

IN THE SHADOWS OF NOVEMBER

EPISODE THREE
THE DAY EVERYTHING CHANGED

Written by Bill Albert

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(NOVEMBER - EPISODE 3-1)

INT. JOHNATHAN FARMHOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

This house has been in the family for generations. Photos, memorials, mementos, showing a strong family history. There are rocking chairs, a grandfather clock, cabinets that are neatly decorated.

There is also the feeling that this has been mostly untouched for some time. The only light in the room is from a giant fireplace with a bright fire. It's very warm and comfortable.

The sound of large TRUCK pulling up to a stop outside. A DOOR and a hatch opening, closing, and heavy FOOTSTEPS. The door opens and a man walks in carrying something. He closes the door firmly and walks across the room to the sofa in front of the fireplace, He bends over to gently lay down what he's carrying, and we see it is a body. He pulls out a handkerchief and gently cleans the face of the body. He finally gets up and exits and we see November, unconscious, with bruise on her cheek and smeared blood on her face.

BLACK

TITLE OVER: 50 miles south of St. Louis, Missouri
 March 10th
 122 days since the bombs

EXT. COUNTRY HIGHWAY - NIGHT

A lone motorcyclist on a country road. It is November. She is fine for a few moments then other bikers appear following her. They get closer and she starts to suspect something when she sees some of them are carrying baseball bats. It's an attack.

The first few try to strike her, but she is better and out maneuvers them. The others move in and, despite her abilities, she is outnumbered. She realizes too late that she is being set up and there are more bikers up ahead waiting for her.

She's trapped but not giving up without a fight. Finally, they've got her, and she ends up putting the bike down. They stop and circle around her. They are all 20ish year old males, tough, locals.

They take her helmet off, she resists, punish her for bikers they lost and she's out. Another pair of lights pulls up nearby.

(NOVEMBER - EPISODE 3-2)

They start to go through her belongings on the bike and there is a shotgun blast that shocks them.

INT. JOHNATHAN FARMHOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

November awakes on the sofa with a start. She's confused, looks around, unsure of where she is or how long it's been. A shadow falls on her and she looks at it carefully.

JOHNATHAN (O.C.)
Would you like a drink of water?
Here, have some.

She slowly sits up and takes the glass. He sits next to her. JONATHAN is in his late 60's, bearded, typical looking farmer in overalls.

NOVEMBER
Where?

JONATHAN
You're in my house. You're safe here.

NOVEMBER
You rescued me?

Johnathan smiles.

EXT. COUNTRY HIGHWAY - NIGHT

The shot gun has been fired and the bikers look for the source. Johnathan is next to his truck pointing the gun in their direction.

JOHNATHAN
Move back, Out of the way.

BIKER #1
Johnathan? That you?

BIKER #2
Here's Johnny?

BIKER #3
Hey, Johnny, how you been?

(NOVEMBER - EPISODE 3-3)

JOHNATHAN

You know Jefferson county is
off limits.

BIKER #1

We aren't from Jefferson.

BIKER #2

She's free range in Washington
County.

JONATHAN

Then you should have let her
go at the county line. Now get
on your bikes and head south.

BIKER #1

She's already down. We got a
claim.

JONATHAN

Then take it up with Sheriff
Bailey at his office tomorrow.

The bikers start to back down.

BIKER #3

He's only one guy with a shot gun!
8 of us with bats, the rest with
knives!

Bikers get their confidence back.

JOHNATHAN

How many of you can one shot
gun blast kick?

(MORE)

The bikers look at each other and figure their chances of not
getting hit are good. They step closer to him.

JOHNATHAN (CONT'D)

I wonder, are those bikes fast
enough?

BIKER #4

Fastest in the county.

(NOVEMBER - EPISODE 3-4)

JOHNATHAN

Well, let's see. You can hit 120
on a good day.

BIKER #1

On any day.

JOHNATHAN

120 miles per hours is pretty fast.
Interestingly enough, a shotgun
blast travels at almost half a
miler per second. And still do
a hell of a lot of damage.

He points the shot gun at the bikes instead of the bikers.

BIKER #2

Ok, wait, we're cool.

The bikers unanimously back away from November to protect their
motorcycles.

JOHNATHAN

Especially at something standing
still.

BIKER #4

We're leaving.

BIKER #5

Just let me get it started.

BIKER #1

Can we take her bike?

Johnathan looks at it and it was pretty badly damaged in the
fight. He nods and they pick up parts of her bike and quickly
back away. Johnathan watches them leave and keeps the gun locked
and loaded until he is sure they are off.

INT. JOHNATHAN FARMHOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

JOHNATHAN

There wasn't much left of your
bike. It's in my truck.

(NOVEMBER - EPISODE 3-5)

NOVEMBER

Thank you.

JOHNATHAN

Hang on a second.

(he gets a cloth and
some lotion)

Lean forward.

She does and he carefully cleans some of the bruises on her face as they talk.

NOVEMBER

I was hoping to be in St.
Louis by morning.

JONATHAN

You must have been in a hurry
to be out riding at night.
Especially alone.

NOVEMBER

There was a couple that I rode
with for a day or so. They
were getting low on gas and
needed to find some so they
pulled off before sundown.
I figured if I gunned it I
Could make it.

JONATHAN

You probably could have. The
closer you get to St. Louis
the safer the roads are. The
counties have kept jurisdiction
of the roads along the highway.
They're pretty secure for the
most part. As long as they
watch the county lines.

NOVEMBER

My bad luck.

JOHNATHAN

Yes. You've got a bruise here.

(NOVEMBER - EPISODE 3-6)

NOVEMBER

Where?

He brushes back her hair and we see a scar on her temple. It's not recent.

JOHNATHAN

How did you get that?

NOVEMBER

(pauses)

I don't remember. You don't think it's from the crash.

JOHNATHAN

I doubt it. It's older than that. For some reason I doubt this was your first time.

November checks herself out for other wounds. She realizes her boots, helmet, jacket and weapon are on a chair nearby. She briefly looks under the blanket and then back at Johnathan. She trusts him.

NOVEMBER

My knees and hip are a bit sore.

JOHNATHAN

Doesn't surprise me. You might have a bit of trouble walking for a day or so, too. Luckily there weren't any signs of blood on your cloths.

Johnathan gets up and walks away and we see for the first time he has a limp.

NOVEMBER

It looks like you've got a bruise are two.

JOHNATHAN

(doesn't look back)

We've all got bruises.

(continues out)

Sun up in under an hour. You want breakfast?

(NOVEMBER - EPISODE 3-7)

INT. JOHNATHAN FARMHOUSE - KITCHEN - MORNING

Johnathan, with a kitchen apron, has cooked an awesome breakfast. Everything is on the table and November has eaten heartily.

NOVEMBER

I haven't eaten this much in
a long time.

JOHNATHAN

Have enough?

November guiltily looks at some of the remaining eggs and Jonathan nods to her. She smiles and has a few more.

NOVEMBER

After months on the road this
was a feast.

JOHNATHAN

You can help out on the farm
for a while when your leg gets
better.

NOVEMBER

Fair enough. I think walking
around for a bit would help.
Who helps you out when you're
not feeding strangers?

JONATHAN

There are a few regulars who
help out. Keep everything fed.
We have a pretty good community
here. We all need help after
what happened.

NOVEMBER

No family?

JONATHAN

My son. He owns a shop in town.
Deliveries are few and far between
these days but things are still
busy. Enough for him anyway.

(NOVEMBER - EPISODE 3-8)

NOVEMBER

I saw some of the pictures in the living room. What about a wife and daughter?

JONATHAN

Unfortunately, we lost them on that day.

NOVEMBER

I'm sorry.

JONATHAN

I remember that day, I'd talked to them on the phone a few hours before, and they were going to do some visiting. Check out the dorm where Jamie was going to probably live when college started. Probably. That was the last time I talked to them. I remember everything about that day.

NOVEMBER

What was your wife's name?

JONATHAN

Helen. We met one day in August. Her car overheated and broke down on Highway 67, not far from here. I stopped to offer some help. There she was, the second most beautiful brunette I've ever seen, in a red dress with no idea how her car worked. I told her we could get some water but she was still going to have to wait for the car to cool down a bit. She didn't like it and made me promise to have her moving as soon as possible. She never left.

NOVEMBER

What about your daughter?

(NOVEMBER - EPISODE 3-9)

JONATHAN

She was the first most beautiful
brunette.

Johnathan gets up and starts to clean up the meal. November
looks at him, jealous, then gets up and helps him.

EXT. JOHNATHAN FARM - BARN - DAY

There are several horses in stalls in the barn. Hay bales, farm
implements, tools and an older, slightly rusted truck fill the
open area. November, favoring her right side, brings a few hay
bales into the barn and stacks them up. She looks around the
barn, trembling, scratches a horse on the nose. She gets
comfortable and scratches it's ears.

NOVEMBER

Lucky you.

She is about to pick up another bale of hay when there is a
gunshot near her, extremely close, and she jumps back. She is
about to reach for her weapon when the shooter, ALEX CANRY, 23,
female, approaches her, rifle in hand. November freezes, knowing
she's not fast enough to get her weapon drawn.

ALEX

A few months ago, I would
have assumed you were supposed
to be doing that. Since the
bombs you never can tell.

NOVEMBER

Normally I would agree with
you. However, even after the
end of the world I doubt there
is much of a black market for
hay bales.

ALEX

I can't argue with that.
(lowers rifle)

NOVEMBER

I take it you know Jonathan.

(NOVEMBER - EPISODE 3-10)

ALEX

All my life. My family owns the farm down the road. The eggs you had for breakfast were ours. He keeps us with beef since the bombs.

NOVEMBER

(relaxes, returns to hay bail and moves it)
That shot was very close.

ALEX

Closer than you think.

With November suitably impressed Alex starts stacking bales.

The bales are stacked, the barn is clean, and November and Alex are getting fresh water from a well.

NOVEMBER

I don't think there's anything else we can do.

ALEX

I think that's it. You're walk's better.

NOVEMBER

Yes, some road rash but it's okay.

ALEX

What happened?

NOVEMBER

Got ambushed by a gang of bikers on the road last night.

ALEX

Thugs from down county? Any good?

NOVEMBER

Good enough that I could only protect me or the bike. Not both. They got the bike and Jonathan got me.

(NOVEMBER - EPISODE 3-11)

ALEX

Good for you. And Johnathan.

NOVEMBER

Good for me. As long as it lasts.

ALEX

You're not staying long?

NOVEMBER

Maybe another day or so. I've got no motor but I can start hitching during the day. Maybe find a convoy. Or even offer security for ride.

ALEX

I saw your piece. Pretty handy. That's too bad, though. I was hoping you might stay here for a bit.

NOVEMBER

As tempting as it is, I need to keep moving.

ALEX

What are you looking for?

NOVEMBER

Are you moving on?

ALEX

Yes.

NOVEMBER

Where are you headed?

ALEX

Do my duty?

NOVEMBER

Joining the military?

(NOVEMBER - EPISODE 3-12)

ALEX

Sort of. Things will be okay here on the farms this year. There are some benefits and connections from signing up that'll help. After all, what's a girl with a rating from Fort Benning to do to keep herself out of trouble?

EXT. JOHNATHAN FARMHOUSE - PORCH - DAY

November is watching from outside the barn but is a respectful distance away. Alex is at the door and there is a moment before Johnathan exits the house.

JOHNATHAN

So, this is your last day in these parts?

ALEX

Yes, for a while. I'm sure you'll be okay.

JOHNATHAN

We should be. Despite all the ups and downs this country has had in two and a half centuries the farmers have stayed true. Those that are left, anyway.

ALEX

I'll be thinking about you a lot. You've always been good to me.

Johnathan takes her and hugs her.

JOHNATHAN

Stay safe.

ALEX

You, too.

She quickly turns, nods at November as she passes, then heads off.

(NOVEMBER - EPISODE 3-13)

Johnathan watches her leaves, holds back a tear, then takes a slow breath. November doesn't know what to say.

JOHNATHAN

About time to head in to the tri-county trading post. Check out a few supplies.

NOVEMBER

Need any help?

JOHNATHAN

Does the phrase 'riding shotgun' mean anything to you?

November lifts her pant leg to remind him of the weapon tucked in her boot.

NOVEMBER

Comes in handy.

JOHNATHAN

Loaded?

NOVEMBER

Want to bet on it?

JOHNATHAN

Not in a million years.

EXT. SMALL TRADING POST - DAY

There are a several dozen tents and a few hundred cars and even more people. Most things are for trade, very little sale, and it's all everyday stuff. Safe stuff. Lots of sellers and customers of various shapes, sizes and ages.

Johnathan and November are walking from stall to stall carrying various packs.

SELLER #1

(waving a cell phone)

It'll happen. I tell you. The day will come when this will be the most important thing in your life. Again.

(NOVEMBER - EPISODE 3-14)

SELLER #2

(to customer)

Now, throw in an extra blanket
and we have a deal.

SELLER #3

(to customers)

For that much gas I'll come to your
house and cook it myself.

Walking along the stalls.

NOVEMBER

You think that guys could be r
right about the phones?

JOHNATHAN

It wouldn't surprise me. Word has
it they are restoring enough towers
and systems to get the government
back online.

NOVEMBER

Some people I was with in Louisiana
saw some signs of broadcasting.
Something from DHS but it wasn't a
good signal.

JOHNATHAN

Yes, my son heard that, too.
So far it's all restricted.
Radio is really where things
happen these days. Hamm radio.

There are lots of people surrounding a tent and they walk over
to see what is getting so much attention. Inside the tent,
heavily guarded, are motorcycles.

SELLER #4, a woman, tattooed, is bragging about just how good
these motorcycles are. The guards she's hired are carrying
assault rifles and plenty of ammo. They also have grenades
attached to their belts. There will be no trouble here.

November looks at the bikes and desperately wants one.

(NOVEMBER - EPISODE 3-15)

SELLER #4

Do I look like the kind of
lady that needs a Volkswagen?

CUSTOMER #1

Untouched kitchen set. Oven,
refrigerator, washer.

SELLER #4

Throw in a cow and you might
have a deal.

(MORE)

Customer #1 walks off to talk about with his family. Seller #4
notices November.

SELLER #4 (CONT'D)

What about you sweetie? What
have you got that might interest
me. Or, maybe, what else have
you got?

November looks at Seller #4 and the bikes and realizes she has
nothing.

NOVEMBER

Maybe we could work something
out?

There is laughter from the crowd as Seller #4 smiles and moves
on. Johnathan takes November by the elbow and pulls her out of
the crowd.

JOHNATHAN

Are you crazy?

NOVEMBER

A bike like that would get
me to St. Louis and beyond.

JOHNATHAN

If you lived long enough. Did
you see the ordinances they
were carrying? Not just assault
weapons but grenades. There's
only one place to get them and
they do NOT give them up easily.

(NOVEMBER - EPISODE 3-16)

NOVEMBER

She was looking for a trade.

JOHNATHAN

She's putting together a
raiding party.

November looks back and thinks about what almost happened. There is a moment of temptation on her face.

They move along and hear a familiar voice in the crowd.

BIKER #1

Trust us! We'll get you there.

November looks at Johnathan, who smiles at her, and she walks towards them.

BIKER #2

We'll escort you all the way,
and back, for a price.

CONVOY

We've got a pretty good-sized
convoy. We're going to need a
good, coordinated team of
people to keep us safe.

NOVEMBER

Well, I couldn't speak higher
for these guys. They ambushed
me on the highway and I couldn't
shake them. Seriously, I tried,
but they were too well organized
and knew how to swing those
baseball bats.

BIKER #1

(confused)

Yeah, we got her.

CONVOY

Bats?

BIKER #2

I was All State Hitter in high
school.

(NOVEMBER - EPISODE 3-17)

NOVEMBER

I just couldn't outrun them.

BIKER #3

We got her, good.

CONVOY

They got your bike?

NOVEMBER

Well, what was left of it after
I went down.

CONVOY

But they didn't get the bike?
They got you?

BIKER #2

Yes.

NOVEMBER

Well, they would have if it
hadn't been for the one guy
with one blast from his shot gun?

CONVOY

One?

BIKER #2

It was a really big gun.

BIKER #1

Shut up.

NOVEMBER

Yeah, but their bikes are
still good. I'm sure they are.
I'm sure nothing accidentally
happened to them with all those
people coming in and out.
Nothing went wrong. Nobody
accidently scratched the paint
with rusty nails or anything.
I'm sure.

The bikers pause for a moment then run off. Johnathan comes forward smiling.

(NOVEMBER - EPISODE 3-18)

JOHNATHAN

Works every time.

EXT. SMALL TRADING POST - DAY

Various shots of vendors around the trading post. Deals being made, offers and denials. Families with children looking for clothes and toys.

A BELL RINGS and the children look around in excitement. They grab their parent's hands and pull them as fast as they can through the trading post.

Soon the families are gathered together around an old-fashioned booth for a "PUNCH and JUDY" style puppet show. Hand puppets with silly voices, crazy colors, wiry hair, but the kids love them.

PUPPET 1

Hello, boys and girls!

The children say hello back.

PUPPET 2

Are we having fun today?

The children yell back that they are having fun.

PUPPET 1

You know how we can make it better?

The children yell back wanting to know.

PUPPET 2

It's candy time!!!!

The children cheer as helpers go about handing candy to the kids. There is a great deal of celebration and smiles and the atmosphere is relaxed and happy. In the back of the crowd November stands watching quietly.

PUPPET 1

I know how we can make it better.

(NOVEMBER - EPISODE 3-19)

PUPPET 2

How can it be better than
candy time?

PUPPET 1

I bet it's somebody's birthday!!!
(MORE)

There is a lot of laughing and waving in the crowd. Finally,
KEVIN, a young boy stands up and attention turns to him.

PUPPET 1 (CONT'D)

Is it your birthday?

KEVIN nods his head.

PUPPET 2

What's your name, sweetie?

KEVIN

Kevin!

PUPPET 1

How old are you, Kevin?

KEVIN

I'm seven

PUPPET 1

Ok, let's all sing happy birthday
to Kevin!

PUPPET 2

Ready? All together now.
1...2...7!

PUPPET 1

(bats puppet 2)

No, no, no. That's not how it
goes.

PUPPET 2

I know that, I'll do it right
this time. Everybody ready?
(children applaud)
1...4!

(NOVEMBER - EPISODE 3-20)

PUPPET 1
(bats again)
NO, NO, NO, NO!

PUPPET 2
No?

PUPPET 1
(with corwd)
No! Come on kids! Let's teach
him how to count and then sing
happy birthday to Keven.
All together! Ready?

It's worked, the children are caught up in the excitement and they all count to 3 and start singing happy birthday to Kevin. His family holds him and hugs him as he sings. Families in the crowd all singing together.

November is standing at the back of the crowd, she looks unsure for a moment, not sure how she's supposed to feel. There is a tear coming down her cheek and she turns away.

November finds a bench and sits down. She wipes her face clean and tries to steady herself when BONEITA, 67, farm wife, comes up with her walker and sits on the bench.

BONEITA
The puppets weren't that bad,
dear.

November looks at her for a moment, then smiles and relaxes.

NOVEMBER
No, no, no. It wasn't that.
Just... I don't know. Sometimes
things get to me.

BONEITA
Well, I sure can understand that.

NOVEMBER
I'm not even sure why.

(NOVEMBER - EPISODE 3-21)

BONEITA

The world in shambles, nobody knows what today is going to bring, let alone tomorrow. You don't really need a reason to cry.

NOVEMBER

I suppose.

BONEITA

Well, sooner or later we all can use a good cry. I'm Boneita.

NOVEMBER

November.

BONEITA

That's a sweet name. My birthday is in November.

NOVEMBER

Congratulations.

BONEITA

Well, thank you. When's your birthday?

NOVEMBER

(stumbles)

I was born...in November, too.

BONEITA

Very nice.

(MORE)

There is a moment as darkness crosses November's face. Boneita senses it.

BONEITA (CONT'D)

Well, perhaps, if the puppets don't entertain you Mr. Shakespeare can.

(MORE)

November isn't sure what she means.

(NOVEMBER - EPISODE 3-22)

BONEITA (CONT'D)

In the public square, just down
that way, they have some very
gentle readings of sonnets.

NOVEMBER

Sonnets?

BONEITA

Yes, November, sonnets from Mr.
Shakespeare to enlighten you.
Theater, after all, is one of
the few forms of entertainment
even the bombs couldn't stop.

Boneita grabs her cane and rises. November joins her.

NOVEMBER

I'll walk with you, but I have
to get back to my friend, soon.

As they walk they approach a small square where a PERFORMER is
reading sonnets. November helps Boneita find a seat and then
continues to the back of the crowd until it finishes.

PERFORMER

SONNET 122

Thy gift, thy tables, are within my brain
Full character'd with lasting memory,
Which shall above that idle rank remain
Beyond all date, even to eternity;
Or at the least, so long as brain and heart
Have faculty by nature to subsist;
Till each to razed oblivion yield his part
Of thee, thy record never can be miss'd.
That poor retention could not so much hold,
Nor need I tallies thy dear love to score;
Therefore to give them from me was I bold,
To trust those tables that receive thee more:
To keep an adjunct to remember thee
Were to import forgetfulness in me.

November pauses as the crowd applauds. It's struck something
inside her.

(NOVEMBER - EPISODE 3-23)

EXT. SMALL TRADING POST - DAY

November is following Johnson around and watching him make deals. Johnson is talking to a Tarp Dealer, 60's, bearded, been around the block.

JOHNSON

Those tarps look good. They could patch up a few holes in the barn and keep some hay bales clean and dry.

TARP DEALER

These are unopened tarps, in their original wrapping, so they are the best you can find.

JOHNSON

How big are they?

November notices something away from them.

TARP DEALER

How big of hole you got?

JOHNSON

About 5'10" 180lbs, brown hair and green eyes.

They both burst out laughing.

TARP DEALER

Sounds like my daughter's kid.

November notices LERON, thug, 20, leather vest, muscular, talking to KELCY, a young girl, 16, and pointing away from the main walkway to an area between some tents. Kelcy shakes her head as he steps closer to her.

JOHNSON

OK, lets talk a deal.

TARP DEALER

I've seen you around here and you have a good rep. I'm listening.

(NOVEMBER - EPISODE 3-24)

November is trying to listen as Kelcy reluctantly nods her head. Leron looks around, then pulls back part of a tent to reveal a dark gap, Kelcy braces herself and enters the gap, Leron looks around, thinks no one is watching, then follows her. November looks around to see if anyone else has noticed, but, if they have, they aren't doing anything about it. A team of SECURITY GUARDS come walking down the main path and pause nearby.

JOHNSON

At the top I need 2 20x25
tarps. The good thick ones
that'll cover a roof.

TARP DEALER

Got 'em. Well, as long as you're
not worried about color.

JOHNSON

If they're top shape I don't
give a damn about color. What
color are they?

TARP DEALER

Green with pink dots.

JOHNSON

Where'd you get them? An old
Barnum and Bailey supplier?

They burst out laughing. The Security Guards scan the area one more time and move on. November is nowhere to be seen.

EXT - GAP BETWEEN TENTS - DAY

This is a gap between various tents and wooden walls for stands. It's mostly forgotten, dirty, with various pieces of junk strewn about. Kelcy is standing stiffly while Leron sloppily kisses her on the lips. She shakily pulls away and holds out her hands.

LERON

You get paid when the job
is done.

KELCY

That's not part of the deal.

(NOVEMBER - EPISODE 3-25)

LERON

It is now.

KELCY

You better pay.

She shrugs and nods as he pushes her down to her knees.

LERON

Get to it.

KELCY (O.S.)

Like this?

LERON

Yeah, now open wide.

KELCY (O.S.)

Like this?

LERON

Now get to it!

(MORE)

Leron takes a deep breath as she starts working on him. It feels good and he smiles as he closes his eyes to truly enjoy it.

LERON (CONT'D)

Yeah baby, more.

KELCY (O.S.)

How about this?

LERON (CONT'D)

Good girl.

NOVEMBER (O.S.)

Or this?

(MORE)

Leron's eyes snap open in terror as November moves in to face him.

(NOVEMBER - EPISODE 3-26)

NOVEMBER (CONT'D)

That ice-cold sensation you
got is a stainless-steel blade.
If you'd like I'll prove to
you just how sharp it is.

LERON

No, no, no, need,

NOVEMBER

Ok, now, think about just
how this feels right now.
One flick of the wrist and
you'll never sound the same
again. Got it!

LERON

No-no-yes-yes.

NOVEMBER

Face down, in the dirt.
(MORE)

Leron drops face down on the ground. November puts the knife tip
to the back of his neck and unloads his pockets.

NOVEMBER (CONT'D)

(to Kelcy)

You. How old are you?

KELCY

16.

NOVEMBER

Do you even know what you'er
doing? What the hell is wrong
with you?

KELCY

He made me an offer. We need
things.

NOVEMBER

Never, ever, let them bring
you into some place like this
no matter what you need.

(NOVEMBER - EPISODE 3-27)

KELCY

We gotta do what we gotta
do these days.

NOVEMBER

Not when they can take control
like this. No matter what they
offer you it's not gonna be
worth anything if they cut you
open when they're done.

(MORE)

November pulls a switch blade out of Leron's pocket and tosses
it to Kelcy.

NOVEMBER (CONT'D)

Learn how to use that.

KELCY

It's really sharp.

NOVEMBER

Keep it that way. Leave the
metal bits for me. The rest
you can keep.

Kelcy picks up a few things in a hurry then heads out.

KELCY

Thanks.

November leans in close to Leron with a tight grip on the blade
in her hand.

NOVEMBER

She's clear now. You know why
I wanted her out of here?

LERON

No.

NOVEMBER

She's only 16. I didn't want
her to have to see this.

(NOVEMBER - EPISODE 3-28)

EXT. SMALL TRADING POST - DAY

November quietly steps out from the hiding place unnoticed by anyone around. She casually walks back to Johnson.

TARP DEALER

My momma didn't raise no dummy.

JOHNSON

But your daddy sure did.

The laugh and shake hands. Johnson now has some large and hideously colored tarps with him.

EXT - BUILDING ROOF - DAY

A military figure holding a rifle. Looking through the scope, finger on the trigger.

INT. ALEX BEDROOM - NIGHT

A closet is open and there are several military uniforms indicating the 4th Ranger Training Brigade at Fort Benning, Georgia. Some items are being taken from the closet and put in a canvas backpack. Only essentials are packed, neat and orderly. Finally, there is a logo for USASS (United States Army Sniper School).

Alex looks around her room slowly, carefully, not wanting to forget anything she'll need. Not necessarily what she wants to take, just needs.

There is a KNOCK at the door.

ALEX

Hey Dad.

The door opens and MATTHEW, her dad, 45, enters.

MATTHEW

You got everything you need?

ALEX

All I need from shirts to socks and everything in between.

(NOVEMBER - EPISODE 3-29)

MATTHEW

You can travel around the world
with a good pair of socks.

ALEX

I still have the same pair I
brought back from Afghanistan.
Clean and ready to go.

MATTHEW

Let me guess. They're green.

ALEX

You peaked.

MATTHEW

Ah, but if they are camouflage
colored then I wouldn't have
been able to see them.

ALEX

You've been telling me that
joke since I went to boot
camp.

MATTHEW

And it keeps getting funnier
every time. No?

ALEX

(smiles)

No.

MATTHEW

No.

ALEX

Ok, yes.

He looks at her gently.

MATTHEW

Sounds like you have everything
you need.

ALEX

Pretty sure everything's ready.

(NOVEMBER - EPISODE 3-30)

MATTHEW

What about you?

ALEX

I'm ready.

They sit down on the bed to talk.

MATTHEW

Ally, are you sure you're ready for this?

ALEX

Dad, I spent a lot of time thinking about this, about rejoining, and about what happened before.

MATTHEW

I thought a lot about that, too.

ALEX

It won't happen again.

MATTHEW

I hope and pray, Ally, but things are so different now. Even before, in normal times, you still got caught in the middle and had to make some tough decisions.

ALEX

And I made the wrong one.

MATTHEW

Yes.

ALEX

And I paid for it.

MATTHEW

Every day, I know, and many nights, too. From what I remember.

(NOVEMBER - EPISODE 3-31)

ALEX

But they've stopped. I think about him, still, but I can control it in normal times.

MATTHEW

Ally, in a war zone there are no normal times.

ALEX

I suppose it'll be different since it's not really a warzone this time. We're on the home turf with our own people this time. It's a lot easier to tell the difference now.

EXT - BUILDING ROOF - DAY

A military figure holding a rifle. Looking through the scope, finger on the trigger. Alex has her target.

INT. JOHNATHAN FARMHOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

November is seated at the sofa with Jason, 30s, Johnathan's son. Johnathan is doing some general dusting and cleaning and they are all smiling.

JASON

You're headed up to St. Louis?

NOVEMBER

Yes.

JOHNATHAN

It's a rough town.

JASON

It is.

NOVEMBER

I've heard rumors.

JOHNATHAN

I imagine they are all true.

(NOVEMBER - EPISODE 3-32)

JASON

As I remember our trip was pretty hectic.

JOHNATHAN

And that was before that day?

NOVEMBER

Really?

JOHNATHAN

Yes. Wait in line to get up the arch and get about 10 seconds to actually look outside before they push you into the elevator and back down again.

NOVEMBER

Well, don't remember ever being there.

JASON

From what I understand don't go on the east side of the river. The west side is controlled by the military, US Army, proper military. The east side is wild side, gang territory.

NOVEMBER

That's good to know.

JOHNATHAN

Popcorn? I wonder if we have popcorn. Anyone hungry?

(they smile)

If anything, it would make the place smell good.

He exits into the kitchen.

NOVEMBER

Your dad saved me. I'll always be grateful to him, but I can't stay.

(NOVEMBER - EPISODE 3-33)

JASON

I can't say that I blame you.
I can see you've got the
desire to see what's out
there for yourself. It's the
same look that sis had. You
must have been quite a
troublemaker before 11/9.

NOVEMBER

Well, I guess, maybe?

JASON

Don't worry.

NOVEMBER

Your sister was a wild one?

JASON

(laughs)

Oh, you should have seen her.
She liked to test dad's
patience in a big way. High
school prom. A pretty traditional
event for most people. Flowers,
dresses, tuxedos and limos.
Not for her. "My daughter is
not wearing bib overalls to
the prom." I kind of suspect
she really didn't want to wear
them, either, but it just gave
dad something to fluster over.
The biggest moment was when
she told him she wanted to
take Rebecca as a date instead
of David. She was going for
gusto with that one. No matter
what, the response was bigger
than she ever expected. He
never missed a beat. He looked
her in the eyes and asked her
which one was going to wear
the tux? She cried for a day.
Almost as much as he cried
after that day she died.

(NOVEMBER - EPISODE 3-34)

NOVEMBER

I imagined he figured it out instantly.

(Jason is puzzled)

When the news of the bombs went out. He knew they were killed.

JASON

No, I'm sorry. You don't understand. They weren't killed on 11/9. It was 8/13, the Springfield Massacre. Certainly, you remember it. University of Illinois, Springfield? The shooter who took out 67 prospective students and parents? We waited at the phone for 17 hours to get information. It finally rang...with that last ring on that day everything stopped. He still operates, he can take care of himself and the farm, but doesn't feel anything anymore.

November is in tears as she is overcome with emotions. She's not really sure why.

EXT. JOHNATHAN FARM - BARN - DAY

A day or so has passed and November is walking fine. She moves some equipment in the barn then notices Johnathan heading towards her. She pauses and takes a deep breath.

JOHNATHAN

Time for you to move on.

NOVEMBER

Yes, I have to.

JONATHAN

I know. A majority of life is made up by the people who are just passing through. Thanks.

(NOVEMBER - EPISODE 3-35)

NOVEMBER

Thank you. I've talked to the Bowman's and Phelps's. They're pretty good. They'll keep an eye on things with you for the season.

JOHNATHAN

And I'll keep an eye on them. The big question is who is going to be keeping an eye on you? On the other hand, I suspect you don't need anyone to keep an eye on you. However, this can't hurt for now.

(he holds a set of keys for her)

NOVEMBER

What?

JOHNATHAN

There's a motorcycle just inside the cellar. It's good. I've kept it ready and I'm sure it'll get you to St. Louis. I think Jamie would have wanted you to have it.

NOVEMBER

(sinks in)

Are you sure?

JOHNATHAN

Yeah, better than just sitting there collecting dust.

They look at each other, unsure of what to say.

NOVEMBER

I'll make her proud.

JONATHAN

I'm sure you will.

(NOVEMBER - EPISODE 3-36)

She hugs him, he reluctantly wraps his arms around her but smiles.

EXT. JOHNATHAN FARM - FIELD - DAY

Johnathan is walking along the field checking the dirt, growth, etc. He hears the MOTORCYCLE going down the highway. He doesn't look.

JOHNATHAN
Bye, Jamie.

He walks along the field looking at the growth.