# EVERETT

EP101 - 'THE PILOT'

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## TEASER

#### EXT. EVERETT WOODS - NIGHT

A WHITE TAIL DEER pads through dense and foggy woods.

A twig CRACKS in the underbrush. She turns to face the sound.

BANG! The Doe topples to the ground, a short syringe protruding from her neck.

She tries to stand and her legs buckle.

Two well-worn boots emerge from the bushes.

She stares up at her attacker, helpless.

THE HUNTER leans down, his face obscured by camouflage.

He pets the Doe as her eyes close.

He picks her up, throws her over his shoulder and lumbers back into the trees.

#### EXT. EVERETT ROADSIDE - NIGHT

A RUSTY FORD PICKUP rattles down the road with the Deer tied down in the back.

Two signs read -

'WELCOME TO EVERETT B.C. POP: 1300'

'HUNTING STRICTLY PROHIBITED BY LAW - FEDERAL FINES IMPOSED'

In the bed of the truck, the Deer opens her eyes.

### INT. THE RUSTY FORD - NIGHT

The Hunter, face still hidden, holds a flip phone to his ear.

A FEMALE VOICE cracks though like a whip.

FEMALE VOICE (O.C.) The deal was you bring one in

alive. It is alive right?

He glances in the rearview - the Deer kicks and struggles.

THE HUNTER

I need your word. When you're done--

FEMALE VOICE (O.C.)

We've been over this.

THE HUNTER

Your word.

FEMALE VOICE (O.C.)

You have it. You have my word. (eager)

So?

THE HUNTER

She's alive.

FEMALE VOICE (O.C.)

She?

THE HUNTER

Best I can tell. I'm on my wa--

The Hunter slams on the brakes.

FEMALE VOICE (O.C.)

Did I lose you?

He stares into the rearview at the empty bed.

THE HUNTER

I'll call you back.

He hangs up, throws the Ford into a three point turn and peels off back down the road.

Accelerator to the floor, he scans the dark woods --

CRACK! The Ford slams into a TEENAGE GIRL in the middle of the road and sends her flying.

The truck screeches to a halt.

### EXT. EVERETT ROADSIDE - NIGHT

The Girl's body lies still several meters from the truck.

The Hunter emerges and crosses to her.

THE HUNTER

Forgive me.

He drags her body from the light of the high beams.

### END TEASER

## ACT ONE

#### INT. JEFF'S BMW - MORNING

CAROLINE DAWSON (16), preppy, but not exactly dressed for a first day of school, sits in the passenger seat next to--

JEFF DAWSON (40s) - her father - visibly nervous, and absolutely dressed for a first day at work.

Jeff eyes Caroline expectantly as she fiddles with her phone.

JEFF

Do ya like the car?

CAROLINE

It's fine. The old one was fine too. I get zero bars here. Like not even one.

More silence and another glance from Jeff.

**JEFF** 

They have some really neat little shops in town, like clothing and jewelry and stuff.

CAROLINE

I think I'll stick to buying things online.

Even more silence.

JEFF

Found anywhere you could volunteer?

CAROLINE

No.

**JEFF** 

Oh come on. There's gotta be a million wildlife sanctuaries around here. I mean Jesus, look around.

CAROLINE

Yeah, well, there aren't.

**JEFF** 

I bet you haven't even looked.

I have and there aren't. Not to mention I was perfectly happy at the place I was already volunteering.

**JEFF** 

Yeah, well.

The car whips past more dense forest.

CAROLINE

(glancing over) Can you not do that?

**JEFF** 

What?

CAROLINE

You keep staring at me.

**JEFF** 

Look, Care--

CAROLINE

Here we go.

JEFF

Caroline, listen.

CAROLINE

I'm listening. Not like I have any other choice.

**JEFF** 

I know this last year has been--

CAROLINE

Awful?

**JEFF** 

Yeah... but you know why we're here, right?

CAROLINE

Yes.

**JEFF** 

So, I know it's not ideal, for either of us, but if you could just try to make it work. That would make things a lot easier.

For who, you?

**JEFF** 

Yes. For me. And for you too.

CAROLINE

Monica says her parents will let me stay at her place for at least the rest of--

**JEFF** 

We are not having this discussion. What did I just say?

CAROLINE

You said trying would make it easier for you! Trying isn't going to make me miss my friends less.

**JEFF** 

CAROLINE

Fine. I'll give it a shot.

### EXT. EVERETT HIGH - MORNING

Jeff's BMW pulls up outside the school.

Caroline climbs out. A few students give the car odd looks.

MARISSA (16) - tasteful punk rock chic - hauls on a cigarette. She eyes Caroline down as she heads inside.

#### INT. EVERETT HIGH - HALLS - MORNING

Caroline follows alongside PRINCIPAL ROGERS (60s) - looking the part in pearls and a tight pant suit.

Paint peels from the lockers and every fourth ceiling tile seems to be missing.

A poster tacked to the wall bears a girl's face catches Caroline's eye: MISSING: REBECCA BREMMER.

PRINCIPAL ROGERS

I know it may not be much compared to Toronto schools, but Everett High is actually one of the oldest continuously operating schools in the country!

CAROLINE

Oh, no, it's great.

They come to a group of rusted lockers without locks.

PRINCIPAL ROGERS

Any one of those ones there shouldn't be occupied.

Caroline selects one at random and empties her bag into it.

PRINCIPAL ROGERS (CONT'D)

So your first period is Math with Mr. Reynolds. You'll love him. Everyone thinks he's a real riot! He's in room 106, need any help getting there?

CAROLINE

No I should be alright.

PRINCIPAL ROGERS

Okay fantastic. Well, welcome to Everett High and if you need anything--

Caroline's eyes linger on a different poster of Rebecca.

CAROLINE

Mrs. Rogers?

PRINCIPAL ROGERS

Oh, uhm, yes?

CAROLINE

(pointing at the poster)

Who's that?

Principal Rogers looks around and her face drops.

PRINCIPAL ROGERS

Rebecca Bremmer. She's a student here. She went missing a week ago.

CAROLINE

Oh.

PRINCIPAL ROGERS

We're all sure she'll be back to us safe and sound very soon.

(Takes a second)

Anyways, you should be getting to class. You said you know where you're going?

CAROLINE

Yeah, I'll be fine.

PRINCIPAL ROGERS

Fantastic. Well, once again. Welcome Caroline. We're delighted to have you. And if you need anything at all, let me know!

CAROLINE

I will, thanks.

Principal Rogers smiles. She turns and heads down the hall.

### INT. EVERETT HIGH - LUNCH ROOM - DAY

Caroline stands alone and uncomfortable in a line of students awaiting their turn at the hot table.

ABBY (O.C.)

It tastes better than it looks. Promise!

Caroline turns.

ABBY HARRIS (15), the type to cover up and judge the girls who don't, beams at her.

ABBY (CONT'D)

Caroline right?

CAROLINE

Yeah.

ABBY

I'm Abby! Abby Harris! I was in your math class this morning!

CAROLINE

Nice to meet you.

ABBY

You're from Toronto? That's really cool.

(MORE)

ABBY (CONT'D)

I've never been but I have like, third cousins there I've never met.

CAROLINE

Yeah, I am.

ABBY

Do you miss it?

CAROLINE

Yeah.

**ABBY** 

So what are you gonna have for lunch?

CAROLINE

I'm not really hungry actually.

ABBY

You've gotta eat something! I know you must be nervous. It's a pretty big place, the school I mean. I bet you weren't expecting it to be so big.

CAROLINE

Yeah, I mean, it's pretty big I guess.

ABBY

Well it's probably not much different here. Except for all the trees and mountains I mean. Over there are the jocks--

Abby points at a table where COLIN RICHARDSON (16), athletic and handsome, laughs with his friends. Including --

JEREMY MATTHEWS (16), a lacrosse prodigy and tough guy, who doesn't seem to find Colin so funny at the moment.

ABBY (CONT'D)

Hockey players mostly, rugby and lacrosse too. Real stereotypes, every one. I'd steer clear if I were you.

## ON COLIN & JEREMY AT THE JOCK'S TABLE:

Colin leans into Jeremy.

COLIN

(through laughter)

No lie! I swear! Jer was there! He'll back me up!

Jeremy forces a smile, Colin gives him an encouraging squeeze on his shoulder.

The pair share a look unseen by the rest of the table.

## ON ABBY AND CAROLINE:

Abby's finger travels next to a table where KATIE REID (16), The blonde queen bee, holds court.

ABBY

You've seen Mean Girls right? Yeah, no difference. They basically just talk about TV and try to sleep with the hockey players - gross.

## ON KATIE AT THE MEAN GIRL'S TABLE:

MEAN GIRL ONE

-- I still think she just ran away.

MEAN GIRL TWO

Wouldn't you? I hear her Dad is like crazy abusive.

MEAN GIRL THREE

I mean her brother is a total weirdo.

(beat)

Think she'll ever come back?

KATTE

After what she did, I wouldn't be surprised if she never shows her face here again.

BRANDON AND HAYDEN GAULT (16), both big and broad with bad haircuts, saunter by.

HAYDEN

Hey Katie, when you gonna go on that date with me?

KATIE

Uhm, when Hell freezes over maybe?

Hayden blows her a kiss. The Mean Girls Table laughs and fake gag as the brothers walk away.

## ON ABBY & CAROLINE:

Abby's finger moves from table to table as she continues.

ABBY

The drama kids. Then there's the nerds. Some of the guys are pretty cute but they're all scared of girls that aren't two-dimensional. The punks sit over there, and then those are the stoners, and... I think that's it.

Marissa makes her way by, eyeing Caroline hard as she passes.

CAROLINE

Can I help you?!

MARISSA

Nope.

**ABBY** 

Lay off, Marissa.

MARISSA

Or what? You'll have God strike me down?

CAROLINE

What's your deal?

MARISSA

(To Abby)

You would be the first one to talk to her. Your dad was, what, like the only person who voted <u>for</u> the mine?

ABBY

What do you care?

Marissa rolls her eyes, turns, and storms through the cafeteria doors.

CAROLINE

What's her deal?

ABBY

It's nothing, really. She just sucks.

CAROLINE

You shouldn't let her talk to you like that.

ABBY

I know, it's just... I don't know. I'm not so good with people, I guess.

CAROLINE

Why did she bring up the mine?

Abby goes very red.

**ABBY** 

Well, everyone knows you're here because your Dad is high up at the mine.

CAROLINE

They hate me because of my Dad's job?

ABBY

No! They don't hate you! They just don't know you! Sorry I shouldn't have said anything.

(scrambles)

Hey! I have this little get together at my place every week. We just watch movies and play games and stuff! You should totally come!

Caroline applies her best smile.

CAROLINE

You know what? That sounds fun.

ABBY

Really?

CAROLINE

Just tell me where and when!

The lunch line lurches forward.

# INT. EVERETT SHERIFF'S OFFICE - DAY

SPECIAL CONSTABLE KAREN MCMILLAN (40s), Chief of the Everett police force, looks like she was born in uniform.

She stares at a map of Everett dotted with red pins.

OFFICER ROBERT NELSON (30s), the shakiest gun in Everett, but a good cop none-the-less, enters and hangs up his jacket.

CONSTABLE MCMILLAN

What'd the dogs turn up?

OFFICER NELSON

Not a damn thing. Whole east side of the river.

CONSTABLE MCMILLAN

It's been ten days.

OFFICER NELSON

I know.

CONSTABLE MCMILLAN

I made coffee.

OFFICER NELSON

That, I did not know.

Officer Nelson crosses to the pot and pours himself a mug.

The pair study the map on the wall.

OFFICER NELSON (CONT'D)

So where to next?

CONSTABLE MCMILLAN

I'm thinking we get another dog team out on the west side of the river, then work our way that direction.

OFFICER NELSON

Okay. Yeah, makes sense.

(hesitates)

Still think she ran away?

CONSTABLE MCMILLAN

Shit, Bob. I never said I thought she ran away. Said I hoped she did.

(another thoughtful drink)

There hasn't been a murder in this town in forty years.

OFFICER NELSON

That's the first time you've said it.

CONSTABLE MCMILLAN

What?

OFFICER NELSON

Murder.

They look at one another, expressions grim.

### INT. DAWSON RESIDENCE - CAROLINE'S ROOM - EVENING

Caroline unpacks clothes from crumpled boxes and places them in her dresser.

The only other things unpacked are a number of Judo, kickboxing and Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu trophies.

As well as a photograph --

Caroline surrounded by a dozen dogs and cats. A message hastily scrawled in permanent marker reads:

'WE'LL MISS YOU! GOOD LUCK IN B.C. - YOUR FRIENDS AT THE TORONTO HUMANE SOCIETY.'

She simultaneously video-chats with MONICA (15), her trendy BFF from back home.

CAROLINE

Sorry I didn't text today. I don't even know if it's possible to get service out here.

MONICA

Don't be! I totally get it! You're like a million miles away!

CAROLINE

I know right. You wouldn't believe how middle of nowhere this place is. Thank god for Wifi.

MONTCA

Please tell me there's cute boys.

CAROLINE

Well, I mean...

MONICA

There totally are!

CAROLINE

Okay there might be one.

MONICA

Just one? Oh you poor soul. (laughs)

So did you talk to your Dad?

Yes.

MONICA

And?

CAROLINE

I don't think he's gonna go for it.

MONICA

Come on! He has to! My rents will let you stay forever, you know they love you! How can he keep you from your friends during like literally your most important years.

CAROLINE

I know I know! It's just, you know how my Dad's been since Mom.

MONICA

Yeah. I do. How are you doing?

CAROLINE

I'm fine.

(beat)

Hey! So what happened with Clover?

MONICA

They signed the papers today!
They'll be by tomorrow to pick her up!

CAROLINE

Oh my god that's amazing! I was starting to think about just adopting her myself.

MONICA

You totally should have! She loved you so much!

CAROLINE

Maybe I would have if I could have stayed.

(beat)

God I miss them all so much!

MONICA

Everyone misses you too. Is there anywhere out there you could volunteer?

Ugh no. Trust me I've looked. Only thing I found was a book sorter at the library.

A CRASH from downstairs brings Caroline to her feet.

MONICA

What's up?

CAROLINE

Nothing. I think my Dad's home. I'll call you later.

Caroline ends the chat and peers out into the hall.

CAROLINE (CONT'D)

Dad?

#### INT. DAWSON RESIDENCE - CONTINUOUS

Caroline moves down the stairs into the foyer.

CAROLINE

Dad?

An unmistakable CRASH from somewhere in the house.

Caroline heads back upstairs and into Jeff's bedroom.

### INT. DAWSON RESIDENCE - JEFF'S ROOM

Caroline removes a small pelican case from beneath the bed.

CAROLINE

(reciting)

One... Nine... Six... Nine.

The case opens to reveal a Smith & Wesson 9mm and clip. She fumbles the two together.

CAROLINE (CONT'D)

(to herself)

Safety.

She clicks the small button next to the trigger and heads nervously for the stairs.

CRASH. The garage. Caroline moves to the door.

CAROLINE (CONT'D)

I... have a gun!

Rustling from behind the door. Caroline breathes deep and throws it open.

# INT. DAWSON RESIDENCE - THE GARAGE

Multiple trash bins lie on their sides. CRASH!

Caroline swings around.

The door to the backyard sits ajar.

### EXT. DAWSON RESIDENCE - BACKYARD

Caroline emerges, gun raised shakily before her.

She freezes.

Across the lawn watching from the tree line --

A massive BLACK WOLF.

They stare at one another for a long moment before The Wolf slinks away into the trees. Caroline lowers her gun.

JEFF (O.C.)

Care?

Caroline wheels around, gun raised.

Jeff hits the patio.

JEFF (CONT'D)

Jesus! Caroline!

CAROLINE

Dad!!

She lowers the barrel, hands shaking.

JEFF

(back to his feet)

Why the hell do you have my gun?! You could have killed me!

Caroline looks to the trees and back to her Dad.

CAROLINE

Nothing. I thought... I thought somebody broke in... I panicked.

**JEFF** 

(grabbing the gun)

Give me that!

(checks the chamber)

Holy christ Caroline it's loaded.

CAROLINE

Of course it's loaded. You taught me how.

**JEFF** 

This is for emergencies! I can't believe you'd be so, so careless!

CAROLINE

It was-- I thought it was-- Maybe if you were home on time for once in your life! Maybe if I still lived in a place I felt safe! Maybe if Mom was here! I wouldn't have needed it!

Caroline storms past Jeff and back into the garage.

He sets the pistol on the patio table, sits down and places his head in his hands.

## INT. STERILE FACILITY - NIGHT

ARDEN STEVENS (30s), dressed for a Wall Street board room, holds a cellphone to her ear.

Behind her, a lone hospital bed - monitors beeping away.

ARDEN

I'm telling you, she's too weak.

MALE VOICE (O.C.)

And I'm telling you they're getting impatient. They need to see progress--

ARDEN

Spare me. Those idiots don't even know what they've bought.

MALE VOICE (O.C.)

Ahh but they know they've bought it, and that's what matters to these 'idiots.' We did make certain promises.

ARDEN

Did you tell them Rome wasn't purchased in a day?

MALE VOICE (O.C.)

I like you Arden. I've always liked you. But you know how this will be received. Every day without a demonstration makes it harder for me to defend you. They can pull the plug at any moment.

(silence)

Do you understand?

ARDEN

I do.

MALE VOICE (O.S.) So there is no possibility of proceeding?

Arden strides to the hospital bed and appraises the unconscious body of REBECCA BREMMER (16) --

From the road and the missing posters.

ARDEN

Even if there is it won't be soon enough for them.

MALE VOICE (O.C.)

Arden.

ARDEN

Fine, proceed, but it'll be an autopsy, not a demonstration. You can all fly up here, do a little skiing, make a whole weekend out of it.

(refocuses)

There are more. My contact--

MALE VOICE (O.C.)

Yes, your woodsman. The one who hit her with the truck.

(beat)

I shouldn't have to remind you that the actions of those who work for you--

ARDEN

He's the only one who's come close. He knows the land. He'll deliver. MALE VOICE (O.C.)

You're very trusting of a man whose face you've never seen.

Arden bites her lip - He's right.

ARDEN

He'll deliver.

MALE VOICE (O.C.)

See that he does.

The line goes dead. Arden turns to leave.

A hand reaches out to stop her.

Rebecca looks up from the bed. Her eyes barely open beneath the swelling and sedatives.

REBECCA

(Barely a whisper)

Please... Help me...

Arden pulls her hand away from Rebecca and leaves the room.

### EXT. ABANDONED LOGGING CAMP - NIGHT

Arden strides out the front door of a crumbling log cabin.

Next to his pickup, clad head to toe in camo - The Hunter.

THE HUNTER

I need to speak with you.

ARDEN

We talk when you bring me another subject. One we can use. Not before.

HUNTER

You promised --

ARDEN

You have one week.

Arden storms back inside without another word.

The Hunter climbs into his truck and it rumbles away.

### END ACT ONE

## ACT TWO

#### INT. EVERETT DINER - MORNING

Caroline and Jeff occupy a booth in the bustling diner. Jeff glances at his watch.

CAROLINE

Relax.

**JEFF** 

No, I know, it's just been a while hasn't it?

In the booth behind them, two LOCALS (40s) - burly farmer types, chat loudly over their coffee.

Caroline can't help but overhear.

LOCAL ONE

I'm tellin' ya, biggest I've ever seen.

LOCAL TWO

Sounds like the Sasquatch.

LOCAL ONE

Don't be a dick. I know what a cougar track looks like, but this one was huge.

Jeff's voice snaps her back to reality.

**JEFF** 

It's like we're not even here.

CAROLINE

They're busy.

**JEFF** 

Everyone else is getting served.

WAITRESS (O.S.)

You in a hurry, Sir?

Jeff and Caroline look with a start to see a bored looking WAITRESS (30s), chewing gum and staring at them.

**JEFF** 

Oh, well, yeah actually. I gotta get my kid to school.

Dad.

WAITRESS

Well what'll it be.

**JEFF** 

Breakfast Benny, home fries and toast. Rye. Care?

CAROLINE

Pancakes and bacon, thanks.

Caroline gives The Waitress an apologetic smile, which she does not return.

**JEFF** 

What's everyone's deal here?

Caroline almost tells him but bites her lip.

REVEREND HARRIS (O.C.)

Hello!

Jeff roles his eyes.

**JEFF** 

Oh god what now--

He looks up to see REVEREND PETER HARRIS (40s), balding, casually dressed and surprisingly, smiling.

Jeff goes red. Caroline stifles her laughter.

JEFF (CONT'D)

Oh, sorry, hey. How are ya?

REVEREND HARRIS

I'm very well thank you. You just arrived didn't you? Working for the mine I assume?

**JEFF** 

Uh, yeah. Jeff, Jeff Dawson. Nice to meet you.

They shake hands.

REVEREND HARRIS

Peter, Peter Harris.

(to Caroline)

And you must be the new girl Abby won't stop talking about.

This time Caroline goes red.

CAROLINE

Yeah, I guess. You're Abby's dad.

REVEREND HARRIS

The one and only. Caroline right?

CAROLINE

Yeah.

REVEREND HARRIS

Well let me be the first to welcome you both to Everett. Maybe not the first, but, you know what I mean. If you're not busy this weekend, we do a service Sunday morning I'd love to see you at!

Jeff shifts uncomfortably.

**JEFF** 

Oh yeah, we're still settling in but, if we're all unpacked, maybe, for sure!

Reverend Harris grins. The Waitress arrives with their food.

She sets it down unceremoniously and departs without a word.

JEFF (CONT'D)

Gee thanks.

REVEREND HARRIS

Well I'll let you get to your meals! Don't wanna be late for school! Pleasure to meet you both, and hope to see you Sunday!

With a smile he turns and leaves.

Caroline and Jeff share a look of raised eyebrows and dig into their breakfast.

### AT THE DINER COUNTER

Special Constable McMillan sips a cup of coffee alone.

REVEREND HARRIS (CONT'D)

Karen, how are ya?

She looks up from her cup.

CONSTABLE MCMILLAN

Reverend. Fine thanks.

REVEREND HARRIS

What are you up to this beautiful morning?

CONSTABLE MCMILLAN

Bout to head up to see The Bremmers.

REVEREND HARRIS

Ahh yes, so sad. How are they holding up?

CONSTABLE MCMILLAN

How do you expect they're holding up Peter?

REVEREND HARRIS

Yes. Well. If there's anything I can do. Offer my assistance in any way.

CONSTABLE MCMILLAN

I'll be sure to let you know.

REVEREND HARRIS

You know. Your father used to come to me, when he felt lost.

CONSTABLE MCMILLAN

Yeah, how'd that work out for him?

Constable McMillan's look ends the conversation there. Reverend Harris departs with what dignity he las left.

# INT. BREMMER RESIDENCE - AFTERNOON

The living room is an eclectic mix of family photos, knick-knacks and First Nations artwork.

Constable McMillan and Officer Nelson occupy a small sofa opposite--

CHARLIE and CHARLOTTE BREMMER (40s) - Rebecca's parents - blue collar and grieving.

On a chair to the side, NOAH BREMMER (15), a lost brother, listens while gears turn in his head.

Constable McMillan puts her hand on Mrs. Bremmer's knee.

CONSTABLE MCMILLAN

We've known each other a long time Charlotte. Look at me. I promise you, I'm going to find her. I promise.

Noah scoffs. Which draws a glance from everyone in the room.

CHARLOTTE BREMMER

I just don't understand. Why would she leave?

NOAH

She didn't leave. She was taken.

OFFICER NELSON

Now, we don't know that for sure.

NOAH

Then you're idiots.

CHARLIE BREMMER

Noah!

CONSTABLE MCMILLAN

It's okay Charlie. (to Noah)

Who took her Noah?

Noah bites his lip.

CONSTABLE MCMILLAN (CONT'D)

If you know anything you're not telling us.

NOAH

I don't.

CONSTABLE MCMILLAN

Are you sure?

Noah nods.

CHARLIE BREMMER

So, what's next?

CONSTABLE MCMILLAN

Well, we're going to set up another search, probably tomorrow or the day after, on the west side of the river.

NOAH

She isn't there.

Constable McMillan ignores this.

CONSTABLE MCMILLAN

In the mean time, stay next to the phone, and keep thinking of anywhere she might have gone.

NOAH

She didn't run away! She's not going to call! Another Native girl missing is just another drop in the bucket to you.

He storms from the room and up the stairs.

CHARLIE BREMMER

I'm sorry.

CONSTABLE MCMILLAN

You don't have to apologize.

The four of them sit in silence.

### INT. EVERETT HIGH - HALLS - DAY

Caroline makes her way down the empty halls, a small scrap of paper in her hand.

CAROLINE

(to herself)

301, 301...

The sound of muffled voices slows her down.

COLIN (O.S.)

I'm just saying you need to chill out.

JEREMY (O.S.)

Chill out??

Caroline almost turns to leave.

Instead she pushes forward to the source.

She glances around and peers through a crack in the door.

### INT. EVERETT HIGH - EMPTY CLASSROOM - DAY

Colin and Jeremy argue in hushed voices.

COLIN

You're not thinking straight.

**JEREMY** 

How is wanting to find out who did this 'not thinking straight?'

COLIN

You know that's not what I meant.

**JEREMY** 

We should be out there, every single night until we find her.

COLIN

Yeah, and then?

**JEREMY** 

You know.

COLIN

I want that just as bad as you do. Everyone does. But--

**JEREMY** 

What are you so scared of?

COLIN

I'm not scared. I'm being realistic. Do you know what happens if we screw up

**JEREMY** 

I'm not stupid.

COLIN

Then stop acting like it.

**JEREMY** 

You stop acting like a bitch.

COLIN

Seriously?

**JEREMY** 

Just call a meeting, and we can let everyone else decide.

COLIN

It's too risky.

**JEREMY** 

You're just afraid they'll see it my way.

COLIN

Fine, tonight.

**JEREMY** 

The usual spot?

COLIN

No, somewhere else.

**JEREMY** 

Come on.

COLIN

I'm serious. It can't be the same place every time. Not anymore.

(thinks)

The barn, on the town line.

**JEREMY** 

That place is falling apart.

COLIN

Do you want a meet or what? Ten o'clock.

**JEREMY** 

Fine. I'll spread the word.

COLIN

Don't blame me if nobody wants to come.

**JEREMY** 

Just because you're scared, doesn't mean they are.

Jeremy turns and wrenches the door open.

## INT. EVERETT HIGH - HALLS - DAY

Jeremy storms through the door and out of sight.

Colin exits next and heads in the opposite direction.

A moment later, when the footsteps have faded, Caroline emerges from a locker and takes a deep breath.

## INT. EVERETT HIGH - HALLS - AFTERNOON

Caroline closes her locker to see Abby's smiling face.

ABBY

So people usually start showing up around seven or seven thirty. You don't have to bring anything--

CAROLINE

Okay, great, I might have to leave a bit early though, if that's okay. My Dad is kinda weird about me staying out late.

ABBY

No problem! Ahhh! I'm so excited!

CAROLINE

(forcing a smile)

Me too!

Abby bounds down the hall as Caroline closes her locker.

### INT. DAWSON RESIDENCE - CAROLINE'S ROOM - NIGHT

Caroline rummages through her dresser. She selects her darkest clothes and stuffs them in a backpack.

A KNOCK at the door surprises her. She turns.

CAROLINE

Oh my god Dad!

JEFF

Sorry... Everything alright? What are ya doing?

CAROLINE

Yeah, just, nothing. Getting some clothes together.

**JEFF** 

Oh, well I was thinking if you weren't doing anything we could do movie night. Like we used to.

CAROLINE

Oh, actually, I promised my friend Abby I'd go to her youth group tonight.

**JEFF** 

Youth group? I'm not stupid you know.

(forces a laugh)

No, seriously. I know it sounds weird but, apparently it's more of like a social thing here.

JEFF

When will you be back?

CAROLINE

I don't know, eleven maybe?

**JEFF** 

Kinda late for a youth group isn't
it?

CAROLINE

Thats what I said, but apparently this is when they do it.

(thinks)

The girl who invited me, her mom died too. I get the feeling she needs a friend.

JEFF

Well, that's really cool of you Care. How about tomorrow night?

CAROLINE

Yes, for sure. Promise. Thanks Dad. Do you think I could take the car?

**JEFF** 

Of course. No problem. Have a great time!

They share a smile and Jeff disappears into the hall.

## INT. HARRIS RESIDENCE - NIGHT

Abby opens the door to reveal Caroline.

ABBY

Oh my gosh you came!!

CAROLINE

Yeah, of course. I'm not late am I?

ABBY

Not at all! Here, come in!

Abby excitedly ushers Caroline inside the house.

Am, I the first one here?

ABBY

Well actually, a few of the other girls cancelled super last minute so it'll just be you and me tonight.

CAROLINE

Oh, great.

ABBY

And my dad.

REVEREND HARRIS

Heya Caroline! Nice to see you again!

Reverend Harris stands in the door to the kitchen.

ABBY

Caroline, this is my Da--

REVEREND HARRIS

We've already met actually.

He steps forward, hand extended. Caroline takes it lightly.

REVEREND HARRIS (CONT'D)

Nice to see you again Caroline.

CAROLINE

You too!

REVEREND HARRIS

We're both very excited you're here.

CAROLINE

Me too!

REVEREND HARRIS

Have you eaten?

ABBY

Yeah! Here we have lots of snacks! Oh, wait, first can I show you my room?

CAROLINE

I'm uh, actually going to eat with my dad later, when I get home.

REVEREND HARRIS

Of course. I respect a man who puts such a high value on family time.

Caroline smiles weakly as Abby drags her toward the stairs.

### INT. HARRIS RESIDENCE - ABBY'S ROOM - NIGHT

Caroline glances at the clock on her phone as Abby shows her around the tiny bedroom.

ABBY

--And these are the medals I got for track last year. Of course with the town being so small I only raced two other girls most of the time.

CAROLINE

Still though, that's really cool!

ABBY

Are you sure you don't want anything to eat? My dad cooked a bunch of food. A lot more people usually come.

CAROLINE

I quess I could eat a little.

**ABBY** 

(beaming)

Great! Come on!

Once again Abby grabs Caroline and leads her from the room.

## INT. HARRIS RESIDENCE - DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Caroline, Abby and Reverend Harris sit around a small table laden with food.

REVEREND HARRIS

--Thank you Lord for this meal we are about to enjoy, in the company of Abby's new friend, who we are grateful has come into our lives. Protect the children of this town Lord from the evils of the world. Amen.

ABBY

Amen

...Amen.

Everyone digs in.

REVEREND HARRIS

So Caroline, how are you settling?

CAROLINE

Oh, uhm, good I guess. Still finding my way around. Abby has been a big help.

REVEREND HARRIS

She always is.

(beat)

And your Dad, has he always worked in mining?

CAROLINE

Long as I can remember.

REVEREND HARRIS

Very good. A proud trade. What they're doing here... Well, it goes without saying the town needed a boost. Isn't that right Abby?

ABBY

It sure is.

## INT. HARRIS RESIDENCE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Abby and Caroline watch an animated film on a small TV. Caroline checks her phone.

CAROLINE

Abby, where's your bathroom?

ABBY

Oh, just around the corner and down the hall, last door on the right. Want me to pause it?

CAROLINE

No, I'm good. Thanks.

Caroline gets up and exits the living room.

### INT. HARRIS RESIDENCE - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Caroline makes her way down the hall.

She attempts to open a locked door and knocks quietly.

The door swings open almost immediately to reveal a red-faced Reverend Harris.

REVEREND HARRIS

Yes?!

CAROLINE

Oh, sorry, I just, was looking for the bathroom.

Her eyes wander through the space in the door where the blue glow of a monitor lights up the dark room.

He shifts his body to obscure her view even more.

REVEREND HARRIS

Just across the hall.

Caroline smiles. Reverend Harris forcefully returns one and closes the door.

## INT. HARRIS RESIDENCE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Caroline enters the living room and grabs her bag.

CAROLINE

Sorry Abby, I totally lost track of time. I've gotta get going.

Abby looks up from the movie disappointed.

ABBY

Oh, okay. It's no problem! Thanks so much for coming. I promise there'll be more people next time!

CAROLINE

It was fun! Okay, seeya at school!

Caroline rushes from the room and out the front door.

Reverend Harris steps into the room.

REVEREND HARRIS

What's the rush?

ABBY

Late to see her dad.

He nods, eying the door.

## EXT. THE TOWN LINE - NIGHT

Caroline pulls the Porsche to the side of the road.

She gets out dressed in black and continues the rest of the way on foot.

A decaying barn sits silhouetted in the moonlight.

### EXT. EVERETT WOODS - THE BARN - NIGHT

Caroline treads through the woods toward the barn.

Firelight flicks between the cracks in the decaying boards. She peers inside.

#### INT. THE BARN - NIGHT

Colin, Jeremy, Marissa and Katie surround a fire pit with about a half-dozen other STUDENTS.

Colin and Jeremy face off in the center.

COLIN

I'm just saying, it isn't as simple as going out and finding them.

**JEREMY** 

You're just saying that because you don't want it to be.

COLIN

What are you talking about.

**JEREMY** 

You think we haven't noticed this is the first meeting we've had since she went missing?

COLIN

What? You need me to say it out loud? We're being hunted, Jer! You think I want myself, or anyone else out risking their lives?

JEREMY

So that's what Rebecca was doing? Risking her life? This is her fault?

COLIN

That's not what I said and you know it.

**JEREMY** 

And what about Noah? How do you think he feels that for ten days you've done nothing?
(looks around)
Right, he isn't here.

MARISSA

Jeremy, enough.

**JEREMY** 

What? So you're on his side?

MARISSA

Colin isn't saying we don't do anything. Just that we need to be careful. The cameras, the traps, now this. We can't just go wandering around at night anymore. It isn't safe.

**JEREMY** 

For some of you maybe.

COLIN

Look, Jer, I know you loved her. And we're going to get whoever did this--

**JEREMY** 

Not with you in charge.

COLIN

I'm not in charge. Nobody is.

**JEREMY** 

Not the way you act.

Colin goes to put a hand on Jeremy's shoulder.

Jeremy turns quickly and sucker punches him in the jaw.

MARISSA

Jeremy no!

Colin brushes blood from his lip and stares Jeremy down.

MARISSA (CONT'D)

What we're gonna measure our dicks now? This won't solve anything.

**JEREMY** 

Stay out of this Marissa. (to Colin)

Let's go bud.

Colin pushes Jeremy. Jeremy pushes Colin.

JEREMY (CONT'D)

What are you waiting for?

COLIN

You sure you wanna do this?

MARISSA

Guys, don't.

Too late. Colin and Jeremy circle one another.

In one smooth motion, Jeremy morphs into a large GREY TIMBER WOLF and paces back and forth, staring Colin down.

# EXT. THE BARN - NIGHT

Caroline covers the gasp that leaves her mouth with one hand.

She watches through the space in the boards transfixed as the Timber Wolf advances toward Colin.

She produces her phone with shaking hands and opens the camera.

Caroline presses record.

## INT. THE BARN - NIGHT

The Timber Wolf - Jeremy - gnashes its teeth and snarls.

MARISSA

Colin, don't bite. He's just angry.

COLIN

I know. So am I.

Colin morphs into a large COUGAR.

Marissa steps back to watch with the others.

The Timber Wolf lunges at the Cougar. The two beasts roll around, scratching, biting and clawing at one another.

#### EXT. THE BARN - NIGHT

Caroline records the battle through the space in the boards.

Above her, perched in a tree, an OWL watches her curiously.

## INT. THE BARN - NIGHT

The fight rages on.

Timber Wolf and Cougar trade the upper hand.

The Cougar pins the Timber Wolf and bites down hard.

The Timber Wolf returns to human form.

Lying on the floor, Jeremy. The Cougar releases him and morphs back into Colin.

Jeremy stares up at him, furious.

MARISSA

We done here boys?

**JEREMY** 

(getting to his feet)
I am. I'm done with this whole thing.

Jeremy storms out, followed by a few others.

### EXT. THE BARN - NIGHT

The LOW BATTERY alert appears on Caroline's phone just as --

The Owl swoops down, snatches it from her hand and glides off into the woods.

CAROLINE

(quietly)

No!

She dashes off after the Owl back the way she came.

## INT. THE BARN - NIGHT

Marissa approaches Colin.

MARISSA

Did you have to do that?

COLIN

He was asking for it.

MARISSA

I know, but, he's hurting right now.

Marissa turns toward the wall of the barn.

COLIN

What?

MARISSA

You hear that?

Marissa turns into a massive BLACK WOLF.

# EXT. THE BARN - NIGHT

Marissa - The Black Wolf - bounds around the corner, teeth bared.

She the darkness with her piercing yellow eyes.

No sign of anyone, Marissa sniffs the air.

#### EXT. EVERETT ROADSIDE - NIGHT

Caroline bursts from the bushes, eyes to the sky.

CAROLINE

No, no, no! Damnit!

She looks both ways down the dark road.

Defeated Caroline slinks back to her car.

She hops in, slams the door shut and peels off.

## INT. CAROLINE'S PORSCHE - NIGHT

Caroline's eyes dart from the road to the rearview.

CAROLINE

Holy shit. Holy shit.

She pushes the pedal to the floor.

# EXT. EVERETT WOODS - NIGHT

The Owl glides silently through the woods with Caroline's phone grasped tightly in its claws.

BANG! A flash from somewhere in the trees followed by a dart that misses The Owl by inches.

The Owl dives then rises again.

Caroline's phone slips and falls to the forest floor.

The Owl looks down into the dark dense brush, but continues on into the night sky.

Below, The Hunter lowers his rifle.

# END ACT TWO

# ACT THREE

## INT. DAWSON RESIDENCE - CAROLINE'S ROOM - MORNING

Caroline lies in bed wrapped tightly in her sheets.

JEFF (O.S.)

Caroline, did ya hear what I said?

Jeff enters.

JEFF (CONT'D)

You can't be serious.

CAROLINE

I'm not going today.

**JEFF** 

You're not going. Why not?

CAROLINE

Because I'm sick, Dad.

**JEFF** 

You were well enough to go to that youth group last night.

CAROLINE

Well I'm not now.

**JEFF** 

B.S.

He crosses the room and rips Caroline's sheets off.

CAROLINE

Dad leave me alone I'm not going!

**JEFF** 

I do not have time for this. You're going to school. Get up.

CAROLINE

You can't make me.

**JEFF** 

Quit acting like a spoiled brat and get up.

Jeff leaves the room.

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

I'll be waiting in the car. And I'm taking the keys to the Porsche. You can have them again when you decide to grow up.

(beat)

And remember you agreed to movie night so don't make any plans!

CAROLINE

How will I get home?!

JEFF (O.S.)

Take the bus like a normal kid!

Caroline throws a silent tantrum but finally sits up.

#### INT. EVERETT HIGH - HALLS - DAY

Caroline walks down the crowded hallway. She forces one foot in front of the other.

She avoids eye contact with everyone until familiar voices force her to look up.

Colin - chats with a HOCKEY GUY (16). They make their way in her direction.

Caroline stops dead. The pair move closer.

She instinctively turns and runs, unconcerned with the odd looks she receives, and takes the first exit she finds.

# INT. EVERETT HIGH - HALLS - DAY

Caroline bursts through the double doors and continues past the parking lot. She gasps for breath, nearly in tears.

She takes a moment to collect herself and looks around, then starts up the road toward home.

## INT. JEFF'S OFFICE - DAY

Jeff types away on his laptop, so engrossed in his work the gentle KNOCK on his door goes unanswered.

ARDEN

Am I interrupting?

Jeff snaps out of his trance.

He looks up to see Arden Stevens glowing in a white Armani power suit.

**JEFF** 

Oh, no, not at all! I'm Jeff--

Arden crosses to him and extends her hand.

ARDEN

Jeff Dawson.

(they shake)

Arden Stevens. Director of Operations!

**JEFF** 

From the e-mails!

ARDEN

Sharp! Sorry I couldn't make it down yesterday, I was on survey all day. No matter how high I climb in this industry I still seem to find myself wearing a hard-hat most days!

(laughs)

Just wanted to check in and see how you're settling in?

**JEFF** 

No problem at all! Mike got me set up. It's great so far.

ARDEN

Ahh Mike's great.

Arden moves to the window where a massive mountain peak rises up from the dense forest and into the clouds.

ARDEN (CONT'D)

Some view, huh?

JEFF

Oh, yeah, nothing like that back home.

ARDEN

And the house?

**JEFF** 

It's above and beyond.

ARDEN

You mentioned in our emails you had a daughter, how's she finding the place?

**JEFF** 

Honestly, I think it'll take a bit of getting used to. She's been through a lot in the last year.

(lightens)

But she's a tough kid, I'm sure she'll do great here.

ARDEN

Well, from what I read, it sounds like, you're both pretty tough.

(smiles) ways, I just

Anyways, I just wanted to stop in and say we're really happy to have you on board! You came very highly recommended.

JEFF

I'm excited for the fresh start.

ARDEN

This is an incredibly ambitious project we're taking on up here - we're talking billions when it's all said and done.

**JEFF** 

You aren't kidding. I was just getting acquainted with everything, this is the most extensive system I've ever worked on.

ARDEN

That's why we got the best!
(checks her phone)
Hey I've got to run, so nice to
meet you Jeff. Don't be a stranger!

They shake hands again.

Arden wheels around and leaves the office texting furiously.

**JEFF** 

You too.

Jeff sits back down and adjusts his hair using the reflection in his computer.

#### EXT. EVERETT ROADSIDE - DAY

Caroline trudges down the side of the road lost in thought.

The ENGINE of a car approaching makes Caroline glance over her shoulder.

The car drives right on by.

Caroline turns off the road onto a dirt trail into the trees.

# EXT. EVERETT WOODS - DIRT TRAIL - DAY

Caroline stumbles her way down the trail.

She looks over her shoulder. Nothing there.

## EXT. EVERETT WOODS - THE TREES - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Someone watches Caroline from above through the trees.

## EXT. EVERETT WOODS - DIRT TRAIL - DAY

A twig SNAPS. Caroline whirls around.

Again. Nobody there.

She turns around and continues forward.

Someone approaches quickly from behind.

Caroline turns and grabs her stalker by the collar.

In one smooth motion she flips him over her shoulder and hard onto the ground. Perfect form.

Staring up at her, dazed -- Noah Bremmer.

CAROLINE

Noah?

NOAH

Ow.

CAROLINE

Why were you following me?

NOAH

I saw you leave school. I know this is weird, but I think we should talk.

Caroline hesitates, glances around.

CAROLINE

I don't think that's such a good idea.

NOAH

I saw you last night. At the barn. You aren't in any danger. I promise.

Caroline gives him a look that says 'I'm not the one who just got put on their back.'

NOAH (CONT'D)

She was my sister you know, Rebecca. I think I can explain, just not here. Please, just trust me.

Caroline hesitates, then extends her hand.

Noah takes it and she helps him to his feet.

#### INT. NOAH'S BEDROOM - AFTERNOON

Noah closes the door behind them. They stand in silence surrounded by video game posters and dirty clothes.

NOAH

So, about the other night. (sighs)
What you saw, is, complicated.

Caroline's mouth opens but no words come out.

NOAH (CONT'D)

They never should have met there. They shouldn't have met at all.

CAROLINE

Noah, slow down. You need to explain to me what the hell is going on before I lose my mind.

NOAH

On the surface, it's pretty simple. Some people in the town - some of the students at least, maybe others too - can, well change. Like you saw Colin and Jeremy do last night.

CAROLINE

But wait, wait, this still doesn't make any sense. Why?

NOAH

That's why I said 'on the surface.'

Noah rises and steps to his closet.

He rummages around for a moment and removes a small stack of old books, including:

-- EVERETT, A PEOPLE'S HISTORY. -- HOW WE CAME TO BE. FIRST NATIONS CREATION MYTHS AND FOLKLORE. -- THE JOURNAL OF JACOB ABERNATHY (1630 - 1720)

As well as SCRAPBOOKS and NEWSPAPER ARTICLES. Noah sets the stack on the bed and opens HOW WE CAME TO BE.

NOAH (CONT'D)

The Kasha people - that's who's land we're on now, and the tribe my mother is from - lived here for thousands of years.

Noah points at the page where a short story accompanies an illustration of a BOY and an EAGLE on a mountain.

NOAH (CONT'D)

Now, there are hundreds of First Nations myths and legends about people who can change into animals. The Navajo call them skin walkers.

CAROLINE

That doesn't sound good.

NOAH

It isn't. In most Native cultures being a skin walker was considered a terrible thing. But in this story, the ability to turn, or change, is a gift given from the mountain. This mountain, in the picture, is that mountain.

Noah gestures out his window to a large snow-capped mountain looming in the distance.

He reads the expression on Caroline's face.

NOAH (CONT'D)

I know how it sounds, but stories like these are important. Look...

Noah flips open a copy of EVERETT: A PEOPLE'S HISTORY.

NOAH (CONT'D)

Here. There are stories from settlers, later on, about animal people in the mountains. Some of the first colonizers to live here believed it so much they painted symbols on their doors. Some even left animals tied up out front to 'appease' what they thought was up there.

Next a photocopy of an old newspaper from the '40s.

NOAH (CONT'D)

I found this online. They interview a farmer that swears to death he saw one of his cows turn into a man before his very eyes.

CAROLINE

But none of this answers  $\underline{\text{why}}$ ? Why are you able to do this?

NOAH

Well everyone who's lived here over the ages has had their own ideas. The Natives thought it was a gift, the Christian settlers thought they were demons, that farmer said it was aliens. My best guess is the Kasha got the closest. I don't know if it's a gift, but it has something to do with the mountain. I think It's protecting itself.

CAROLINE

How do you know?

NOAH

In the old stories I've read, it would happen during times of war between tribes. When the colonists arrived, they started clearcutting to build the town - then the reports started. In the 50's, the farmer, the U.S. Government was testing their nukes. And now--

CAROLINE

The mine.

NOAH

It started happening to us about a year before it was announced. As if it knew it was coming.

CAROLINE

'It' being, the mountain.

NOAH

I know it sounds ridiculous.

CAROLINE

So, the mountain, just, give anyone the power? You think?

NOAH

I don't know. I guess.

CAROLINE

That's how you knew I was there last night, because you can...

NOAH

Rebecca too. That's what Colin and Jeremy were fighting about. Jeremy and my sister were dating. He wants revenge.

CAROLINE

On who?

NOAH

Whoever has her. We don't know. Jeremy says we should be going out every night until we find him. Even wants to try and bait him out.

CAROLINE

But Colin thinks it's too dangerous.

NOAH

He's right.

CAROLINE

Jeremy said he was scared.

NOAH

He is scared. He's always sorta been our leader, y'know? Nobody ever said it but he was just, I don't know, the glue or whatever. CAROLINE

What do you think we should do?

NOAH

We?

CAROLINE

Sorry, you, all of you, I don't know.

NOAH

We have to fight back, or in a year from now who knows how many will be left. But not the way Jeremy wants. If people find out about us, if the government... it would destroy everything. Which is why I took your phone.

CAROLINE

You're... The Owl?

Noah nods.

NOAH

I'm sorry. I know I shouldn't have done it. Sorta panicked I guess.

CAROLINE

I get it. So, can I have it back?

Noah rubs the back of his neck and suddenly becomes very interested in his shoes.

CAROLINE (CONT'D)

What? I'll delete the video, I promise.

NOAH

Well, see, the thing is... I kinda dropped it.

CAROLINE

You dropped it. Where?

NOAH

I don't remember exactly.

CAROLINE

What happened?

Noah finally looks Caroline in the eyes.

## INT. DAWSON RESIDENCE - NIGHT

Caroline creeps in the side door and closes it behind her.

She rounds the corner. Jeff sits propped on the sofa asleep.

An action movie plays on the television. On the table before him sits a half eaten pizza - Movie night.

Caroline puts a blanket over her sleeping father.

She turns down the TV and heads upstairs.

#### INT. EVERETT SHERIFF'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Constable McMillan pulls a crumpled pack of smokes from her desk and lights one up as the front door opens.

CONSTABLE MCMILLAN

(without looking up)

Whaddya forget?

LINDA & TONY MATTHEWS (40s), Jeremy's parents, stand just inside the door. Constable McMillan finally looks up.

CONSTABLE MCMILLAN (CONT'D)

Oh, Sorry.

She puts out her cigarette and stands. Simultaneously closing the drawer to hide the near-empty bottle of liquor within.

CONSTABLE MCMILLAN (CONT'D)

Tony, Linda? What's the matter?

TONY MATTHEWS

Hey Karen. Sorry to come so late.

It's just. Jeremy.

CONSTABLE MCMILLAN

What happened?

# EXT. EVERETT WOODS - NIGHT

A HIGH FREQUENCY rises and falls. A metal detector scans the forest floor.

The frequency grows to a HIGH PITCHED WHINE. The Hunter stops, stoops down and picks up the source.

He examines Caroline's phone through his mask.

# END ACT THREE

# ACT FOUR

#### INT. EVERETT HIGH - AUDITORIUM - DAY

Principal Rogers and Constable McMillan occupy the stage.

CONSTABLE MCMILLAN
Like your principal just said, I'm
sure some of you know me. Okay,
I've drawn up a temporary plan and

I've drawn up a temporary plan and spent the morning discussing it with the faculty as well as the school board,

(clears her throat)
Effective immediately... all extra
curricular activities taking place
outside of school hours are
cancelled until further notice.

A groan goes up from a few students.

CONSTABLE MCMILLAN (CONT'D)

All walking and bike riding trails through the park are closed to the public until further notice.

Another groan. Principal Rogers gestures for silence.

CONSTABLE MCMILLAN (CONT'D)

A nine o'clock pm curfew applying to everyone below the age of eighteen--

This time a roar goes up.

PRINCIPAL ROGERS

Quiet! Everyone quiet right now!

The chatter dies to a hum.

CONSTABLE MCMILLAN

--will take effect tonight, and will remain in place until further notice. Thank you, that is all.

Constable McMillan steps away from the microphone.

PRINCIPAL ROGERS

You are all dismissed. Head directly to your classes.

The students get to their feet and the auditorium erupts in chatter once more - complaints mainly.

## INT. DAWSON RESIDENCE - KITCHEN - DAY

Caroline steps through the door and sets her bag down.

Jeff rises and gives her a huge hug.

CAROLINE

What are you doing here?

**JEFF** 

Arden sent me home when I heard what happened. Are you okay?

CAROLINE

Yeah Dad, I'm fine.

**JEFF** 

Look, I don't know what's going on here. But I'm starting to think you were right about finishing up your school in Toronto.

CAROLINE

Dad--

**JEFF** 

I don't want you to leave, I was really hoping we could make it work, but I can't sleep or even function when I'm this worried.

#### CAROLINE

Dad, listen. I don't want to go home. I know you've been trying your best since Mom, and I was too stupid to appreciate it. I just thought everything that was happening to me was so unfair without realizing the exact same thing was happening to you. I want to stay, and I'll be safe. They just imposed a curfew.

(beat)

But even if it wasn't safe I'd still want to stay.

They hug.

CAROLINE (CONT'D)

Oh, and I'm sorry I missed movie night. Twice.

**JEFF** 

It's okay. I love you too sweetheart. You're sure you want to stay?

CAROLINE

Yeah, this place isn't so bad.

**JEFF** 

Oh thank god. I was not excited about you living with Monica. Don't get me wrong she's a nice girl but her Mom is completely nuts.

CAROLINE

I know she is. Oh, uhm, also... I need a new phone.

**JEFF** 

What? What happened to your old one?

CAROLINE

I dropped it in the toilet... Super embarrassing I know.

**JEFF** 

That's my girl.

CAROLINE

(laughs)

Shut up.

**JEFF** 

Okay. Well sort out your phone. After I take a nap. I feel like I'm crashing from ten energy drinks at once.

CAROLINE

Okay Dad, love you.

**JEFF** 

Love you too, Care.

Caroline smiles. Jeff kisses her on the head and trudges up the stairs.

## INT. DAWSON RESIDENCE - CAROLINE'S ROOM - NIGHT

Caroline paces back and forth.

A soft KNOCK at her window makes her jump.

Noah looks in on her.

Caroline crosses to the window and opens it.

CAROLINE

What are you doing here? How did you even get up-- right.

NOAH

Come with me.

CAROLINE

What? Where? What about the curfew?

NOAH

We're having another meeting.

Caroline thinks a moment.

CAROLINE

I'll meet you downstairs.

Noah smiles, becomes an Owl and gracefully glides to a tree branch to wait.

Caroline watches in disbelief.

She pulls herself together and heads for the door.

## EXT. EVERETT WOODS - NIGHT

Noah leads Caroline down a dark path through the woods until they come upon an empty clearing lit only by the moon.

## EXT. EVERETT WOODS - CLEARING - NIGHT

They wait a moment in silence until two yellow eyes emerge from the bushes. The Black Wolf stares them down.

NOAH

Hey Marissa.

It bounds toward them. Caroline recoils in fear.

At the last second it turns to Marissa.

She jumps on Noah in a tight embrace.

MARISSA

Good to see you.

NOAH

You too.

Marissa looks Caroline up and down.

CAROLINE

You're, that night in my house.

(beat)

You scared the shit outta me!

MARISSA

Says the girl who owns a handgun.

CAROLINE

It's my Dads. What were you doing in my garage?!

(it clicks)

You think my Dad has something to do with this??

MARISSA

None of this started happening until they said the mine was coming. And where does your Dad work again?

NOAH

Marissa, enough. She's not one of them.

MARISSA

How do you know?

CAROLINE

Because he's not an idiot.

NOAH

I just do, okay? Now leave it.

Marissa bites her tongue

NOAH (CONT'D)

You're the only one here.

MARISSA

Give them time. But nobody's going to be happy to see her.

CAROLINE

My dad doesn't have  $\underline{anything}$  to do with this!

The Cougar steps into the clearing and morphs into Colin.

COLIN

(to Noah)

You brought her?

CAROLINE

I'm standing right here.

NOAH

Didn't have much of a choice after she watched you and Jer put on your little show the other night.

COLIN

You, saw that?

NOAH

Basically in widescreen. So yeah.

COLIN

How was I supposed to--

MARISSA

And she woulda just probably thought we were in some freaky cult like perfectly normal people but you guys just <u>had</u> to show how strong you both were.

COLIN

You saw what he did.

MARISSA

Ever heard of being the bigger person?

NOAH

Ever heard of shutting up? Both of you.

Two large BLOOD HOUNDS sniff their way out of the underbrush and lope to the center of the clearing.

Almost simultaneously they morph into Brandon and Hayden.

The twins eye Caroline with suspicion.

HAYDEN

Sorry we're late. Had to wait for Mom n' Dad to pass out.

**BRANDON** 

Isn't that the new girl?

COLIN

Noah brought her.

NOAH

Only because she already knew.

HAYDEN

How'd she know?

BRANDON

Pillow talk's my guess.

The twins laugh.

BRANDON (CONT'D)

This all that came?

NOAH

Looks like it. Okay, so we know why we're here?

BRANDON

Yeah, we're real sorry about Rebecca man.

HAYDEN

Yeah man, real sorry. Our mom's been cryin' for near two days.

NOAH

Thanks guys. But this isn't about Rebecca--

A WHITE HORSE gallops into the clearing and rears.

NOAH (CONT'D)

Late, as always.

The Horse canters over and morphs into Katie.

KATIE

What's she doing here?

NOAH

She saw Jer and Colin the other night.

Katie stares daggers at Colin.

COLIN

I didn't have a choice, Jer cornered me.

NOAH

Can we please talk about what we're going to do?

KATIE

Well <u>we</u> can get this guy, but What's <u>she</u> gonna do? Go door to door? Write a letter or something?

MARISSA

That might be the first smart thing you've ever said.

Katie glares at Marissa.

NOAH

Katie, relax okay. She's here, and we've got more important things to talk about.

KATIE

I'm just saying. She didn't know Rebecca, she didn't know Jer, and she can't do what we do, so uh, why do we need her?

MARISSA

You're on a roll.

CAROLINE

Okay, you know what--

NOAH

You didn't even like Rebecca, so why are you here?

An awkward silence.

KATIE

That's not true.

NOAH

Please. We're not idiots. It wasn't some big secret you two hated each other. Honestly I don't really care, just, can we please figure out what we're going to do?

COLIN

The attacks are getting more frequent. Whoever it is, they're getting braver.

NOAH

But how'd they get Jeremy? When was the last time anyone saw him?

MARISSA

Just after the fight.

NOAH

You don't think he went back out that night? Do you?

COLIN

He wouldn't be that stupid.

MARISSA

I think you know that he would.

COLIN

We have to find him.

KATIE

How though? We couldn't find Rebecca, and there were more of us then.

BRANDON

Hell, Hayden and I got the best noses in the country and we didn't smell a damn trace, anywhere.

COLIN

We should split up. Search as much as we can tonight.

NOAH

We can't split up, I think that's what he wants.

MARISSA

I think Noah's right. Whatever we do, we have to move in at least pairs. We're too vulnerable alone.

KATIE

Okay, so we break off into groups and go find Jeremy, but that still doesn't tell me what our new best friend here is gonna do to help.

CAROLINE

What's your problem?

KATIE

Your stuck up attitude might have something to do with it.

HAYDEN

Damn.

CAROLINE

I'm stuck up?

KATIE

Now you get it.

NOAH

Stop! Stop it! Look. Whatever we're dealing with here, whoever, they want us dead. For what we are. And they're going to pick us off one by one until we're all gone. We need all the help we can get.

COLIN

But with everything that's happened? It's more dangerous now than it ever has been--

CAROLINE

I'm in.

All eyes fall on Caroline.

CAROLINE (CONT'D)

Whatever I have to do, I'll do it. I'm here to help.

KATIE

No way!

NOAH

It isn't for you to decide. Or any one of us for that matter.

The group follows Noah's gaze to the mountain.

# EXT. EVERETT WOODS - NIGHT

A Grey Wolf - Jeremy - paces back and forth, fear in his eyes, and one hind leg caught in a cold steel trap.

Blood oozes from where the razor sharp teeth dug in - cutting flesh and breaking bone.

The sound of footsteps causes the wolf to look up. The Hunter stands before him. Covered head to toe in camouflage.

The Grey Wolf growls and snarls and snaps at The Hunter, who stands just out of reach.

He chambers a small syringe into his rifle.

#### EXT. EVERETT ROAD - NIGHT

The Rusty Ford speeds down the road. In the back, shackled to the bed in heavy iron chains, Jeremy.

#### EXT. ABANDONED LOGGING CAMP - NIGHT

A Blackhawk helicopter touches down and a half dozen MILITARY MEN jump out.

Arden Stevens stands at the mouth of the dilapidated log cabin and greets them one by one.

A second chopper - sleek and screaming private business - performs the same maneuver.

Four BUSINESSMEN in expensive suits make their way to Arden and through the door into the cabin.

## INT. STERILE FACILITY - OBSERVATION ROOM - NIGHT

The Military and Business Men - a multitude of nationalities - take their seats.

Arden speaks quietly off to the side with --

MAXINE VILLENEUVE (50s), wearing finely tailored suit and a bored demeanor.

We instantly recognize his voice from Arden's phone call.

MAXINE

How bad is it?

ARDEN

Not bad. Just the leg. He'll still be able to preform.

Maxine makes a face.

ARDEN (CONT'D)

You try catching a six hundred pound wolf that thinks like a person.

MAXINE

Like a teenager, you mean?
 (beat)
Everybody's ready. Let's get this
show on the road.

Maxine makes his way to the seated audience.

Arden rolls her eyes and strides to the front.

ARDEN

I would like to start by welcoming our esteemed guests. Obviously you have travelled a long way to get here. So we will not take up too much of your time.

Arden stands to the side.

Simultaneously a light clicks on revealing an OBSERVATION ROOM behind thick glass.

In the center stands Jeremy, wearing only his underwear. His bloody leg chained to the floor.

Next to him The Hunter stands century.

ARDEN (CONT'D)

Either yourselves, or those you represent, have invested a great deal of money in us. And tonight we are here to give you a taste of where that money is going.

Arden speaks through an intercom next to the window.

ARDEN (CONT'D)

You may proceed.

The Hunter nods and injects a needle into Jeremy's neck.

Jeremy doubles over and writhes on the ground in pain.

Before everyone's eyes, he changes --

A snarling Grey Wolf stares through at the shocked onlookers.

BUSINESSMAN

Impossible.

MILITARY MAN

Ho-ly shit.

MAXINE

Incroyable.

The Hunter agitates the wolf with a long cattle prod, zapping his face as he SNARLS viciously and pulls at his chain.

ARDEN

There are more where this came from Gentlemen, and once we synthesize the ability to work on command, well, you're all smart enough to imagine the applications.

The audience mutters amongst themselves.

MAXINE

Now go home and tell your investors and your governments what you've seen here tonight. I'm sure they'll treat you to a nice steak dinner.

Arden strides from the room leaving Maxine to smile.

The audience continues their excited babbling.

#### EXT. HARRIS RESIDENCE - NIGHT

The rusty Ford pulls up a dirt driveway and past a little brick house.

It comes to a stop inside a rundown shed. The Hunter exits and heads for the house.

He stops just short of the front door and removes his gear, including his mask.

Revealing Reverend Peter Harris.

# INT. HARRIS RESIDENCE - MOMENTS LATER

Rev. Harris takes a deep breath.

REVEREND HARRIS

I'm home!

He makes his way down the hall to the living room where Abby watches TV.

REVEREND HARRIS (CONT'D)

How was your day sweetheart?

ABBY

Really good! How was yours?

REVEREND HARRIS

Perfect, just perfect. (beat)

Hey, you don't have an extra phone charger lying around, do ya?

ABBY

I do actually! I'll get it for you after this!

REVEREND HARRIS

Thanks sweetheart!

Reverend Harris kisses Abby on the forehead.

END EPISODE ONE