

THE DREAM CRYSTAL

Written by

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FADE IN:

EXT. ATHENS, GREECE - DAY

Dozens of workers are excavating The Acropolis.

SUPERIMPOSE: "ATHENS, GREECE 1840"

A hard working middle aged Greek man digs into the mountain side. Dumping the soil and rock into barrels with his shovel. One of many workers, he is a nobody.

INT. THE MAN'S HOUSE - EVENING

A woman is cooking while her young son plays on the floor of their humble abode.

The man enters, tired from a long day at work.

The boy's face lights up at the sight of his father and he runs into his arms.

The woman smiles.

INT. DINNER TABLE - LATER

They finish up dinner. The boy hugs and kisses his father and mother good night and leaves the room.

The man and woman look at each other with concern.

INT. BEDROOM - LATER

The boy is tossing and turning from a nightmare.

The man looks on. The woman comes up from behind him. They hold each other in sadness over their son's ongoing nightmares.

EXT. THE ACROPOLIS - THE NEXT DAY

The excavation continues.

The man is digging.

He lifts a load to dump when he notices something on his shovel.

He drops the shovel and digs through the dirt on it by hand. It's a small wooden box.

He looks around to see if anyone else has noticed.

Once he realizes nobody is paying attention to him, he opens the box.

A blue glow radiates from the box, reflecting off his eyes. He stares in wonderment for a moment and then closes it.

He looks around again to see if anyone has noticed but they haven't.

He quickly stuffs the box in his waist band.

INT. THE MAN'S HOUSE - EVENING

The man enters to his boy running into his arms again.

INT. DINNER TABLE - LATER

They finish eating. The boy hugs and kisses his parents good night and leaves.

The woman gives the man another concerned look. The man sighs.

INT. BEDROOM - LATER

The boy is struggling with another nightmare.

The man is sobbing, upset he is powerless to stop his son's nightmares.

A blue light begins to radiate from the box on a table.

The man notices it and walks over to it, lifts it up and opens it. The woman comes over and covers her mouth in shock by what she sees.

She looks at him for answers.

He shrugs his shoulders but also has a feeling about it's purpose and looks over at his son.

He starts walking towards him. The woman stops him in concern. He places his hand on her cheek reassuringly.

He walks over to his son.

He cautiously removes whatever this is from the box by the rope necklace attached to it.

He places it around the boy's neck and slowly steps back.

Within moments, the boy stops struggling and finds peace while sleeping.

The man and woman hold each other in relief, then look again at the object in cautious wonderment.

DREAM SEQUENCE

EXT. BASEBALL FIELD - DAY

Grade school baseball game. The stands are filled with parents of players and other school kids.

ETHAN, dressed in his baseball uniform, sits in the dugout awaiting his turn at bat.

ETHAN (10), the socially awkward kid.

The COACH turns to Ethan.

COACH (40's), the hard-assed, middle aged man who expects a lot from little leaguers.

COACH
Ethan! You're up!

Ethan is nervous but stands up anyway.

He starts to walk towards home plate but notices that his cleats are untied.

ETHAN
Wait, I'm not ready.

Ethan kneels down and starts tying his cleats.

The coach huffs in frustration.

Ethan's cleats will not tie. He tries again but they still won't.

His teammates are now shouting at him things like "c'mon" and "hurry up", but he still can't get them tied and his anxiety over the situation worsens.

Ethan gets pushed from behind to the ground by his teammate TREVOR.

TREVOR (11), the class bully who probably got held back a grade.

TREVOR
You're such a loser Ethyl.

Ethan looks into the stands to see MIKAELA sitting with her friends laughing at him.

MIKAELA (10), the prettiest girl in school.

Ethan's is embarrassed.

The coach grabs Ethan and drags him to home plate.

ETHAN
Wait! My cleats!

COACH
(angry)
C'mon!

The coach props Ethan up at bat as the crowd and his teammates laugh and taunt him.

The pitcher gives Ethan a devious grin.

Ethan is trembling with nerves and gulps.

The pitcher throws.

Ethan swings and misses.

UMPIRE
Strike one!

The crowd boos as Ethan looks into the stands to see Trevor sitting next to Mikaela with his arm around her. Trevor kisses her on the cheek and they both smile tauntingly at Ethan.

Ethan gets a look of anger on his face and turns back towards the pitcher determined.

The pitcher just smiles at him again and throws.

Ethan swings and misses again.

UMPIRE (CONT'D)
Strike two!

The coach gets a frustrated look on his face.

COACH

Well, that's it boys, little Ethyl
here lost us the game.

The team grunts and groans.

Ethan turns towards the crowd to see them all filing out.

ETHAN

Wait! I still get another swing.
That's only two strikes.

His teammates all start leaving.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Guys! That's only two strikes! I
get another chance!

Ethan sees his MOM and DAD leaving.

ETHAN'S MOM (late 30's), the warm protective kind who will
bake you cookies when you're feeling down.

ETHAN'S DAD (early 40's), Ethan's best friend, stern but
loving.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Dad! I get another chance!

ETHAN'S DAD

Next time son.

They leave.

ETHAN

No! Why isn't anyone listening to
me?!

Ethan turns back towards the pitcher but the whole opposing
team has disappeared.

He's confused and turns back towards the stands but all of
them have disappeared too. He is alone on the field.

Ethan falls to his knees in sadness.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

I had another chance. Why wouldn't
they listen to me?

Suddenly, the once sunny day rapidly darkens with black
ominous clouds and the wind picks up.

Ethan's sadness begins to turn to fear, he knows what's coming.

A frightening whispery voice comes from behind him.

DEIMOS (O.S.)

Ethan.

Petrified, Ethan turns slowly to see the monster that has haunted his dreams for as long as he can remember, THE DEIMOS.

THE DEIMOS, a large black shadowy nightmare monster who's glowing red eyes are the only thing on him truly visible.

Ethan gets up and starts running as The Deimos follows.

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

The hallways are dark and deserted. Ethan enters from outside and begins running down the hall checking each classroom door but they're all locked.

DEIMOS (O.S.)

Ethan.

Ethan stops and looks back towards the doors he entered to see The Deimos through the door windows.

Ethan's panic grows and starts to run slower than before no matter how hard he's trying to move fast.

The Deimos begins closing in.

Finally, Ethan is able to enter his own classroom.

He closes the door, locks it and pulls the shade on the door window. He then runs and hides behind the teacher's desk.

He looks at the chalk board but the writing is all jumbled to him and he can't make out what it says.

He then sees The Deimos' silhouette through the door shade.

DEIMOS (CONT'D)

(from behind the door)

You cannot escape me Ethan.

Knowing he's cornered, Ethan is now terrified.

He notices the telephone on his teacher's desk, grabs it and starts dialing, but he can't seem to press the buttons he wants to.

The classroom door begins to slowly open.

Ethan sees this and tries again to dial the phone with no luck.

The Deimos slowly approaches.

DEIMOS (CONT'D)
You belong to me.

Ethan now frantically pushing buttons on the phone.

ETHAN
(increasingly louder)
Dad! Dad! Dad!

The Deimos almost has Ethan and lets out a horrifying combination of a screech and roar as it reaches for him.

ETHAN (CONT'D)
(screaming)
Dad!

END DREAM SEQUENCE

INT. ETHAN'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Ethan is flailing about in his bed and screaming.

ETHAN
Dad! Dad! Dad!

Ethan's dad comes in the room, rushes to Ethan and attempts to wake him up.

ETHAN'S DAD
(shaking him)
Ethan. Ethan.

Ethan wakes up, it takes him a moment to realize where he is.

ETHAN'S DAD (CONT'D)
It's okay, I'm here. I'm here.

Ethan hugs his dad tight. His dad chuckles and hugs him back.

ETHAN'S DAD (CONT'D)
It's okay buddy. Just another
nightmare.

Ethan squeezes tighter.

SUPERIMPOSE: "CRESCENTVILLE, IOWA - PRESENT DAY"

ETHAN'S DAD (CONT'D)
The monster again?

ETHAN
(teary eyed)
Yeah. And the game tomorrow.

ETHAN'S DAD
Hey, c'mon buddy, you're gonna do great.

ETHAN
But what if I mess up? Everybody will hate me.

ETHAN'S DAD
Hey...

Ethan's dad pulls back but keeps his hands on Ethan's shoulders and looks him in the eyes.

ETHAN'S DAD (CONT'D)
...nobody's gonna hate you, okay? You just do your best and I'll be proud of you no matter what.

ETHAN
No matter what?

ETHAN'S DAD
No matter what.

They hug again.

Ethan's mom is standing in the doorway.

Ethan's dad notices her and mouths to her "he's okay" and waves her off.

She leaves.

Ethan's dad pats Ethan on the back and pulls back from him again.

ETHAN'S DAD (CONT'D)
Okay. You ready to go back to sleep big guy?

ETHAN
(sniffling)
Can we count to one hundred?

ETHAN'S DAD
 (smiles)
 You got it buddy.

Ethan smiles.

ETHAN'S DAD (CONT'D)
 C'mon, let's get you comfy.

Ethan scoots back on his bed and his dad tucks him in.

ETHAN'S DAD (CONT'D)
 You ready?

ETHAN
 Ready.

ETHAN'S DAD
 Okay, here we go...

ETHAN'S DAD AND ETHAN
 (in unison)
 ...one, two, three, four, five,
 six, seven, eight...

EXT. BASEBALL FIELD - DAY

The stands are full and the crowd is alive.

One of Ethan's teammates hits a single and takes his base as the home side of the stands erupts.

Ethan sits nervously in the dugout with the rest of his teammates.

He looks up at the scoreboard to see his team trailing by one in the bottom of the ninth with two outs.

He takes a deep breath.

COACH
 Trevor! You're up!

TREVOR
 Watch how it's done Ethyl.

Trevor shoves Ethan back on his way up to the plate causing Ethan to rub his chest in pain.

Trevor steps up to plate, takes his stance, looks at the runner on first, turns back to the pitcher and smirks.

The pitcher throws, Trevor hits it.

The crowd and dugout erupt with the exception of Ethan, who makes a face.

The play results in a double with runners on second and third.

COACH

Ethan! You're up!

The dugout groans.

Ethan takes a deep breath and slowly makes his way to the plate.

He looks into the stands to see Mikaela and her friends looking on which makes him breath heavier and wipe his palms on his pants from sweating.

He then looks over to his parents. His mom gives him an encouraging smile while his dad gives him a thumbs up.

Ethan nods.

COACH (CONT'D) (O.S.)

Ethan.

Ethan turns to the coach who hands him his bat.

COACH (CONT'D)

C'mon kid, you can do it.

ETHAN

(nodding his head yes)

Okay.

He steps up to the plate and gets in his stance.

He notices Trevor looking at him from second plate, he then refocuses on the pitcher.

The pitcher throws. Swing and a miss.

UMPIRE

Strike one!

The visiting side of the stands and dugout erupt.

Ethan's disappointed but won't turn to see everyone's reaction.

He can't avoid seeing Trevor shake his head though.

The coach bends at his waist and places his hands on his knees.

COACH
C'mon Ethan.

ETHAN'S DAD
C'mon buddy.

Ethan takes his stance again.

The pitcher throws. Swing and a miss.

UMPIRE
Strike two!

The visiting side erupts again as Ethan turns to the crowd this time.

He looks into the stands to see Mikaela's disappointment then to his parents to see their nervousness for him.

COACH
Ethan! Look at me!

Ethan looks.

COACH (CONT'D)
Keep your eye on the ball, you can do this.

Ethan nods and turns back towards the pitcher.

He takes a deep breath and his stance.

The pitcher throws.

Ethan connects, and his face lights up.

His parents begin to smile, as do Mikaela and the coach.

The home crowd and dugout start to get excited but then it goes foul.

Everyone moans in disappointment while the visiting side lets out a relieved cheer.

Ethan's disappointed.

ETHAN'S DAD
Damn! Thought he had it.

COACH
Ethan! It's okay. That was better.
Try again.

Ethan sees his teammates in the dugout start to cheer him on.

Then the crowd starts cheering too.

Even Mikaela is cheering for him.

The pressure Ethan is feeling is getting stronger as he nervously turns to the pitcher and takes his stance.

He then notices Trevor.

TREVOR
(mouthing)
Loser.

Ethan's breathing becomes heavy.

The pitcher throws.

Swing and a miss. Ethan feels the whiff immediately and the sting of the failure.

UMPIRE
Strike three!

The visiting team and crowd erupt in celebration.

Trevor slams his helmet into the ground.

The coach hangs his head.

His parents are saddened for him.

Ethan can't look up.

Mikaela purses her lips and leaves with her friends.

Coach shakes his head and walks away.

Ethan looks out at the field.

Trevor walks up.

TREVOR
This is why nobody likes you Ethyl.

Trevor walks off with the rest of the team.

Ethan turns to look for Mikaela but her seat is now empty.

He then turns to his parents who have reassuring smiles on their faces.

It's no consolation to him.

INT. ETHAN'S PARENTS' CAR - LATER

Ethan's dad is driving, mom is in the passenger seat while Ethan is sitting in the back seat behind mom, staring out the window in silence.

Ethan's dad looks back at him in the mirror.

ETHAN'S DAD

There's gonna be other games buddy.

ETHAN'S MOM

And it's not like you didn't hit it. You'll do better next time.

ETHAN'S DAD

That's right and we'll just keep practicing at home and you'll get better and better.

Ethan continues staring out the window.

Ethan's mom turns to look at him.

ETHAN'S MOM

Ethan. Look at me sweetie.

Ethan looks at her.

ETHAN'S MOM (CONT'D)

What can we do to make you feel better?

He turns back towards the window.

They pull in their driveway.

Ethan's dad puts the car in park and turns towards him.

ETHAN'S DAD

I know you feel like you failed today Ethan but it's important for you to realize that failure is part of the recipe for success.

ETHAN'S MOM

Your father's right. How bout some ice cream?

Ethan opens the car door, gets out, slams it shut and runs towards the house.

Ethan's parents look at each other.

INT. ETHAN'S BEDROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Ethan storms in and slams his door behind him.

He looks at his glove for a moment then throws it across the room followed by his hat and cleats.

He then opens his balcony doors and heads out.

EXT. BALCONY - CONTINUOUS

Ethan places both hands on the railing and stares sadly and longingly at the sunset in the distance.

DREAM SEQUENCE

EXT. DARKENED WOODS - NIGHT

Ethan is running as fast as he can.

DEIMOS (O.S.)

Ethan.

Ethan looks over his shoulder as he keeps running.

He comes to the edge of the woods and stops to find himself at the main street of his town. It is well lit and full of people.

DEIMOS (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Ethan.

He looks over his shoulder again and then runs towards the crowd.

VILLAGE STREET

While running he notices Mikaela with her friends in front of the entrance to the movie theater. He runs up to them.

ETHAN

Mikaela! Mikaela!

She looks at him as he runs up.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Hey. I know I've never had the guts to talk to you before but do you want to go to this movie with me?

MIKAELA

Sure.

Ethan smiles.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

But aren't you going to kiss me first?

ETHAN

(stunned)

You want me to kiss you?

MIKAELA

(smiling)

I've always wanted you to kiss me.

Ethan's smile grows so wide, but he hesitates.

ETHAN

Is this for real?

MIKAELA

It's real. Kiss me Ethan.

Ethan puts his hands on her shoulders, takes a deep inhale and leans in for the kiss.

Suddenly Trevor pushes him to the ground.

TREVOR

Back off Ethyl. Mikaela's mine.

Ethan gets up.

ETHAN

No Trevor! Mikaela said she wanted to go to the movies with me!

Mikaela grabs Trevor's hand.

Ethan gets a pit in his stomach.

MIKAELA

No Ethan. I want to go with him.

Trevor laughs.

ETHAN

But you said you wanted me to kiss you.

She kisses Trevor and they both smile at him.

MIKAELA
No, just him.

Ethan is shocked and defeated.

ETHAN
No! That's not what you said!

They all start filing into the entrance to the theater.

ETHAN (CONT'D)
You said you wanted it to be me!

The glass theater entrance doors close and everyone is inside except for Ethan.

The street lights go out on the street and it is now deserted.

An ominous wind blows towards Ethan. He becomes frightened.

DEIMOS (O.S.)
Ethan.

He runs up to the glass doors but they are closed and locked.

Everyone is looking at him from behind the doors as he tries to get them open.

ETHAN
Hey! Let me in!

He hears The Deimos growl and becomes more desperate and starts pulling on the doors violently.

ETHAN (CONT'D)
Please! Let me in!

TREVOR
(smiling)
No.

The shadow of The Deimos engulfs Ethan.

DEIMOS (O.S.)
Ethan.

Ethan slowly turns around to see The Deimos.

DEIMOS (CONT'D)
You cannot escape me Ethan.

The Deimos closes in as the crowd behind the doors begins to laugh.

The Deimos almost has him and Ethan let's out a terrified scream.

END DREAM SEQUENCE

INT. ETHAN'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Ethan is screaming as his dad is trying to wake him up.

ETHAN'S DAD

Ethan! Ethan!

He wakes up, looks at his dad, starts to cry and hugs him tight.

ETHAN'S DAD (CONT'D)

It's okay buddy. We'll find a way
to make everything better.

Ethan's dad knows he needs to do something to help stop these nightmares.

EXT. SCHOOL - DAY

A bell can be heard ringing from inside. Several kids run inside the school.

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Ethan is leaving his classroom and entering the hallway.

He spots Mikaela at the other end of the hall, laughing with her friends in front of her locker.

He thinks for a moment about approaching her, then loses his nerve and turns away. He stops himself again, takes a deep breath and turns back around and slowly approaches her.

As he gets closer he begins to breathe a little heavier and his palms become warm and clammy so he wipes them on his pants.

Just before he reaches her she looks up and gives him a smile.

He's so enchanted by her that he doesn't notice an outstretched foot in his path. He trips on it and falls flat on his face right at her feet.

It was Trevor. Him and his lackeys laugh at Ethan.

TREVOR
Nice game Saturday Ethyl.

They laugh again and head to class.

Mikaela looks down at him sympathetically and pathetically.
Her friend grabs her.

MIKAELA'S FRIEND
C'mon, we're gonna be late for
class.

She leaves.

Ethan moves himself up to a seated position as the hallway
begins to empty into the classrooms.

INT. SCHOOL CAFETERIA - LATER

The cafeteria is full of students. Ethan sits alone at a
table.

Trevor and his friends are making jokes about Ethan and
laughing from across the cafeteria.

Ethan does his best to ignore it.

They continue to make fun.

He finishes up his lunch and leaves.

Trevor and his two friends follow Ethan out.

HALLWAY

Ethan walks down the hall and into the bathroom. Moments
later Trevor and his friends follow him in.

BATHROOM

Ethan is washing his hands in the sink when he hears them
enter.

TREVOR (O.S.)
(tauntingly)
Ethyl.

Ethan gets scared and ducks into a stall before they see him.

He attempts to hide his feet by crouching on the toilet.

TREVOR (CONT'D)
C'mon out Ethyl. We just want to
talk.

Trevor's friends snicker.

Trevor notices only one stall door closed.

He walks up in front of it and kicks it open.

Ethan cowers in front of them.

Trevor yanks him out and slams him against the wall.

TREVOR (CONT'D)
You cost us the game, Ethyl.

ETHAN
I tried my best.

TREVOR
And you still suck.

Trevor punches him in the stomach and he falls to the ground
coughing.

TREVOR (CONT'D)
Just quit the team loser.

ETHAN
I'm practicing with my dad. I'm
gonna get better.

TREVOR
(mockingly)
Oh you're practicing with your
daddy?

Trevor kicks him in the stomach, which causes him to cough
more.

TREVOR (CONT'D)
Don't talk back to me! Just quit!

Ethan continues to cough in pain as Trevor stares at him.

TREVOR (CONT'D)
Or you could fight back.

Ethan stops coughing and thinks for a moment.

TREVOR (CONT'D)
(moves in and presents his
face)
C'mon Ethyl. Hit me.

Ethan looks up at him angrily and ponders the option.

TREVOR (CONT'D)
You know you want to.

Ethan clinches his fist.

TREVOR (CONT'D)
Do it.

Trevor's friends smile tauntingly.

Trevor waits for the punch.

Ethan backs down and doesn't act.

TREVOR (CONT'D)
Wow, you really are a wimp.

Trevor gives him one more light kick on the way out.

TREVOR (CONT'D)
Loser.

Ethan stays on the ground as they laugh as they leave.

EXT. SCHOOL - AFTERNOON

School is letting out for the day.

Ethan walks up to the bicycle rack and start unchaining his bicycle.

Trevor and his two friends are talking across the courtyard when one of them spots Ethan and alerts Trevor.

They start plotting and snickering to each other.

Ethan pulls his bicycle from the rack and rides off.

Trevor and his friends quickly finalize their plan, hop on their bicycles and start to follow Ethan.

EXT. STREET CORNER - MOMENTS LATER

Ethan pulls up to the traffic light and waits to cross.

Trevor and his friends pull up next to him.

TREVOR
Hey Ethyl.

Ethan looks around to see that it's all three of them again. He is silent but expecting trouble.

TREVOR (CONT'D)
Hey I'm only kidding man. I mean Ethan.

ETHAN
(sheepishly)
Hey.

TREVOR
Look, I'm sorry about before. It was just a little initiation beating.

His friends chuckle.

ETHAN
It hurt.

Trevor puts his hand on Ethan's shoulder.

TREVOR
Yeah but it's over now. On to the next step.

ETHAN
Next step?

TREVOR
Yeah. Follow us.

Trevor and his friends start to ride off then stop when they notice Ethan isn't following. Trevor stops.

TREVOR (CONT'D)
C'mon Ethan. You want to be our friend don't you?

Ethan is wary of the sudden inclusion, but desperate for friends, he decides to ride off with them.

EXT. CONSTRUCTION SITE - LATER

The steel beam skeleton of a five story building stands at the site. All the workers have left for the day and the sight is empty.

All four boys stare up at the building.

TREVOR

This is it man. All you have to do is get on that top beam and walk from one pillar to the other.

ETHAN

I can't, it's too high. What if I fall?

TREVOR'S FRIEND

Told you he was a wimp.

Both Trevor's friends start laughing.

TREVOR

Shut up!

Trevor puts his hands on Ethan's shoulders.

TREVOR (CONT'D)

(reassuringly)

You won't fall, I promise. We've all done it.

ETHAN

(looking up)

I... I can't.

Trevor pulls back.

TREVOR

I don't understand you Ethan. Don't you want us to be your friends, to stop picking on you?

Ethan considers the situation.

MOMENTS LATER

Ethan is climbing on to the top beam.

He stands up with a death grip on the first pillar. His breathing is borderline panicked and he's shaking.

Ethan looks down to see them watching with anticipation. He cannot see the devilish smirks on their faces.

He tries to slow his breathing as best he can before taking his first step.

He begins inching along the beam with his arms slightly raised to his sides for balance.

His breathing and shaking begin to intensify as he slowly makes his way across.

He makes it about halfway when he looks at the second beam. It seems like an eternity away.

His shaking and breathing now become uncontrollable. He starts to lose his balance.

Trevor and his friends expressions change to fear.

Ethan's foot slips.

ETHAN

No!

He falls on the beam with his chest, causing him to grunt in pain.

TREVOR

Oh shit.

Ethan's body starts sliding off the beam as he starts screaming in panic.

He finally gets a grip on the beam but he's only holding on by his hands.

ETHAN

Help!

TREVOR'S FRIEND

Dude, let's get the hell out of here!

Trevor's friends ride off.

ETHAN

Hey! Guys, don't leave me! Help!

Ethan looks at Trevor who is just staring helplessly.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

(fearfully begging)

Trevor please don't leave me.
Please help.

Trevor just keeps staring.

TREVOR'S FRIENDS (O.S.)

C'mon Trevor!

ETHAN
 (tearful)
 Please.

Trevor rides off.

Ethan can't believe they left him.

His hands begin to slip.

ETHAN (CONT'D)
 No.

Ethan's survival instinct kicks in and he starts shuffling his hands on the beam and slowly making his way back to the first pillar.

When he reaches the pillar he hugs it as tight as possible.

ETHAN (CONT'D)
 (out of breath)
 Thank you God. Thank you.

INT. ETHAN'S HOUSE - LATER

Ethan's dad is sitting at the kitchen table. Ethan enters through the back/kitchen door.

ETHAN'S DAD
 Hey buddy. How was your day?

Ethan stares at him blankly for a moment, drained from his ordeal.

ETHAN
 Eventful.

ETHAN'S DAD
 That bad huh? Well come sit with me. I made you some cocoa.

ETHAN
 Dad, can we do this later, I'm...

ETHAN'S DAD
 (patting the chair seat)
 C'mon pal. We need to talk.

Ethan sighs then walks over and sits down.

ETHAN'S DAD (CONT'D)
 Look. I know you've been going through a tough time lately.
 (MORE)

ETHAN'S DAD (CONT'D)

But I think you've been making things harder on yourself than they have to be.

ETHAN

I try dad.

ETHAN'S DAD

You're not trying.

ETHAN

I am trying, but I suck at everything and nobody likes me.

ETHAN'S DAD

Hey! I never want to hear you say that you suck at anything! Okay?!

(beat)

And people would like you if you gave them a chance to know the real you. The you that I know. The kind kid, the loyal kid, the kid that always tries to do the right thing no matter what.

ETHAN

Nobody likes that kid. They only like assholes like Trevor.

ETHAN'S DAD

Ethan!

ETHAN

It's true.

ETHAN'S DAD

Trevor is not the problem son. Fix the problem.

ETHAN

(stands up in frustration)

I don't know what you want me to do! I said I try!

ETHAN'S DAD

I want you to try without fear!

Ethan is taken back by his father's assertiveness.

ETHAN'S DAD (CONT'D)

Cause it's fear that's holding you back. You're not hitting the ball because you're afraid of it.

(MORE)

ETHAN'S DAD (CONT'D)

You're not standing up to Trevor because you're afraid of him. You're afraid that nobody likes you, so you believe it. And you keep having these nightmares because of these fears.

Ethan's dad turns the chair towards Ethan.

Ethan sits back down.

ETHAN'S DAD (CONT'D)

Now, you are my son and it kills me to see you unhappy. I want so many great things for you. But the only way to get anything good in life is to go after it with everything you got, and the only way to do that is to not let your fears get in the way.

ETHAN

What if I can't stop them?

ETHAN'S DAD

You don't have to stop them. I'm not asking you to not have fears son. Everyone has them, even me.

ETHAN

You have fears?

ETHAN'S DAD

That's right. But I want you to learn this lesson and learn it well; courage isn't to be without fear, it's doing what's right regardless of fear.

Ethan's expression shows that his father's words are sinking in.

ETHAN'S DAD (CONT'D)

Now, your mother believes in you, so do I. But you need to believe in yourself son. And even when you fail in life, if you know you tried your best regardless of fear, you'll be able to hold your head high.

Ethan nods his head.

ETHAN'S DAD (CONT'D)
 You're my son, you're a fighter.
 Fight through your fears Ethan.
 Fight and get what you want out of
 life.

Ethan starts to tear up and hugs his dad.

ETHAN
 I love you dad.

ETHAN'S DAD
 I love you too buddy.

Ethan's mom looks on from the kitchen archway smiling.

Ethan's dad smiles back at her while holding Ethan.

She turns and leaves them alone.

INT. ETHAN'S PARENTS' CAR - THE NEXT DAY

Ethan's mom is driving, Ethan's dad is in the passenger seat
 and Ethan is sitting behind him.

ETHAN
 Do you have to go dad?

ETHAN'S DAD
 Sorry buddy, duty calls.

ETHAN
 But you're gonna miss the game.

ETHAN'S DAD
 But I'll be back soon after. And
 besides mom will be there.

Ethan's mom smiles at him in the rear view mirror.

Ethan gets a disappointed look on his face.

They pull up to the airport.

ETHAN'S DAD (CONT'D)
 (kisses his wife)
 Love you.

ETHAN'S MOM
 Love you too.

Ethan's dad gets out and goes to the back window to Ethan.

ETHAN'S DAD
(putting his hand on
Ethan's face)
You're gonna do great pal.

Ethan smiles.

ETHAN'S DAD (CONT'D)
I can't wait to hear all about it
when I get back.

ETHAN
Love you dad.

ETHAN'S DAD
Love you too buddy.

He turns and walks towards the terminal as Ethan looks on.

He turns back at Ethan and gives him a thumbs up.

Ethan smiles and gives him one right back.

EXT. BASEBALL FIELD - THE NEXT DAY

The stands are full.

It's the bottom of the ninth, tie game, two outs.

Trevor is up at bat.

The pitcher throws.

Trevor hits a triple and stops on third.

COACH
Ethan! You're up!

His teammates groan as Ethan gets off the bench and heads for
the plate.

Ethan has a determined look on his face as he takes his
stance.

The pitcher throws.

Ethan misses.

UMPIRE
Strike one.

The visiting crowd cheers.

COACH

Ugh.

Ethan is not phased as he readies his stance again.

The pitcher throws.

Ethan misses.

UMPIRE

Strike two.

The visiting crowd cheers.

Trevor shakes his head.

Ethan refuses to be bothered by the crowd and gets in his stance again, determined.

Trevor gets ready to run.

The coach leans in intently.

Mikaela looks on with her friends.

ETHAN

(to himself)

Regardless of fear.

The pitcher throws.

The coach closes his eyes.

Ethan hits a single and runs for first.

Trevor runs home and scores as Ethan takes first.

The home crowd erupts.

The coach opens his eyes in disbelief and throws up his arms victoriously.

Mikaela and her friends are cheering.

Ethan's teammates rush to him and shower him with pats on the back and "good job" and "way to go" compliments.

Trevor turns his back and walks away.

Ethan and his teammates walk over to the coach.

COACH

Good job Ethan. I knew you had it in you.

ETHAN
(smiling)
Thanks coach.

The teams and the crowd start filling out as Ethan stands at first base soaking in the moment.

MIKAELA (O.S.)
Hey Ethan.

Ethan turns to see Mikaela standing behind the fence with her friends.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)
(smiling)
Nice hit.

Ethan is stunned and silent.

Mikaela chuckles at his silence.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)
Well, see ya.

She walks off with her friends as Ethan watches her silently for a moment.

ETHAN
(waiving his hand)
Bye.

Ethan shakes off the disbelief of the encounter and looks to the stands for his mom but she's not there.

Ethan is confused initially, then smiles and runs off.

EXT. ROAD - MOMENTS LATER

Ethan is riding his bicycle, feeling on top of the world.

EXT. ETHAN'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Ethan pulls up, drops his bike on the front lawn and runs to the front door.

ETHAN
(shouting)
Mom! Mom!

INT. ETHAN'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Ethan enters and starts walking around looking for his mom.

ETHAN

Mom?

He sees his mom crying at the kitchen table.

She notices him, runs over and embraces him.

It only takes him a moment to realize what has happened.

EXT. GRAVEYARD - DAY

A large crowd of mourners are gathered around Ethan's dad's coffin.

Ethan stands next to his mom and GRANDFATHER. Ethan's mom is crying. Ethan is staring, teary eyed at the coffin. The priest is saying a prayer.

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER (70's), never without his cane, just as quick to share his wisdom as he is his sense of humor.

INT. ETHAN'S HOUSE - LATER

The house is full of people for the reception.

Ethan's mother is doing her best to maintain her composure as she interacts with the guests.

Ethan sits alone, staring out the front window.

A lady approaches Ethan with a plate of food and offers it to him but he doesn't acknowledge her. She pats him on the shoulder, turns and walks away.

Ethan's grandfather watches him from across the room.

EXT. ETHAN'S HOUSE

TIME LAPSE - A FEW DAYS PASS.

INT. ETHAN'S BEDROOM - EVENING

Ethan is laying on his bed, motionless but tears running down his face.

There's a knock on the door.

His mom enters.

ETHAN'S MOM
How bout some dinner sweetie?

Ethan doesn't respond.

ETHAN'S MOM (CONT'D)
C'mon Ethan, you have school
tomorrow. You need your strength.

He still doesn't respond.

ETHAN'S MOM (CONT'D)
Okay.

She turns to leave.

ETHAN (O.S.)
Mom.

She turns back.

ETHAN'S MOM
Yes?

ETHAN
I miss him.

She goes over and hugs him tight.

ETHAN (CONT'D)
Is it ever gonna stop hurting?

ETHAN'S MOM
I know it hurts really bad right
now, but it will get better in time
baby.

She kisses him on the head.

ETHAN'S MOM (CONT'D)
I promise.

ETHAN
But I don't know what to do.

ETHAN'S MOM
What do you mean?

ETHAN
He's not here to help me anymore.

ETHAN'S MOM

With what?

ETHAN

With everything.

ETHAN'S MOM

Well I know what he would want you to do.

ETHAN

What?

She pulls away and looks him in the eye.

ETHAN'S MOM

Help yourself. And realize that this is your first step in becoming a man.

He tears up and hugs her again.

ETHAN

I love you mom.

ETHAN'S MOM

I love you too sweetie.

She holds him for a few moments, then pulls back again.

ETHAN'S MOM (CONT'D)

Now how bout that dinner?

ETHAN

Okay. I'll be down in a minute.

ETHAN'S MOM

(smiles)

Okay.

She turns and leaves.

Ethan is sniffing. He grabs for the tissue box but it is empty. He grunts tosses it aside.

He opens his nightstand drawer to look for more.

He finds a letter from his dad taped to a small wooden box.

He takes it out of the drawer, removes the letter and begins to read it.

ETHAN'S DAD (V.O.)

Ethan. I'm sorry again I had to miss the game. I'm sure you did great. I hope you took our talk tonight to heart. I really do believe in you and I want you to believe in yourself. I promise it will help you overcome your fears and accomplish all your goals in life. I know the nightmares have been bad lately and I'm sorry that I can't always be there to count to one hundred with you to make them go away. So I'm giving you something your grandfather gave me when I was a kid. It made my nightmares go away. Wear it when you go to bed and maybe it will do the same for you. Never forget that you're my world Ethan and I always want the best for you. Love always. Dad.

Ethan tears and sobs for a moment before turning his attention to the box.

Ethan examines the box, then opens it to reveal THE CRYSTAL.

The crystal is twilight blue and attached to a rope necklace.

Ethan picks it up by the rope and looks at it for a moment.

He then puts it on and both the crystal and his eyes start glowing blue.

Ethan feels strange, gets scared, takes the necklace off quickly and stuffs it back in the box and back in the drawer.

ETHAN'S MOM (O.S.)

Ethan c'mon! It's getting cold!

Ethan snaps out of his shock and runs out of the room.

DREAM SEQUENCE

EXT. BOAT DOCKS - DAY

Ethan stands on a balcony, looking out over the ocean to see a picturesque horizon.

He can practically feel the heat from the sunlight on his face.

He looks down to see his father walking out on to a long extended dock.

ETHAN

Dad!

Ethan's dad keeps walking.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Dad! Wait!

He keeps walking.

Ethan jumps off the balcony and starts running down the dock.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Dad! Dad!

Ethan can't run fast enough.

His dad boards a sailboat.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Dad!

The boat starts to pull away.

Ethan runs up and stops at the edge of the dock.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Dad! Please wait!

Ethan's dad stands at the stern, smiling and waiving as he sails off.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

(sobbing)

Dad no. Please come back.

Ethan's dad is still smiling and waiving as he and the boat fade into the horizon.

Ethan falls to his knees.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

(tearful)

Come back.

DEIMOS (O.S.)

Ethan.

Ethan stands and turns to see The Deimos at the other end of the dock moving towards him rapidly.

DEIMOS (CONT'D)
You cannot escape me Ethan.

Ethan backs up to the edge of the dock.

He looks into the water as a possible escape route but he sees several silhouettes of sharks waiting for him.

He looks back at The Deimos who has almost reached him and let's out that same terrifying screech/roar.

Ethan screams.

END DREAM SEQUENCE

INT. ETHAN'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Ethan's scream wakes himself up.

He looks around for his dad but he's not coming this time.

Ethan tears up for a moment but quickly calms himself down.

He looks towards his nightstand drawer. The glow from the crystal is emanating through.

Ethan is hesitant to open it but he does.

The whole box is practically glowing from the radiance inside.

Ethan feels as if the crystal is calling to him.

He opens the box and pulls the crystal out, holding it up by the rope in awe.

Feeling the overwhelming call, he slowly puts it on. His eyes begin to glow again as a power, yet calm comes over him.

He lays down and closes his eyes.

DREAM SEQUENCE

EXT. GRASSY FIELD - DAY

The sky is a perfect blue and the sun is shining over a beautiful sprawling green grass field with a lone farm house in the distance.

Ethan is walking through the field towards the farmhouse.

As he gets closer the sky fills with black clouds and the wind picks up.

Ethan knows what's coming. He runs towards the farmhouse and onto the front porch.

He tries to open the door but it is locked.

DEIMOS (O.S.)

Ethan.

Ethan looks around and notices the barn doors are open and runs towards them.

INT. BARN - CONTINUOUS

Ethan enters and immediately looks for a place to hide.

He notices the hay loft and climbs the ladder to it and jumps behind a bail of hay.

He is hiding for a moment when he realizes he forgot something.

ETHAN

Oh no!

He looks down to see that he forgot to lock the barn doors and now they just open and close with the wind.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

No.

It's too late now. The Deimos' shadow approaches the doors.

DEIMOS (O.S.)

Ethan.

Ethan ducks back behind the bail.

The Deimos opens the doors and slowly makes his way in.

Ethan takes one more peek.

The Deimos spots him.

Ethan panics and ducks behind the bail again.

DEIMOS (CONT'D)

You cannot escape me Ethan.

The Deimos floats towards the loft.

ETHAN
Please no more.

The Deimos gets closer.

Ethan's eyes begin to glow.

ETHAN (CONT'D)
(clenching his fists)
No more.

The Deimos almost has him.

DEIMOS
Ethan.

ETHAN
I said no more!

Ethan stands up and grows into a large muscular man.

The Deimos tries to grab him with his claws but it can't pierce his impressive physique.

The Deimos is confused.

Muscle Man smirks at him.

EXT. BARN - CONTINUOUS

The Deimos comes flying through the barn doors and hits the ground about one hundred feet away.

The Deimos shakes off the impact to see Muscle Man coming out of the barn determined and heading straight for him.

As he reaches him, The Deimos takes an angry swipe at Muscle Man but he catches it.

Muscle Man looks at his hand that is holding The Deimos' claw.

MUSCLE MAN
Awesome.

Muscle Man then begins punching The Deimos in the face with his other fist.

Punch.

MUSCLE MAN (CONT'D)
Stop!

Punch.

MUSCLE MAN (CONT'D)
Giving!

Punch.

MUSCLE MAN (CONT'D)
Me!

Punch.

MUSCLE MAN (CONT'D)
Nightmares!

The Deimos is dazed by the onslaught.

Muscle Man picks up The Deimos and throws him miles away as he lets out a screeching roar.

The blue sky and bright colors return.

Muscle Man smiles and shrinks back into Ethan who is still smiling.

ETHAN
I'm dreaming...

Ethan looks around.

ETHAN (CONT'D)
...the crystal.

Ethan looks up at the sky, then down at his feet, and then straight ahead.

He closes his eyes, bends his arms halfway up with his fists clinched and begins to concentrate.

He opens his eyes and notices he's floating a few feet above the ground.

He looks around at the ground and goes up a few feet more.

Then a few feet more.

Then goes he goes about one hundred feet up.

He smiles.

ETHAN (CONT'D)
Yes!

ETHAN'S MOM (O.S.)

Ethan.

END DREAM SEQUENCE

INT. ETHAN'S BEDROOM - MORNING

Ethan is floating off to the side of his bed.

ETHAN'S MOM (O.S.)

Ethan.

Ethan wakes up and falls to the ground.

He crawls back onto his bed in pain.

Ethan looks at the crystal and smiles.

ETHAN

It worked.

ETHAN'S MOM (O.S.)

C'mon honey, time for school.

ETHAN

Coming mom.

Ethan leaves.

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

Ethan is walking through the crowded halls. Many students are looking at him as he passes, sympathetic for his loss.

He almost passes Mikaela.

MIKAELA

Um. Ethan.

He looks at her, a little surprised she's talking to him again.

ETHAN

Oh. Hey.

MIKAELA

I just wanted to say I'm sorry.
About your dad and all.

ETHAN

Thanks.

The bell rings.

MIKAELA
 (starts walking away)
 Um. I gotta go, but we'll talk
 later okay? Bye.

ETHAN
 (surprised)
 Bye.

Trevor looks on from a distance with his friends. Clearly not liking Ethan talking to Mikaela.

INT. SCHOOL CAFETERIA - LATER

Everyone is eating lunch. Ethan is sitting alone as usual. Trevor and his friends watch him from across the cafeteria. Ethan finishes up, gets up and leaves. Trevor motions to his friends and they all follow Ethan.

HALLWAY

Ethan goes into the bathroom. Trevor and his friends are a few steps behind. They stop at the door.

TREVOR
 Let's go.

TREVOR'S FRIEND 1
 C'mon man, haven't we done enough
 to this kid? And after last time.

TREVOR'S FRIEND 2
 Yeah man. And the dude's dad just
 died.

TREVOR
 (fake sympathy)
 Oh his dad just died? Shut up!

His friends look at each other.

TREVOR (CONT'D)
 (sighs)
 Just watch the door.

Trevor goes in.

BATHROOM

TREVOR (O.S.)
(taunting voice)
Ethyl?

Ethan looks up and runs into a stall again, closing the door behind him.

TREVOR (CONT'D)
So we're playing this game again?

Ethan is afraid of being beaten up again.

TREVOR (CONT'D)
You know I saw you talking to
Mikaela. You really think she would
ever like a loser like you?

Ethan's fear begins to turn to anger. The crystal and Ethan's eyes both begin to glow.

Trevor starts knocking on the stall doors one by one.

TREVOR (CONT'D)
Forget it wimp. I'll be touching
tongues with her soon.

Trevor makes an obscene tongue gesture and noise.

Ethan's begins growing into Muscle Man and his clothes start tearing.

The bell rings from the hallway.

Trevor looks at the stall, bored.

TREVOR (CONT'D)
C'mon Ethyl, what do I gotta do to
get you to come out? Talk about
your dead da...

The stall door burst off and knocks Trevor to the ground with him under it.

Trevor grunts in pain then looks up.

Muscle Man is stomping towards him.

Trevor is petrified.

HALLWAY

Trevor is tossed out of the bathroom and into the locker across the hall.

All the kids in the hallway are stunned.

BATHROOM

Muscle Man calms down then looks at himself in the mirror to see that he is not Ethan. He is stunned by what he sees.

MUSCLE MAN

Oh shit.

HALLWAY

All the kids are gathered around Trevor. PRINCIPAL FORD makes his way through the crowd and kneels over Trevor.

PRINCIPAL FORD (60's), the strict but fair type.

PRINCIPAL FORD

Oh my God, Trevor are you okay?

Trevor is getting his bearings.

BATHROOM

Muscle Man notices all his clothes are torn and is not sure what to do. He hears all the commotion out in the hall.

HALLWAY

PRINCIPAL FORD

Trevor, what happened?

TREVOR

(tearful)

Some big man in there beat me up.

Trevor's friends look at each other.

BATHROOM

PRINCIPAL FORD (O.S.)

(in disbelief)

You're telling me there's a man in the bathroom?

Muscle Man gets nervous.

MUSCLE MAN
(to the mirror)
Uh. Shrink. Grow small. Turn to
Ethan.

HALLWAY

Principal Ford stands up, turns and walks towards the
bathroom door.

BATHROOM

Muscle Man closes his eyes and concentrates.

MUSCLE MAN
Please please please.

Principal Ford enters to find Ethan standing there with his
eyes closed.

ETHAN
Please please please.

PRINCIPAL FORD
Ethan?

Ethan opens his eyes, relieved to see he's himself again.

PRINCIPAL FORD (CONT'D)
Did you see anyone else in here?

ETHAN
No sir.

PRINCIPAL FORD
What happened to your clothes?

Ethan thinks for a moment.

ETHAN
Trevor did it.

Principal Ford is angered at being lied to by Trevor.

PRINCIPAL FORD
Thought so.

ETHAN
Sir? Is it okay if I wear my gym
uniform for the rest of the day?

PRINCIPAL FORD
Yeah. Go ahead. Are you okay?

ETHAN
(smiles)
Better now sir.

PRINCIPAL FORD
Well, if you want to talk, you know
you can always come to my office.
You sure you're all right?

ETHAN
Yes sir.

Principal Ford walks out as Ethan opens his backpack and starts changing.

HALLWAY

Trevor is on his feet trying to convince his friends.

TREVOR
Dude, I'm telling you, he was like
seven feet tall!

His friends just look at each other in disbelief.

Principal Ford grabs Trevor by wrist and starts pulling him down the hallway.

PRINCIPAL FORD
Lets go young man.

TREVOR
But there was a big guy.

PRINCIPAL FORD
We're gonna have a little chat
about bullying and how you're gonna
pay for the damage to the bathroom
door.

TREVOR
But... but...

Trevor looks at the bathroom door.

Ethan comes out, spots Trevor and waves and smiles at him.

Trevor is dumbfounded.

Ethan turns and gets an idea in his head then walks off.

EXT. CONSTRUCTION SITE - EVENING

Ethan pulls up on his bicycle.

He looks up at the site, takes a deep breath.

ETHAN
You can do this.

MOMENTS LATER

Ethan is on top of the site at the first pillar.

He looks down at the ground and then looks at the second pillar.

ETHAN
C'mon. No more fear.

He begins inching across the beam with his arms out to his side.

ETHAN (CONT'D)
(clearly afraid)
See, nothing to be afraid of. Just
keep moving.

He makes it about half way across when the fear takes over.
He begins to lose his balance.

ETHAN (CONT'D)
No. No.

He's about to lose it.

ETHAN (CONT'D)
No fear. No fe...

He falls off.

Falling, screaming.

ETHAN (CONT'D)
(the crystal and his eyes
glow)
No! No!

Just before he hits the ground he throws his arms in front of his face and he stops a few feet above the ground.

He slowly moves his arms away and opens his eyes to see that he has stopped falling and is now floating.

He smiles and rotates his body so it's upright.

ETHAN (CONT'D)
(throwing his arms up
victoriously)

Yes!

Ethan looks up at the sky, then down at his feet.

He picks his head up with a drive and excitement he's never felt before.

He crouches down and then shoots up like a rocket.

Flying through the clouds. He is exhilarated.

ETHAN (CONT'D)
(shouting)
I can fly! Yeah!

He flies down into the woods maneuvering through the trees with speed. It feels so natural to him and he feels fully in control.

He then bursts back into the sky, taking leaves off trees.

ETHAN (CONT'D)
(shouting)
Woo-hoo!

He sees his village on the horizon and shoots towards it.

He flies over the lights of the main street, gloriously absorbing every second of it before moving on towards the residential part of town.

EXT. TREVOR'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Trevor stares out his window, pouting.

TREVOR'S MOTHER (O.S.)
(yelling)
And you can stay in your room until
you learn to start telling the
truth.

He sees Ethan fly by his window.

Shocked and afraid, he runs out of his room.

TREVOR (O.S.)
(screaming)
Mom! Mom!

EXT. SKY - MOMENTS LATER

Ethan flying some more, smiling.

ETHAN
(shouting)
This is the greatest feeling ever!

He flies off into the sky.

MONTAGE SEQUENCE

EXT. VILLAGE STREET - DAY

Ethan is walking down the street. The sound of a car skidding is heard.

Ethan turns to see an out of control car flip over.

An elderly male driver is trapped inside.

A crowd of people run to the wreck to help.

Ethan looks around, spots an alley and runs into it.

The crowd is trying to free the man from the wreckage.

Muscle Man comes running out of the alley, torn clothes and all.

He makes his way through the crowd.

Muscle Man rips the door off and pulls the old man out unharmed.

The old man hugs him as the crowd cheers.

He releases from the man takes in the applause for a moment before realizing he is barely clothed and attempts to cover up.

A middle aged woman in the crowd gives him a "come hither" smile.

Muscle Man smiles with polite embarrassment.

INT. ICE CREAM PARLOR - DAY

A worker puts a scoop of ice cream on the mixing table and turns his back to get the next scoop.

The scoop flies off the table. He turns back to see the scoop missing. He looks around confused.

EXT. RIVER - DAY

A puppy is struggling to swim back to land as a little girl is desperately holding on to the leash so the dog doesn't get swept away by the current. She's screaming in panic.

A ski masked Ethan sees this from the sky.

He comes swooping in and lifts the dog from the river.

He hands the dog to the little girl and flies off.

LITTLE GIRL
Thank you super...

She thinks for a second.

LITTLE GIRL (CONT'D)
Thank you spider...

She thinks again...

LITTLE GIRL (CONT'D)
(waving)
Thank you.

INT. ICE CREAM PARLOR - DAY

The worker puts the second scoop of ice cream on the mixing table, looks around and then turns his back again to get the next scoop. The scoop flies off the table. He turns to see the scoop gone, drops the scooper and runs off.

EXT. RESIDENTAL STREET - DAY

Ethan is riding his bicycle when he hears screaming and quickly rides towards it.

He stops to find a family across the street, embracing each other, helplessly watching as their house is engulfed in flames.

Ethan spots a nearby fire hydrant, jumps off his bicycle and holds out his arm towards it.

The family is crying as they're losing everything.

Ethan is focusing hard and the hydrant begins to shake.

The family embraces tighter.

The hydrant now shakes violently and bursts.

The sound of the burst startles the family.

Ethan now redirects his arms towards the house sending the water to attack and begin extinguishing the fire.

The family doesn't see Ethan but they can't believe what they are witnessing the water do.

The water is making short work of the fire.

The constant control is like tensing a muscle for Ethan.

The hydrant dries up as the final flames are extinguished.

Ethan is relieved but exhausted.

The family just looks at their house stunned.

INT. ICE CREAM PARLOR - DAY

The worker has his coworker watch him as he places another scoop of ice cream on the mixing table and motions to his coworker to watch closely. The coworker clearly doesn't believe him. After a few moments the coworker walks off shaking his head. The worker is disappointed but slowly turns his back, then quickly back at the scoop. Giving up he turns to get another scoop when the first scoop flies off the table. He turns back to see it gone.

ICE CREAM WORKER
(throws his hands up)
Oh c'mon!

EXT. VILLAGE STREET - MOMENTS LATER

Ethan is smiling, walking with a three ice cream cones down the street. He walks up to Mikaela and her friends, hands each one of them a cone and walks off. Mikaela smiles at Ethan as her friends are pleasantly confused.

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

Ethan is walking through the hallway, really feeling himself.

END MONTAGE SEQUENCE

INT. ETHAN'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Ethan is on his bed admiring the crystal.

There's a knock at the door.

ETHAN'S MOM (O.S.)

Ethan, your grandfather's here to see you.

ETHAN

Just a minute mom.

Ethan stuffs the crystal in his nightstand drawer.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Come in.

Ethan's mom opens the door and his grandfather limps in aided by his cane.

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER

Hello Ethan.

ETHAN

Hi grandpa.

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER

I wanted to talk to you for a little while, if that's okay.

ETHAN

Okay.

ETHAN'S MOM

Grandpa, can I get you anything? Coffee, tea?

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER

(turns to her with a warm smile)

No, thank you sweetheart.

He turns back to Ethan.

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER (CONT'D)

I think we'll be fine.

ETHAN'S MOM

Okay.

She leaves and closes the door behind her.

Ethan's grandfather sits down on the bed.

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER
So. How are you making do kiddo?

ETHAN
I'm okay.

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER
Yeah. I guess we're all okay to a certain degree. It's unfortunate, some of things we have to learn to be okay with in life. The loss of a loved one is never easy, no matter how old you get. Ya take me now, I was already grown when I lost my father. Oh it didn't make it any easier, being an adult. But I knew I had to be strong for my mother just like you have to be strong for yours now.

Ethan begins to tear up.

ETHAN
It's hard. I miss him so much.

Ethan's grandfather pulls him in and holds him.

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER
Oh I know. I miss him too. It's not something I ever thought I'd have to do. Bury a son. Ya know, you remind me so much of him.

ETHAN
I do?

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER
(props up Ethan)
Sure. You're smart like him. You're good hearted like him. You're skinny like he was that's for sure.

ETHAN
(wiping away his tears)
It makes me wimpy.

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER
Nah, it makes you fast. Just like him.

He winks and Ethan smiles.

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER (CONT'D)
 He also told me that you're having
 nightmares, just like he used to.

Ethan doesn't want to reveal too much.

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER (CONT'D)
 You know, it was my suggestion that
 he give you the crystal.

Ethan is surprised.

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER (CONT'D)
 It helped him with his nightmares,
 as it did with mine when I was a
 boy.

ETHAN
 Then... you know... you know that
 it...

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER
 Yes Ethan I know. It gives you
 power. The power to control your
 dreams and vanquish your
 nightmares.

Ethan is relieved his grandfather doesn't know the full
 story.

ETHAN
 Where did it come from?

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER
 Well, my dad gave it to me. He told
 me it had been in our family for a
 very long time.

ETHAN
 How long?

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER
 Ya know, I asked him that very same
 question. And ya know what he said?

ETHAN
 What?

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER
 I have no clue.

They both smile.

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER (CONT'D)
But he did tell me that it was said
to have been forged by Morpheus
himself.

ETHAN
Morpheus?

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER
The god of dreams.

ETHAN
Whoa.

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER
He also gave me a warning.

Ethan's wonderment changes to concern.

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER (CONT'D)
You've been given a great power
Ethan. But beware, how and when to
use that power is a lesson you must
learn. For abusing it will lead to
failure, then fear. And The Deimos
is ever present.

ETHAN
The Deimos?

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER
A dream monster. A walking
nightmare. The living embodiment of
one's fear of confrontation. The
same fear Phobator uses to torment
you in your sleep.

ETHAN
Phobator?

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER
Morpheus' brother, the god of
nightmares.

Ethan's gets a chill.

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER (CONT'D)
You've encountered The Deimos
already, haven't you?

Ethan is hesitant to answer.

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER (CONT'D)

I see.

ETHAN

But the crystal helped me get rid of him.

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER

No Ethan. The crystal does not rid you of The Deimos, only staves him off for a period of time.

Ethan is disappointed by his grandfather's answer.

ETHAN

Grandpa?

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER

Yes?

ETHAN

Did you... or my dad? Did the crystal... do anything else for you?

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER

Like what?

Ethan isn't sure he should answer.

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER (CONT'D)

Ethan? Has something else happened to you?

ETHAN

(looks down)
I guess not.

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER

Are you sure?

Ethan hesitates.

ETHAN

Yes.

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER

(picking Ethan's head up)
Well... I'm sure if there is something, you'll tell me in time. Won't you.

Ethan nods his head.

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER (CONT'D)
 Use the crystal Ethan. Let it help
 you through this tough time. And
 then lock it away safely for your
 children one day. Okay?

ETHAN
 Okay.

They hug.

ETHAN (CONT'D)
 Thanks grandpa.

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER
 No problem kiddo.

Ethan's grandfather starts standing up, has a little trouble.

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER (CONT'D)
 Now, it's time for us both to go to
 bed. Young people, you need sleep
 cause you're growing so fast, and
 old people like me need sleep cause
 I'm shrinking so fast.

He flashes Ethan one last smile and starts heading for the
 door.

ETHAN
 Grandpa?

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER
 Yes?

ETHAN
 How do I get rid of The Deimos for
 good?

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER
 Only you can answer that Ethan.
 Only you can answer that.

Ethan takes it all in.

EXT. VILLAGE STREET - DAY

Ethan is walking down the street, deep in thought.

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER (V.O.)
 Beware. How and when to use your
 power is a lesson you must learn.

Ethan mulls it over for a moment then blows it off because he has everything under control. He hears a boy call out.

BOY (O.S.)

Hi dad.

The boy is about Ethan's age and is looking towards a rooftop, waiving at his construction worker father. The man waives back with a smile.

CONSTRUCTION WORKER

Hi son.

Ethan watches this exchange, missing his own dad.

As he's distracted by his son, a ladder that the worker was using collapses sending him over the edge of the building.

He catches himself on the ledge before falling.

BOY

Dad!

The ladder lands on his fingers, putting painful pressure on him. He is losing his grip and falling is imminent.

Ethan runs off.

The worker's fingers are slipping as he yells in pain.

BOY (CONT'D)

Help! Somebody help!

A crowd quickly gathers.

His grip is almost gone.

BOY (CONT'D)

No!

He loses his grip and falls.

Muscle Man catches him before he hits the ground.

MUSCLE MAN

Gotcha.

The worker looks at him in shock as Muscle Man places him gently on the ground.

BOY

(running towards them)

Dad!

Muscle Man looks up to see the ladder giving way just as the boy is running under it.

CONSTRUCTION WORKER
(to his son)
Don't!

The ladder falls, heading straight for the boy.

A collective gasp from the crowd.

Muscle Man runs under it and catches it just before it hits him.

The construction worker grabs his son and embraces him. He looks at Muscle Man.

CONSTRUCTION WORKER (CONT'D)
Thank you.

MUSCLE MAN
(smiles)
No problem.

The crowd erupts in cheers.

Muscle Man, absorbing the admiration, starts doing over head presses with the heavy ladder which garners louder cheers.

He then tosses the ladder aside without looking like it was nothing as another show of strength, only to hear a scream. The crowd stops cheering.

The ladder hit an elderly woman, who is now on the ground in pain, her walker lying next to her and being attended to by her adult daughter.

DAUGHTER
Mom! Oh mom! Are you okay?

Muscle Man's face drops.

He runs over to try to assist.

MUSCLE MAN
Oh my God. I'm so sorry.

DAUGHTER
(hitting him and yelling)
Get away! Get away! Don't touch her!

Muscle Man stands up and looks at the crowd.

The once grateful faces are now disgusted.

LADY IN THE CROWD
If you weren't showing off, this
wouldn't have happened.

The crowd yells in agreement.

He looks down to see the daughter tearfully aiding her mother.

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER (V.O.)
Abusing that power will lead to
failure then fear.

They all start yelling at him to "leave" and "get outta here".

He slowly backs away, then turns and runs off.

DREAM SEQUENCE

INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY - NIGHT

Ethan is walking down the hallway with flowers in hand.

He enters a room where the old lady he injured lies unconscious in a bed with her daughter sobbing at her bedside with her back to him.

Ethan looks at the old woman regretfully.

The daughter stops sobbing and slowly turns her head towards Ethan.

DAUGHTER
You.

Ethan is frightened by her tone and the look in her eyes.

DAUGHTER (CONT'D)
I thought I told you to stay away
from her.

ETHAN
(starts backing away)
I... I didn't mean to... I didn't
know.

She begins walking towards him as he's backing into the hallway.

DAUGHTER
 (increasingly louder)
 You didn't know? You didn't know!
 You didn't know!

The yelling turns into a high pitch scream as he is still walking backwards and she is still following.

He stops because he backs into someone.

He turns around, it's Trevor.

TREVOR
 Told you you were a loser Ethyl.

Trevor grabs him, turns him towards the daughter and holds him in place.

As she's walking towards him, her body splits open to reveal The Deimos.

Ethan becomes terrified.

ETHAN
 No! I sent you away!

DEIMOS
 (getting closer)
 You cannot escape me Ethan.

Ethan tries to squirm but can't break Trevor's grip.

DEIMOS (CONT'D)
 (almost has him)
 You failed.

ETHAN
 (screaming)
 Nooo!

END DREAM SEQUENCE

INT. ETHAN'S BEDROOM - MORNING

Ethan's wakes up startled from his nightmare.

After taking a moment to compose himself, he lifts the crystal from chest level to his sight line.

ETHAN
 Thought you were supposed to make him go away.

ETHAN'S MOM (O.S.)
Ethan. Come down for breakfast.

ETHAN
Coming.

Ethan looks at the crystal with frustration.

ETHAN (CONT'D)
You better work better next time.

He gets out of bed and leaves the room.

Under the bed there is a rumbling. A small split opens in the floor revealing a red glow. The familiar high pitched cry of The Deimos is heard.

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - LATER

Ethan is at his locker loading up his backpack when he notices Mikaela at her locker with her friends.

He finishes up and starts to approach her when Trevor and his friends step in his way.

TREVOR
Where do you think you're headed
Ethyl?

ETHAN
(brushing Trevor aside)
Not today Trevor, I'm not in the
mood.

TREVOR
(grabbing Ethan)
Well you get in the mood. I don't
know who you had attack me but he's
not here to save your ass this
time.

ETHAN
(angrily)
Let go.

Trevor lets go and starts shoving Ethan.

TREVOR
Do you know how much trouble you
got me into?
(shove)
With the principal!
(shove)
(MORE)

TREVOR (CONT'D)

My mom!

(shove)

People thinking I'm crazy!

Ethan has had enough.

He goes to shove him one last time but something unseen stops his arms from moving forward.

The inability to move frightens Trevor.

ETHAN

I said... NOT TODAY!

Ethan pushes Trevor, but his powers send Trevor flying backwards into the locker, hitting his head.

Trevor falls to the ground unconscious, bleeding from the mouth.

A crowd of kids immediately crowd around Trevor to help him.

Ethan calms down to realize what he's done.

Mikaela is one of the kids attending to Trevor.

She looks at Ethan.

MIKAELA

What's wrong with you Ethan?

Ethan notices all the kids looking at him with disapproval.

He runs off.

EXT. BASEBALL FIELD - LATER

Ethan walks onto the field where his teammates are getting ready for practice.

A man in a suit is talking to the coach as they're looking at Ethan.

The coach approaches Ethan.

COACH

Ethan. You need to go see the principal now. Apparently you had a little fight today?

Ethan looks away.

COACH (CONT'D)
Yeah well Trevor's hurt pretty bad.

ETHAN
He started it.

COACH
I don't care. You don't hurt people like that. Until I hear otherwise you're suspended from the team.

Ethan is silent for a moment.

ETHAN
The hell with the team.

The coach is livid and leans in close to Ethan.

COACH
Get off my field and go see the principal.

ETHAN
Whatever.

Ethan storms off.

COACH
I don't know what happened to your attitude but you better change it son.

ETHAN
(without looking back at him.)
I'm not your son.

INT. ETHAN'S HOUSE - LATER

Ethan enters through the back kitchen door to find his mom on the phone.

She furiously motions for him to take a seat at the table. He reluctantly does.

ETHAN'S MOM
(on phone)
Yes.
(beat)
Yes.
(beat)
I will.

Ethan is no mood for the lecture he's about to get.

ETHAN'S MOM (O.S.) (CONT'D)
Oh he definitely will.

ETHAN'S MOM (CONT'D)
Thank you Principal Ford.
(beat)
Goodbye.

She hangs up the phone and looks at Ethan.

ETHAN'S MOM (CONT'D)
Well, I've never gotten a phone call like that before. You wanna tell me what happened today? Why I get a phone call about some poor kid who had to be taken to the hospital and my son who apparently curses at his coach?!

Ethan sits with his arms folded.

ETHAN'S MOM (CONT'D)
The boy's gonna be okay by the way.
Do you care?

She sits down next to him.

ETHAN'S MOM (CONT'D)
What happened today Ethan? This isn't you.

He still sits silently.

ETHAN'S MOM (CONT'D)
Ya know, your father's not around. I'm trying to keep it together here but I need your help. I can't have days like this. I know you're still adjusting but so am I. I will do anything and everything I can to help you through this but don't put me in a position like you did today ever again.

Ethan gets up and runs upstairs.

His mom begins to cry.

ETHAN'S BEDROOM

Ethan runs in, slams the door, puts his face on the pillow and begins crying.

ETHAN
Dad. Why did you leave.

DREAM SEQUENCE

INT. SCHOOL AUDITORIUM - NIGHT

The auditorium is full with Ethan's schoolmates and faculty but is dimly lit.

Ethan is sitting amongst the crowd.

A lone podium is on the stage.

Ethan's dad enters from stage right.

ETHAN
Dad! You're back!

Ethan gets up and tries to make his way to the isle but can't seem to get past the people in his row.

Ethan gets upset at his inability to make it through.

ETHAN (CONT'D)
Dad! I can't get to you!

ETHAN'S DAD
I don't want you to.

Ethan's heart sinks.

ETHAN'S DAD (CONT'D)
(to the crowd)
I don't want to be Ethan's father anymore.

The entire audience looks at Ethan.

ETHAN'S DAD (CONT'D)
Who would like to be my son?

ETHAN
What?

Trevor stands up.

Ethan's dad reaches out to him.

ETHAN'S DAD

Yes. The son I really wanted.

ETHAN

No!

Trevor smiles and goes up on stage and they embrace each other.

They both look at Ethan and Trevor whispers something into Ethan's dad's ear.

ETHAN'S DAD

Don't worry son. I won't let Ethan hurt you or your mother ever again.

ETHAN

(struggling to get to out of the row)
No dad! It's him! He tortures me every day!

ETHAN'S DAD

Stop calling me dad.

Ethan's dad begins to walk towards the back of the stage with Trevor.

Trevor turns to Ethan and smiles.

ETHAN

No.

Ethan struggles again to get out.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Let me through!

But he still can't get through.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Dad!

The curtains shut on Ethan's dad and Trevor.

Ethan falls back into his chair, hangs his head and cries.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Dad.

After a few moments, he picks his head back up.

ETHAN (CONT'D)
(increasingly determined)
No, no, NO!

Ethan jumps from his seat, clearing half the row and landing in the aisle. He rushes the stage.

Just before he reaches it, the curtains open quickly and suddenly to reveal The Deimos, screeching as he is revealed.

Ethan stops fearfully in his tracks and falls back to the ground.

The Deimos leaps from the stage and is gonna land right on top of him.

END DREAM SEQUENCE

INT. ETHAN'S BEDROOM - MORNING

Ethan screams and awakens suddenly.

He calms down.

He notices a note left for him by his mother on his nightstand.

The note reads: "Make yourself breakfast and get yourself to school. We'll talk later."

Ethan knows he's hurt his mom and regrets it.

He gets up and leaves his room.

Under the bed, the crack glows red as it opens wide. The arm of The Deimos comes out.

INT. SCHOOL CAFETERIA - LATER

The children are eating lunch.

Ethan is eating alone.

He spots Trevor with his friends at another table. Trevor is bruised but not broken.

Ethan knows he has to go apologize.

Trevor gets up and takes his tray to the trash can.

Ethan takes a deep breath and heads towards him.

Ethan comes up from behind Trevor.

ETHAN
Hey Trevor.

Trevor jumps as he turns around.

TREVOR
(nervous)
Ahhh! Oh, uh, Ethan. Hey. I uh... I
gotta go um...

ETHAN
Listen, I just wanted to...
(starts to extend his
hand)

TREVOR
(frightened)
Ahhh!

Trevor runs through the doors and down the hallway.

ETHAN
(sighs)
Trevor.

Ethan follows him into the hallway.

HALLWAY

Ethan looks around. Trevor is long gone but all the kids and faculty who are in the hallway are fixated on their smartphones with shock and fear as panic begins to build in the school.

Ethan walks over to one group of kids to see what everyone is looking at.

They're watching a live news report from downtown. There is an on-scene reporter narrating the events.

REPORTER
It is absolute chaos here John.

The news camera is showing screaming, fleeing civilians and large objects being tossed around behind the reporter.

REPORTER (CONT'D)
Again, if you're just joining us,
the unbelievable has happened.

The news camera pans to show The Deimos destroying downtown and terrifying civilians.

Ethan can't believe what he's seeing.

REPORTER (CONT'D) (O.S.)
A... monster. I apologize but there
is no other way to describe it. A
monster is tearing through
downtown.

INT. ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER'S LIVING ROOM - SAME

Ethan's grandfather sits in his easy chair watching television.

REPORTER (O.S.)
We just have no clue how this is
possible.

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER
(ominously)
The Deimos.

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - SAME

Ethan looks around to see the fear and panic that this is causing in his school.

He looks back at the phone to see police engaging The Deimos with gunfire.

REPORTER
The police have been at this for a
while now but conventional
ammunition seems to be useless
against this thing. In short John,
I don't if any thing or any one can
stop this creature.

Ethan is determined to stop him.

He runs off and up several flights of stairs to the roof of the school.

He takes one last look around to make sure no one can see him.

The crystal glows, then his eyes.

He shoots up into the air with purpose, then towards downtown.

EXT. VILLAGE STREET - MOMENTS LATER

The Deimos is still terrorizing the townspeople.

From behind him, a large foot stomps in, cracking the ground beneath it.

MUSCLE MAN (O.S.)
(yells)
Deimos!

The Deimos turns to see Muscle Man at the other end of the street ready to engage him.

DEIMOS
You.

The townspeople and the media turn their attention to Muscle Man.

They both proceed slowly towards each other.

MUSCLE MAN
I don't know how you got out, but
I'm here to send you back.

DEIMOS
You defeated me once in my world,
now I will defeat you in yours.

Muscle Man sees all the people on the street.

MUSCLE MAN
(to the bystanders)
Clear the streets! It's not safe
here!

People start scattering for safety.

DEIMOS
You are not safe anywhere from me.

MUSCLE MAN
It's time to end this once and for
all monster.

The Deimos roars and starts charging towards him.

Muscle Man begins his charge.

Each ones' momentum builds as they get closer to each other.

They clash, resulting in a burst of energy that radiates throughout the town, bursting windows and blowing people back.

They're locked in a standoff, both struggling to gain the advantage over the other.

DEIMOS

(overpowering Muscle Man)

You will never escape me, for I am
a part of you.

Muscle Man feels The Deimos overpowering him and it worries him.

He is then thrown into a car by The Deimos, damaging the car and knocking him to the ground.

Police and firefighters run over to him asking if he's okay.

MUSCLE MAN

Get back!

The Deimos roars and starts towards him.

The police and firefighters clear the way.

Muscle Man angrily picks himself up, turns and lifts the car he was thrown into and throws it at The Deimos.

The car hits The Deimos with force, sending him back and far down the street.

The townspeople cheer.

REPORTER

(turns to the camera)

Ladies and gentlemen. I don't know
how else to say this but the
unbelievable has become even more
so...

Muscle Man walks with purpose towards The Deimos.

REPORTER (O.S.) (CONT'D)

...some sort of... super strongman
has shown up on scene and is
battling the monster.

Muscle Man reaches the car and starts tearing through the wreckage to find The Deimos.

As he making his way through, The Deimos' claws grabs him from behind by the head.

MUSCLE MAN

Oh crap.

INT. TOY STORE - CONTINUOUS

Muscle Man comes flying through the window of a toy store and down the aisle.

After regaining his bearings, he notices a small boy hiding in one of the aisles.

MUSCLE MAN

(achingly)

Hi.

The boy looks at Muscle Man, then at his He-Man action figure and then back at Muscle Man.

BOY

He-Man?

Muscle Man smiles.

The Deimos comes phasing through the wall, roaring as he does.

The boy screams.

Muscle Man immediately turns to engage him.

They lock up again.

The Deimos starts getting the edge again.

Muscle Man feels the loss coming on.

He looks over at the boy who is terrified.

He looks back at The Deimos with determination and begins overpowering him.

MUSCLE MAN

Not this time.

EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS

With speed and strength he drives The Deimos backwards and out of the store, all the way to the side of the building across the street.

Muscle Man is struggling to keep him pressed up against the wall.

DEIMOS

You are stronger than I
anticipated.

MUSCLE MAN

I'm stronger than you can imagine.

DEIMOS

(intimidatingly)
But not strong enough.

The Deimos drives Muscle Man into the wall across the street and presses him against it.

Muscle Man is trapped against the wall and struggling to breathe as The Deimos's claws are growing and applying more and more pressure.

The townspeople begin to look at each other, as do the police and firefighters.

The Deimos continues to crush Muscle Man and his pain and weakening from lack of oxygen is showing.

A police officer jumps on The Deimos' back, distracting and angering him.

Then another latches on to his waste. Then another his leg. Causing him to roar each time.

Then a group of firefighters jump in.

The Deimos releases his grip on Muscle Man. He immediately begins breathing to regain his air.

The Deimos is struggling to get all these nuisances off him.

Muscle Man is afraid for their safety but is still recovering.

MUSCLE MAN

No.

Frustrated, The Deimos balls up and violently throws outwards, breaking their hold and sending them flying and crashing in different directions.

MUSCLE MAN (CONT'D)

No!

Muscle Man angrily charges The Deimos, driving him into and down the street, breaking up ground as he goes.

He ends up on top of The Deimos and begins punching him furiously.

MUSCLE MAN (CONT'D)

You're done hurting people! You're done hurting me! I'll never let you cause pain again!

The Deimos grabs him by the throat to stop him from punching and pulls him in close.

DEIMOS

Pain. I have not yet begun to cause you pain.

The Deimos throws him off, landing on his back.

The Deimos stands.

DEIMOS (CONT'D)

I am part of you. I know how to make you feel pain. I know who you care about most.

MUSCLE MAN

(to himself)

Mom.

DEIMOS

I will make her suffer.

MUSCLE MAN

No!

He throws a punch but The Deimos catches it in his claw and begins crushing it.

Muscle Man feels the pain.

The Deimos begins growing, Muscle Man's fear escalates.

DEIMOS

Her pain will be yours. Fear will overcome and consume you. Then you will forever belong to me.

The Deimos stops growing at ten times his original size. He then sprouts bat like wings, now resembling a full on demon. He lets out a roar that echoes miles away.

Muscle Man now is fully engulfed in fear and notices that he starts shrinking back to Ethan.

MUSCLE MAN

Oh no!

The Deimos picks him up and brings him close.

DEIMOS

It is inevitable. You've already
lost.

The Deimos throws him out of town.

EXT. WOODS - MOMENTS LATER

Muscle Man comes crashing down to the ground and fully
shrinks back to Ethan.

Ethan struggles to get up.

ETHAN

Mom.

Ethan lifts the crystal looks at it and closes his eyes. He's
concentrating hard but nothing is happening.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

(rubbing the crystal)
C'mon. C'mon!

Still nothing.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

(pleading)
No. Please. Don't do this. Please
help me save my mom.

He rubs it again but the crystal does not respond.

Ethan falls to his knees sobbing.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Mom.

An unearthly voice calls to him.

ETHAN'S DAD (O.S.)

Ethan.

Ethan picks his head up and looks around but doesn't see
anyone.

ETHAN'S DAD (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Ethan.

The voice seems to be coming from one particular direction.

ETHAN

Dad?

Ethan gets up and begins quickly making his way towards the voice.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Dad? Dad?!

Ethan quickens his pace.

ETHAN'S DAD (O.S.)

Ethan.

ETHAN

(looking around as he
runs)

Dad! Where are you?!

ETHAN'S DAD (O.S.)

Ethan.

ETHAN

Dad! I can't find you!

Ethan comes to a clearing in the woods. It is the cemetery where his dad is buried.

GRAVEYARD

He sees his grandfather standing over his dad's grave looking down.

Confused, Ethan approaches slowly.

ETHAN

Grandpa?

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER

(turns around)

Oh. Ethan. Thought I might find you here.

ETHAN

How did you get... how did you know I'd be here?

Ethan's grandfather smiles.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Was that you calling me?

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER
No Ethan, it wasn't.

ETHAN
But I thought I heard...

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER
The Deimos got the best of you huh?

ETHAN
(taken back)
How did you...

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER
Oh I know I'm an old man, but I can
still put two and two together.

ETHAN
What are you doing here?

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER
I came to ask for help. Isn't that
why you're here? To ask for help?

ETHAN
Yes.

Ethan takes off the crystal and tries to hand it to his
grandfather.

ETHAN (CONT'D)
The crystal stopped working and
Deimos is...

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER
(interrupting him)
Oh no Ethan. Not from me.

ETHAN
(confused)
But... then who?

Ethan's grandfather smiles, turns and starts walking away.

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER
Far be it from me to get between a
father and son.

ETHAN
Hey. Where are you going?

ETHAN'S DAD (O.S.)
Ethan.

Ethan slowly turns around to see a heavenly apparition of his father.

ETHAN
(tearful disbelief)
Dad?

ETHAN'S DAD
Yes son. It's me.

ETHAN
Dad.
(beat)
Why did you have to leave?

ETHAN'S DAD
I am sorry Ethan.

ETHAN
I miss you so much.

ETHAN'S DAD
I miss you too son. I look in on you more than you know and will continue to do so, but right now your mother needs your help.

ETHAN
But the crystal...
(holding it out towards his dad)
...it's not working. Please give it power again.

ETHAN'S DAD
The crystal belongs to you Ethan. It is you who gives it power. You who controls it. And you that will make it shine again.

ETHAN
How?

ETHAN'S DAD
You have made The Deimos powerful by giving in to fear. That is why he walks our world. That is why you failed to defeat him.

ETHAN
But he's so much more powerful now and I'm more afraid of him than ever.

ETHAN'S DAD

Have courage Ethan. Do you remember
what I told you about courage?

Ethan wipes the tears away.

ETHAN'S DAD (CONT'D)

Courage isn't to be without fear;
it's doing what's right regardless
of fear. Be courageous son.

Ethan nods his head.

ETHAN'S DAD (CONT'D)

Now put that crystal back on and go
save your mom.

Ethan slowly puts the crystal back on and it starts to glow.

Ethan's dad kneels in front of him puts his hands on Ethan's
shoulders and looks him in the eyes.

ETHAN'S DAD (CONT'D)

He's only a nightmare son.

ETHAN

(smiles)
And what do we do with nightmares?

ETHAN'S DAD

You ready?

ETHAN

Yes.

ETHAN'S DAD AND ETHAN

(in unison)
One...

They both begin to glow.

ETHAN'S DAD AND ETHAN (CONT'D)

(in unison)
Two...

The ground begins to rumble.

ETHAN'S DAD AND ETHAN (CONT'D)

(in unison)
Three...

INT. ETHAN'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Ethan's mom is sitting in a chair, looking over family photos and sobbing.

A darkness begins to block out the sunlight from outside.

Ethan's mom becomes concerned, stands up and heads towards the front door.

She opens the door and steps outside.

EXT. ETHAN'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

She looks around and sees the darkness getting worse as The Deimos' lower half slowly lowers into frame behind her.

She hears a whispery soft growl behind her.

She slowly, dreadfully turns around.

The Deimos roars loudly at her.

She screams.

The Deimos grabs her and lifts her towards him.

ETHAN'S MOM

Help! Help!

Police, firefighters and television crews that were following him from the village come racing into the area.

ETHAN'S MOM (CONT'D)

Oh my God, somebody help me!

The police and firefighters try to set up a perimeter as the television crews scramble to get the best shot.

ETHAN'S MOM (CONT'D)

Someone please help!

FIREFIGHTER

What do we do?

POLICE OFFICER

Pray.

The Deimos roars and Ethan's mom screams.

REPORTER
(to the camera)
John, it now appears that the creature has focused his terror on an innocent townswoman.

The Deimos holds Ethan's mom high in the air victoriously.

REPORTER (V.O.)
The police have tried. The fire department has tried. Only that mysterious super human seemed to have any effect.

REPORTER
(to the camera)
Please sir. If you can hear me out there. Please come back, because we need you now.

The Deimos pulls Ethan's mom back in close.

ETHAN'S MOM
(terrified)
What do you want from me?

DEIMOS
To pay for Ethan's defiance.

Her fear begins to turn to anger upon hearing her son's name.

DEIMOS (CONT'D)
Your suffering shall be his.

ETHAN'S MOM
You stay away from my son.

She spits in face.

The Deimos is angered and drops her to the ground.

The fall hurts but doesn't injure her.

DEIMOS
You are defiant like him. No matter. Your time is at an end.

He raises his hand and clinches his fist preparing to smash down on her.

The leaves on the ground begin to rustle as the wind kicks up.

The sky thunders causing The Deimos to look up.

The clouds part and a ball of magnificent energy comes shooting downward towards The Deimos.

The Deimos looks closer to see it is Ethan inside this ball, rocketing towards him with purpose, his eyes glowing.

The Deimos is shocked.

Ethan hits him with such force as to cause an energy pulse felt by everyone around and knocking Deimos to the ground.

Ethan then hovers a few feet from the ground staring at a fallen Deimos.

ETHAN

This ends now Deimos!

Ethan's mother recognizes that voice.

ETHAN'S MOM

Ethan?

Ethan turns to her.

ETHAN

Hi mom.

ETHAN'S MOM

What? How?

ETHAN

I'll explain later, but right now you have to get out of...

The Deimos swipes and sends him flying into the neighbor's wall.

ETHAN'S MOM

Ethan!

Ethan is slow to get up.

ETHAN

Mom. Please run.

ETHAN'S MOM

I'm not leaving you!

ETHAN

Go!

Police and firefighters come and pull her away as she struggles to stay.

ETHAN'S MOM

No!

Ethan's focus turns back to The Deimos as he starts walking towards him.

ETHAN

You made a big mistake torturing me
all those years Deimos.

Ethan conjures up a ball of energy in one hand and throws it, striking The Deimos and causing him roar in pain.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

You made an even bigger mistake
coming to my world and destroying
my town.

Ethan conjures up another energy ball and throws it at The Deimos, striking him and again causing a painful roar.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

And now you've made the biggest
mistake of all...

The Deimos tries to punch Ethan but he stops it with energy coming out of his one hand.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

...threatening my mother!

Ethan delivers a jumping uppercut to The Deimos' face, sending him flying backwards crashing into a house.

The wall of the house breaks away to reveal a man on the toilet, reading the paper. He's in shock by the sudden intrusion.

The crowd of rescue workers and media focus their attention on him.

His shock turns to embarrassment.

The Deimos turns and roars at him.

He screams and tries to run away but trips due to his pants being around his ankles.

Ethan flies forcefully into The Deimos, driving him into the sky above the clouds.

Ethan stops as The Deimos keeps flying backwards before regaining control.

Ethan flies towards him again for another strike.

The Deimos roars and starts his charge.

They collide.

Their fighting is causing big booms and flashes resembling thunder and lightning to the crowd on the ground.

Ethan reaches downwards towards the ground.

Two unoccupied police cars quickly fly into the air.

One hits The Deimos. Then a second one. The Deimos knocks away the third one and roars angrily but doesn't see the fire truck that hits him from behind, sending him across the sky.

A commercial airplane is flying through the sky.

The Deimos comes hurling towards it.

He grabs on to the left wing to catch himself.

INT. AIRPLANE CABIN - CONTINUOUS

The plane rumbles and startles the passengers.

The CAPTAIN comes over the P.A. system.

CAPTAIN (V.O.)

Ladies and gentlemen, this is your captain speaking. We seemed to have encountered an unexpected thunderstorm that is causing some mild turbulence. There is no reason to be alarmed and we should be through it momentarily. So just sit back, relax, and enjoy the ride. Thank you.

JOHN LITHGOW himself is sitting in the window seat. He opens the window shade and sees The Deimos on the wing. The Deimos screeches at him. He quickly shuts the shade.

JOHN LITHGOW

Nope. Didn't see anything.

EXT. SKY - CONTINUOUS

The Deimos releases the wing and the airplane flies off.

Ethan is rocketing towards him.

The Deimos raises his arm and swipes downward, striking Ethan and sending him downward.

Ethan comes crashing down to the ground. The bystanders back away quickly.

ETHAN'S MOM
(tearfully)
Ethan.

Ethan picks his head up slowly to see her.

ETHAN
(weak)
Mom.

Her expression turns to fear as The Deimos lands behind him.

Ethan tries to get up but The Deimos quickly and forcefully pins him to the ground with one hand.

The Deimos leans in close.

DEIMOS
You cannot defeat me. You'll never
be rid of me and you cannot escape
me.

The Deimos releases his hold on Ethan and begins pummeling him into the ground.

Bystanders wince with each strike.

Ethan's mom is crying.

REPORTER
Ladies and gentlemen. Whatever this
heroic entity is... I'm sad to
report that it appears it may be
meeting its end right now.

The Deimos lays one final huge strike onto Ethan.

Everyone feels the force of the blow.

Ethan lies motionless on the ground, his glow has dimmed.

The Deimos cautiously moves in close to make sure Ethan is finished. Growling and snarling as he does it.

ETHAN'S MOM
(heartbroken)
No.

The Deimos picks him up and throws him.

Ethan crashes through his bedroom wall.

Ethan's mom's crying turns angry and she starts picking up random objects and throwing it at The Deimos.

Other civilians see this and join her.

The policemen start firing their weapons at him.

The firefighters start spraying him with their hoses.

All this is having little to no effect and only irritating The Deimos. He lets a an enormous roar that makes them stop.

The roar makes Ethan come to.

He sees The Deimos continuing his havoc.

Ethan looks over at a picture of him and his dad on his nightstand.

ETHAN'S DAD (V.O.)

Be courageous son.

His face grows determined and he begins to glow bright once again.

The Deimos is blind sided by a flying Ethan, with enough force to send him flying into the sky.

Every time The Deimos' momentum slows, Ethan strikes him again, continuously sending him across the sky.

He hits The Deimos with one final blow sending him crashing to the ground in the woods.

WOODS

Ethan lands shortly after.

The Deimos slowly begins to pick himself up.

DEIMOS

Have you learned nothing? You cannot defeat me. You cannot escape me.

ETHAN

I have learned. You're right. I cannot escape you.

(MORE)

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Because you are a part of me and you always will be. I will never truly be rid of fear and therefore never truly rid of you.

DEIMOS

Yes.

ETHAN

But you were also wrong. I can defeat you. In fact, I already have.

The Deimos becomes angered.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

My father told me to be courageous. To do what's right regardless of fear. Regardless of you.

The Deimos tries to strike Ethan.

Ethan catches the strike with the energy emerging from his hand.

The Deimos begins to worry.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

It is now your turn to feel fear Deimos. Your turn to run and hide from me...

The Deimos begins shrinking back to his original size.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

...Your turn to be afraid of what awaits you when you enter my world. Your turn to be afraid to fall asleep.

Ethan now has The Deimos down to equivalent of being on his knees.

Feeling essentially powerless, a weak Deimos looks up at Ethan.

DEIMOS

You know I'll return.

ETHAN

I know...

Ethan begins forming a ball of energy with his free hand.

The Deimos fears what's coming.

ETHAN (CONT'D)
...and I'll be waiting.

Ethan smashes The Deimos with ball causing him to be destroyed in fantastic fashion.

Ethan stands tall.

He takes everything in for a moment then smiles.

ETHAN (CONT'D)
I did it dad. Thank you.

Ethan crouches down, the earth begins to rumble, the leaves begin to rustle and he takes off into the sky shining brightly.

He zips through the clouds with gusto.

He flies over the village where people are applauding.

EXT. ETHAN'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Ethan's mother is weeping in the street as she does not know if he is alive or not.

She then hears what sounds like a rocket in the distance getting closer. She picks her head up and looks towards the sky.

ETHAN'S MOM
Ethan?

He then flies over his street.

Everyone begins applauding there too.

His mother begins crying tears of joy.

Ethan disappears behind some trees behind his house.

His mother looks around for him.

ETHAN'S MOM (CONT'D)
Ethan?

Moments later a non-glowing Ethan comes running out of his front door.

ETHAN
Mom!

ETHAN'S MOM

Ethan!

They run into each other's arms.

ETHAN'S MOM (CONT'D)

Oh my baby boy.

(she kisses his head and
cheek multiple times)

I was so worried.

ETHAN

I'm okay mom. I'm okay.

ETHAN'S MOM

I love you so much.

ETHAN

I love you too.

She pulls back from the hug.

ETHAN'S MOM

What...? How did you...? Just start
explaining!

Ethan chuckles and pulls her back into the hug.

ETHAN

I will mom. I will.

The frightened man with his pants still around his ankles,
peeks his head out from behind one of his exposed rooms to
see if it is safe to come out.

Emergency workers are aiding people. Civilians are recounting
the incredible events to each other. Reporters are speaking
in to their cameras. Ethan and his mom continue to hug.

REPORTER (O.S.)

Again John, it does appear as if
the creature's reign of terror has
come to an end and the town is
breathing a collective sigh of
relief. Unfortunately we may never
know who or what to thank for
saving everyone. Our cameras were
only able to catch the glow from
that strange heroic being, leaving
it's identity and origin a mystery.
And what of the mysterious
unidentified muscular individual?
Where has he disappeared to? Are
these two working together?

(MORE)

REPORTER (O.S.) (CONT'D)
Are they one in the same? Indeed,
so many questions still to be
answered?

INT. ETHAN'S HOUSE - MORNING

Ethan is helping clean up the mess in the house. His mother
comes downstairs and watches him from behind.

ETHAN'S MOM
He would be so proud of you.

ETHAN
You think so?

ETHAN'S MOM
(smiling)
I know so.

Ethan smiles.

ETHAN'S MOM (CONT'D)
Confused. Maybe a little afraid.
But proud.

Ethan chuckles.

ETHAN
Yeah. I'm still a little confused
myself.

ETHAN'S MOM
(puts her hand on his
face)
And I'm still a little afraid.
You're my baby boy. I'm never not
gonna be worried when you're
fighting monsters.

ETHAN
I don't think we're gonna have to
worry about monsters anymore.

ETHAN'S MOM
Good. Otherwise I'm gonna need that
thing for my own nightmares.

They both chuckle, then hug. She kisses him on the forehead.

ETHAN'S MOM (CONT'D)
Now finish cleaning the mess you
made.

ETHAN

Okay mom.

She starts to walk away.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Mom.

She turns back.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Thanks for being so cool about all
this.

ETHAN'S MOM

Not cool. Clean.
(pointing all around)
Mess.

She walks away as Ethan smiles.

EXT. GRAVEYARD - DAY

Ethan stands over his father's grave in his baseball uniform.
His grandfather walks up from behind.

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER

Thought I might find you here.

Ethan turns.

ETHAN

You said that last time.

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER

Did I? You'll have to forgive us
old people.

(taps his own head)

We tend to repeat ourselves.

ETHAN

(smiling)

You're forgiven.

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER

(sits on a headstone)

Well thank you.

ETHAN

Um... isn't that kinda..?

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER
(looks down at the
headstone)
Oh... yeah... I'm sure he won't
mind.

ETHAN
Did you know? Did you know the
crystal could do all that?

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER
Mmm... I suspected.

ETHAN
Why didn't you tell me?

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER
Us old people. Sometimes we forget
things too.

ETHAN
C'mon grandpa, that night in my
room...

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER
(interrupting Ethan)
You know Ethan, there are some
things in life that we need to
discover for ourselves. Sometimes
you can only be shown the path. You
still need to walk down it.

Ethan nods his head.

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER (CONT'D)
And besides, you weren't exactly
forthcoming that night either. Were
you?

ETHAN
(apologetic)
I guess not.

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER
Oh that's okay. You forgave me. The
least I could do is forgive you in
return. Deal?

ETHAN
(smiling)
Deal.

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER

Good. So is your dad chatty today?
Cause last time I couldn't get him
to shut up.

ETHAN

Not today.

Ethan looks at the headstone.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Mom said he'd be proud of me.

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER

And she was right. He would be. Who
wouldn't be. After all, how many
people get to say they raised
someone so brave, so courageous.

Ethan looks at him.

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER (CONT'D)

Someone who knew that courage isn't
not being afraid, but doing what's
right regardless of fear.

Ethan smiles.

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER (CONT'D)

What? You thought your dad coined
that little number? He stole it
from me.

ETHAN

Did you steal it from your dad?

Ethan's grandfather shrugs his shoulders.

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER

You know us old people. We can't
remember anything.

He winks at Ethan.

Ethan smiles again.

He stands up throws his arm around Ethan and they start to
walk off.

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER (CONT'D)

Now, I hear you're turning into a
heck of a ball player.

ETHAN

I'm okay.

ETHAN'S GRANDFATHER

Okay? You're my grandson, I'm sure
you're better than okay.

EXT. BASEBALL FIELD - LATER

Tie game. Bottom of the ninth. Two outs.

Trevor is leading off second.

Ethan steps up to bat.

Coach gets nervous.

Ethan's mom and grandfather smile and grab each other's hand.

Mikaela looks on.

Ethan is determined and confident as he readies his stance.

The pitcher looks off Trevor.

Ethan is ready.

The pitcher throws.

Ethan swings and hits.

The ball grounds into left field.

Ethan and Trevor both run.

The fielder is running to the ball.

Ethan rounds first as Trevor rounds third.

The fielder grabs the ball and throws to the third baseman
who then throws towards home.

Ethan slides into second and immediately looks at Trevor.

Trevor is sliding into home as the catcher catches the ball
and tries to turn to tag Trevor.

He just misses him.

UMPIRE

Safe! Safe!

The home stands and dugout erupt.

Ethan throws his hands up in the air victoriously.

Trevor gets up and jumps up and down.

The dugout clears and runs to Ethan.

They mob him, patting and congratulating him.

Ethan's grandfather is holding his mom as she sobs tears of joy.

Mikaela is smiling.

COACH

(crying)

Oh thank you God. Thank you, thank you, thank you...

Ethan notices Trevor at home plate.

Trevor smiles and nods at him.

Ethan smiles and nods back.

EXT. PARKING LOT - MOMENTS LATER

The celebration has stopped and all the parents are walking with the players to their cars.

Ethan is walking between his mom and grandfather. They reach the car.

Ethan notices Mikaela walking with her friends.

ETHAN

I'll be right back.

He runs over to her.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

Mikaela! Mikaela!

She turns to him.

MIKAELA

Hey Ethan.

ETHAN

(a little winded)

Hey. I was wondering... if you're not busy... do you wanna get some ice cream?

She smiles.

Ethan's mom smiles and gets in the car.

MIKAELA

Sure, sounds like fun.

(to her friends)

I'll catch up with you guys later.

(to Ethan)

Let's go.

Ethan smiles and they start walking.

MIKAELA (CONT'D)

Do you need to tell your family?

Ethan looks over at his grandfather.

His grandfather gives him a thumbs up.

Ethan gives him a thumbs up back.

ETHAN

No, I think they'll figure it out.

Ethan's grandfather smiles and starts to get into the car.

Ethan and Mikaela walk off across the field.

ETHAN (CONT'D)

So, what kinda ice cream do you like?

MIKAELA

Mint chocolate chip. But I can only have one scoop. Too much sugar gives me nightmares.

ETHAN

Yeah, I know what you mean.

THE END