good? Or are you evil? These are the questions I need answered and I'll get them answered today.

She looks towards Caridad's bedroom window.

KALI (CONT'D)

But.., not from you.

She exits the room quickly. Anger is in the small figure's face.

STUDY AND COMPUTER ROOM -- MOMENTS LATER

Kali prints more info from the computer in relation to the religion of "Santeria" and witchcraft in Caribbean countries. She picks up the phone and dials from a pad on the desk.

KALI

Hi, is this Tabatha..? Hi, Tabatha, my name is Kali and I needed a sitter and Sonia recommended you... Well I really need you, like now, for at least two, three hours... I--I know is late notice being Friday-- Oh, you will! Thank you so much! I'll pay you double..! Sure, write down the address.

EXT. THE O'REILLY'S FRONT HOUSE -- NIGHT

Tabatha (17) white, black hair, black lipstick, nails, dark eye-line, black dress, gothic looking, rings Kali's door bell. Kali opens the door and is taken back.

KALI

Yes?

TABATHA

Kali? I'm Tabatha.

KALI

Oh--oh, yes! I'm sorry.

TABATHA

Don't worry, I know I'm scary looking, but it's all a fashion choice. I quaranteed you I am harmless.

KALI

(chuckles)

I'm sure you are. Don't mind me. Please, come, come in.

INT. A RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD IN SOUTH WEST MIAMI FLORIDA -- MOMENTS LATER

Kali is driving off from her house. Caridad who's outside notices her and they make eye contact.

KALI

Noisy witch.

She continues driving through the neighborhood heading towards the highway that leads to Ft. Lauderdale..

INT. KALI'S CAR -- CONTINUOUS

Kali decides to call Calvin, but then decides no to.

KALI

Oh, forget it, Kali. Why worried him. He won't be out of work until three a.m. Oh, God. I'm scared. Please send me good weather.

INT. MARIANNE'S LIVING ROOM -- EVENING

Kali is seated across from Marianne, who's in a wheel chair. Her speech is a lot better. Kali takes a sip from a cup of coffee Marianne's sister just brought her.

The two woman are alone now ready to talk about the subject of all the evil caused by the little guy in the baby's room.

MARIANNE

How..how's the..coffee?

KALI

Is fine thank you... Now, Mrs. Johnson--

MARIANNE

Pl--please call me Marianne.

KALI

Okay. Marianne, I--I really don't know where to begin. To be honest I don't even know why I... Why I even came here to talk to you.

MARIANNE

F--first of all...thank you for coming. I--I asked you to come. Actually I've been trying to--to get in touch with you for--for a while. Sin--since we moved out of that house after that--that horrible..night.

KALI

I'm so sorry about your grandson and your daughter in law. But, I was told today that your son also died recently.

MARIANNE

Yes... He did it! He stopped David from going back to the house, your house, from taken him out of the, the baby's room. That—that thing what ever it is will stop at nothing in order to get his only purpose at the place he—he currently resides.

KALI

And what purpose is that?

MARIANNE

Get every single male child, I, I repeat, male child or infant out of his-his home... He killed Caridad's baby boy as soon as he was born, by smothering him.

KALI

I--I don't know if I believe that--

MARIANNE

But, you-you gotta believe! Because your safety and the safety of your family depends on it. He's killed before and will continue to do so as long as he has to!

INT. KALI'S AND CALVIN'S LIVING-ROOM -- NIGHT

Tabatha is watching MTV videos and doing her toe nails in black nail polish. She is suddenly shaken by a CHILD'S LAUGHTER from the bedrooms section of the house.

TABATHA

It can be.. That baby is only a month old or less.

She lowers the T.V set and she can now hear the LAUGHTER again LOUDER.

TABATHA (CONT'D)

Oh, shit..! What the fuck?

She gets up and walks toward's the baby's room slowly.

INT. MARIANNE'S LIVING ROOM -- NIGHT

KALI

Look, Marianne... I'm really sorry for what happened to your family, but don't you think that maybe your daughter in law was going through some form of depression especially after giving birth.

MARIANNE

She wasn't depressed. He controlled her mind and—and mine as well. He is a trickster deity who breaks the rules of the Gods or nature and many times ma—maliciously. He plays tricks on us and gets away with them, even death and murder.

KALI

I--I'm sorry, but I--

MARIANNE

(angry)

He's already killed one of your baby's! I know it. Gail--Gail told me. She--she's afraid for you, but she's afraid to--to tell you.

KALI

My, my baby died from umbilical cord asphyxiation.

MARIANNE

Yes, that--that's partially true, but who--who do think caused it? (long silence) You in--in your heart know that--

that I'm telling you the truth...
(MORE)

MARIANNE (CONT'D)

Look, this all has a very--very easy solution...

KALI

What is it?

MARIANNE

We, my daughter in law and I, found him in a church door. Take him back to a church or to one of those places where saints are sold. I-I don't care what you do with him, but get him out of your baby's house. Do it tonight. Be-before is too late! Please do it! Do it!

Kali gets with fear written all over her face. She runs out of that house.

EXT. KALI'S CAR -- CONTINUOUS

She drives away from Marianne's property at fast speed.

Lighting followed by THUNDER strikes as Kali drives away into the highway back to Miami.

INT. THE OREILLY'S -- THE BABY'S ROOM - NIGHT

Tabatha enters the baby's room. She approaches the crib to check on him. The baby is soundly asleep.

**TABATHA** 

Where you laughing, little one? Are you playing tricks on me?

As Tabatha turns to exit a LOUD THUNDER is heard.

She notices the window a bit open, so she goes over to close it when she is frighten by the face of Caridad who's right there when a LIGHTNING illuminates the black woman's face on the window.

Tabatha screams, waking little Calvin up.

TABATHA (CONT'D)

Jesus! Lady, who are you? Look what you've done!

Caridad makes a sign with her hands. She points two fingers to her eyes and then points towards the baby. Like saying watch the baby.

TABATHA (CONT'D)

Yes, I'm watching him. Thank you very much for waking him up!

Tabatha picks up the baby.

TABATHA (CONT'D)

It's okay, sweetie. Come here. You poor baby. I scared you didn't I?. I got scared too by that ugly, old woman. It's all right, it's okay.

She notices the small statuette as she seats on the rocking chair.

The object begins to hypnotize Tabatha. He laughs out loud and she laughs with him as she rocks the baby back to sleep.

In a trans-like mode, Tabatha puts the baby back in it's crib and stands there in a daze.

She then slowly looks down at the baby and picks up a blanket and starts turning it into a knot.

INT. KALI'S CAR -- NIGHT

She is still on the highway towards south Miami, but it's raining hard and visibility is poor. Cars are moving slow.

KALI

Oh, my God! Make it stop. My baby, my baby could be in grave danger and-and I allowed it. I've ignored all the warnings. Oh, I--I just can't believe this is all true. God, please tell me this isn't happening.

She starts calling home.

INT. THE OREILLY'S -- THE BABY'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Tabatha who's about to strangle the baby is taken out of her trans by the PHONE RINGING. She snaps and runs to the kitchen.

KITCHEN -- CONTINUOUS

Tabatha picks up the phone.

TABATHA

Hello. Oh, hello Mrs.O'Reily..? His fine, but the strangest thing happened a little while ago. I heard the baby laughing real loud, but when I went to check on him, he was sound asleep.

KALI (V.O.)

Tabatha, listen to me! Go back to the baby's room and stay there with him until I get home! I'm on my way, but traffic is bad because of the heavy rain. TABATHA

Don't worry. We are fine... You drive safely.

EXT. CARIDAD'S BEDROOM WINDOW -- CONTINUOUS

Caridad lights a candle in her dresser in front of her sanctuary of saints.

She then looks out her window into the baby's room. Seconds later she notices Tabatha walking into the room and standing in front of the crib for a few seconds then suddenly walking around the room back and forth, finally sitting in the rocking chair.

CARTDAD

(In Spanish)

Oh, dear God! Deliver us from evil! Protect that child of yours!

INT. THE OREILLY'S -- THE BABY'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Tabatha stands in front of the child statuette and stares at it for a few seconds.

TABATHA

What are you..? Who are you? Are you one of those santeria religion saints? I bet you are. And you're probably a very mischievous little boy who likes--

A baby toy falls by itself from top of the dresser scaring Tabatha.

TABATHA (CONT'D)

You did that didn't you..? You're playing games with my head... I bet you were the one who was laughing earlier.

(putting her face in his)

Go ahead reveal yourself to your new friend Tabatha.

INT. SOUTH EIGHT STREET MIAMI ROAD -- LATER

Kali drives slowly and notices a botanical store is still open, even though it's almost eight at night. She pulls over and parks right in front.

INT. BOTANICAL STORE -- CONTINUOUS

The small store is your typical religious store with a long glass counter full of all kinds of scented liquids made of flowers and all the seven power saints behind the counter in every size and color, as well as posters, pictures and many candles in every color.

There are TWO FEMALES behind the counter. The elderly one is dressed all in white, approximately 57 years old and the other is her daughter who's only in her twenties. She is studying.

Kali walks in and she nodes her head to the older female who smiles at her suspiciously for she knows Kali is not her typical Hispanic client of this Cuban-American neighborhood.

Kali walks slowly looking at everything.

OLDER WOMAN (in Spanish to her daughter)

I wonder what this gringa lost in here?

YOUNGER WOMAN

Hay mami, please!

Kali stands in front of the older woman who's seated and she looks up at all the saints behind the counter. She's trying to find a copy of the one in her baby's room.

OLDER WOMAN

Sweetheart, ask her what she wants?

YOUNGER WOMAN

My mother wants to know, how can we help you?

KALI

I--I'm just looking.

OLDER WOMAN

What she said?

YOUNGER WOMAN

She said, she's just looking.

OLDER WOMAN

Tell her to hurry, 'cause I'm about to close.

YOUNGER WOMAN

Oh, mommy, please let her look. We can use the business.

INT. THE BABY'S ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

Tabatha is seated in the rocker staring at the statue hypnotized. The child statue talks to her in a demanding tone .

STATUE

Do it! Smother him! Do it quickly before his mother comes home. I command you.

Tabatha gets up slowly and starts walking towards the baby's crib.

EXT. CARIDAD'S BEDROOM WINDOW -- CONTINUOUS

Caridad who's been keeping an eye on the baby's room all night, notices what's going on. She notices Tabatha walking and just standing in front of the baby's crib, paralyzed.

CARIDAD

Oh, sweet God. What do I do?

Caridad then sees Tabatha picking up a small blanket once again and twisting it, forming a knot in her hands.

CARIDAD (CONT'D)

Oh, God No!

As Caridad is about to exit her bedroom, the door slams quickly by itself. Panic over takes her. The old woman starts panting.

CARIDAD (CONT'D)

Virgin of Cobre, help me!

INT. BOTANICAL STORE -- CONTINUOUS

Kali finally spots a figure statuette exactly like the one in her baby's room.

KALI

That!

YOUNGER WOMAN

What?

OLDER WOMAN

What it she saying?

KALI

Let me see that--that little child-like statue.

YOUNGER WOMAN

She wants to see the Child of Atocha.

OLDER WOMAN

Oh, yes--yes. Good for protection. (to daughter)

Tell her he's the protector of the doors and the roads.

KALI

Protector. I understood her. But what is he? What do you call him?

YOUNGER WOMAN

In the orisha or deities we call him elegua. Oricha is saint. He is the holy child of Atocha. Messenger for all Orishas. Keeper of doors and crossroads. He rules communication, chance and hazard.

KALI

Is he...? Is he dangerous?

Brief silence

OLDER WOMAN

What she say? Danger? Is that what she said? Mi hija!

YOUNGER WOMAN

She, wants to know, if the little saint is dangerous?

OLDER WOMAN

No! Tell her he is a child and like wise, he enjoys playing tricks and games. She can offer him toys and candies. He likes this things in his basket.

YOUNGER WOMAN

He is a child and like wise he enjoys playing tricks and games. You can offer him toys and candies. He likes this things in his basket .

OLDER WOMAN

Now, ask her this? Are there any other adolescents in her home?

YOUNGER WOMAN

My mother wants to know if in your home you have other children?

KALI

Yes--yes there is...one.

YOUNGER WOMAN

Yes, mom, one.

OLDER WOMAN

Boy? Sake her is it a boy or a girl?

Silence

KALI

What--what's going on? What it she asking?

YOUNGER WOMAN

If, if your child a boy?

KALI

(frighten)

Yes--yes is a baby boy. He's not even a month... why? What's wrong?

YOUNGER WOMAN

She has a baby boy. Not even a month old.

OLDER WOMAN

Oh, sweet God!

KALI

What, what happened? Why is she-

OLDER WOMAN

Tell her, she needs to get the bay saint out of her home immediately.

YOUNGER WOMAN

Mami, porfavor!

OLDER WOMAN

Tell her! You the legend very well and how jealous the child saint is of other male children in his house and what will happen to her baby if she doesn't remove him from the home.

KALI

(nervous, scared)

What--what's going on? What is your mother saying?

YOUNGER WOMAN

Nothing, it's--it's not important.

KALI

God! You people are all crazy!
Crazy!

Kali upset and nervous walks away.

OLDER WOMAN

You didn't tell her? You have to her! Run after her! Hurry!

At the mother's strong advice the daughter runs after Kali to warn her.

INT. SOUTH EIGHT STREET MIAMI ROAD -- CONTINUOUS

As Kali is about to get in her car the young woman gets her attention. Outside the storm has now reached this neighborhood, thunder and lightning.

YOUNGER WOMAN

Wait...! Lady..! Look, I'm sorry. I--I didn't want to worry you with my mothers--

KALI

Just tell me..! I think I know, but I need to hear it once more! What did your mother say?

YOUNGER WOMAN

There's an old legend that if you have another male child in the home were the child saint resides, he as the jealous one, he will do all he can to--to get that other child out of the way. He becomes attached to the lady of the house... Mother wants you to take him out of your home immediately!

KALI

I know... Thank you. I--I gotta go!

YOUNGER WOMAN

Bring him here! We'll take him!

KALI

I, I, I gotta get home! My baby is-is alone with...a, a stranger...
Right now he's in danger.

YOUNGER WOMAN

Go. Go.

Kali gets in her car and rushes away as the rain intensifies and the winds get stronger.

INT. CARIDAD'S BEDROOM -- CONTINUOUS

Caridad is fighting with her bedroom door, but is wont open. As she runs towards her bedroom window to get out it closes by itself. She tries to open it with success.

CARIDAD

Dios mio!

The candle on top of her alter is knocked down and the cloth she has under her alter starts to burn.

Caridad is still struggling with her window as she notices Tabatha still in front of the baby's crib with the knot she made from the baby's blanket. INT. KALI'S CAR -- CONTINUOUS

Kali is driving home under heavy rain, lightning and thunder. She's on her cell calling home, but there's no answer.

KALI

God! Tabatha, pick up the phone!

The storm is now right over her. Trees are violently shaking and the rain is so hard Kali is forced to slow down due to low visibility. It's dark and she's terrified.

INT. CARIDAD'S BEDROOM -- CONTINUOUS

The old woman's bedroom is now engulf in flames. She's on the phone with 911.

CARIDAD

(In Spanish)

Please, my room is on fire... Send
someone quickly! I'm trapped. I
can't get out!
 (coughing)
Oh, oh, hurry! Oh, hurry!

She drops the phone and runs to her bathroom, soaks a towel and wraps it around her head.

She then picks up one of her big strong porcelain saints and after asking for forgiveness smashes it against her window breaking it.

CARIDAD (CONT'D)

Please forgive me! I need your help, holy virgin!

The statue breaks her window and she is able to escape.

She takes the virgin statue with her across the lawn to the baby's room window.

EXT. KALI'S CAR -- CONTINUOUS

She is almost home, but as she makes a turn five blocks away from her home a tree falls on top of her car's hood stopping her.

KALI

(screaming)

Oh, my God! My God! Why? Why? Jesus! Jesus! My baby! My baby!

She gets out of her car and starts running towards her home which is only a block away.

Rain is now coming down harder with even stronger winds.

KALI (CONT'D)

God! God! Help me! Help me!

INT. FIREHOUSE -- CONTINUOUS

AS Calvin and Emilio get on the truck to answer the call from Caridad's house Calvin realizes this is right next to his home.

CALVIN

Oh, my God. Emilio, this address is in my neighborhood! Its my next door neighbor.

EMILIO

Don't worry, bro. Guys! This is Calvin's neighborhood! Let's hurry!

DRIVER

We're not far! We'll be there in five or less!

CALVIN

Yeah, but look at the weather. Jesus, what else can go wrong in my life, Emilio?

EXT. THE OREILLY'S -- THE BABY'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Caridad is outside the baby's room. The window is crack open.

She can see that Tabatha is now over the baby with the noose that she make ready to strangle the baby.

INT. THE OREILLY'S -- THE BABY'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

STATUE

Do it! Do it now! Do it! Do it!

The small figured statue notices Caridad by the window and as she puts her hand in the window to raise it, the window comes crashing down on Caridad's hand, pining her and causing extreme damage and pain.

She screams.

CARIDAD

Ahhh! Oh! Oh, Dios mio! Oh! Oh! No! No! Virgen Santa! Oh! Oh!

EXT. THE BABY'S ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

Caridad now fatigued with pain notices that Tabatha is over the baby with the knot around his neck.

The WAILING SIRENS can be heard getting closer.

Caridad desperate to save the baby takes the statue of her virgin and with her good, lose hand, crashes the porcelain statuette against the window breaking it.

EXT. KALI'S FRONT HOUSE -- CONTINUOUS

Kali is now right by her house. She notices the fire on Caridad's home.

KALI

(crying)

Oh, my God! What's happening? What's happening?

She runs through the back way towards Caridad's bedroom window but is suddenly shaken by what's going on in her baby's room.

She notices that the window has been smashed.

As she gets closer she notices Caridad struggling and fighting Tabatha off the baby the young girl is trying to kill at the statue's request.

KALI (CONT'D)

No! Oh, God! NO!

She runs into the bedroom to help the old woman, who only has one good arm to fight the possessed baby sitter.

INT. THE BABY'S ROOM -- CONTINUOUS

Kali grabs Tabatha by her hair, but the young girl won't let go of the knot around the baby's neck.

KALI

Let him go! I said let--let him go, bitch!

As the two woman struggle, Caridad finally grabs the child statue and throws it out the window landing and it lands in front of her burning bedroom window.

The statue makes a scary, yet child like scream, of anger and fear.

Tabatha is suddenly herself again.

Kali picks up the baby.

KALI (CONT'D)

(crying)

My baby...! My sweet baby.

The baby is non respondent.

EXT. KALI'S FRONT HOUSE -- CONTINUOUS

The fire truck arrives.

Calvin gets out first.

CALVIN

Emilio, I'm going to the back to check on my baby and Kali! Just one second!

EMILIO

Go! Go! We'll be fine.

Calvin runs towards the back of his home also were Caridad's and his baby's room windows face each other.

He finds Kali crying, trying to revive her baby and Caridad also crying and badly hurt.

Tabatha is seated in the rocking chair confused about everything.

Calvin jumps into the baby's room through the broken window.

CALVIN

God! Kali what's, what's going on? What happened here?

KALI

Oh! Oh, Calvin. Our baby! He's not breathing...

CALVIN

What..? Give him to me.

He starts mouth to mouth and CPR.

TABATHA

What..what happened...

KALI

Jesus Calvin! I should have listened... Why didn't I listened to--to this good woman?

Kali is sobbing inconsolable.

CALVIN

But, but, why it she here? Get her out of here!

KALI

No! No! She saved our baby or--or at least she tried. That's all she's been doing since day one. Calvin, we need an ambulance!

Caridad kneels down to pray in her own language. Calvin continues CPR.

CALVIN

Come on! Come on, sweetie, breath,
breath!

TABATHA

It was that thing. It was that little statue. It, it, did all this!

Suddenly little, baby Calvin starts crying.

KALI

Oh--oh, Calvin! Thank you, Lord!

CARIDAD

Oh, holy God. Thank you, thank you.

CALVIN

Here, take him. I'm--I'm going to call for paramedics to come for our baby and, and she..she's also hurt.

Calvin goes over to Caridad and he takes her good hand and kisses it.

She tears up.

CALVIN (CONT'D)

Thanks. Gracias.

He sits her in the rocking chair.

CALVIN (CONT'D)

Aqui. Wait for ambulancia. Understand?

CARIDAD

(In broken English)

Yes, thank you, thank you very much

CALVIN

Stay here baby. He's going to be fine. I love you, baby.

KALI

(crying)

I love you too.

CALVIN

Be, right back, okay?

Calvin runs out.

Kali puts little Calvin on Caridad's arms.

The baby who's been crying, after a few seconds in her arms stops crying as she rocks him and sings to him a Spanish lullaby.

KALI

Thank you... And I'm so sorry for the way I treated you. I'm sorry.

Caridad wipes Kali's tears away and smiles joyfully.

TABATHA

(terrified)

I--I,I gotta get out of here. I'm sorry... Please don't ever call me again to this neighborhood!

KALI

Tabatha, is all right now. Calm down.

TABATHA

No. He is still out there and he'll be back. He'll be back. I, I, I know it.

The young girl runs out.

KALI

Look! He's falling asleep in your arms.

CARIDAD

Ve--very good baby

KALI

Mm, you speak English?

CARIDAD

Little bit.

KALI

I--I'm sorry about your baby.

CARIDAD

Thank you. Lo..im-portant is you baby o.k na--now

Kali hugging her.

KALI

Yes--yes! And you--you too...my friend now!

CARIDAD

Friend?

KALI

Yes! Yes!

Kali hugs the old woman who's crying tears of joy.

EXT. A RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD IN SOUTH WEST MIAMI FLORIDA -- CONTINUOUS

Outside Caridad's home is still in flames and the fireman are hosing it down.

Two ambulances arrived as the scene fades to daylight.

Two months later.

Same scene. Construction workers are working on Caridad home.

Caridad is inside the baby's room.

Kali enters with the baby's bottle for Caridad to feed him. She's been living with the young couple since the fire.

At the dresser where the statuette used to be is now Caridad's dead son's picture.

She stares at it sadly as she rocks and feeds little Calvin as Kali leaves her alone.

EXT. A RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD IN SOUTH WEST MIAMI FLORIDA -- MOMENTS LATER

A seven year old boy is riding a bike through the neighborhood.

On his backpack the tiny head of the same child statue is visible. He gets off his bike and enters his home.

EXT. BOY'S BEDROOM WINDOW -- CONTINUOUS

The boy walks into his bedroom and puts the statue on top of his dresser.

INT. BOYS BEDROOM -- CONTINUOUS

The boy sits in front of the statue smiling at it.

The statuette has a big smile but it's face suddenly turns serious.

EXT. BOYS BEDROOM -- LATER

A WOMAN (30s) dressed in a maternity gown, visible pregnant, enters the bedroom with a trade, holding a sandwich an apple and a glass of milk. The boy is not visible.

WOMAN

Son, sweetheart! I brought you lunch!

She puts the tray down on a desk and walks to the bathroom, but is empty.

WOMAN (CONT'D) Where could this child of God be?

She notices the statuette on the dresser.

WOMAN (CONT'D)

Mm... What's this?

As she is about to exit the bedroom she notices the closet door slightly opened and making a crackling sound as it sways.

WOMAN (CONT'D)

Honey, I hope you are not playing hide and seek with your much pregnant mother.

She opens the closet door slowly and the first thing she notices is her son's legs. As her eyes move up up in terror she SCREAMS.

Fade out.

The End...?