

FOLLOWING CHARLES 2

by
HILLARY DIXON RUST

BLACK SCREEN

TITLES:

FOLLOWING CHARLES

Written By, Directed By, And Starring:

Charles Austin

PART ONE

INT. CHARLES1'S LIVING ROOM - EVENING

CHARLES1 (30-ish) is asleep on the couch in front of the TV. There are a few beer cans on the table.

Baby toys are scattered around on the floor.

A telephone is ringing. The answering machine picks up. There is no outgoing message. Just a beep.

His eyes open.

He looks around but doesn't get up.

WOMAN (V.O.)

(on answering machine)

Hey hun, just calling to check on you. Everything's okay here. We went swimming this morning and now he's helping grandpa cut the grass. (beat) Well, okay, I'm trying not to worry about you. Take your time. We're happy to watch him for as long as you need. (beat) Just give us a call. Okay, we love you.

The answering machine turns off.

After a moment he stands up and makes his way toward the closed door of the bathroom.

INT. CHARLES1'S BATHROOM - EVENING

The light in the bathroom is off. Through the tiny window in the shower we can see that it is close to sunset.

Charles1 opens the door and walks in shutting the door behind him.

He turns on the light. There are several brown prescription pill bottles on the counter by the sink.

Charles1 opens up one of them only to find that it is empty. He tosses it in the trash.

He grabs another and shakes it but it is empty as well. He drops it in the sink.

He picks up yet another and shakes it and this time there is a pill inside. He opens it up and turns it over. The solitary pill falls into the palm of his hand.

With his other hand he opens the medicine cabinet.

The medicine cabinet is empty except for a flask. He grabs the flask and opens it up. He pops the pill in his mouth and then takes a swig from the flask.

Charles1 sets the flask on the counter top and pats himself down looking for his cell phone. He finds it in his back pocket.

He dials a number into the phone and then puts it to his ear.

CHARLES1

Yes, I need to check on a prescription. Charles Austin. Sure.

INT. CHARLES1'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

Charles1 walks into his kitchen, grabs a scrap of paper and a pen and writes something down.

CLOSE UP - PIECE OF PAPER

On the piece of paper Charles1 has written "Pick up prescription before work".

BACK TO KITCHEN

Charles1 takes the piece of paper and puts it under a magnet on the refrigerator.

He opens up the refrigerator door and there is nothing inside but Pabst Blue Ribbon beer. He grabs three and closes the door.

INT. CHARLES1'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Charles1 walks into the living room with the three beers and sets them down on the coffee table. He grabs the remote control for the TV and turns it on.

He cracks a beer and leans back into the couch.

INT. CHARLES1'S LIVING ROOM - MORNING

It's the next day and Charles1 is asleep on the couch. There are at least a dozen beer cans scattered on the table and floor around him.

The TV is still on but the screen is just blue.

The Phone begins to ring but Charles1 doesn't move. The answering machine picks up.

WOMAN

(on the answering machine)

Hey, it's mom again. Everything is fine here. Just calling to see how you are. I came home and your father had him out in the yard (laughs)...Well, I'll tell you all about it when...(beat) I know this is hard for you but your son misses you. We love you.

The machine clicks off.

Charles1 wakes up slowly and looks around.

He gets up and walks over and opens the blinds on the windows in the living room.

He goes into the bathroom. He turns on the light and sees all the pill bottles scattered around. He looks at them like he doesn't remember making the mess.

INT. CHARLES1'S KITCHEN - MORNING

Charles1 walks into the kitchen and begins his morning routine.

He makes himself oatmeal and coffee.

At some point he looks at the refrigerator and sees the note he left himself the night before.

He goes over to it and reads it and wads it up and tosses it in the trash.

He opens the refrigerator and gets out a beer and guzzles it as he finishes eating breakfast.

He looks at the clock on the stove.

CLOSE UP - CLOCK

The clock reads 10:24.

EXT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 walks down the stairs from his apartment. He's got on a coat and a beanie. It's cold out and his breath is visible in the air.

He walks out and turns right on Eastern Pkwy. He crosses the street at Newburg Rd and then crosses Eastern Pkwy at the light heading towards the park (Tyler Park) by his house.

EXT. PARK - DAY

He cuts through the park and walking down the hill through the grass. He passes the tennis courts and goes up the stone stairs on the northwest side of the park that lead up to Windsor Pl.

EXT. DRUG STORE - DAY

Shortly after getting out of the park he walks up to a Walgreens on Baxter Ave where it intersects Bardstown Rd and Highland Ave.

He heads inside through the automatic doors walking past aisles of food and cosmetics and then disappears when he turns down the last row.

He comes out a moment later carrying a prescription bag.

He starts to head back home but stops and looks across the street to Wild N' Woolly Video. He checks his watch and then crosses the street.

He walks up to the door of Wild N' Woolly Video and goes inside.

INT. WILD N' WOOLLY VIDEO - DAY

Charles1 walks into the store and looks around.

The WILD N' WOOLLY CLERK behind the counter pays him no attention.

Charles1 walks over to a rack and sees 6 plain looking DVD's that all have the same cover. The only difference is that they are labeled 1 - 6.

CLOSE UP - DVD

The cover is very simple. All it says is "Following Charles".

BACK TO VIDEO STORE

Charles1 grabs the one farthest to the left on the rack and walks over to the counter and the Clerk.

Charles1 puts the DVD on the counter and smiles at the Clerk. The Clerk smiles and picks it up.

CLERK

Hey, good choice. Someone told you to watch it? (beat) You heard about it? (beat) Or you just saw it and thought you'd take a look?

CHARLES1

I just saw it.

CLERK

Well, for what it's worth, it's my favorite.

The Clerk takes the DVD and shows it to Charles. With his finger he points to a little round sticker that says "STAFF PICK".

CLERK (CONT'D)

It's a real mind melt.

The Clerk pops the case open and looks at the DVD then closes it. He flips it around again and taps on the case pointing to where it says "PART 2".

CLERK (CONT'D)

You should definitely watch them in order.

CHARLES1

Hmmm.

Charles1 reaches out and takes the DVD back from the Clerk.

He walks back over to the rack where he got it and sees that they were indeed out of order. He grabs the one labeled "PART 1" and walks back over to the counter.

CLERK

You know you could just rent them all at once, watch them straight through marathon style.

CHARLES1

No I just...I just need something for before I go to work.

CLERK

Ha! Better call in sick bro.

Charles1 hands over his debit card and the Clerk swipes it. They go through the transaction in silence and then the Clerk gives Charles1 the DVD.

Charles1 walks out of the store with the DVD in his hand. He turns left heading south down Bardstown Rd.

EXT. MID-CITY MALL - DAY

Charles1 walks up through the parking lot of the Mid-City Mall that is on the Bardstown Rd side of the mall. He heads directly to the automatic sliding glass door of The Value Market.

Through the door he can be seen standing in front of the pre packaged flower bouquet display.

Charles1 makes a decision and grabs a bouquet of red and yellow flowers then walks away from the door and disappears when he turns a corner.

INT. MID-CITY MALL - DAY

The giant hallway that runs down the center of the Mid-City Mall to another parking lot is poorly lit, has a strange drop ceiling and old dull colored linoleum tile.

The Value Market has another sliding glass door that opens up into this hallway. Charles1 walks out of it into the hallway after paying for his flowers.

He turns to his right and walks toward the Baxter Ave side of the mall.

EXT. MID-CITY MALL - DAY

Charles1 walks out of the doors of the Mid-City Mall and heads back toward his house.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Charles1 takes the same route home that he took on the way to the store.

He walks up to the top of the stone stairs and pauses a moment as he looks out at the park.

EXT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 crosses Eastern Pkwy on the corner by his apartment but instead of then crossing over Baxter Ave he continues down Baxter where it turns into Newburg Rd.

Once he walks past Schreck's Kentucky Liquor Store he looks both ways for traffic and then jogs across Newburg Rd.

He walks a little bit farther and then comes upon Cavalry Cemetery. The big rod iron gate is open and Charles1 walks right in.

EXT. CEMETERY - DAY

Charles1 is standing in front of a tombstone with the flowers in his hand.

He casually drops the flowers in front of the tombstone and walks away toward the back gate of the cemetery.

EXT. BACK GATE - DAY

Charles1 walks through the back gate of the cemetery that opens up onto Barret Ave.

At the intersection where Barret Ave meets Eastern Pkwy he turns right and heads for home.

EXT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 walks up Eastern Pkwy from the west on the little paved path way that cuts up the center of the street.

When he is across from his apartment he waits for an opening in traffic and then jogs across the street.

He heads up the stairs to his apartment.

INT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 walks through his apartment from the kitchen to the living room and takes off his coat and hat and throws them on a chair.

He walks through his living room and goes over to the DVD player and opens it up.

He gets the DVD out of the case and puts it in setting the case down on the coffee table.

He walks out of the room and into the kitchen and grabs a beer.

He comes back in and opens the white bag that the prescription bottle is in.

Flopping himself down on the couch he gets the little brown bottle out.

CLOSE UP - PILL BOTTLE LABEL

The label reads "Charles Austin - OXYCODONE 10 - Take 1 tablet for pain every 4-6 hours"

He pours a few pills into his hand, pops them into his mouth and takes a sip of beer.

He sets the bottle of pills on the table in front of him and grabs the remote. He hits play.

BLACK SCREEN

TITLES:

PART TWO

INT. CHARLES1'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

Charles is sitting on the couch just as we left him with the remote in his hand having just hit play.

The DVD starts. He sets down the remote.

Both Charles1 and the TV screen are visible.

TV SCREEN -

BLACK SCREEN

TITLES:

FOLLOWING CHARLES

Written By, Directed By, And Starring

Charles Austin

PART ONE

INT. CHARLES1'S LIVING ROOM

Charles picks up the case off the table but it is completely blank with the exception of the title and Part 1. He sets the case back down and continues to watch.

TIGHT ON THE TV SCREEN - THE SILVER EDGE OF THE SCREEN IS JUST BARELY VISIBLE. THE CAMERA PUSHES IN IMPERCEPTIBLY SLOWLY UNTIL WHAT IS ON THE SCREEN TAKES OVER THE VIEW.

INT. CHARLES2'S LIVING ROOM - EVENING

CHARLES2 (30-ish, exact same as Charles1 in every way) is asleep on the couch in front of the TV. There are a few beer cans on the table.

A telephone is ringing. The answering machine picks up. There is no outgoing message. Just a beep.

His eyes open.

He looks around but doesn't get up.

WOMAN (V.O.)
 (on answering machine)
 Hey hun, just calling to check on
 you. Everything's okay here.
 (MORE)

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

We went swimming this morning and now he's helping grandpa cut the grass. (beat) Well, okay, I'm trying not to worry about you. Take your time. We're happy to watch him for as long as you need. (beat) Just give us a call. Okay, we love you.

The answering machine turns off.

INT. CHARLES2'S BATHROOM - EVENING

The light in the bathroom is off. Through the tiny window in the shower we can see that it is close to sunset.

Charles2 opens the door and walks in shutting the door behind him.

He turns on the light. There are several brown prescription pill bottles on the counter by the sink.

Charles2 opens up one of them only to find that it is empty. He tosses it in the trash.

He grabs another and shakes it but it is empty as well. He drops it in the sink.

He picks up yet another and shakes it and this time there is a pill inside. He opens it up and turns it over. The solitary pill falls into the palm of his hand.

With his other hand he opens the medicine cabinet.

The medicine cabinet is empty except for a flask. He grabs the flask and opens it up. He pops the pill in his mouth and then takes a swig from the flask.

He puts his hands onto his face and begins to cry. It only lasts a moment and then he pulls himself together.

Charles2 sets the flask on the counter top and pats himself down looking for his cell phone. He finds it in his back pocket.

He dials a number into the phone and then puts it to his ear.

CHARLES2

Yes, I need to check on a prescription. Charles Austin. Sure.

INT. CHARLES2'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

Charles2 walks into his kitchen, grabs a scrap of paper and a pen and writes something down.

CLOSE UP - PIECE OF PAPER

On the piece of paper Charles2 has written "Pick up prescription before work" but it's not in the same handwriting as Charles1.

BACK TO KITCHEN

Charles2 takes the piece of paper and puts it under a magnet on the refrigerator.

He opens up the refrigerator door and there is nothing inside but Miller Lite beer. He grabs three and closes the door.

INT. CHARLES2'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Charles2 walks into the living room with the three beers and sets them down on the coffee table. He grabs the remote control for the TV and turns it on.

He cracks a beer and leans back into the couch.

INT. CHARLES2'S LIVING ROOM - MORNING

It's the next day and Charles2 is asleep on the couch. There are at least a dozen beer cans scattered on the table and floor around him.

The TV is still on but the screen is just blue.

The Phone begins to ring but Charles2 doesn't move. The answering machine picks up.

WOMAN

(on the answering machine)

Hey, it's mom again. Everything is fine here. Just calling to see how you are. I came home and your father had him out in the yard (laughs)...Well, I'll tell you all about it when...(beat) I know this is hard for you but your son misses you. We love you.

The machine clicks off.

Charles2 wakes up slowly and looks around.

He gets up and walks over and opens the blinds on the windows in the living room.

EXT. CHARLES2'S APT - DAY

Across the intersection, from the perspective of the Cherokee Animal Hospital Charles2 steps to his living room window and opens the blinds.

BACK TO - REALITY

INT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 hits pause on the remote.

Charles1 looks around his living room slowly with a look of suspicion on his face.

He stands up and walks over to his window and looks out. He closes the blinds.

He walks over to the other window and looks out across the street to where the camera would have had to have been to get the shot of Charles2 opening the blinds that he just watched.

Charles1 closes the blinds and goes back over to the couch and hits play on the remote. The DVD starts back up.

ON THE TV SCREEN - PART 1

Charles2 goes into the bathroom. He turns on the light and sees all the pill bottles scattered around. He looks at them like he doesn't remember making the mess. He urinates.

INT. CHARLES2'S KITCHEN - MORNING

Charles2 walks into the kitchen and begins his morning routine.

He makes himself fried eggs, orange juice and coffee.

At some point he looks at the refrigerator and sees the note he left himself the night before.

He goes over to it and reads it and wads it up and tosses it in the trash.

He opens the refrigerator and gets out a beer and guzzles it as he finishes eating breakfast.

He looks at the clock on the stove.

CLOSE UP - CLOCK

The clock reads 10:24.

EXT. CHARLES2'S APT - DAY

Charles2 walks down the stairs from his apartment. He's got on a coat and a beanie. It's cold out and his breath is visible in the air.

He walks out and turns right on Eastern Pkwy. He crosses the street at Newburg Rd and then crosses Eastern Pkwy at the light heading towards the park (Tyler Park) by his house.

EXT. PARK - DAY

He cuts through the park and walking down the hill through the grass. He passes the tennis courts and goes up the stone stairs on the northwest side of the park that lead to Windsor Pl.

EXT. DRUG STORE - DAY

Shortly after getting out of the park he walks up to a Walgreens on Baxter Ave where it intersects Bardstown Rd and Highland Ave.

He heads inside through the automatic doors.

He comes out a moment later carrying a prescription bag.

He starts to head back home but stops and looks across the street to Wild N' Woolly Video. He checks his watch and then crosses the street.

He walks up to the door of Wild N' Woolly Video and goes inside.

INT. WILD N' WOOLLY VIDEO - DAY

Charles2 walks into the store and looks around.

The WILD N' WOOLLY CLERK behind the counter pays him no attention.

Charles2 walks over to a rack and sees 6 plain looking DVD's that all have the same cover. The only difference is that they are labeled 1 - 6.

CLOSE UP - DVD

The cover is very simple. All it says is "Following Charles".

BACK TO VIDEO STORE

Charles2 grabs the one farthest to the left on the rack and walks over to the counter and the Clerk.

Charles2 puts the DVD on the counter and smiles. The Clerk smiles and picks it up.

CLERK

Hey, good choice. Someone told you to watch it? (beat) You heard about it? (beat) Or you just saw it ad thought you'd take a look?

CHARLES2

I just saw it.

CLERK

Well, for what it's worth, it's my favorite.

The Clerk takes the DVD and shows it to Charles2. With his finger he points to a little round sticker that says "STAFF PICK".

CLERK (CONT'D)

It's a real mind melt.

The Clerk pops the case open and looks at the DVD then closes it. He flips it around again and taps on the case pointing to where it says "PART 2".

CLERK (CONT'D)

You should definitely watch them in order.

CHARLES2

Can you just let me rent it?

CLERK

Sure, but you better call in sick bro.

Charles2 hands over his debit card and the Clerk swipes it. They go through the transaction in silence and then the Clerk gives Charles2 the DVD.

Charles2 walks out of the store with the DVD in his hand.

EXT. MID-CITY MALL - DAY

Charles2 walks up through the parking lot of the Mid-City Mall that is on the Bardstown Rd side of the mall. He heads directly to the automatic sliding glass door of The Value Market.

Through the door he can be seen standing in front of the pre packaged flower bouquet display.

Charles2 makes a decision and grabs a bouquet of blue and white flowers then walks away from the door and disappears when he turns a corner.

INT. MID-CITY MALL - DAY

The giant hallway that runs down the center of the Mid-City Mall to another parking lot is poorly lit, has a strange drop ceiling and old dull colored linoleum tile.

The Value Market has another sliding glass door that opens up into this hallway. Charles2 walks out of it into the hallway after paying for his flowers.

He turns to his right and walks toward the Baxter Ave side of the mall.

EXT. MID-CITY MALL - DAY

Charles2 walks out of the doors of the Mid-City Mall and heads back toward his house.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Charles2 takes the same route home that he took on the way to the store.

He walks up to the top of the stone stairs and pauses a moment as he looks out at the park.

Charles2 sees Charles3 walking down the path at the other end of the park. Charles3 is wearing the same exact clothes as Charles2 and is carrying a DVD.

Just as Charles3 starts to look over to the top of the stairs Charles2 drops back behind a tree and hides.

CHARLES2

Holy crap. Holy crap! What is going on?

He looks at the DVD in one hand and the flowers in the other.

Charles2 rolls over onto his hands and knees and looks out slowly from behind the tree.

He watches Charles3 walk out of sight heading up Edenside Ave.

BACK TO - REALITY

INT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

The DVD that Charles1 is watching fuzzes out and goes to snow.

Charles1 sits on his couch with the remote in his hand for a few minutes trying to figure out what is going on.

He looks at his watch then hits eject on the DVD player.

He gets up and puts the DVD back into the case and puts on his coat and hat.

He heads out the door with the DVD in his hand and goes down the stairs.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Charles1 walks to the edge of the park but this time instead of cutting through the grass he stays on the little paved path that leads through the park in the other direction. He carries the DVD in his hand.

As he walks, Charles1 looks over across the park to the top of the stone stairs. There is no one there.

INT. WILD N' WOOLLY VIDEO - DAY

Charles1 walks into the video store and puts the DVD into the return bin.

CLERK

You're hooked huh?

Charles1 walks straight over to the rack and without looking grabs another of the "Following Charles" DVD's.

He goes over to the counter and sets it down.

CLERK (CONT'D)
Still not goin' for the marathon?

CHARLES1
Huh? I'm just looking for something
to kill time before work.

CLERK
Well, I just think it's a really
bad idea to watch them out of
order.

Charles1 looks at the DVD and back at the Clerk.

CHARLES1
What is going on?

CLERK
I told you it was a mind melt man.

CHARLES1
(kind of pissy)
Can you just let me rent it?

CLERK
Sure. But you better call in sick
bro.

CHARLES1
What did you say?

CLERK
I said "You better call in sick
bro." You know, unplug the phone?

CHARLES1
Didn't you say that last time?

CLERK
I don't think so.

Charles1 hands over his debit card and the Clerk swipes it. They go through the transaction in silence and then the Clerk gives Charles1 the DVD.

Charles1 walks out of the store with the DVD in his hand.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Charles1 takes the same route home that he took on the way there the first time.

Charles1 walks up to the top of the stone stairs and pauses a moment as he looks out at the park.

Charles1 sees Charles2 walking down the path at the other end of the park as he just did on his way to the video store. Charles2 is wearing the same exact clothes as Charles1 but Charles2 is not carrying a DVD.

Just as Charles2 starts to look over to the top of the stairs Charles1 drops back behind a tree and hides.

CHARLES1

Holy crap. Holy crap! What is going on?

He looks at the DVD in his hand.

Charles1 rolls over onto his hands and knees and looks out slowly from behind the tree.

He watches Charles2 walk out of sight heading up Edenside Ave.

Charles1 jumps up and runs through the park as fast as he can toward home.

INT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 bursts through the door and throws off his coat as he makes his way to the living room.

He opens the DVD player and puts in PART 2.

He sits down and grabs the remote but then just sits there for a minute like he can't decide if he should hit play.

He stands up and walks into the kitchen and grabs a PBR from the refrigerator then comes back in and sits down.

Charles1 cracks the beer and takes a long sip.

He lifts his arm and aims it at the TV and he starts shaking. He finally hits play.

ZOOM INTO TV SCREEN -

BLACK SCREEN

TITLES:

FOLLOWING CHARLES

Written By, Directed By And Starring

Charles Austin

PART TWO

EXT. TOP OF STONE STAIRS - DAY

Charles2 is hiding from Charles3 behind a tree in the park.

Charles2 gets up on his hands and knees and watches Charles3 walk out of sight up the street.

Charles2 stands up still holding the DVD and flowers (blue and white) and looks in the direction of home but he takes off after Charles3.

Charles2 runs as fast as he can and cuts up Edgeland Ave that runs parallel to Edenside Ave, the street Charles3 went up.

EXT. WILD N' WOOLLY VIDEO - DAY

Charles2 is hiding across the street behind the KFC with the flowers and DVD. He watches as Charles3 walks up to Wild N' Woolly Video and goes inside.

Through the glass Charles2 sees Charles3 walk over to the counter with a DVD and talk with the Clerk.

The Clerk rings him up and Charles3 leaves the store and walks back to the apartment the same way he came.

Charles2 follows him the whole way staying just out of sight across the street.

Charles3 goes up the stairs of the apartment.

When Charles3 is out of sight Charles2 looks at the flowers and crosses Eastern Pkwy and heads to the Cemetery.

BACK TO - REALITY

INT. CHARLES1'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

Charles1 hits pause and gets up and slowly walks from the living room into the kitchen and looks out the door.

BLACK SCREEN

TITLES:

PART THREE

INT. CHARLES1'S KITCHEN - DAY

Charles1 is standing by the kitchen door looking out down the stairs. There is no one there. Charles1 one rubs his face with his hands and takes a deep breath.

He opens the refrigerator and gets out two PBR's. He pounds one, takes the other back in the living room, sits down and hits play.

ON THE TV SCREEN - PART 2

The DVD resumes with Charles3 walking into the house and taking off his coat and hat.

He walks into the living room. The blinds are closed.

Charles3 opens the DVD he just brought back from the store.

He goes over to the DVD player and opens it. When he opens it to put in PART 4 he sees that PART 3 is still inside.

CHARLES3

Shoot! I forgot to take it back.

He looks over to the coffee table and the case for PART 3 is still sitting there open.

He finishes putting in the DVD for PART 4 and hits play as he sits down.

CHARLES1 IS NOW WATCHING A DVD OF CHARLES3 WATCHING A DVD THAT CONTAINS FOOTAGE OF BOTH CHARLES4 AND 5 & 6.

CHARLES3'S TV SCREEN - ONLY A SMALL PORTION OF THE SILVER EDGE OF THE TV IS VISIBLE. SLOW PUSH IN -

BLACK SCREEN

TITLES:

FOLLOWING CHARLES

Written By, Directed By And Starring

Charles Austin

PART 4

EXT. PARK - DAY

Charles4 is walking up to the park from the apartment with his coat and hat on. He is not carrying a DVD.

As he gets to the park he turns and takes the trail instead of taking the short cut through the grass.

Half way down the trail Charles4 looks over to the top of the stone stairs across the park but no one is there.

Just as he looks away Charles5 looks around the tree on his hands and knees.

Charles4 makes his way down the path and goes up Edenside Ave toward the video store.

Charles5 comes running out from behind the tree with a DVD in one hand and the blue and white flowers in the other. He takes off up Edgeland Ave toward the video store.

INT. WILD N' WOOLLY VIDEO - DAY

Charles4 walks into the store and heads straight for the rack where the "Following Charles" DVD's are but the rack is in a different place than when Charles1 came in.

Through the front window of the store Charles5 is visible hiding behind the KFC across the street. He still has the DVD and flowers.

CLERK

Not going in to work I take it?

Charles4 grabs part 4 off the rack and heads to the counter.

CHARLES4

Yeah well...

Charles4 sets the DVD down on the counter and the Clerk goes through the all the motions of opening the case and checking to make sure it's the right one.

CLERK

I remember this one man. If you're not paranoid yet, just wait, you will be after this one.

CHARLES4

I'm not sure I get what is going on here.

CLERK

No?

CHARLES4

Do you know what's going on?

CLERK

Yeah of course, but I can't tell you. Why don't you rent the last two right now and save you from having to come back up here?

CHARLES4

I'm good.

CLERK

Suit yourself.

Charles4 hands over his debit card and the Clerk swipes it. They go through the transaction in silence and then the Clerk gives Charles4 the DVD.

Charles4 walks out of the store with the DVD in his hand.

His cell phone rings and he pulls it out and looks at the number on the caller ID. He answers.

CHARLES4

(into the phone)

You're late.

Charles5 looks out from behind the KFC as Charles4 walks out of sight.

EXT. CHARLES3'S APT - DAY

Charles4 crosses the street and heads for the stairs to go up to his apartment.

Charles5 is hiding across the street watching. After Charles4 is out of his line of site Charles5 looks at the flowers and then crosses Eastern Pkwy and heads toward the cemetery.

As Charles4 gets halfway up the stairs he starts to dig for his keys.

BACK TO - PART 2

INT. CHARLES3'S APT - DAY

Charles3 pauses the DVD and walks out into the kitchen slowly. He is obviously shaken by what he has seen.

He looks out the windows but there is no one to be seen.

He pulls a knife out of the knife block and backs out of the kitchen slowly into the living room.

He goes back in the living room and picks up the remote and stands as he hits play.

BACK TO - PART 4

EXT. CHARLES3'S APT - DAY

Charles4 is halfway up the stairs when he pulls his keys out of his pocket and drops them. The keys fall all the way down the stairs.

He looks after them and then turns to go get them moving out of view of the window.

When he is out of site Charles6 walks up to the window and looks out. Seeing nothing he steps away from the window.

Charles4 makes it down to his keys then stops and looks up.

He sees Charles5 standing across the street with a DVD in his hand but no flowers.

They both stand for an awkward moment staring at each other.

Charles5 then turns and starts to walk away.

CHARLES4

Hey! Stop!

The screen fuzzes out.

BACK TO - PART 2

INT. CHARLES3'S APT - DAY

Charles3 is still standing in front of the TV holding the remote and the knife.

Tossing the remote on the couch he walks with purpose over to the dining room. He kicks a baby toy but pays no attention. There is a laptop computer on the dining room table that doubles as his work station.

Charles3 sits down and opens the computer. He goes to Google.com and types in "private investigator". After a brief moment the screen jumps and there is a list of the top ten search results for his area.

At the top of the list is a company called "CAPI". Charles3 click on the link and it takes him to the page.

He types quickly. A few seconds pass and he stops. His finger hovers for a moment over the enter button then he sends the message.

Charles3 stands up, grabs the knife and goes back into the living room.

He hits eject on the DVD player. The drawer slides open and he takes the two DVD's and puts them back in their cases.

He puts on his coat and hat and puts the knife in his coat pocket.

He rushes through the kitchen and goes out the door. He goes to lock it but can't find his keys.

CHARLES3

Forget it.

He heads down the stairs with the two DVD's.

He is looking down as he makes it down the stairs and he sees his keys on the ground. He pauses then looks up.

Charles3 sees Charles2 standing across the street staring at him with a DVD in his hand but no flowers.

They stand for an awkward moment staring at each other.

Charles2 then turns and starts to walk away.

CHARLES3 (CONT'D)

Hey! Stop!

The screen fuzzes out.

BACK TO - REALITY

INT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 is sitting on the couch with his hands on his face and his mouth open. He is completely confused.

His cell phone blinks indicating a new message. He looks at it and the icon for a new email is in the upper lefthand corner.

He gets up off the couch and goes over to his laptop that sits on the dining room table which doubles as his work space.

On the way he accidentally kicks a baby toy but pays no attention.

He sits down and opens the computer. He clicks a button and opens up his email.

CHARLES' P.O.V. - COMPUTER SCREEN

His inbox is empty except for one email. It is from "CAPI@Gmail.com".

Charles1 opens the email and begins to read -

"To Whom It May Concern,

I need your help. I have reason to believe that I am being followed."

He looks at his watch.

CHARLES1
Crap! Oh man!

He jumps up out of the chair and grabs the phone. He dials a number while he is putting on his coat and hat.

He paces into the kitchen as he waits for someone to answer on the other end.

CHARLES1 (CONT'D)
Hey. (beat) Yeah I know man. It's just (beat) I don't how to explain it. The day just...(beat) What? No, no, no. I can be there in 10 minutes. (beat) Because I need the money.

(MORE)

CHARLES1 (CONT'D)
(beat) No, you know what, I got
another case anyway. It just came
in.

Charles1 is pacing as he talks and stops and turns around.

His eyes land on the knife block. The knife that Charles3
took is missing.

CHARLES1 (CONT'D)
I have to call you back.

Charles1 just drops the phone and stares at the knife block
where the knife should be.

He eventually turns slowly and walks out the door. He locks
it behind him and walks down the stairs without getting the
disc from the DVD player.

EXT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 comes down the stairs and looks on the ground. There
are no keys. He looks across the street and no one is there.

He walks off toward the video store looking around
suspiciously.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Charles1 is walking up to the park from the apartment with
the coat and hat on. He is not carrying a DVD.

As he gets to the park he turns and takes the trail instead
of taking the short cut through the grass.

Half way down the trail Charles1 looks over to the top of the
stone stairs across the park but no one is there.

Just as he looks away Charles2 looks around the tree on his
hands and knees.

Charles1 makes his way down the path and goes up Edenside Ave
toward the video store.

Charles2 comes running out from behind the tree with a DVD in
one hand and blue and white flowers in his other. He takes
off up Edgeland Ave toward the video store as well.

INT. WILD N' WOOLLY VIDEO - DAY

Charles1 walks into the store and heads straight for the rack where the "Following Charles" DVD's are.

Through the front window Charles2 is visible hiding behind the KFC across the street. He still has the DVD and the flowers.

CLERK

Not going in to work I take it?

Charles1 grabs PART 3 off the rack and heads to the counter.

CHARLES1

Yeah well...

Charles1 sets the DVD down on the counter and the Clerk goes through the all the motions of opening the case and checking to make sure it's the right one.

CLERK

I remember this one man. If you're not paranoid yet, just wait, you will be after this one.

CHARLES1

I'm not sure I get what is going on here.

CLERK

No?

CHARLES1

Do you know what's going on? Have you seen this?

CLERK

Yeah of course, but I can't tell you. Why don't you rent the rest right now and save you from having to come back up here?

CHARLES1

Nah, I'm good.

CLERK

Suit yourself.

Charles1 hands over his debit card and the Clerk swipes it. They go through the transaction in silence and then the Clerk gives Charles1 the DVD.

Charles1 walks out of the store with the DVD in his hand.

EXT. WILD N' WOOLLY VIDEO - DAY

Charles1 comes outside and just stands and stares over at the KFC.

Charles2 is no where in sight.

After a moment Charles1 heads back toward his house the way he came walking quickly and looking over his shoulder repeatedly.

His cell phone rings and he looks at the caller ID. It says "UNKNOWN". He ignores the call.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Charles1 is walking into the park heading back toward his apartment. He hits the little paved trail and picks up his pace so that he is almost running.

He looks back over his shoulder and sees Charles2 with the blue and white flowers coming down Edgeland Ave.

Charles1 takes off sprinting toward home.

INT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 walks up to the door and quickly unlocks it and comes inside. He locks the door behind himself and rushes into the living room.

He checks the windows but there is no one outside.

He tosses off his coat and hat and moves over to the DVD player and opens it. As the drawer comes out he sees that PART 2 is still inside.

CHARLES1
Shoot! I forgot to take it back.

He puts in PART 3 and shuts the drawer. He finds the remote and sits down on the couch.

He hits play and the DVD begins. Charles1 turns and looks at the window but he doesn't see anyone.

ON THE TV SCREEN -

BLACK SCREEN

TITLES:

FOLLOWING CHARLES

Written By, Directed By And Starring

Charles Austin

PART 2

EXT. PARK - DAY

The DVD starts up with Chalres2 hiding from Charles3 behind a tree in the park.

Charles2 gets up on his hands and knees and watches Charles3 walk out of sight up Edenside Ave.

Charles2 stands up with the DVD and blue and white flowers in his hands. He looks in the direction of home but he takes off after Charles3.

Chalres2 runs as fast as he can and cuts up Edgeland Ave that runs parallel to Edenside Ave, the street that Charles3 went up.

BACK TO - REALITY

INT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 is sitting on the couch with the DVD paused. He hits a button on the remote and on the screen it flashes "DISC 2".

CHARLES1
Shoot, wrong one.

BLACK SCREEN

TITLES:

PART FOUR

INT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 sits on his couch in front of the TV.

He uses the remote to load up the correct disc and hits play.

ON THE TV SCREEN -

BLACK SCREEN

TITLES:

FOLLOWING CHARLES

Written By, Directed By, And Starring

Charles Austin

PART 3

EXT. CHARLES2'S APT - DAY

Charles2 comes down to the bottom of the stairs and sees his keys sitting on the ground. He's got two DVDs in his hand.

He looks up and sees Charles3 standing across the street staring at him with one DVD in his hand.

They stare at each other awkwardly for a moment.

Charles3 then turns and starts to walk west down Eastern Pkwy.

CHARLES2

Hey! Stop!

Charles2 takes off after Charles3 without picking up the keys.

Charles3 looks over his shoulder and sees that Charles2 has given chase and he takes off running as well.

They run along the paved pathway that sits in the center of the boulevard.

Charles3 runs down to where Cross Rd intersects Eastern Pkwy on the north side and hangs a right. Charles2 is not too far behind him.

Charles3 runs up Cross Rd through the neighborhood toward the intersection where it meets Castlewood Ave at the southwest end of Tyler Park.

Charles3 runs down the hill and rushes into the park. He cuts through up to the stone stairs to the left that lead up to Baxter Ave.

Charles2 reaches the park not long after but he is falling behind.

Charles3 makes it to the top of the stairs and runs across Baxter Ave and makes a hard right down the stone stairs on the other side of the road.

He cuts down and doubles back under the bridge. As Charles2 gets to the top of Baxter Ave. Charles3 is no where in sight.

Charles2 looks around frantically and then runs down the stone stairs toward the bridge.

Charles3 blasts out from under the bridge and then hurries to his left and runs up to the green building that houses the park's public rest rooms. He tries the doors but they are all locked so he hides behind the building.

Charles2 comes down the stairs under the bridge quickly looking around in all directions trying to find Charles3. As he comes out from under the bridge Charles3 ducks back behind the green building.

Charles2 stands near the fountain and looks around for a minute. Charles3 watches him from his hiding spot.

Charles2 looks over at the rest rooms and then walks over.

Charles3 sees him coming and quickly climbs onto the roof.

By the time Charles2 walks around the back of the building Charles3 is all the way up and out of sight.

Charles2 doesn't try to look on top of the building he just shakes his head and starts walking back toward Cross Rd at the southwest end of the park.

Charles3 peeks up from his hiding spot and watches Charles2 as he gets to the edge of the park.

Once Charles2 has crossed Castlewood Ave and headed up Cross Rd Charles3 jumps down and hurries along after him.

EXT. CHARLES2'S APT - DAY

Charles2 is walking up the street in front of the apartment with the two DVD's in his hand. He's coming up Eastern Pkwy from the west, the direction that he just chased Charles3 in.

Charles2 doesn't stop at the apartment though. He continues on in the direction of the video store to return the DVD's. He crosses Newburg Rd and then crosses over Eastern Pkwy as well.

As he passes the apartment and crosses the street Charles3 sneaks up into view off in the distance behind him.

Charles3 stops across from the house and looks after Charles2 as he disappears.

Charles3 checks his watch then looks across the street to the apartment.

CHARLES3

Forget it.

He takes off after Charles2.

EXT. WILD N' WOOLLY VIDEO - DAY

Charles3 walks up the sidewalk outside of the video store with the DVD in his hand.

He pauses right at the edge of the window. He looks in cautiously.

Seeing just the Clerk, he moves to the door.

He opens the door and goes inside.

INT. WILD N' WOOLLY VIDEO - DAY

Charles3 comes through the door and walks up to the counter.

CLERK

I see you're going for the marathon after all.

Charles3 looks around suspiciously.

CLERK (CONT'D)

What's up man?

CHARLES3

Was I just in here?

The Clerk smiles.

CLERK

It's messing with your brain huh? You've been in and outta here all day.

CHARLES3

No, did I *just* come in here.

CLERK

Yeah man, you *just* came in here and returned two DVD's and rented that one.

CHARLES3
How long ago?

CLERK
Two minutes maybe? You walked out
and walked right back in.

Charles3 paces back and forth.

CLERK (CONT'D)
Have you guessed the ending yet?

CHARLES3
What is this? What's going on?

CLERK
So that's a no?

CHARLES3
No, should I be able to?

CLERK
No, not really.

CHARLES3
Hmmm.

Charles3 walks out of the store with the DVD in his hand.

The DVD fuzzes out.

BACK TO - REALITY

INT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 is once again sitting on the couch staring at a TV
that is nothing but snow.

He stands up and paces back and forth in front of the TV. He
hits eject and the drawer comes out. He gets the two DVD's
out and puts them in their cases.

He puts on his coat and his hat and walks into the kitchen to
leave the house.

He goes to grab his keys but they aren't on the hook.

He checks his pockets but can't find them.

CHARLES1
Shoot. Oh well.

He heads out the door and doesn't lock it.

EXT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 comes down to the bottom of the stairs and sees his keys sitting on the ground. He's got two DVD's in his hand.

He looks up and sees Charles2 standing across the street staring at him with one DVD in his hand.

They stare at each other awkwardly for a moment.

Charles2 then turns and starts to walk away.

CHARLES1

Hey! Stop!

Charles1 takes off after Charles2 leaving the keys on the ground.

Charles2 looks over his shoulder and sees that Charles1 has given chase and he takes off running as well.

They run down the pathway that sits in the center of the boulevard.

Charles2 runs down to where Cross Rd intersects Eastern Pkwy on the north side and hangs a right. Charles2 is not too far behind him.

Charles2 runs up Cross Rd through the neighborhood toward the intersection where it meets Castlewood Ave at the southwest end of Tyler Park.

Charles2 runs down the hill and rushes into the park. He cuts through up to the stone stairs to the left that lead up to Baxter Ave.

Charles1 reaches the park not long after but he is falling behind.

Charles2 makes it to the top of the stairs and runs across Baxter Ave and makes a hard right down the stone stairs on the other side of the road.

He cuts down and doubles back under the bridge. As Charles1 gets to the top of Baxter Ave Charles2 is no where in sight.

Charles1 looks around frantically and then runs down the stone stairs toward the bridge.

Charles1 comes down the stairs under the bridge quickly looking around in all directions trying to find Charles2.

As Charles1 comes out from under the bridge Charles2 ducks back behind the green building.

Charles1 stands near the fountain and looks around for a minute. Charles2 watches him from his hiding spot.

Charles1 looks over at the rest rooms and then walks over.

Charles1 hurries up to the green building that houses the park's public rest rooms. He tries the doors but they are all locked so he goes behind the building.

By the time Charles1 walks around the back of the building Charles2 is out of sight.

Charles1 looks around. He jumps up on a nearby picnic table and looks on top of the roof but Charles2 isn't there.

CHARLES1 (CONT'D)

Crap!

He jumps off the table and takes one more look around. Seeing nothing he shakes his head and starts walking back toward Cross Rd at the southwest end of the park.

As Charles1 gets to the edge of the park Charles2 pops up out of the brush and leaves on the hillside right behind the rest rooms.

Once Charles1 has crossed Castlewood Ave and headed up Cross Rd Charles2 runs down the hill and hurries after him.

EXT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 is walking up Eastern Pkwy in front of the apartment with the two DVD's in his hand. He's coming from the direction that he just chased Charles2 in.

Charles1 doesn't stop at the apartment though. He continues on and crosses Newburg Rd and then crosses Eastern Pkwy and hurries on to the video store to return the DVD's.

As he passes the apartment and crosses the street Charles2 sneaks up into view off in the distance behind him.

EXT. WILD N' WOOLLY VIDEO - DAY

Charles1 walks up the sidewalk outside of the video store with the two DVD's in his hand.

He opens the door and goes inside.

INT. WILD N' WOOLLY VIDEO - DAY

Charles1 comes through the door and puts the DVD's in the return bin.

CLERK

I see you're going for the marathon after all.

CHARLES1

Sort of.

Charles1 walks over to the rack and picks up PART 4 then walks over to the counter.

CLERK

Have you guessed the ending yet?

CHARLES1

What is this? What's going on?

CLERK

So that's a no?

The Clerk takes the DVD and goes through the process of opening the case and checking the DVD etc.

CHARLES1

No, should I be able to?

CLERK

No, not really.

CHARLES1

Hmmm.

Charles1 hands over his debit card and the Clerk swipes it. They go through the transaction in silence and then the Clerk gives Charles1 the DVD.

Charles1 walks out of the store with the DVD in his hand.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Charles1 walks through the park toward his house with the DVD in his hand.

EXT CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 stands in the middle of the path that runs up the center of Eastern Pkwy in front of his apartment.

After a while he runs across the street toward his apartment and runs up the stairs.

He gets to the top and checks for his keys but can't find them.

CHARLES1

Crap.

He checks the door knob and it is unlocked. He opens the door and goes inside but makes sure to lock the door behind him.

BLACK SCREEN

TITLES:

PART FIVE

INT. CHARLES' LIVING ROOM - DAY

Charles1 comes in and throws off his hat and coat. He takes the DVD out of the case and opens the DVD player.

He grabs the remote and sits down on the edge of the couch.

He hits play and the DVD starts.

ON THE TV SCREEN -

BLACK SCREEN

TITLES:

FOLLOWING CHARLES

Written By, Directed By And Starring

Charles Austin

PART 4

EXT. PARK - DAY

Charles2 is walking up Baxter Ave to the park from the apartment with the coat and hat on. He is not carrying a DVD.

As he gets to the park he turns and takes the paved trail instead of taking the short cut through the grass.

Half way down the trail Charles2 looks over to the top of the stone stairs across the park but no one is there.

Just as he looks away Charles3 looks around the tree on his hands and knees.

Charles2 makes his way down the path and goes up Edenside Ave toward the video store.

Charles3 comes running out from behind the tree with the DVD and the blue and white flowers in his hands, He takes off up Edgeland Ave that runs parallel to Edenside Ave toward the video store.

INT. WILD N' WOOLLY VIDEO - DAY

Charles2 walks into the store and heads straight for the rack where the "Following Charles" DVD's are.

Through the front window Charles3 is visible hiding behind the KFC across the street. He still has the DVD and the flowers.

CLERK

Not going in to work I take it?

Charles2 grabs part 4 off the rack and heads to the counter.

CHARLES2

Yeah well...

Charles2 sets the DVD down on the counter and the Clerk goes through the all the motions of opening the case and checking to make sure it's the right one.

CLERK

I remember this one man. If you're not paranoid yet, just wait, you will be after this one.

CHARLES2

I'm not sure I get what is going on here.

CLERK

No?

CHARLES2

Do you know what's going on? Have you seen this?

CLERK

Yeah of course, but I can't tell you. Why don't you rent the last two right now and save you from having to come back up here?

CHARLES2

I'm good.

CLERK

Suit yourself.

Charles2 hands over his debit card and the Clerk swipes it. They go through the transaction in silence and then the Clerk gives Charles2 the DVD.

Charles2 walks out of the store with the DVD in his hand.

Charles3 is nowhere in sight.

EXT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles2 crosses Newburg Rd with a DVD in his hand and heads for the stairs to go up to his apartment.

He gets halfway up the stairs and starts to dig for his keys.

BACK TO - REALITY

INT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 pauses the DVD and walks out into the kitchen slowly. He is obviously shaken by what he has seen.

He looks out the windows but there is no one to be seen.

He goes back in the living room and picks up the remote and goes over to the window to look out.

He sees Charles3 coming up the center trail on Eastern Pkwy. He's got a DVD in his hand but no flowers.

Charles1 stands by the window and hits play.

He looks back and forth from the window to the screen as it plays

ON THE TV SCREEN - PART 4

EXT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles2 is halfway up the stairs when he pulls his keys out of his pocket and accidentally drops them. The keys fall all the way down the stairs.

He looks after them and then turns to go get them.

When he is out of site Charles4 walks up to the window and looks out. He steps away from the window.

Charles2 makes it down to his keys then stops and looks up. He sees Charles3 standing across the street staring at him with a DVD in his hand.

They stand for an awkward moment staring at each other.

Charles3 then turns and starts to walk away.

CHARLES2

Hey! Stop!

The screen fuzzes out.

CHARLES1'S P.O.V.

Charles1 is back in the living room staring out the window that overlooks Eastern Pkwy.

Looking out the window Charles1 sees Charles3 run west down Eastern Pkwy and disappear. Immediately after Charles3 is out of sight he sees Charles2 cross the street and go running down the path after him.

INT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 is still standing by the window staring out.

He looks over to the TV and hits eject. The drawer opens and he takes out PART 4 and puts it in the case.

He grabs his coat and hat and heads out the door.

EXT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 comes down the stairs from his apartment with the DVD in his hand. He sees his keys on the ground.

He freezes, his eyes locked on the keys. He bends down very slowly holding out his shaking hand to pick up the keys.

He puts his hand on the keys and looks up but there is no one across the street to see.

He stands up quickly and runs up the stairs to lock the door.

He comes back down nervously jingling the keys in his hand.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Charles1 gets to the park and pauses. He jingles the keys a few more times and instead of going through the park he stays on Baxter Ave and takes the sidewalk by the black rod iron fence.

He puts the keys in his coat pocket and stops again.

He slowly pulls his hand out and in it is the knife that he watched Charles3 take.

Charles1 takes off running toward the video store.

INT. WILD N' WOOLLY VIDEO - DAY

Charles1 comes crashing through the door and tosses PART 4 in the return bin.

CLERK
Are you alright?

Charles1 grabs PART 5 off the rack and walks over to the counter.

CHARLES1
I'm fine.

The Clerk smiles and takes the DVD and starts to check it but Charles1 puts his hand out and stops him.

CHARLES1 (CONT'D)
Uh-uh. No. Leave it closed.

CLERK
Oh it really got to you huh? Okay.

Charles1 reaches in his pants pocket and pulls out his debit card and starts to hand it over but then stops.

He reaches in his other pants pocket and pulls out a five dollar bill and tosses it on the counter.

CHARLES1
Keep it.

He snatches the DVD and walks out.

EXT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 is walking down the sidewalk on Eastern Pkwy right by his apartment after crossing Newburg Rd.

He looks up to his living room window where he was standing and looking out earlier but there is no one there.

Charles1 continues up to the driveway and then stops and waits. No one comes down the stairs.

Charles1 heads up the stairs and starts digging for his keys halfway up. He gets them out and doesn't drop them.

INT. CHARLES1'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

Charles1 comes in and tosses off his coat and hat onto the chair.

He's got a few beers in hand. The pill bottle sits on the table.

He gets the DVD out of the case and puts it into the DVD player.

He sits down on the couch and grabs the remote, pausing for a moment, then hits play.

He cracks a beer and reaches for the bottle of pills.

ON THE TV SCREEN -

BLACK SCREEN

TITLES:

FOLLOWING CHARLES

Written By, Directed By, And Starring

Charles Austin

PART FIVE

EXT. CHARLES2'S APT - DAY

Charles2 comes down the stairs from his apartment and sees his keys on the ground.

He freezes, his eyes locked on the keys. He bends down very slowly reaching out with his shaking hand.

He puts his hand on the keys and looks up but there is no one across the street to see.

He stands up quickly and runs up the stairs to lock the door.

He comes back down nervously jingling the keys in his hand.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Charles2 gets to the park and pauses. He jingles the keys a few more times and instead of going through the park he stays on Baxter Ave and takes the sidewalk by the black rod iron fence.

He puts the keys in the opposite coat pocket that Charles1 did and stops.

He slowly pulls his hand out and in it is the knife.

Charles2 takes off running toward the video store.

He looks over into the park several times.

INT. WILD N' WOOLLY VIDEO - DAY

Charles2 comes crashing through the door and tosses PART 5 in the return bin.

CLERK

Are you alright?

Charles2 grabs PART 6 off the rack and walks over to the counter.

CHARLES2

No. What is this? What is going on?

The Clerk smiles and takes the DVD and starts to check it but Charles2 puts his hand out and stops him.

CHARLES2 (CONT'D)

Uh-uh. No. Leave it closed.

CLERK

Oh it really got to you huh? Okay.
I just watched straight through. I
can't imagine leaving the house
before you know how it ends.

Charles2 reaches in his pants pocket and pulls out his debit card and starts to hand it over but then stops.

He reaches in his other pants pocket and pulls out a ten dollar bill and tosses it on the counter.

CHARLES2

Keep it.

He snatches the DVD and walks out.

EXT. CHARLES2'S APT - DAY

Charles2 is walking down the center pathway of Eastern Pkwy right across the street from his apartment. He is coming from the west.

He looks up to the window and the blinds move as if they had just been let go but there is no one there.

Charles2 continues up the pathway until he is directly across from the driveway and then stops when he sees Charles3 coming down the stairs.

Charles3 is looking down and doesn't see him. He stops when he sees his keys on the ground. Grabbing them he looks up.

Charles3 sees Charles2 and they stand and stare at each other for a moment.

Charles2 turns and takes off running west down the center path on Eastern Pkwy.

EXT. EASTERN & BARRET - DAY

Charles2 runs up to the intersection of Eastern Pkwy and Barret Ave that he walked past before when he left the cemetery. This time he runs left up Barret Ave and heads into the graveyard.

Charles3 comes down the pathway not far behind and follows him into the graveyard.

EXT. CEMETERY - DAY

Charles2 is running along through the graveyard.

His head turns when he passes the tombstone where Charles1 put the red and yellow flowers. Charles2 gets a strange look on his face but he doesn't stop.

Charles3 is not far behind him. He is trying to pull out the knife and in doing so trips and hits his head on the exact same tombstone Charles2 just looked at which is the same one where Charles1 placed the flowers.

Charles2 looks back and sees Charles3 on the ground. He hesitates for a second but then takes off running for home.

He goes out the front gate of the graveyard and turns left onto Newburg Rd.

He passes Schreck's Kentucky Liquor Store and runs back to his apartment heading up the stairs cutting through by the fence.

EXT. CHARLES2'S APT - DAY

Charles2 comes out from behind the fence and rushes up the stairs with the DVD in his hand.

BACK TO - REALITY

INT. CHARLES1'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

Charles1 is on the couch watching the TV.

ON THE TV - CHARLES2'S ACTIONS IN PART 5 PLAY OUT

Charles2 opens the front door and comes inside.

Charles1 looks over his shoulder quickly then jumps up and hides behind the wall so he can see the TV.

ON THE TV - CHARLES2'S ACTIONS IN PART 5 PLAY OUT

Charles2 walks into the living room and throws his coat off.

BACK TO - REALITY

Charles1 looks around but there is no one in the room.

He slowly goes back over and sits down on the couch.

ON THE TV - PART 5 - SLOW PUSH IN

Charles2 opens the DVD player and puts in PART 6 and sits down to watch.

The screen fuzzes out.

BACK TO - REALITY

Charles1 has moved back over and is sitting on his couch exactly like Charles2 was sitting on the couch at the end of Part 5.

He stands up and hits eject on the DVD player. It opens and he takes Part 5 out and puts it back in its case.

He moves over and grabs his coat and hat. He looks at his watch and pulls out his prescription bottle and pops a few pills.

He finishes a PBR that is on the table.

Charles1 walks from the living room into the kitchen and opens the refrigerator only to find that there is no beer left.

BLACK SCREEN

TITLES:

PART SIX

EXT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 comes down his stairs with a DVD in his hand. He pauses at the bottom of the stairs.

Instead of heading out toward Eastern Pkwy he goes toward the fence to cut through next to the other building.

He crosses Newburg Rd and heads for Schreck's liquor store.

He goes inside and buys two big beers. He comes back out with the beers in one brown paper bag and heads around the side of the building.

EXT. SCHRECK'S - DAY

Charles1 walks around the side of the liquor store. He pulls out one of the beers and cracks the top, He drinks the whole thing as fast as he can.

When he finishes he throws the can away and looks over at the graveyard for a long time.

He finally turns and heads up Newburg Rd toward the park and the video store to go get PART 6. He carries the DVD and the brown paper bag with the beer in it.

EXT. EASTERN & BAXTER - DAY

Charles1 crosses Eastern Pkwy but instead of heading straight to the park he turns right and then cuts up the alley by the yoga studio.

He walks up Edenside Ave passing close to the park and looking over at it the whole time.

When he gets to the edge of the park he looks all around.

There is no one around.

He begins to walk quickly and cuts back and forth across the street as he goes.

EXT. WILD N' WOOLLY VIDEO - DAY

Charles1 walks up to the video store and pauses before he steps in front of the large front window.

He looks across the street to the KFC but there is no one there.

He slowly leans his head around to look into the video store and the only person inside is the Clerk.

He takes a deep breath and walks to the door.

INT. WILD N' WOOLLY VIDEO - DAY

Charles1 comes crashing through the door with the brown paper bag and tosses PART 5 in the return bin.

CLERK

Are you alright?

Charles1 grabs PART 6 off the rack and walks over to the counter.

CHARLES1

No. What is this? What is going on?

The Clerk smiles and takes the DVD and starts to check it but Charles1 puts his hand out and stops him.

CHARLES1 (CONT'D)

Uh-uh. No. Leave it closed.

CLERK

Oh it really got to you huh? Okay. I just watched straight through. I can't imagine leaving the house before you know how it ends.

CHARLES1

This doesn't even make sense.

CLERK
Does it have to?

Charles1 reaches in his pocket and pulls out his debit card and starts to hand it over but then stops.

He reaches in his other pants pocket and pulls out a wad of one dollar bills and tosses it on the counter.

CHARLES1
Keep it.

He snatches the DVD and walks out.

EXT. WILD N' WOOLLY VIDEO - DAY

Charles1 crosses Bardstown Rd toward the KFC and crosses Baxter Ave as well.

He walks past the drug store heading back toward home on Baxter Ave.

He gets to the park and takes a right on Tyler Park Dr.

Charles1 looks over at the other side of the park the whole time.

He gets to the end of the street and turns left up Cross Rd. And follows it up to Eastern Pkwy which brings him almost directly across from his apartment.

EXT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 walks up the pathway and crosses Eastern Pkwy to his apartment and makes his way up the stairs.

INT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 throws off his coat and hat. He sets his beer down and rushes over to the DVD player.

He hits eject.

CHARLES1
Come on. Come on!

The drawer finally comes out and he puts the DVD in and closes it.

He sits down on his couch just like before. He opens his beer and waits for Part 6 to start.

ON THE TV SCREEN - JUST A TINY BIT OF THE SILVER EDGE IS
VISIBLE - SLOW PUSH UNTIL

BLACK SCREEN

TITLES:

FOLLOWING CHARLES

Written By, Directed By And Starring

Charles Austin

PART SIX

INT. CHARLES2'S APT - DAY

Part 6 starts exactly where Part 5 left off, with Charles2
sitting on the couch watching the TV waiting for Part 6 to
start exactly how Charles1 is now.

Charles2's DVD of Part 6 starts.

**Charles1 is once again watching DVD of Charles2 watching a
DVD of footage of both Charles3 and 4 etc.**

ON CHARLES2'S TV SCREEN - JUST A TINY BIT OF THE SILVER EDGE
IS VISIBLE - SLOW PUSH UNTIL

BLACK SCREEN

TITLES:

FOLLOWING CHARLES

Written By, Directed By And Starring

Charles Austin

PART SIX

EXT. CEMETERY - DAY

Charles3 is on his back laying on the ground next to a
tombstone with his eyes closed. He has blood on his face.

The DVD and the knife are next to him on the ground.

The red and yellow flowers Charles1 bought earlier in the day
are resting at the bottom of the tombstone. There are also
three bouquets of blue and white flowers on the grave.

He wakes up and looks around and rolls up onto his side.

Just as he does Charles⁴ disappears out of site through the gate of the cemetery with the DVD in his hand.

Charles³ gets up onto his hands and knees and directly in front of his face is the tombstone that he hit his head on. He stares at it for a moment.

CHARLES³'S P.O.V.

The tombstone fills Charles³'s field of vision. It reads "Heather Austin 1979 - 2009 Loving Wife, Daughter And Mother".

The red, yellow, blue and white flowers sit just under the words.

BACK TO CEMETERY

Charles³ stands up and puts his hand on his head. He's a little unsteady on his feet.

He bends over and picks up the knife and the DVD and puts them into his pockets, then he starts to walk.

He gets to the entrance of the cemetery and turns to the left on Newburg Rd to go toward the apartment but stops after a moment.

Across the street at the liquor store he sees Charles⁵ coming out with a brown paper bag with two beers in it and a DVD.

Charles⁵ walks around the side of the liquor store and cracks the beer.

Charles³ watches from just behind a large pine tree. He reaches in his pocket and pulls the knife out just enough to look at it.

Charles⁵ finishes his beer and then stares over at the graveyard for a long time holding the brown paper bag and the DVD.

Charles³ manages to duck behind the tree just in time to not be seen.

Charles⁵ turns and walks down the road back in the direction of the apartment.

Charles3 watches him until he sees that Charles5 has passed up the apartment, crossed Eastern Pkwy and headed into the alley.

Charles3 moves out onto the sidewalk and heads back to the apartment in a hurry cutting up the back way between the buildings by the fence.

EXT. CHARLES4'S APT - DAY

Charles3 walks up the stairs and gets out the keys. He unlocks the door very quietly and goes inside.

He shuts the door and locks it behind him quietly.

CHARLES3'S P.O.V.

Charles3 walks into the living room to find Charles4 is sitting on the couch watching a DVD.

CHARLES4'S TV SCREEN AND CHARLES3'S P.O.V. ARE MATCHED SO THAT THE TV HAS CHARLES4'S LIVING ROOM ON IT.

Charles3 walks up behind him slowly and Charles4's TV goes to fuzz.

Charles4 puts his head in his hands for a moment.

Charles3 gets right behind Charles4 and pulls the knife out.

Charles4 starts to turn around and everything goes to fuzz.

SLOW PULL BACK UNTIL THE SILVER EDGE OF CHARLES2'S TV SCREEN IS VISIBLE.

CAMERA PANS RIGHT ACROSS THE LIVING AND DINING ROOM UNTIL IT LANDS ON -

Charles5 walking into view in the hall way from the kitchen. He is holding the brown paper bag in one hand and a DVD in the other.

As he moves forward into the living room his head goes out of frame so only his torso is visible when he walks up behind Charles2 who is sitting with his head in his hands on the couch.

Charles5 puts the DVD and beer in the same hand and pulls the knife out.

Charles2 lifts his head and looks back over his shoulder.

Everything goes to fuzz.

SLOW PULL BACK UNTIL THE SILVER EDGE OF CHARLES1'S TV SCREEN IS VISIBLE.

CAMERA PANS LEFT ACROSS THE LIVING ROOM WALL AND WINDOWS UNTIL IT LAND ON -

Charles1 on the couch bathed in the light of the TV. He drops his head into his hands and sits.

Charles6 walks up behind him without his head in frame. He swaps the DVD into his other hand in which he's holding a brown paper bag.

Charles6 stands for a moment then pulls the knife out.

Charles1 lifts his head and looks back over his shoulder. He smiles.

Everything goes to fuzz.

BLACK SCREEN

TITLES:

FOLLOWING CHARLES

Written By, Directed By, And Starring:

Charles Austin

PART ONE

INT. CHARLES1'S LIVING ROOM - EVENING

CHARLES1 (30-ish) is asleep on the couch in front of the TV. There are a few beer cans on the table.

Baby toys are scattered around on the floor.

A telephone is ringing. The answering machine picks up. There is no outgoing message. Just a beep.

His eyes open.

He looks around but doesn't get up.

WOMAN (V.O.)

(on answering machine)

Hey hun, just calling to check on you. Everything's okay here. We went swimming this morning and now he's helping grandpa cut the grass. (beat) Well, okay, I'm trying not to worry about you. Take your time. We're happy to watch him for as long as you need. (beat) Just give us a call. Okay, we love you.

The answering machine turns off.

After a moment he stands up and makes his way toward the closed door of the bathroom.

INT. CHARLES1'S BATHROOM - EVENING

The light in the bathroom is off. Through the tiny window in the shower we can see that it is close to sunset.

Charles1 opens the door and walks in shutting the door behind him.

He turns on the light. There are several brown prescription pill bottles on the counter by the sink.

Charles1 opens up one of them only to find that it is empty. He tosses it in the trash.

He grabs another and shakes it but it is empty as well. He drops it in the sink.

He picks up yet another and shakes it and this time there is a pill inside. He opens it up and turns it over. The solitary pill falls into the palm of his hand.

With his other hand he opens the medicine cabinet.

The medicine cabinet is empty except for a flask. He grabs the flask and opens it up. He pops the pill in his mouth and then takes a swig from the flask.

Charles1 sets the flask on the counter top and pats himself down looking for his cell phone. He finds it in his back pocket.

He dials a number into the phone and then puts it to his ear.

CHARLES1

Yes, I need to check on a prescription. Charles Austin. Sure.

INT. CHARLES1'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

Charles1 walks into his kitchen, grabs a scrap of paper and a pen and writes something down.

CLOSE UP - PIECE OF PAPER

On the piece of paper Charles1 has written "Pick up prescription before work".

BACK TO KITCHEN

Charles1 takes the piece of paper and puts it under a magnet on the refrigerator.

He opens up the refrigerator door and there is nothing inside but Pabst Blue Ribbon beer. He grabs three and closes the door.

INT. CHARLES1'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Charles1 walks into the living room with the three beers and sets them down on the coffee table. He grabs the remote control for the TV and turns it on.

He cracks a beer and leans back into the couch.

INT. CHARLES1'S LIVING ROOM - MORNING

It's the next day and Charles1 is asleep on the couch. There are at least a dozen beer cans scattered on the table and floor around him.

The TV is still on but the screen is just blue.

The Phone begins to ring but Charles1 doesn't move. The answering machine picks up.

WOMAN

(on the answering machine)

Hey, it's mom again. Everything is fine here. Just calling to see how you are. I came home and your father had him out in the yard (laughs)...Well, I'll tell you all about it when...(beat) I know this is hard for you but your son misses you. We love you.

The machine clicks off.

Charles1 wakes up slowly and looks around.

He gets up and walks over and opens the blinds on the windows in the living room.

He goes into the bathroom. He turns on the light and sees all the pill bottles scattered around. He looks at them like he doesn't remember making the mess.

INT. CHARLES1'S KITCHEN - MORNING

Charles1 walks into the kitchen and begins his morning routine.

He makes himself oatmeal and coffee.

At some point he looks at the refrigerator and sees the note he left himself the night before.

He goes over to it and reads it and wads it up and tosses it in the trash.

He opens the refrigerator and gets out a beer and guzzles it as he finishes eating breakfast.

He looks at the clock on the stove.

CLOSE UP - CLOCK

The clock reads 10:24.

EXT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 walks down the stairs from his apartment. He's got on a coat and a beanie. It's cold out and his breath is visible in the air.

He walks out and turns right on Eastern Pkwy. He crosses the street at Newburg Rd and then crosses Eastern Pkwy at the light heading towards the park (Tyler Park) by his house.

EXT. PARK - DAY

He cuts through the park and walking down the hill through the grass. He passes the tennis courts and goes up the stone stairs on the northwest side of the park that lead up to Windsor Pl.

EXT. DRUG STORE - DAY

Shortly after getting out of the park he walks up to a Walgreens on Baxter Ave where it intersects Bardstown Rd and Highland Ave.

He heads inside through the automatic doors walking past aisles of food and cosmetics and then disappears when he turns down the last row.

He comes out a moment later carrying a prescription bag.

He starts to head back home but stops and looks across the street to Wild N' Woolly Video. He checks his watch and then crosses the street.

He walks up to the door of Wild N' Woolly Video and goes inside.

INT. WILD N' WOOLLY VIDEO - DAY

Charles1 walks into the store and looks around.

The WILD N' WOOLLY CLERK behind the counter pays him no attention.

Charles1 walks over to a rack and sees 6 plain looking DVD's that all have the same cover. The only difference is that they are labeled 1 - 6.

CLOSE UP - DVD

The cover is very simple. All it says is "Following Charles".

BACK TO VIDEO STORE

Charles1 grabs the one farthest to the left on the rack and walks over to the counter and the Clerk.

Charles1 puts the DVD on the counter and smiles at the Clerk. The Clerk smiles and picks it up.

CLERK

Hey, good choice. Someone told you to watch it? (beat) You heard about it? (beat) Or you just saw it and thought you'd take a look?

CHARLES1

I just saw it.

CLERK

Well, for what it's worth, it's my favorite.

The Clerk takes the DVD and shows it to Charles. With his finger he points to a little round sticker that says "STAFF PICK".

CLERK (CONT'D)

It's a real mind melt.

The Clerk pops the case open and looks at the DVD then closes it. He flips it around again and taps on the case pointing to where it says "PART 2".

CLERK (CONT'D)

You should definitely watch them in order.

CHARLES1

Hmmm.

Charles1 reaches out and takes the DVD back from the Clerk.

He walks back over to the rack where he got it and sees that they were indeed out of order. He grabs the one labeled "PART 1" and walks back over to the counter.

CLERK

You know you could just rent them all at once, watch them straight through marathon style.

CHARLES1

No I just...I just need something for before I go to work.

CLERK

Ha! Better call in sick bro.

Charles1 hands over his debit card and the Clerk swipes it. They go through the transaction in silence and then the Clerk gives Charles1 the DVD.

Charles1 walks out of the store with the DVD in his hand. He turns left heading south down Bardstown Rd.

EXT. MID-CITY MALL - DAY

Charles1 walks up through the parking lot of the Mid-City Mall that is on the Bardstown Rd side of the mall. He heads directly to the automatic sliding glass door of The Value Market.

Through the door he can be seen standing in front of the pre packaged flower bouquet display.

Charles1 makes a decision and grabs a bouquet of red and yellow flowers then walks away from the door and disappears when he turns a corner.

INT. MID-CITY MALL - DAY

The giant hallway that runs down the center of the Mid-City Mall to another parking lot is poorly lit, has a strange drop ceiling and old dull colored linoleum tile.

The Value Market has another sliding glass door that opens up into this hallway. Charles1 walks out of it into the hallway after paying for his flowers.

He turns to his right and walks toward the Baxter Ave side of the mall.

EXT. MID-CITY MALL - DAY

Charles1 walks out of the doors of the Mid-City Mall and heads back toward his house.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Charles1 takes the same route home that he took on the way to the store.

He walks up to the top of the stone stairs and pauses a moment as he looks out at the park.

EXT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 crosses Eastern Pkwy on the corner by his apartment but instead of then crossing over Baxter Ave he continues down Baxter where it turns into Newburg Rd.

Once he walks past Schreck's Kentucky Liquor Store he looks both ways for traffic and then jogs across Newburg Rd.

He walks a little bit farther and then comes upon Cavalry Cemetery. The big rod iron gate is open and Charles1 walks right in.

EXT. CEMETERY - DAY

Charles1 is standing in front of a tombstone with the flowers in his hand.

He casually drops the flowers in front of the tombstone and walks away toward the back gate of the cemetery.

EXT. BACK GATE - DAY

Charles1 walks through the back gate of the cemetery that opens up onto Barret Ave.

At the intersection where Barret Ave meets Eastern Pkwy he turns right and heads for home.

EXT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 walks up Eastern Pkwy from the west on the little paved path way that cuts up the center of the street.

When he is across from his apartment he waits for an opening in traffic and then jogs across the street.

He heads up the stairs to his apartment.

INT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 walks through his apartment from the kitchen to the living room and takes off his coat and hat and throws them on a chair.

He walks through his living room and goes over to the DVD player and opens it up.

He gets the DVD out of the case and puts it in setting the case down on the coffee table.

He walks out of the room and into the kitchen and grabs a beer.

He comes back in and opens the white bag that the prescription bottle is in.

Flopping himself down on the couch he gets the little brown bottle out.

CLOSE UP - PILL BOTTLE LABEL

The label reads "Charles Austin - OXYCODONE 10 - Take 1 tablet for pain every 4-6 hours"

He pours a few pills into his hand, pops them into his mouth and takes a sip of beer.

He sets the bottle of pills on the table in front of him and grabs the remote. He hits play.

BLACK SCREEN

TITLES:

PART TWO

INT. CHARLES1'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

Charles is sitting on the couch just as we left him with the remote in his hand having just hit play.

The DVD starts. He sets down the remote.

Both Charles1 and the TV screen are visible.

TV SCREEN -

BLACK SCREEN

TITLES:

FOLLOWING CHARLES

Written By, Directed By, And Starring

Charles Austin

PART ONE

INT. CHARLES1'S LIVING ROOM

Charles picks up the case off the table but it is completely blank with the exception of the title and Part 1. He sets the case back down and continues to watch.

TIGHT ON THE TV SCREEN - THE SILVER EDGE OF THE SCREEN IS JUST BARELY VISIBLE. THE CAMERA PUSHES IN IMPERCEPTIBLY SLOWLY UNTIL WHAT IS ON THE SCREEN TAKES OVER THE VIEW.

INT. CHARLES2'S LIVING ROOM - EVENING

CHARLES2 (30-ish, exact same as Charles1 in every way) is asleep on the couch in front of the TV. There are a few beer cans on the table.

A telephone is ringing. The answering machine picks up. There is no outgoing message. Just a beep.

His eyes open.

He looks around but doesn't get up.

WOMAN (V.O.)

(on answering machine)

Hey hun, just calling to check on you. Everything's okay here. We went swimming this morning and now he's helping grandpa cut the grass. (beat) Well, okay, I'm trying not to worry about you. Take your time. We're happy to watch him for as long as you need. (beat) Just give us a call. Okay, we love you.

The answering machine turns off.

INT. CHARLES2'S BATHROOM - EVENING

The light in the bathroom is off. Through the tiny window in the shower we can see that it is close to sunset.

Charles2 opens the door and walks in shutting the door behind him.

He turns on the light. There are several brown prescription pill bottles on the counter by the sink.

Charles2 opens up one of them only to find that it is empty. He tosses it in the trash.

He grabs another and shakes it but it is empty as well. He drops it in the sink.

He picks up yet another and shakes it and this time there is a pill inside. He opens it up and turns it over. The solitary pill falls into the palm of his hand.

With his other hand he opens the medicine cabinet.

The medicine cabinet is empty except for a flask. He grabs the flask and opens it up. He pops the pill in his mouth and then takes a swig from the flask.

He puts his hands onto his face and begins to cry. It only lasts a moment and then he pulls himself together.

Charles2 sets the flask on the counter top and pats himself down looking for his cell phone. He finds it in his back pocket.

He dials a number into the phone and then puts it to his ear.

CHARLES2

Yes, I need to check on a prescription. Charles Austin. Sure.

INT. CHARLES2'S KITCHEN - NIGHT

Charles2 walks into his kitchen, grabs a scrap of paper and a pen and writes something down.

CLOSE UP - PIECE OF PAPER

On the piece of paper Charles2 has written "Pick up prescription before work" but it's not in the same handwriting as Charles1.

BACK TO KITCHEN

Charles2 takes the piece of paper and puts it under a magnet on the refrigerator.

He opens up the refrigerator door and there is nothing inside but Miller Lite beer. He grabs three and closes the door.

INT. CHARLES2'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Charles2 walks into the living room with the three beers and sets them down on the coffee table. He grabs the remote control for the TV and turns it on.

He cracks a beer and leans back into the couch.

INT. CHARLES2'S LIVING ROOM - MORNING

It's the next day and Charles2 is asleep on the couch. There are at least a dozen beer cans scattered on the table and floor around him.

The TV is still on but the screen is just blue.

The Phone begins to ring but Charles2 doesn't move. The answering machine picks up.

WOMAN

(on the answering machine)
Hey, it's mom again. Everything is fine here. Just calling to see how you are. I came home and your father had him out in the yard (laughs)...Well, I'll tell you all about it when...(beat) I know this is hard for you but your son misses you. We love you.

The machine clicks off.

Charles2 wakes up slowly and looks around.

He gets up and walks over and opens the blinds on the windows in the living room.

EXT. CHARLES2'S APT - DAY

Across the intersection, from the perspective of the Cherokee Animal Hospital Charles2 steps to his living room window and opens the blinds.

BACK TO - REALITY

INT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 hits pause on the remote.

Charles1 looks around his living room slowly with a look of suspicion on his face.

He stands up and walks over to his window and looks out. He closes the blinds.

He walks over to the other window and looks out across the street to where the camera would have had to have been to get the shot of Charles2 opening the blinds that he just watched.

Charles1 closes the blinds and goes back over to the couch and hits play on the remote. The DVD starts back up.

ON THE TV SCREEN - PART 1

Charles2 goes into the bathroom. He turns on the light and sees all the pill bottles scattered around. He looks at them like he doesn't remember making the mess. He urinates.

INT. CHARLES2'S KITCHEN - MORNING

Charles2 walks into the kitchen and begins his morning routine.

He makes himself fried eggs, orange juice and coffee.

At some point he looks at the refrigerator and sees the note he left himself the night before.

He goes over to it and reads it and wads it up and tosses it in the trash.

He opens the refrigerator and gets out a beer and guzzles it as he finishes eating breakfast.

He looks at the clock on the stove.

CLOSE UP - CLOCK

The clock reads 10:24.

EXT. CHARLES2'S APT - DAY

Charles2 walks down the stairs from his apartment. He's got on a coat and a beanie. It's cold out and his breath is visible in the air.

He walks out and turns right on Eastern Pkwy. He crosses the street at Newburg Rd and then crosses Eastern Pkwy at the light heading towards the park (Tyler Park) by his house.

EXT. PARK - DAY

He cuts through the park and walking down the hill through the grass. He passes the tennis courts and goes up the stone stairs on the northwest side of the park that lead to Windsor Pl.

EXT. DRUG STORE - DAY

Shortly after getting out of the park he walks up to a Walgreens on Baxter Ave where it intersects Bardstown Rd and Highland Ave.

He heads inside through the automatic doors.

He comes out a moment later carrying a prescription bag.

He starts to head back home but stops and looks across the street to Wild N' Woolly Video. He checks his watch and then crosses the street.

He walks up to the door of Wild N' Woolly Video and goes inside.

INT. WILD N' WOOLLY VIDEO - DAY

Charles2 walks into the store and looks around.

The WILD N' WOOLLY CLERK behind the counter pays him no attention.

Charles2 walks over to a rack and sees 6 plain looking DVD's that all have the same cover. The only difference is that they are labeled 1 - 6.

CLOSE UP - DVD

The cover is very simple. All it says is "Following Charles".

BACK TO VIDEO STORE

Charles2 grabs the one farthest to the left on the rack and walks over to the counter and the Clerk.

Charles2 puts the DVD on the counter and smiles. The Clerk smiles and picks it up.

CLERK

Hey, good choice. Someone told you to watch it? (beat) You heard about it? (beat) Or you just saw it ad thought you'd take a look?

CHARLES2

I just saw it.

CLERK

Well, for what it's worth, it's my favorite.

The Clerk takes the DVD and shows it to Charles2. With his finger he points to a little round sticker that says "STAFF PICK".

CLERK (CONT'D)

It's a real mind melt.

The Clerk pops the case open and looks at the DVD then closes it. He flips it around again and taps on the case pointing to where it says "PART 2".

CLERK (CONT'D)

You should definitely watch them in order.

CHARLES2

Can you just let me rent it?

CLERK

Sure, but you better call in sick bro.

Charles2 hands over his debit card and the Clerk swipes it. They go through the transaction in silence and then the Clerk gives Charles2 the DVD.

Charles2 walks out of the store with the DVD in his hand.

EXT. MID-CITY MALL - DAY

Charles2 walks up through the parking lot of the Mid-City Mall that is on the Bardstown Rd side of the mall. He heads directly to the automatic sliding glass door of The Value Market.

Through the door he can be seen standing in front of the pre packaged flower bouquet display.

Charles2 makes a decision and grabs a bouquet of blue and white flowers then walks away from the door and disappears when he turns a corner.

INT. MID-CITY MALL - DAY

The giant hallway that runs down the center of the Mid-City Mall to another parking lot is poorly lit, has a strange drop ceiling and old dull colored linoleum tile.

The Value Market has another sliding glass door that opens up into this hallway. Charles2 walks out of it into the hallway after paying for his flowers.

He turns to his right and walks toward the Baxter Ave side of the mall.

EXT. MID-CITY MALL - DAY

Charles2 walks out of the doors of the Mid-City Mall and heads back toward his house.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Charles2 takes the same route home that he took on the way to the store.

He walks up to the top of the stone stairs and pauses a moment as he looks out at the park.

Charles2 sees Charles3 walking down the path at the other end of the park. Charles3 is wearing the same exact clothes as Charles2 and is carrying a DVD.

Just as Charles3 starts to look over to the top of the stairs Charles2 drops back behind a tree and hides.

CHARLES2

Holy crap. Holy crap! What is going on?

He looks at the DVD in one hand and the flowers in the other.

Charles2 rolls over onto his hands and knees and looks out slowly from behind the tree.

He watches Charles3 walk out of sight heading up Edenside Ave.

BACK TO - REALITY

INT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

The DVD that Charles1 is watching fuzzes out and goes to snow.

Charles1 sits on his couch with the remote in his hand for a few minutes trying to figure out what is going on.

He looks at his watch then hits eject on the DVD player.

He gets up and puts the DVD back into the case and puts on his coat and hat.

He heads out the door with the DVD in his hand and goes down the stairs.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Charles1 walks to the edge of the park but this time instead of cutting through the grass he stays on the little paved path that leads through the park in the other direction. He carries the DVD in his hand.

As he walks, Charles1 looks over across the park to the top of the stone stairs. There is no one there.

INT. WILD N' WOOLLY VIDEO - DAY

Charles1 walks into the video store and puts the DVD into the return bin.

CLERK

You're hooked huh?

Charles1 walks straight over to the rack and without looking grabs another of the "Following Charles" DVD's.

He goes over to the counter and sets it down.

CLERK (CONT'D)

Still not goin' for the marathon?

CHARLES1

Huh? I'm just looking for something to kill time before work.

CLERK

Well, I just think it's a really bad idea to watch them out of order.

Charles1 looks at the DVD and back at the Clerk.

CHARLES1

What is going on?

CLERK

I told you it was a mind melt man.

CHARLES1

(kind of pissy)
Can you just let me rent it?

CLERK

Sure. But you better call in sick bro.

CHARLES1

What did you say?

CLERK

I said "You better call in sick bro." You know, unplug the phone?

CHARLES1

Didn't you say that last time?

CLERK

I don't think so.

Charles1 hands over his debit card and the Clerk swipes it. They go through the transaction in silence and then the Clerk gives Charles1 the DVD.

Charles1 walks out of the store with the DVD in his hand.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Charles1 takes the same route home that he took on the way there the first time.

Charles1 walks up to the top of the stone stairs and pauses a moment as he looks out at the park.

Charles1 sees Charles2 walking down the path at the other end of the park as he just did on his way to the video store. Charles2 is wearing the same exact clothes as Charles1 but Charles2 is not carrying a DVD.

Just as Charles2 starts to look over to the top of the stairs Charles1 drops back behind a tree and hides.

CHARLES1

Holy crap. Holy crap! What is going on?

He looks at the DVD in his hand.

Charles1 rolls over onto his hands and knees and looks out slowly from behind the tree.

He watches Charles2 walk out of sight heading up Edenside Ave.

Charles1 jumps up and runs through the park as fast as he can toward home.

INT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 bursts through the door and throws off his coat as he makes his way to the living room.

He opens the DVD player and puts in PART 2.

He sits down and grabs the remote but then just sits there for a minute like he can't decide if he should hit play.

He stands up and walks into the kitchen and grabs a PBR from the refrigerator then comes back in and sits down.

Charles1 cracks the beer and takes a long sip.

He lifts his arm and aims it at the TV and he starts shaking. He finally hits play.

ZOOM INTO TV SCREEN -

BLACK SCREEN

TITLES:

FOLLOWING CHARLES

Written By, Directed By And Starring

Charles Austin

PART TWO

EXT. TOP OF STONE STAIRS - DAY

Chalres2 is hiding from Charles3 behind a tree in the park.

Charles2 gets up on his hands and knees and watches Charles3 walk out of sight up the street.

Charles2 stands up still holding the DVD and flowers (blue and white) and looks in the direction of home but he takes off after Charles3.

Chalres2 runs as fast as he can and cuts up Edgeland Ave that runs parallel to Edenside Ave, the street Charles3 went up.

EXT. WILD N' WOOLLY VIDEO - DAY

Charles2 is hiding across the street behind the KFC with the flowers and DVD. He watches as Charles3 walks up to Wild N' Woolly Video and goes inside.

Through the glass Charles2 sees Charles3 walk over to the counter with a DVD and talk with the Clerk.

The Clerk rings him up and Charles3 leaves the store and walks back to the apartment the same way he came.

Charles2 follows him the whole way staying just out of sight across the street.

Charles3 goes up the stairs of the apartment.

When Charles3 is out of sight Charles2 looks at the flowers and crosses Eastern Pkwy and heads to the Cemetery.

BACK TO - REALITY

INT. CHARLES1'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

Charles1 hits pause and gets up and slowly walks from the living room into the kitchen and looks out the door.

BLACK SCREEN

TITLES:

PART THREE

INT. CHARLES1'S KITCHEN - DAY

Charles1 is standing by the kitchen door looking out down the stairs. There is no one there. Charles1 one rubs his face with his hands and takes a deep breath.

He opens the refrigerator and gets out two PBR's. He pounds one, takes the other back in the living room, sits down and hits play.

ON THE TV SCREEN - PART 2

The DVD resumes with Charles3 walking into the house and taking off his coat and hat.

He walks into the living room. The blinds are closed.

Charles3 opens the DVD he just brought back from the store.

He goes over to the DVD player and opens it. When he opens it to put in PART 4 he sees that PART 3 is still inside.

CHARLES3

Shoot! I forgot to take it back.

He looks over to the coffee table and the case for PART 3 is still sitting there open.

He finishes putting in the DVD for PART 4 and hits play as he sits down.

CHARLES1 IS NOW WATCHING A DVD OF CHARLES3 WATCHING A DVD THAT CONTAINS FOOTAGE OF BOTH CHARLES4 AND 5 & 6.

CHARLES3'S TV SCREEN - ONLY A SMALL PORTION OF THE SILVER EDGE OF THE TV IS VISIBLE. SLOW PUSH IN -

BLACK SCREEN

TITLES:

FOLLOWING CHARLES

Written By, Directed By And Starring

Charles Austin

PART 4

EXT. PARK - DAY

Charles4 is walking up to the park from the apartment with his coat and hat on. He is not carrying a DVD.

As he gets to the park he turns and takes the trail instead of taking the short cut through the grass.

Half way down the trail Charles4 looks over to the top of the stone stairs across the park but no one is there.

Just as he looks away Charles5 looks around the tree on his hands and knees.

Charles4 makes his way down the path and goes up Edenside Ave toward the video store.

Charles5 comes running out from behind the tree with a DVD in one hand and the blue and white flowers in the other. He takes off up Edgeland Ave toward the video store.

INT. WILD N' WOOLLY VIDEO - DAY

Charles4 walks into the store and heads straight for the rack where the "Following Charles" DVD's are but the rack is in a different place than when Charles1 came in.

Through the front window of the store Charles5 is visible hiding behind the KFC across the street. He still has the DVD and flowers.

CLERK

Not going in to work I take it?

Charles4 grabs part 4 off the rack and heads to the counter.

CHARLES4

Yeah well...

Charles4 sets the DVD down on the counter and the Clerk goes through the all the motions of opening the case and checking to make sure it's the right one.

CLERK

I remember this one man. If you're not paranoid yet, just wait, you will be after this one.

CHARLES4

I'm not sure I get what is going on here.

CLERK

No?

CHARLES4

Do you know what's going on?

CLERK

Yeah of course, but I can't tell you. Why don't you rent the last two right now and save you from having to come back up here?

CHARLES4

I'm good.

CLERK

Suit yourself.

Charles4 hands over his debit card and the Clerk swipes it. They go through the transaction in silence and then the Clerk gives Charles4 the DVD.

Charles4 walks out of the store with the DVD in his hand.

His cell phone rings and he pulls it out and looks at the number on the caller ID. He answers.

CHARLES4
(into the phone)
You're late.

Charles5 looks out from behind the KFC as Charles4 walks out of sight.

EXT. CHARLES3'S APT - DAY

Charles4 crosses the street and heads for the stairs to go up to his apartment.

Charles5 is hiding across the street watching. After Charles4 is out of his line of site Charles5 looks at the flowers and then crosses Eastern Pkwy and heads toward the cemetery.

As Charles4 gets halfway up the stairs he starts to dig for his keys.

BACK TO - PART 2

INT. CHARLES3'S APT - DAY

Charles3 pauses the DVD and walks out into the kitchen slowly. He is obviously shaken by what he has seen.

He looks out the windows but there is no one to be seen.

He pulls a knife out of the knife block and backs out of the kitchen slowly into the living room.

He goes back in the living room and picks up the remote and stands as he hits play.

BACK TO - PART 4

EXT. CHARLES3'S APT - DAY

Charles4 is halfway up the stairs when he pulls his keys out of his pocket and drops them. The keys fall all the way down the stairs.

He looks after them and then turns to go get them moving out of view of the window.

When he is out of site Charles6 walks up to the window and looks out. Seeing nothing he steps away from the window.

Charles4 makes it down to his keys then stops and looks up.

He sees Charles5 standing across the street with a DVD in his hand but no flowers.

They both stand for an awkward moment staring at each other.

Charles5 then turns and starts to walk away.

CHARLES4

Hey! Stop!

The screen fuzzes out.

BACK TO - PART 2

INT. CHARLES3'S APT - DAY

Charles3 is still standing in front of the TV holding the remote and the knife.

Tossing the remote on the couch he walks with purpose over to the dining room. He kicks a baby toy but pays no attention. There is a laptop computer on the dining room table that doubles as his work station.

Charles3 sits down and opens the computer. He goes to Google.com and types in "private investigator". After a brief moment the screen jumps and there is a list of the top ten search results for his area.

At the top of the list is a company called "CAPI". Charles3 click on the link and it takes him to the page.

He types quickly. A few seconds pass and he stops. His finger hovers for a moment over the enter button then he sends the message.

Charles3 stands up, grabs the knife and goes back into the living room.

He hits eject on the DVD player. The drawer slides open and he takes the two DVD's and puts them back in their cases.

He puts on his coat and hat and puts the knife in his coat pocket.

He rushes through the kitchen and goes out the door. He goes to lock it but can't find his keys.

CHARLES3

Forget it.

He heads down the stairs with the two DVD's.

He is looking down as he makes it down the stairs and he sees his keys on the ground. He pauses then looks up.

Charles3 sees Charles2 standing across the street staring at him with a DVD in his hand but no flowers.

They stand for an awkward moment staring at each other.

Charles2 then turns and starts to walk away.

CHARLES3 (CONT'D)

Hey! Stop!

The screen fuzzes out.

BACK TO - REALITY

INT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 is sitting on the couch with his hands on his face and his mouth open. He is completely confused.

His cell phone blinks indicating a new message. He looks at it and the icon for a new email is in the upper lefthand corner.

He gets up off the couch and goes over to his laptop that sits on the dining room table which doubles as his work space.

On the way he accidentally kicks a baby toy but pays no attention.

He sits down and opens the computer. He clicks a button and opens up his email.

CHARLES' P.O.V. - COMPUTER SCREEN

His inbox is empty except for one email. It is from "CAPI@Gmail.com".

Charles1 opens the email and begins to read -

"To Whom It May Concern,

I need your help. I have reason to believe that I am being followed."

He looks at his watch.

CHARLES1
Crap! Oh man!

He jumps up out of the chair and grabs the phone. He dials a number while he is putting on his coat and hat.

He paces into the kitchen as he waits for someone to answer on the other end.

CHARLES1 (CONT'D)
Hey. (beat) Yeah I know man. It's just (beat) I don't how to explain it. The day just...(beat) What? No, no, no. I can be there in 10 minutes. (beat) Because I need the money. (beat) No, you know what, I got another case anyway. It just came in.

Charles1 is pacing as he talks and stops and turns around.

His eyes land on the knife block. The knife that Charles3 took is missing.

CHARLES1 (CONT'D)
I have to call you back.

Charles1 just drops the phone and stares at the knife block where the knife should be.

He eventually turns slowly and walks out the door. He locks it behind him and walks down the stairs without getting the disc from the DVD player.

EXT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 comes down the stairs and looks on the ground. There are no keys. He looks across the street and no one is there.

He walks off toward the video store looking around suspiciously.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Charles1 is walking up to the park from the apartment with the coat and hat on. He is not carrying a DVD.

As he gets to the park he turns and takes the trail instead of taking the short cut through the grass.

Half way down the trail Charles1 looks over to the top of the stone stairs across the park but no one is there.

Just as he looks away Charles2 looks around the tree on his hands and knees.

Charles1 makes his way down the path and goes up Edenside Ave toward the video store.

Charles2 comes running out from behind the tree with a DVD in one hand and blue and white flowers in his other. He takes off up Edgeland Ave toward the video store as well.

INT. WILD N' WOOLLY VIDEO - DAY

Charles1 walks into the store and heads straight for the rack where the "Following Charles" DVD's are.

Through the front window Charles2 is visible hiding behind the KFC across the street. He still has the DVD and the flowers.

CLERK

Not going in to work I take it?

Charles1 grabs PART 3 off the rack and heads to the counter.

CHARLES1

Yeah well...

Charles1 sets the DVD down on the counter and the Clerk goes through the all the motions of opening the case and checking to make sure it's the right one.

CLERK

I remember this one man. If you're not paranoid yet, just wait, you will be after this one.

CHARLES1

I'm not sure I get what is going on here.

CLERK

No?

CHARLES1

Do you know what's going on? Have you seen this?

CLERK

Yeah of course, but I can't tell you. Why don't you rent the rest right now and save you from having to come back up here?

CHARLES1

Nah, I'm good.

CLERK

Suit yourself.

Charles1 hands over his debit card and the Clerk swipes it. They go through the transaction in silence and then the Clerk gives Charles1 the DVD.

Charles1 walks out of the store with the DVD in his hand.

EXT. WILD N' WOOLLY VIDEO - DAY

Charles1 comes outside and just stands and stares over at the KFC.

Charles2 is no where in sight.

After a moment Charles1 heads back toward his house the way he came walking quickly and looking over his shoulder repeatedly.

His cell phone rings and he looks at the caller ID. It says "UNKNOWN". He ignores the call.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Charles1 is walking into the park heading back toward his apartment. He hits the little paved trail and picks up his pace so that he is almost running.

He looks back over his shoulder and sees Charles2 with the blue and white flowers coming down Edgeland Ave.

Charles1 takes off sprinting toward home.

INT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 walks up to the door and quickly unlocks it and comes inside. He locks the door behind himself and rushes into the living room.

He checks the windows but there is no one outside.

He tosses off his coat and hat and moves over to the DVD player and opens it. As the drawer comes out he sees that PART 2 is still inside.

CHARLES1

Shoot! I forgot to take it back.

He puts in PART 3 and shuts the drawer. He finds the remote and sits down on the couch.

He hits play and the DVD begins. Charles1 turns and looks at the window but he doesn't see anyone.

ON THE TV SCREEN -

BLACK SCREEN

TITLES:

FOLLOWING CHARLES

Written By, Directed By And Starring

Charles Austin

PART 2

EXT. PARK - DAY

The DVD starts up with Chalres2 hiding from Charles3 behind a tree in the park.

Charles2 gets up on his hands and knees and watches Charles3 walk out of sight up Edenside Ave.

Charles2 stands up with the DVD and blue and white flowers in his hands. He looks in the direction of home but he takes off after Charles3.

Chalres2 runs as fast as he can and cuts up Edgeland Ave that runs parallel to Edenside Ave, the street that Charles3 went up.

BACK TO - REALITY

INT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 is sitting on the couch with the DVD paused. He hits a button on the remote and on the screen it flashes "DISC 2".

CHARLES1
Shoot, wrong one.

BLACK SCREEN

TITLES:

PART FOUR

INT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 sits on his couch in front of the TV.

He uses the remote to load up the correct disc and hits play.

ON THE TV SCREEN -

BLACK SCREEN

TITLES:

FOLLOWING CHARLES

Written By, Directed By, And Starring

Charles Austin

PART 3

EXT. CHARLES2'S APT - DAY

Charles2 comes down to the bottom of the stairs and sees his keys sitting on the ground. He's got two DVDs in his hand.

He looks up and sees Charles3 standing across the street staring at him with one DVD in his hand.

They stare at each other awkwardly for a moment.

Charles3 then turns and starts to walk west down Eastern Pkwy.

CHARLES2
Hey! Stop!

Charles2 takes off after Charles3 without picking up the keys.

Charles3 looks over his shoulder and sees that Charles2 has given chase and he takes off running as well.

They run along the paved pathway that sits in the center of the boulevard.

Charles3 runs down to where Cross Rd intersects Eastern Pkwy on the north side and hangs a right. Charles2 is not too far behind him.

Charles3 runs up Cross Rd through the neighborhood toward the intersection where it meets Castlewood Ave at the southwest end of Tyler Park.

Charles3 runs down the hill and rushes into the park. He cuts through up to the stone stairs to the left that lead up to Baxter Ave.

Charles2 reaches the park not long after but he is falling behind.

Charles3 makes it to the top of the stairs and runs across Baxter Ave and makes a hard right down the stone stairs on the other side of the road.

He cuts down and doubles back under the bridge. As Charles2 gets to the top of Baxter Ave. Charles3 is no where in sight.

Charles2 looks around frantically and then runs down the stone stairs toward the bridge.

Charles3 blasts out from under the bridge and then hurries to his left and runs up to the green building that houses the park's public rest rooms. He tries the doors but they are all locked so he hides behind the building.

Charles2 comes down the stairs under the bridge quickly looking around in all directions trying to find Charles3. As he comes out from under the bridge Charles3 ducks back behind the green building.

Charles2 stands near the fountain and looks around for a minute. Charles3 watches him from his hiding spot.

Charles2 looks over at the rest rooms and then walks over.

Charles3 sees him coming and quickly climbs onto the roof.

By the time Charles2 walks around the back of the building Charles3 is all the way up and out of sight.

Charles2 doesn't try to look on top of the building he just shakes his head and starts walking back toward Cross Rd at the southwest end of the park.

Charles3 peeks up from his hiding spot and watches Charles2 as he gets to the edge of the park.

Once Charles2 has crossed Castlewood Ave and headed up Cross Rd Charles3 jumps down and hurries along after him.

EXT. CHARLES2'S APT - DAY

Charles2 is walking up the street in front of the apartment with the two DVD's in his hand. He's coming up Eastern Pkwy from the west, the direction that he just chased Charles3 in.

Charles2 doesn't stop at the apartment though. He continues on in the direction of the video store to return the DVD's. He crosses Newburg Rd and then crosses over Eastern Pkwy as well.

As he passes the apartment and crosses the street Charles3 sneaks up into view off in the distance behind him.

Charles3 stops across from the house and looks after Charles2 as he disappears.

Charles3 checks his watch then looks across the street to the apartment.

CHARLES3

Forget it.

He takes off after Charles2.

EXT. WILD N' WOOLLY VIDEO - DAY

Charles3 walks up the sidewalk outside of the video store with the DVD in his hand.

He pauses right at the edge of the window. He looks in cautiously.

Seeing just the Clerk, he moves to the door.

He opens the door and goes inside.

INT. WILD N' WOOLLY VIDEO - DAY

Charles3 comes through the door and walks up to the counter.

CLERK

I see you're going for the marathon
after all.

Charles3 looks around suspiciously.

CLERK (CONT'D)
What's up man?

CHARLES3
Was I just in here?

The Clerk smiles.

CLERK
It's messing with your brain huh?
You've been in and outta here all
day.

CHARLES3
No, did I *just* come in here.

CLERK
Yeah man, you *just* came in here and
returned two DVD's and rented that
one.

CHARLES3
How long ago?

CLERK
Two minutes maybe? You walked out
and walked right back in.

Charles3 paces back and forth.

CLERK (CONT'D)
Have you guessed the ending yet?

CHARLES3
What is this? What's going on?

CLERK
So that's a no?

CHARLES3
No, should I be able to?

CLERK
No, not really.

CHARLES3
Hmmm.

Charles3 walks out of the store with the DVD in his hand.

The DVD fuzzes out.

BACK TO - REALITY

INT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 is once again sitting on the couch staring at a TV that is nothing but snow.

He stands up and paces back and forth in front of the TV. He hits eject and the drawer comes out. He gets the two DVD's out and puts them in their cases.

He puts on his coat and his hat and walks into the kitchen to leave the house.

He goes to grab his keys but they aren't on the hook.

He checks his pockets but can't find them.

CHARLES1
Shoot. Oh well.

He heads out the door and doesn't lock it.

EXT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 comes down to the bottom of the stairs and sees his keys sitting on the ground. He's got two DVD's in his hand.

He looks up and sees Charles2 standing across the street staring at him with one DVD in his hand.

They stare at each other awkwardly for a moment.

Charles2 then turns and starts to walk away.

CHARLES1
Hey! Stop!

Charles1 takes off after Charles2 leaving the keys on the ground.

Charles2 looks over his shoulder and sees that Charles1 has given chase and he takes off running as well.

They run down the pathway that sits in the center of the boulevard.

Charles2 runs down to where Cross Rd intersects Eastern Pkwy on the north side and hangs a right. Charles2 is not too far behind him.

Charles2 runs up Cross Rd through the neighborhood toward the intersection where it meets Castlewood Ave at the southwest end of Tyler Park.

Charles2 runs down the hill and rushes into the park. He cuts through up to the stone stairs to the left that lead up to Baxter Ave.

Charles1 reaches the park not long after but he is falling behind.

Charles2 makes it to the top of the stairs and runs across Baxter Ave and makes a hard right down the stone stairs on the other side of the road.

He cuts down and doubles back under the bridge. As Charles1 gets to the top of Baxter Ave Charles2 is no where in sight.

Charles1 looks around frantically and then runs down the stone stairs toward the bridge.

Charles1 comes down the stairs under the bridge quickly looking around in all directions trying to find Charles2.

As Charles1 comes out from under the bridge Charles2 ducks back behind the green building.

Charles1 stands near the fountain and looks around for a minute. Charles2 watches him from his hiding spot.

Charles1 looks over at the rest rooms and then walks over.

Charles1 hurries up to the green building that houses the park's public rest rooms. He tries the doors but they are all locked so he goes behind the building.

By the time Charles1 walks around the back of the building Charles2 is out of sight.

Charles1 looks around. He jumps up on a nearby picnic table and looks on top of the roof but Charles2 isn't there.

CHARLES1 (CONT'D)

Crap!

He jumps off the table and takes one more look around. Seeing nothing he shakes his head and starts walking back toward Cross Rd at the southwest end of the park.

As Charles1 gets to the edge of the park Charles2 pops up out of the brush and leaves on the hillside right behind the rest rooms.

Once Charles1 has crossed Castlewood Ave and headed up Cross Rd Charles2 runs down the hill and hurries after him.

EXT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 is walking up Eastern Pkwy in front of the apartment with the two DVD's in his hand. He's coming from the direction that he just chased Charles2 in.

Charles1 doesn't stop at the apartment though. He continues on and crosses Newburg Rd and then crosses Eastern Pkwy and hurries on to the video store to return the DVD's.

As he passes the apartment and crosses the street Charles2 sneaks up into view off in the distance behind him.

EXT. WILD N' WOOLLY VIDEO - DAY

Charles1 walks up the sidewalk outside of the video store with the two DVD's in his hand.

He opens the door and goes inside.

INT. WILD N' WOOLLY VIDEO - DAY

Charles1 comes through the door and puts the DVD's in the return bin.

CLERK

I see you're going for the marathon after all.

CHARLES1

Sort of.

Charles1 walks over to the rack and picks up PART 4 then walks over to the counter.

CLERK

Have you guessed the ending yet?

CHARLES1

What is this? What's going on?

CLERK

So that's a no?

The Clerk takes the DVD and goes through the process of opening the case and checking the DVD etc.

CHARLES1

No, should I be able to?

CLERK

No, not really.

CHARLES1

Hmmm.

Charles1 hands over his debit card and the Clerk swipes it. They go through the transaction in silence and then the Clerk gives Charles1 the DVD.

Charles1 walks out of the store with the DVD in his hand.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Charles1 walks through the park toward his house with the DVD in his hand.

EXT CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 stands in the middle of the path that runs up the center of Eastern Pkwy in front of his apartment.

After a while he runs across the street toward his apartment and runs up the stairs.

He gets to the top and checks for his keys but can't find them.

CHARLES1

Crap.

He checks the door knob and it is unlocked. He opens the door and goes inside but makes sure to lock the door behind him.

BLACK SCREEN

TITLES:

PART FIVE

INT. CHARLES' LIVING ROOM - DAY

Charles1 comes in and throws off his hat and coat. He takes the DVD out of the case and opens the DVD player.

He grabs the remote and sits down on the edge of the couch.

He hits play and the DVD starts.

ON THE TV SCREEN -

BLACK SCREEN

TITLES:

FOLLOWING CHARLES

Written By, Directed By And Starring

Charles Austin

PART 4

EXT. PARK - DAY

Charles2 is walking up Baxter Ave to the park from the apartment with the coat and hat on. He is not carrying a DVD.

As he gets to the park he turns and takes the paved trail instead of taking the short cut through the grass.

Half way down the trail Charles2 looks over to the top of the stone stairs across the park but no one is there.

Just as he looks away Charles3 looks around the tree on his hands and knees.

Charles2 makes his way down the path and goes up Edenside Ave toward the video store.

Charles3 comes running out from behind the tree with the DVD and the blue and white flowers in his hands, He takes off up Edgeland Ave that runs parallel to Edenside Ave toward the video store.

INT. WILD N' WOOLLY VIDEO - DAY

Charles2 walks into the store and heads straight for the rack where the "Following Charles" DVD's are.

Through the front window Charles3 is visible hiding behind the KFC across the street. He still has the DVD and the flowers.

CLERK

Not going in to work I take it?

Charles2 grabs part 4 off the rack and heads to the counter.

CHARLES2

Yeah well...

Charles2 sets the DVD down on the counter and the Clerk goes through the all the motions of opening the case and checking to make sure it's the right one.

CLERK

I remember this one man. If you're not paranoid yet, just wait, you will be after this one.

CHARLES2

I'm not sure I get what is going on here.

CLERK

No?

CHARLES2

Do you know what's going on? Have you seen this?

CLERK

Yeah of course, but I can't tell you. Why don't you rent the last two right now and save you from having to come back up here?

CHARLES2

I'm good.

CLERK

Suit yourself.

Charles2 hands over his debit card and the Clerk swipes it. They go through the transaction in silence and then the Clerk gives Charles2 the DVD.

Charles2 walks out of the store with the DVD in his hand.

Charles3 is nowhere in sight.

EXT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles2 crosses Newburg Rd with a DVD in his hand and heads for the stairs to go up to his apartment.

He gets halfway up the stairs and starts to dig for his keys.

BACK TO - REALITY

INT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 pauses the DVD and walks out into the kitchen slowly. He is obviously shaken by what he has seen.

He looks out the windows but there is no one to be seen.

He goes back in the living room and picks up the remote and goes over to the window to look out.

He sees Charles3 coming up the center trail on Eastern Pkwy. He's got a DVD in his hand but no flowers.

Charles1 stands by the window and hits play.

He looks back and forth from the window to the screen as it plays

ON THE TV SCREEN - PART 4

EXT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles2 is halfway up the stairs when he pulls his keys out of his pocket and accidentally drops them. The keys fall all the way down the stairs.

He looks after them and then turns to go get them.

When he is out of site Charles4 walks up to the window and looks out. He steps away from the window.

Charles2 makes it down to his keys then stops and looks up. He sees Charles3 standing across the street staring at him with a DVD in his hand.

They stand for an awkward moment staring at each other.

Charles3 then turns and starts to walk away.

CHARLES2

Hey! Stop!

The screen fuzzes out.

CHARLES1'S P.O.V.

Charles1 is back in the living room staring out the window that overlooks Eastern Pkwy.

Looking out the window Charles1 sees Charles3 run west down Eastern Pkwy and disappear. Immediately after Charles3 is out of sight he sees Charles2 cross the street and go running down the path after him.

INT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 is still standing by the window staring out.

He looks over to the TV and hits eject. The drawer opens and he takes out PART 4 and puts it in the case.

He grabs his coat and hat and heads out the door.

EXT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 comes down the stairs from his apartment with the DVD in his hand. He sees his keys on the ground.

He freezes, his eyes locked on the keys. He bends down very slowly holding out his shaking hand to pick up the keys.

He puts his hand on the keys and looks up but there is no one across the street to see.

He stands up quickly and runs up the stairs to lock the door.

He comes back down nervously jingling the keys in his hand.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Charles1 gets to the park and pauses. He jingles the keys a few more times and instead of going through the park he stays on Baxter Ave and takes the sidewalk by the black rod iron fence.

He puts the keys in his coat pocket and stops again.

He slowly pulls his hand out and in it is the knife that he watched Charles3 take.

Charles1 takes off running toward the video store.

INT. WILD N' WOOLLY VIDEO - DAY

Charles1 comes crashing through the door and tosses PART 4 in the return bin.

CLERK

Are you alright?

Charles1 grabs PART 5 off the rack and walks over to the counter.

CHARLES1

I'm fine.

The Clerk smiles and takes the DVD and starts to check it but Charles1 puts his hand out and stops him.

CHARLES1 (CONT'D)
Uh-uh. No. Leave it closed.

CLERK
Oh it really got to you huh? Okay.

Charles1 reaches in his pants pocket and pulls out his debit card and starts to hand it over but then stops.

He reaches in his other pants pocket and pulls out a five dollar bill and tosses it on the counter.

CHARLES1
Keep it.

He snatches the DVD and walks out.

EXT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 is walking down the sidewalk on Eastern Pkwy right by his apartment after crossing Newburg Rd.

He looks up to his living room window where he was standing and looking out earlier but there is no one there.

Charles1 continues up to the driveway and then stops and waits. No one comes down the stairs.

Charles1 heads up the stairs and starts digging for his keys halfway up. He gets them out and doesn't drop them.

INT. CHARLES1'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

Charles1 comes in and tosses off his coat and hat onto the chair.

He's got a few beers in hand. The pill bottle sits on the table.

He gets the DVD out of the case and puts it into the DVD player.

He sits down on the couch and grabs the remote, pausing for a moment, then hits play.

He cracks a beer and reaches for the bottle of pills.

ON THE TV SCREEN -

BLACK SCREEN

TITLES:

FOLLOWING CHARLES

Written By, Directed By, And Starring

Charles Austin

PART FIVE

EXT. CHARLES2'S APT - DAY

Charles2 comes down the stairs from his apartment and sees his keys on the ground.

He freezes, his eyes locked on the keys. He bends down very slowly reaching out with his shaking hand.

He puts his hand on the keys and looks up but there is no one across the street to see.

He stands up quickly and runs up the stairs to lock the door.

He comes back down nervously jingling the keys in his hand.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Charles2 gets to the park and pauses. He jingles the keys a few more times and instead of going through the park he stays on Baxter Ave and takes the sidewalk by the black rod iron fence.

He puts the keys in the opposite coat pocket that Charles1 did and stops.

He slowly pulls his hand out and in it is the knife.

Charles2 takes off running toward the video store.

He looks over into the park several times.

INT. WILD N' WOOLLY VIDEO - DAY

Charles2 comes crashing through the door and tosses PART 5 in the return bin.

CLERK

Are you alright?

Charles2 grabs PART 6 off the rack and walks over to the counter.

CHARLES2

No. What is this? What is going on?

The Clerk smiles and takes the DVD and starts to check it but Charles2 puts his hand out and stops him.

CHARLES2 (CONT'D)

Uh-uh. No. Leave it closed.

CLERK

Oh it really got to you huh? Okay.
I just watched straight through. I
can't imagine leaving the house
before you know how it ends.

Charles2 reaches in his pants pocket and pulls out his debit card and starts to hand it over but then stops.

He reaches in his other pants pocket and pulls out a ten dollar bill and tosses it on the counter.

CHARLES2

Keep it.

He snatches the DVD and walks out.

EXT. CHARLES2'S APT - DAY

Charles2 is walking down the center pathway of Eastern Pkwy right across the street from his apartment. He is coming from the west.

He looks up to the window and the blinds move as if they had just been let go but there is no one there.

Charles2 continues up the pathway until he is directly across from the driveway and then stops when he sees Charles3 coming down the stairs.

Charles3 is looking down and doesn't see him. He stops when he sees his keys on the ground. Grabbing them he looks up.

Charles3 sees Charles2 and they stand and stare at each other for a moment.

Charles2 turns and takes off running west down the center path on Eastern Pkwy.

EXT. EASTERN & BARRET - DAY

Charles2 runs up to the intersection of Eastern Pkwy and Barret Ave that he walked past before when he left the cemetery. This time he runs left up Barret Ave and heads into the graveyard.

Charles3 comes down the pathway not far behind and follows him into the graveyard.

EXT. CEMETERY - DAY

Charles2 is running along through the graveyard.

His head turns when he passes the tombstone where Charles1 put the red and yellow flowers. Charles2 gets a strange look on his face but he doesn't stop.

Charles3 is not far behind him. He is trying to pull out the knife and in doing so trips and hits his head on the exact same tombstone Charles2 just looked at which is the same one where Charles1 placed the flowers.

Charles2 looks back and sees Charles3 on the ground. He hesitates for a second but then takes off running for home.

He goes out the front gate of the graveyard and turns left onto Newburg Rd.

He passes Schreck's Kentucky Liquor Store and runs back to his apartment heading up the stairs cutting through by the fence.

EXT. CHARLES2'S APT - DAY

Charles2 comes out from behind the fence and rushes up the stairs with the DVD in his hand.

BACK TO - REALITY

INT. CHARLES1'S LIVING ROOM - DAY

Charles1 is on the couch watching the TV.

ON THE TV - CHARLES2'S ACTIONS IN PART 5 PLAY OUT

Charles2 opens the front door and comes inside.

Charles1 looks over his shoulder quickly then jumps up and hides behind the wall so he can see the TV.

ON THE TV - CHARLES2'S ACTIONS IN PART 5 PLAY OUT

Charles2 walks into the living room and throws his coat off.

BACK TO - REALITY

Charles1 looks around but there is no one in the room.

He slowly goes back over and sits down on the couch.

ON THE TV - PART 5 - SLOW PUSH IN

Charles2 opens the DVD player and puts in PART 6 and sits down to watch.

The screen fuzzes out.

BACK TO - REALITY

Charles1 has moved back over and is sitting on his couch exactly like Charles2 was sitting on the couch at the end of Part 5.

He stands up and hits eject on the DVD player. It opens and he takes Part 5 out and puts it back in its case.

He moves over and grabs his coat and hat. He looks at his watch and pulls out his prescription bottle and pops a few pills.

He finishes a PBR that is on the table.

Charles1 walks from the living room into the kitchen and opens the refrigerator only to find that there is no beer left.

BLACK SCREEN

TITLES:

PART SIX

EXT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 comes down his stairs with a DVD in his hand. He pauses at the bottom of the stairs.

Instead of heading out toward Eastern Pkwy he goes toward the fence to cut through next to the other building.

He crosses Newburg Rd and heads for Schreck's liquor store.

He goes inside and buys two big beers. He comes back out with the beers in one brown paper bag and heads around the side of the building.

EXT. SCHRECK'S - DAY

Charles1 walks around the side of the liquor store. He pulls out one of the beers and cracks the top, He drinks the whole thing as fast as he can.

When he finishes he throws the can away and looks over at the graveyard for a long time.

He finally turns and heads up Newburg Rd toward the park and the video store to go get PART 6. He carries the DVD and the brown paper bag with the beer in it.

EXT. EASTERN & BAXTER - DAY

Charles1 crosses Eastern Pkwy but instead of heading straight to the park he turns right and then cuts up the alley by the yoga studio.

He walks up Edenside Ave passing close to the park and looking over at it the whole time.

When he gets to the edge of the park he looks all around.

There is no one around.

He begins to walk quickly and cuts back and forth across the street as he goes.

EXT. WILD N' WOOLLY VIDEO - DAY

Charles1 walks up to the video store and pauses before he steps in front of the large front window.

He looks across the street to the KFC but there is no one there.

He slowly leans his head around to look into the video store and the only person inside is the Clerk.

He takes a deep breath and walks to the door.

INT. WILD N' WOOLLY VIDEO - DAY

Charles1 comes crashing through the door with the brown paper bag and tosses PART 5 in the return bin.

CLERK
Are you alright?

Charles1 grabs PART 6 off the rack and walks over to the counter.

CHARLES1
No. What is this? What is going on?

The Clerk smiles and takes the DVD and starts to check it but Charles1 puts his hand out and stops him.

CHARLES1 (CONT'D)
Uh-uh. No. Leave it closed.

CLERK
Oh it really got to you huh? Okay.
I just watched straight through. I
can't imagine leaving the house
before you know how it ends.

CHARLES1
This doesn't even make sense.

CLERK
Does it have to?

Charles1 reaches in his pocket and pulls out his debit card and starts to hand it over but then stops.

He reaches in his other pants pocket and pulls out a wad of one dollar bills and tosses it on the counter.

CHARLES1
Keep it.

He snatches the DVD and walks out.

EXT. WILD N' WOOLLY VIDEO - DAY

Charles1 crosses Bardstown Rd toward the KFC and crosses Baxter Ave as well.

He walks past the drug store heading back toward home on Baxter Ave.

He gets to the park and takes a right on Tyler Park Dr.

Charles1 looks over at the other side of the park the whole time.

He gets to the end of the street and turns left up Cross Rd. And follows it up to Eastern Pkwy which brings him almost directly across from his apartment.

EXT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 walks up the pathway and crosses Eastern Pkwy to his apartment and makes his way up the stairs.

INT. CHARLES1'S APT - DAY

Charles1 throws of his coat and hat. He sets his beer down and rushes over to the DVD player.

He hits eject.

CHARLES1
Come on. Come on!

The drawer finally comes out and he puts the DVD in and closes it.

He sits down on his couch just like before. He opens his beer and waits for Part 6 to start.

ON THE TV SCREEN - JUST A TINY BIT OF THE SILVER EDGE IS VISIBLE - SLOW PUSH UNTIL

BLACK SCREEN

TITLES:

FOLLOWING CHARLES

Written By, Directed By And Starring

Charles Austin

PART SIX

INT. CHARLES2'S APT - DAY

Part 6 starts exactly where Part 5 left off, with Charles2 sitting on the couch watching the TV waiting for Part 6 to start exactly how Charles1 is now.

Charles2's DVD of Part 6 starts.

Charles1 is once again watching DVD of Charles2 watching a DVD of footage of both Charles3 and 4 etc.

ON CHARLES2'S TV SCREEN - JUST A TINY BIT OF THE SILVER EDGE IS VISIBLE - SLOW PUSH UNTIL

BLACK SCREEN

TITLES:

FOLLOWING CHARLES

Written By, Directed By And Starring

Charles Austin

PART SIX

EXT. CEMETERY - DAY

Charles3 is on his back laying on the ground next to a tombstone with his eyes closed. He has blood on his face.

The DVD and the knife are next to him on the ground.

The red and yellow flowers Charles1 bought earlier in the day are resting at the bottom of the tombstone. There are also three bouquets of blue and white flowers on the grave.

He wakes up and looks around and rolls up onto his side.

Just as he does Charles4 disappears out of site through the gate of the cemetery with the DVD in his hand.

Charles3 gets up onto his hands and knees and directly in front of his face is the tombstone that he hit his head on. He stares at it for a moment.

CHARLES3'S P.O.V.

The tombstone fills Charles3's field of vision. It reads "Heather Austin 1979 - 2009 Loving Wife, Daughter And Mother".

The red, yellow, blue and white flowers sit just under the words.

BACK TO CEMETERY

Charles3 stands up and puts his hand on his head. He's a little unsteady on his feet.

He bends over and picks up the knife and the DVD and puts them into his pockets, then he starts to walk.

He gets to the entrance of the cemetery and turns to the left on Newburg Rd to go toward the apartment but stops after a moment.

Across the street at the liquor store he sees Charles5 coming out with a brown paper bag with two beers in it and a DVD.

Charles5 walks around the side of the liquor store and cracks the beer.

Charles3 watches from just behind a large pine tree. He reaches in his pocket and pulls the knife out just enough to look at it.

Charles5 finishes his beer and then stares over at the graveyard for a long time holding the brown paper bag and the DVD.

Charles3 manages to duck behind the tree just in time to not be seen.

Charles5 turns and walks down the road back in the direction of the apartment.

Charles3 watches him until he sees that Charles5 has passed up the apartment, crossed Eastern Pkwy and headed into the alley.

Charles3 moves out onto the sidewalk and heads back to the apartment in a hurry cutting up the back way between the buildings by the fence.

EXT. CHARLES4'S APT - DAY

Charles3 walks up the stairs and gets out the keys. He unlocks the door very quietly and goes inside.

He shuts the door and locks it behind him quietly.

CHARLES3'S P.O.V.

Charles3 walks into the living room to find Charles4 is sitting on the couch watching a DVD.

CHARLES4'S TV SCREEN AND CHARLES3'S P.O.V. ARE MATCHED SO THAT THE TV HAS CHARLES4'S LIVING ROOM ON IT.

Charles3 walks up behind him slowly and Charles4's TV goes to fuzz.

Charles4 puts his head in his hands for a moment.

Charles3 gets right behind Charles4 and pulls the knife out.

Charles4 starts to turn around and everything goes to fuzz.

SLOW PULL BACK UNTIL THE SILVER EDGE OF CHARLES2'S TV SCREEN IS VISIBLE.

CAMERA PANS RIGHT ACROSS THE LIVING AND DINING ROOM UNTIL IT LANDS ON -

Charles5 walking into view in the hall way from the kitchen. He is holding the brown paper bag in one hand and a DVD in the other.

As he moves forward into the living room his head goes out of frame so only his torso is visible when he walks up behind Charles2 who is sitting with his head in his hands on the couch.

Charles5 puts the DVD and beer in the same hand and pulls the knife out.

Charles2 lifts his head and looks back over his shoulder.

Everything goes to fuzz.

SLOW PULL BACK UNTIL THE SILVER EDGE OF CHARLES1'S TV SCREEN IS VISIBLE.

CAMERA PANS LEFT ACROSS THE LIVING ROOM WALL AND WINDOWS UNTIL IT LAND ON -

Charles1 on the couch bathed in the light of the TV. He drops his head into his hands and sits.

Charles6 walks up behind him without his head in frame. He swaps the DVD into his other hand in which he's holding a brown paper bag.

Charles6 stands for a moment then pulls the knife out.

Charles1 lifts his head and looks back over his shoulder. He smiles.

Everything goes to fuzz.