

Lilac  
by  
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INT. THAMES HOUSE - BATHROOM - DAY

The light in a small quaint bathroom turns on as SVEN THAMES, tall, blonde, slim, (18) steps up to a mirror.

Sven, teeth clenched, stares at his violet eyes and takes off his hood.

A pair of fox ears protrude from his shoulder-length blonde hair.

Sven narrows his eyes at them, twitches, raises his fist towards the mirror.

Sven SMASHES it to bits.

Sven stares at his jagged reflection, smirks, lifts up his hand, stares at it.

It's clean, not a single wound in sight.

INT. OLIVIA'S CAVALIER - DAY

OLIVIA THAMES (40s) tall, auburn-hair, petite, pulls into the driveway in a blue Chevrolet Cavalier, stops, exits.

INT. THAMES HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Sven, hood back up, stares at the website for NYU (New York University) on his computer as Olivia opens the front door and steps into the foyer.

OLIVIA (O.S.)

Sven?

SVEN

In here.

Olivia walks in, purse over her shoulder.

SVEN

Welcome back.

Olivia narrows her eyes towards the computer, smirks.

OLIVIA

Studying?

SVEN

Physics.

OLIVIA  
Chores done?

Sven sighs, kicks forward a laundry basket full of clothes near his feet.

OLIVIA  
There all separated, I hope?

SVEN  
Long-sleeves on the left, tanks on the right.

OLIVIA  
And the jackets?

SVEN  
Look for yourself.

Olivia smirks, bends down and peers inside. Long sleeves on the left, tanks on the right, jackets in the center.

OLIVIA  
Did you get to the bathroom?

Sven bites his tongue.

SVEN  
Yeah, about that.

Sven stands up, pulls out his wallet and hands Olivia his credit card.

SVEN  
The mirror had an accident.

Olivia takes it.

OLIVIA  
More collateral damage?

SVEN  
I'll help pick out a new one.

Olivia giggles, places the card inside her pocket, shifts her eyes towards the computer.

OLIVIA  
Browsing?

SVEN  
Colleges?

Olivia smirks.

Sven grumbles, waltzes back over to the computer, turns the screen around.

Olivia steps forward, stares at it.

OLIVIA  
Looks expensive.

SVEN  
Student loans.

Olivia snickers, walks over to a chair in the corner, takes off her jacket.

OLIVIA  
I have a client coming over for a  
consultation tonight so...

SVEN  
So?

Olivia sets her coat down on the chair.

OLIVIA  
So, I'll need you to pick up Sarah  
from school today.

Sven grumbles, throws his head back against the chair.

SVEN  
Really?

Olivia takes out her wallet and hands Sven a \$20 bill.

OLIVIA  
\$20 dollars, and you can pick whatever  
you want.

SVEN  
Seriously?

Olivia winks at Sven.

Sven smirks, snatches up the money, stuffs it into his pocket, and slides towards the foyer.

OLIVIA

Sven.

SVEN

Mom?

Olivia pulls Sven aside, looks into his eyes.

Sven raises his brow.

SVEN

Mom?

OLIVIA

Look, you don't need to worry about...

Olivia shifts her eyes towards Sven's hood. His eyes shift up at them, back to the computer.

SVEN

You think people will care?

OLIVIA

Only if you think they do.

Olivia hands Sven a \$10 dollar bill.

OLIVIA

There, that should cover dessert for the both of you.

SVEN

Both?

Olivia glares at Sven, saunters over to the chair, picks up her coat.

SVEN

Can't you just heat her up a Kid Cuisine or something?

OLIVIA

We're all out of Magical Cheese.

SVEN

She'll live with fish sticks.

Olivia strides forward, kisses Sven on the cheek.

Sven groans, hastily wipes it off his sleeve.

SVEN

Thanks.

Sven grabs the Cavalier car keys off the table, turns to leave.

OLIVIA

Oh, can you take the Plymouth?  
Cavalier's low on gas.

SVEN

You know she's going to complain about  
it.

Olivia narrows her eyes at Sven.

Sven grumbles, throws the Cavalier car keys back on the table, picks up the Plymouths, and exits.

EXT. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - FRONT PARKING LOOP - DAY

Sven, hood up, pulls up to the curb and stops.

INT. SVEN'S CAR - DAY

Kylie Minogue's I Should Be So Lucky blasts out of Sven's radio as he rolls down the passenger window, looks for SARAH THAMES (7), sees nothing.

Sven grumbles, pulls out his phone, reads a text from ALEX CONRAD (18), messy, tall, smelly, not the brightest tool in the shed.

*ALEX (TEXT)*

*Guess who just got that new Resident  
Evil game!*

GINNY WARBURTON (18) red-headed, smart, techie, texts back.

*GINNY (TEXT)*

*And how the hell did you pay for that?  
Babysitting?*

*ALEX (TEXT)*

*Monetization baby!*

A loud HONK from behind makes him jump, drop his phone.

Sven grumbles, bites his teeth, and looks out the window over his shoulder.

An IRATE WOMAN (40s) in the minivan behind him glares at him. She presses her hand on the wheel again.

HONK!

SVEN

Tch.

Sven reaches down, dives for the phone, misses. The seatbelt jerks him back with a satisfying PLOP.

EXT. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - FRONT PARKING LOOP - DAY

JASON HICKS (18) tall, burly, athletic, black hair, exits the SUV, stomps up to Sven's car in his Converse sneakers.

INT. SVEN'S CAR - DAY

Sven grits his teeth, narrows his eyes at the phone, rubs his hands together, and lunges towards the phone.

Sven's finger's wrap around the phone as the seatbelt SNAP's.

Sven leans up, pulls the belt forward. It falls apart in his hands.

SVEN

Hmph.

Jason KNOCK's at Sven's window.

SVEN

Son of a...

Jason waves.

Sven grumbles, rolls down the window.

SVEN

Jason.

JASON

Buddy.

SVEN

Your mom seems pissed.

JASON

Always is.

Sven grumbles, leans back in his seat, taps on his phone, as

Jason narrows his eyes towards the car radio.

JASON  
Kylie Minogue huh, great choice.

SVEN  
It was one of her first hits.

JASON  
I should know, you bought me the album.

Sven furrows his brow, looks towards the school entrance, hoping to see Sarah as Jason scans the inside of his car, wrinkles his nose.

JASON  
Shit. What's that smell? Doritos?

SVEN  
Cool Ranch.

JASON  
Fuck.

The Irate Woman, now revealed to be Jason's mother, SANDRA (40s) HONK's again.

Jason grumbles, flips around.

JASON  
Chill the fuck out Mom!

Sven grumbles, texts Alex and Ginny back.

*SVEN (TEXT)*  
*I'll be there after 6.*

Sven puts his phone away, takes a deep breath.

JASON  
How's Sarah?

SVEN  
You run out of new insults?

JASON  
Hey, just because I think you're a freak, doesn't mean I can't...

Sven growls, flashes Jason his fangs. He shudders, steps



back, takes a deep breath.

JASON  
Damn man, what the hell happened to  
us?

SVEN  
I'm not your counselor.

JASON  
You know! You, me, Alex, Ginny, Smash  
Bros?

Sven glares at Jason's varsity jacket.

SVEN  
You tell me. You're the one who went  
all jock on us.

Jason eyes the broken seatbelt next to Sven, shudders.

SARAH (O.S.)  
Sven!

Sven flips around as Sarah jogs to the curb, trips over her  
shoelace, falls down.

SVEN  
Shit.

Sven exits the car and rushes to her aid with Jason.

SVEN  
I told you to slow down.

SARAH  
I was!

Sven huffs.

SVEN  
Really?

Sarah sees Jason, makes a face.

SARAH  
Jason.

JASON  
How's Ava?

SARAH  
None of your business!

Sven grabs Sarah by her hand, yanks her up.

SVEN  
Well? Last time I checked, your Mom's  
waiting.

Jason huffs.

JASON  
What? I can't have a nice chat with my  
old pal?

Jason pats Sven on the back, hard, sending his hood off.

Sven's eyes go wide, he panics.

SVEN  
Fuck...

JASON  
The Fantastic Mr. Fox?

The children around him can't believe their eyes. They point  
and tug at their parents clothing, murmur to themselves as  
Sven frantically pulls his hood back up.

SARAH  
Leave him alone, douchebag!

Sarah marches forward, stomps on Jason's foot.

JASON  
Little brat!

Jason grimaces, holds his foot in agony as Sven grabs Sarah,  
pulls her aside.

SVEN  
Sarah!

Jason sneers.

JASON  
Your sister's got quite a mouth.

Sven glares into Sarah's eyes.

SVEN  
Apologize.

Sarah grumbles.

SARAH  
Sorry.

Jason sneers, snorts, points at Sven.

JASON  
Tomorrow, science class, be there.

Jason flips around and storms away.

SARAH  
He really shouldn't be wearing  
Converse.

Sven grumbles and pulls Sarah towards his car. As he opens the door for, Sarah frantically checks her pockets.

SARAH  
My phone!

Sven grumbles.

SVEN  
Come on.

SARAH  
I have to have it!

HONK.

Sven whips his head around, gives Sandra the finger, and shifts his eyes towards the school.

SVEN  
Come on.

Sven pulls Sarah towards the entrance.

INT. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - HALLWAY - DAY

Sarah pulls Sven towards the classroom as several parents and children stare at his violet eyes, murmur to each other.

SVEN  
Are we there yet?

SARAH

Almost!

A YOUNG BOY (8) suddenly rushes up to Sven, tugs at his jacket.

YOUNG BOY

Are you a Power Ranger?

Sven snarls, bares his fangs at him.

The young boy screams, runs back to his mother as Sarah shakes her head.

SVEN

What?

Sarah grumbles, continues forward as Sven clicks his teeth and hurries after her.

SVEN

Wait up!

INT. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - CLASSROOM - DAY

SARAH

I know I left it in here somewhere.

Sarah enters as Sven looks over his shoulder, relaxes, and ducks underneath the door.

Sven stares at the doodles on a chalkboard as Sarah reaches inside her desk and begins digging around.

KATHERINE (O.S.)

I have it here Sarah.

Sarah whips her head around as KATHERINE WARBURTON (40s), tall, auburn hair, thin, prim, hands her her phone.

Sarah cheers, grabs it, hugs Katherine.

SARAH

Thanks Ms. Warburton!

SVEN

Where did you find it?

KATHERINE

Inside one of her classmates desks.

Sarah turns to the desk next to hers, makes a face.

SARAH

Wade.

Katherine grumbles.

KATHERINE

Now, Sarah...

SARAH

Why does he always have to pick on me?

SVEN

Who is this kid? Some friend of yours?

Katherine bends down to Sarah, looks into her eyes.

KATHERINE

You remember the classroom rules for stealing right?

SARAH

Time-out during recess and no participation during story hour.

Katherine turns around, grabs a bucket full of blue tokens from her desk and holds it out for Sarah.

KATHERINE

Remember, just one.

Sarah giggles, pulls one out, shows it to Sven.

SARAH

Look Sven!

Sven takes the token, raises it up to his face, smirks.

SVEN

A tiny piece of plastic, exciting.

Sarah sticks out her tongue, snatches the token back from Sven, and stuffs it into her backpack.

KATHERINE

How've you been Sven?

SVEN

I've been good, somewhat.

AVA (O.S.)

Sarah!

Sarah jogs over to AVA (7) and EMILY (6) near a bookshelf as Katherine stares at Sven's hood.

KATHERINE

Graduation's coming up, isn't it?

SVEN

Yeah, in a few weeks from now.

KATHERINE

So, any plans?

Sven walks over to Sarah's desk, places his hand on top of it, stares at it.

SVEN

I'm torn.

KATHERINE

NYU or UAA?

Sven chuckles.

SVEN

Ginny?

KATHERINE

It's all she's been talking about.

Sven looks to Sarah, cracks a smile, pulls up a chair, takes a seat, and lets out a sigh.

SVEN

New York's close, pretty big campus,  
but Alaska's more...

KATHERINE

Remote?

SVEN

Cold.

Katherine snickers as Sven plays with the strings on his hoodie.

SVEN

I figured that be the easiest choice,  
since...

Katherine takes a seat next to him, leans forward.

KATHERINE  
Can always do online.

SVEN  
I thought about that but...

Sven reaches up, touches his ears, flinches.

SVEN  
You know, I thought about cutting them  
off.

Katherine lowers her voice.

KATHERINE  
Sven.

SVEN  
I'm sick of the way everyone looks at  
me.

Katherine sighs, pats his hand as Ava suddenly rushes over.

AVA  
Can you fly?

Sven grumbles.

SVEN  
Sarah...

SARAH  
She asked!

Sven sighs, furrows his brow.

SVEN  
Yes, when I feel like it.

AVA  
Could you take me somewhere far away?

Sven chuckles.

SVEN  
What did you have in mind?

Ava jogs over to a map of the United States and points to the state of California.

Sven and Katherine snicker, walk over.

AVA

That's where all the movie stars are!

SVEN

You want to be an actress.

EMILY

Show him Ava!

Ava takes a step back, takes a deep breath, and strikes Marilyn Monroe's famous The Seven Year Itch pose.

SVEN

Aren't you a little young to be watching that?

AVA

I've got a library card.

Ava struts back over to Emily and Sarah.

SVEN

Look out Hollywood, here comes Ava Hicks.

Ava salutes Sven.

AVA

The Littlest Rebel!

Sven salutes back.

KATHERINE

All the kids talk about you.

SVEN

I'm not surprised.

KATHERINE

It's genetic, right?

SVEN

From my dad, so my Mom says.

Sven snuffles, digs his hands into his jeans as Katherine gently strokes his back.

SVEN

I wish I got to know him, before he...



Katherine stands up, walks over to her desk, tucks something black behind her back, steps back over.

SVEN

It's not my birthday.

Katherine whips out a black beanie with two triangle-like slits at the top, a perfect match for a certain someone with fox ears.

Sven's eyes light up at the sight of it.

SVEN

No way.

Sven takes it, stares at it.

KATHERINE

Now you can wear whatever you want.

Sven rips off his hood and slides the beanie over his head.

SVEN

Well, what do you guys think?

SARAH

It's amazing!

AVA

Real classy.

EMILY

Now all you need is a skateboard.

SVEN

You really think so?

Emily nods.

Sven chuckles, hides a smile as his eyes shift to Wade's desk.

SVEN

So, uh, about that kid...

Katherine grumbles, looks to Wade's desk, stares at it.

KATHERINE

Wade Cooper.

EMILY

He's the guy who likes Hot Wheels.

Katherine lowers her voice.

KATHERINE

Emily.

Emily bites her lip, resumes her conversation with Sarah and Ava.

KATHERINE

He sits next to Sarah. They get along,  
for the most part.

SVEN

But?

Katherine walks back over to her desk, picks up a piece of paper on top, and hands it to Sven.

KATHERINE

I've caught him with this earlier  
today.

Sven takes it, looks down at it. A crudely drawn image of himself with nine tails and the phrase "bakemono" in red crayon stare back at him.

KATHERINE

Does that word mean anything too you?

Sven sneers, tosses the paper inside, stomps over to Sarah, grabs her hand.

SVEN

Come on Sarah.

SARAH

But...

Sven pulls Sarah towards the door.

SARAH

Bye!

Ava, Emily and Katherine wave goodbye as Sven and Sarah exit.

INT. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - HALLWAY - DAY

Sven pulls Sarah down the hall as she tugs at his arm.

SARAH  
Hey! Let go!

SVEN  
Bakemono? Really?

SARAH  
It's the proper Japanese terminology.

Sven stops in his tracks, grumbles.

SVEN  
That's it, I'm deleting your Wikipedia  
account.

Sven pulls Sarah forward.

SARAH  
No fair!

As Sarah punches at his arm, Sven spots WADE COOPER (7)  
chubby, in a blue t-shirt, showing off his latest hot-wheels  
to two of his friends (6), (7),

SVEN  
That him?

Sarah nods.

Sven walks up to Wade, stops behind him.

SVEN  
Hey, kid.

Wade flips around, makes a face, chuckles.

WADE  
Hey, look guys, it's the FOX!

Wade's friends laugh, point at Sven's ears. He's not amused;  
sees the hot wheels in Wade's hand, snatches it from him.

WADE  
Hey!

Sven holds it up, stares at it.

SVEN  
Challenger huh? That's a real classic.

WADE  
Give it back!

Wade lunges at Sven who quickly holds the car high in the air, away from him.

SVEN  
Not until you say it.

WADE  
Say what?

Sven growls, lifts off his hood, reveals his fangs. Wade's friends scurry away as Wade trembles, fidgets, backs into the wall.

SVEN  
Go on. Humor me.

WADE  
Bakemono!

Wade sobs, catching the attention of a nearby TEACHER (30s).

TEACHER  
Wade?

Sven grumbles, drops the car to the ground, rushes back over to Sarah, grabs her hand.

SARAH  
That was awesome!

SVEN  
You owe me.

Sven pulls Sarah away from the scene as the teacher steps up to Wade, bends down to his side.

EXT. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - FRONT PARKING LOOP - DAY

Jason leads Ava over to the SUV, opens the door for her.

SANDRA  
Hurry up.

Jason grumbles, slams the door shut, walks over to the front one, opens it, and steps in.

INT. SANDRA'S SUV - DAY

Jason and Ava fasten their seatbelts.

SANDRA  
What took you so long?

JASON  
She was talking with Emily.

Sandra sneers, reaches forward, grabs Jason's ear, and yanks it forward.

SANDRA  
Was I asking you?

Ava slides down into her seat as Jason whimpers, sniffles.

JASON  
No ma'am.

Sandra shoves him away, flips around, glares at Ava.

SANDRA  
Well?

Ava frantically nods.

Sandra huffs, turns back around, reaches for the radio.

SANDRA  
Did you enjoy your conversation with  
the meat?

JASON  
Mom, please...

SANDRA  
You won't learn nothing by hanging out  
with a rug who plays Mario Kart.

Jason clenches his fist, lunges at Sandra, only for her to slap it away and punch him in the face.

Ava whimpers as Jason sniffles, wipes his nose.

Sandra huffs, frantically starts the SUV, and speeds away.

INT. SVEN'S CAR - DAY

Sarah picks up an ad from the ground, stares at the cover.

SARAH  
You should get a Honda.

Sven, at the wheel, grumbles.

SVEN  
Well, what do you recommend this time,  
Kelley?

SARAH  
A hatchback.

Sven furrows his brow, flips around.

SVEN  
Hatchback?

SARAH  
That way everyone can see what you're  
carrying.

SVEN  
I've got nothing to hide.

SARAH  
Really?

Sven sighs, spots the ad in her hand.

SVEN  
What have you got there?

Sarah beams as she flips the ad around, shows it to him. It's  
a HOOTERS WAITRESS (20s), tall, blonde, scantily clad.

Sven rips it out of her hands, rolls down the window, and  
chucks it outside.

SARAH  
Let's go there for dinner!

SVEN  
No.

SARAH  
But, fried pickles...

Sven sighs, shifts his attention back towards the road, spots  
a skate shop in the distance, raises his brow.

INT. SKATE SHOP - DAY

Sven and Sarah enter, look around.

SARAH  
These look dangerous.

IGGY (O.S.)  
Only to the non-experienced.

Sven and Sarah flip around as IGGY (late 40s), tall, gruff, thin, ragged, steps forward, narrows his eyes at Sven.

IGGY  
First timer?

SVEN  
Yeah, recommendations?

Iggy smirks, walks behind the counter, grabs a skateboard with an ELEMENT graphic off the wall, and sets it down on the counter.

IGGY  
This here's your traditional, good for streets, pipes, rails.

SARAH  
That's vandalism!

Iggy chuckles, narrows his eyes at Sarah.

IGGY  
And, you are?

Sarah extends her over the counter.

SARAH  
Sarah Thames, Jeopardy's next big winner.

Iggy shakes it.

IGGY  
I'll be rooting for you.

Sarah beams.

SARAH  
I'm hungry!

Sven reaches into his wallet, pulls out the money Olivia gave him, grumbles.

Iggy raises his brow.

IGGY

Kid?

SVEN

This was supposed to be our dinner money.

Iggy sighs, grabs the board off the counter, walks over, and hands it to him.

IGGY

You can have it, on one condition.

SVEN

Sure, name it.

IGGY

Set yourself loose.

Sven hesitates. A bead of sweat drips off his forehead.

SARAH

Well?

Sven nods, grabs the board, and firmly shakes Iggy's hand.

SVEN

Thanks.

IGGY

Have fun with it.

Sven cracks a smile, grabs Sarah by her hand and turns to leave.

IGGY

Oh, one other thing.

Sven and Sarah stop, flip around as Iggy grabs a small purple beanie off a display, walks over to Sarah, and places it on her head.

IGGY

There, now everyone can know how cool you are.



SARAH

Thanks.

Sarah hugs Iggy.

SARAH

I can't wait to wear this at school!

Sarah and Sven turn to leave.

SVEN

Just don't let Mom catch you.

Sarah and Sven exit as Iggy sighs, cracks a smile.

INT. HICKS HOUSE - JASON'S BEDROOM - DAY

Jason closes his door, walks up to his closet, and thrusts it open. He reaches up, pulls down a Nintendo GameCube covered with stickers and stares at it.

Jason opens the lid and takes a whiff as his eyes shift towards a photograph on his desk. He walks over, sets the GameCube down and picks it up.

It's him, Sven, Alex, and Ginny, all 12 years old, in front of a CRT with Super Smash Bros. Melee on the screen in the background.

Jason sets it down, pulls out a notebook, cracks it open and picks up a pencil.

Jason keeps his gaze on Sven as he shades in a fox tail, attached to a rather detailed drawing of himself, complete with fox ears.

INT. MCDONALDS - DAY

Sven and Sarah, in their beanies, stand in line, waiting patiently for their turn.

SVEN

Well?

Sarah stares at the menu, on her tippy-toes.

SARAH

I can't see!

Sven groans, picks her up.

SVEN  
How about now?

SARAH  
Better.

Sven and Sarah stare at the menu as a CUSTOMER (20s) in front of them steps forward.

SARAH  
Do you know what Chicken Nuggets are made of?

SVEN  
No?

Sarah stares directly into Sven's eyes.

SARAH  
Well, It kind of looks your eyes.

Sven sneers, makes a face.

Sarah returns the favor.

ERIN (O.S.)  
Next!

Sven steps forward.

SVEN  
We'll have...

Sven's jaw drops as his eye's meet those of a young brown-haired woman with hazel green eyes, ERIN TATE (18). A charm bracelet hangs around her wrist.

ERIN  
Sven?

Sven sets Sarah down, tightens his jacket, hood.

SVEN  
Hey, Erin.

ERIN  
It's rare that I see you outside of school.

SVEN  
We're on a mission.

ERIN

Oh?

Sarah tugs at Sven's pants.

Sven bends down, listens in as Sarah whispers into his ear.

Sven nods, arises, looks up at the menu.

SVEN

Two number sixes, both large and one  
packet of chocolate chip cookies.

Sarah stomps on Sven's shoe, hard.

Sven winces, gently shoves Sarah aside.

SVEN

Make that two.

Erin types into the register.

ERIN

And what to drink?

SARAH

Hi-C!

SVEN

No.

SARAH

Lavaburst!

SVEN

Not after last time.

Sarah glares at the women's restroom as a CUSTOMER (20s)  
exits.

SVEN

The lemonade, zero calorie.

Erin blushes, types into the register as Sven's eyes shift to  
her bracelet.

SVEN

Nice bracelet.

ERIN

Thanks. Selena made it.

Sven grimaces.

SVEN  
Selena Taylor?

SELENA (O.S.)  
Who's asking?

Sven groans as SELENA TAYLOR (18) tall, petite, wavy black hair, and hips any girl would die for, struts over, in uniform.

SVEN  
You run out of money?

SELENA  
My dad said he cut me off if I didn't learn about "the real world".

Selena grumbles, looks towards a puddle of grease below the fryer vats.

SELENA  
Honestly, it's not that bad.

Sven raises his brow.

SVEN  
Really?

FRED (17), speckled, thin, short, walks over to the fryers with a tray of food in his hands, Selena chuckles, nudges Erin in the side, whips out her phone.

SELENA  
Ooo, here we go!

Erin grumbles.

ERIN  
Selena...

Fred walks into the puddle, slips, and tumbles to the ground. Selena snickers, hurries over, and begins livestreaming on TikTok.

SVEN  
TikTok?

ERIN  
She's got over 10,000 followers.

SVEN

And you've been friends for, how long?

Erin bites her lip, looks away as Sarah nudges Sven in the side. He bends down, whispers.

SVEN

What?

SARAH

Go on, ask her!

Sven grumbles, stands up, and takes a deep breath.

SVEN

So, Erin.

Erin raises her brow.

SVEN

Did you maybe, want too, I don't know...

Before Sven can finish, GINNY WARBURTON (18) red-headed, average built, walks up to the counter carrying a stack of cups, sees Sven, drops them.

GINNY

Sven!

Sven chuckles.

SVEN

Ginny.

Ginny opens her mouth, only for...

BRIDGET (O.S.)

Warburton!

BRIDGET (40s), props Fred off the ground, marches over, sees the mess on the floor and grumbles.

BRIDGET

I thought you red-heads were supposed to be smart?

GINNY

Sorry, I got a little...

BRIDGET  
Distracted? Perhaps you'd rather work  
at the mall?

Bridget huffs, storms away as Erin and Sven stifle their  
laughs.

ERIN  
Sorry, Bridget can be a little...

SVEN  
Obnoxious, rude?

Bridget peers into a bag behind both girls, pulls out a  
chicken sandwich, rips off the bun, and shakes her head.

BRIDGET  
Where's my Sweet and Spicy BBQ?

Erin and Ginny flinch, sigh.

ERIN  
Persistent.

SVEN  
Well at least she cares.

Bridget storms over to two employees TYRELL (16) and MAX (17)  
near the sandwich assembly area, slams the sandwich down in  
front of them, and begins chewing them out.

Ginny's eyes shift to Sven's hat.

GINNY  
Cute hat. Let me guess...

SVEN  
Don't worry, she didn't charge.

ERIN  
I didn't know your Mom sewed!

GINNY  
That's not all she makes.

Ginny whips out her phone, and shows the pair her handcrafted  
pink phone case.

Erin whistles, whips out a \$20 and hands it to Ginny.

ERIN

Here, a down payment.

GINNY

Pleasure doing business with you, Ms.  
Tate.

Ginny firmly shakes Erin hands, slides the \$20 and phone into her pocket as Bridget stomps forward, slams a tray of food down onto the counter, and cries out.

BRIDGET

Number 52!

Bridget slams her hand down on a bell, stomps over to Ginny, and scowls.

BRIDGET

Those cups aren't going to pick them  
up themselves.

Ginny grumbles, bends down, and begins picking up the cups, as Bridget disappears into the kitchen.

GINNY

So, we still good for tonight?

SVEN

Yeah, Alex's got everything set up.

Erin clears her throat.

Sven giggles, tightens the straps on his hoodie, fidgets.

SVEN

And, I was wondering if you wanted  
too...

Erin raises her brow.

ERIN

Bro's night?

SVEN

It's a guy thing, really?

Ginny bolts up, glares at Sven.

SVEN

But uh, everyone's welcome, if you  
don't mind the smell.

ERIN  
I've got air freshener.

GINNY  
Bring a candle.

Ginny bends back down, resumes picking up the cups as Erin furrows her brow.

SVEN  
Everything just kind of sticks.

Erin makes a face.

An awkward silence stands between the two until Bridget stomps forward, slams a tray of food down on the counter, and cries out...

BRIDGET  
Number 24!

Bridget dings the bell, storms over to Selena in the back, and rips her phone out of her hands.

ERIN  
Right, your total.

Sven takes out his wallet.

EXT. ALEX'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Jason pulls up in a rusty Mazda, stops and looks up at Alex's bedroom window.

INT. ALEX'S HOUSE - ALEX'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Sven and Alex, dark bags under his eyes, play a level in Resident Evil 5, on Alex's bed while Ginny watches from behind them.

GINNY  
You know, your sister's real cute.

SVEN  
Cute? More like the devil.

ALEX  
With an IQ of 130.

SVEN  
Oh yeah, almost forgot.



Sven picks up a HOOTERS calendar off the bed and shoves it into Alex's chest.

ALEX

Bro?

SVEN

Don't be putting that shit into her head.

GINNY

Busted.

ALEX

You got to learn to clean your car out.

Sven sighs, puts his hands behind his back.

SVEN

Nah, I prefer it the way it is.

GINNY

You mean, with the peeling paint, rusted undercarriage, and half-functioning radio?

SVEN

In twenty years it'll be a classic.

ALEX

And on the cover of MotorTrend?

SVEN

If it's still around.

Alex huffs, tosses the calendar aside and shifts his attention back to the game as Sven checks the time on his watches, groans.

SVEN

Damn.

GINNY

What?

Sven flips around.

SVEN

Erin.

GINNY  
Probably got caught up with something  
for Selena.

SVEN  
Are those two always together?

ALEX  
It'd be weird to see them not too.

SVEN  
Didn't you have a crush on her too?  
Like in middle school?

ALEX  
We evolved man. I became a Specials  
Operation Unit...

Sven and Ginny's eyes shift towards the screen as Alex's character in the game, Chris Redfield, guns down a grotesque looking zombie-like monster.

ALEX  
She became Regina.

SVEN  
And Erin?

GINNY  
Lindsay Lohan, although a little less  
cynical.

SVEN  
Heh.

The sound of screeching tires catches Sven's attention. He jumps off the bed, slides over to the window and looks out.

GINNY  
Well?

Sven grumbles, steps away.

SVEN  
Probably just a street racer.

Sven flops down on the bed and lets out a long sigh.

ALEX  
Man, what's this town come too?

SVEN

We're living in the cesspool known as  
Central New York.

ALEX

Come on man! We've got Destiny,  
Dinosaur BBQ, Onondaga Lake...

SVEN

Which is turning brown...

ALEX

Pollution man, life's greatest  
mystery.

GINNY

So, my application for UCLA just got  
approved...

Sven sits up.

SVEN

Oh yeah! Check this out!

Ginny groans, bites her lip as Sven walks over to his  
backpack near a beanbag chair and whips out his new  
skateboard.

ALEX

Yeah, and how much did that cost you?

Sven sets the board down, jumps on, and cruises forward,  
right into Alex's PlayStation, ripping the cord straight from  
it's socket.

The TV shuts off.

Alex groans.

ALEX

Does this place look like a skatepark?

Sven grumbles, picks up the skateboard, turns to leave.

SVEN

Tch, fine.

Sven exits as Alex stands up, grabs the cord, and plugs it  
back into the wall.

GINNY  
Has he talked to you at all about it?

ALEX  
You mean college? Right?

Ginny nods.

ALEX  
A little?

Alex sits back down, grabs his controller, and resumes playing.

ALEX  
He seemed pretty keen on applying,  
but...

GINNY  
You don't think that maybe it's  
because of...

ALEX  
The traitor?

Ginny shifts her eyes towards a picture of her, Alex, Sven, and Jason, aged 12, playing the game Super Smash Bros. Melee in front of a CRT.

GINNY  
He didn't mean it.

Alex whips out his phone, plays a video, shows it to Ginny. In the video, Ginny watches as Jason, dressed in a Sonic costume, BILLY (17) thin, dressed in a Mario outfit, and JERRY (18), thin dressed in a Yoshi outfit thrusts themselves back and forth on-top of Alex and Sven.

Ginny grimaces, shoves it away.

ALEX  
You don't fuck with Sonic.

Alex puts it away, turns his attention back to the game, as Ginny jumps off the bed, walks over to the window, and peers out.

Sven wobbles and sways on his skateboard as he zooms up and down Alex's driveway.

GINNY  
He's just intimidated.

ALEX  
Yeah, I bet that really must hurt his  
reputation now, being Kenview's top  
quarterback and all.

Ginny grumbles, shifts her eyes towards the door, rushes  
towards it.

Alex grumbles.

ALEX  
I warned you!

Ginny exits as Alex stuffs a pile of chips into his mouth.

EXT. ALEX'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Ginny walks up to Sven as he cruises up into the driveway and  
stops.

SVEN  
Well, what do you think?

GINNY  
Pretty rad. Looks easy.

Sven jumps off, hands it to Ginny.

SVEN  
Go on.

Ginny shakes her head, shoves it away.

GINNY  
Have you talked to Jason at all  
lately?

Sven sneers, jumps back on his board, and pushes himself  
towards the street.

Ginny follows behind him.

SVEN  
Ran into him yesterday at Sarah's  
school.

GINNY  
And?

Sven and Ginny continue down the empty street.

SVEN  
Made a comment about my music,  
insulted my car.

GINNY  
Ofra?

SVEN  
Kylie.

GINNY  
Remember when we all saw her live?

SVEN  
I didn't take pictures.

Ginny bites her lip as Sven kicks harder at the ground. He picks up speed as Ginny quickens her pace.

GINNY  
You don't have to talk too anyone you know.

SVEN  
Ain't the point of college just to study?

GINNY  
Well, if you don't count all the frat parties and spirit weeks.

Sven huffs.

SVEN  
Sounds enticing, maybe I'll join one.

Ginny grumbles.

GINNY  
Sven.

SVEN  
Think they'll go easy on me?

Ginny clenches her fists and jumps in front of Sven, stopping him in his tracks.

Sven grumbles, pouts.

GINNY  
You're different, I get that.

SVEN  
Different? That's a new one.

GINNY  
But that doesn't mean you should keep  
avoiding everything.

SVEN  
You call it avoiding, I call it  
exploration.

GINNY  
Dammit, Sven.

SVEN  
What? Ginny!

GINNY  
You can't live in this town forever!

Sven sneers.

SVEN  
Ain't that my choice?

Sven scowls, shoves past Ginny, and speeds down the street.

INT. THAMES'S HOUSE - SVEN'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Sven's fingers hover over the mouse as he stares at a  
finished application for NYU on the computer screen in front  
of him.

A sudden KNOCK at the door catches his attention.

Sven frantically turns off his computer screen.

SVEN  
Mom?

Erin cracks open the door, steps in.

ERIN  
Your Mom said it was okay?

Sven jumps up, trembles.

SVEN

Yeah, of course.

Sven bends down and frantically begins hurling empty bags of chips, old video games, and empty bottles of soda, into the corner of his room as Erin admires several of Sven's video game related posters lining his wall.

ERIN

These must have been expensive.

Sven sees the one she's looking at, darts over to her.

SVEN

I won it in a contest through Nintendo Power.

ERIN

Hey, I used to read that!

Sven smirks, walks over to his dresser, bends down, and opens the bottom drawer, filled with vintage Nintendo Power magazines.

Erin lights up, bends down, looks inside.

SVEN

I've got the whole set.

Erin takes out an issue, feels the cover in her hands, cracks a smile.

Sven fidgets and rushes to his shelf full of video games.

SVEN

I kept all of them.

Erin sets the magazine back in the drawer, stands up, and walks over as Sven pulls out a copy of Fire Emblem: Path of Radiance for the GameCube.

SVEN

My first ever strategy, yours?

ERIN

Don't laugh.

Sven bounces up and down like a child.

SVEN

Come on!



Erin giggles, reaches above him, and pulls out a copy of Red Alert 2 for the PC.

ERIN

I had the hots for Yuri.

Sven jumps on his bed, rips off his hat, and pumps his fist into the air.

SVEN

We will trample our enemies!

Erin giggles, as Sven's tail suddenly pops out of his back and drapes over the edge of the bed.

Sven sees it, shudders, frantically grabs a blanket, tries to cover it up.

Erin grins ear to ear as she slides onto the bed, pulls the blanket away and gently strokes Sven's fiery red fur.

SVEN

So, how's it feel?

Erin takes a deep breath, closes her eyes, and presses her cheek against it.

ERIN

Like a million dollars.

SVEN

Remind me to keep you away from the flea market.

Erin chuckles, opens her eyes, presses herself against Sven and forces him down onto his bed. Her eyes quickly meet his.

ERIN

I now know what Alex sees in you.

SVEN

What? My Justin Bieber haircut? Blink-182 clothes?

Erin reaches above Sven's head, behind his ear, and scratches it.

ERIN

You.

Sven blushes, grabs Erin, and smooches her. Erin doesn't

resist. She wraps her arms around Sven, hugs him tightly, as he wraps his tail around her legs and nuzzles her head.

INT. KENVIEW HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY - DAY

Sven, with his new hat, stands near his locker, next to Alex as he rummages through his.

SVEN

Man, you won't believe what happened last night.

ALEX

You mean, after you ditched us?

Sven grumbles.

SVEN

I meant to call.

Alex shuts his locker, shifts his eyes to his right.

ALEX

Not me you got to apologize too.

Sven looks right, spots Ginny near locker, staring back at him.

Sven takes a deep breath, steps forward, only for Ginny to slam her locker shut with a THUD and stomp away.

Sven grumbles as Alex lets out a long, heavy sigh, and gently pats Sven on the back.

ALEX

Don't worry bro, she'll get over it.

SVEN

Yeah? I hope.

Alex smirks, looks up at a banner that reads: CONGRATS CLASS OF 2024.

ALEX

Man, only two weeks left!

Sven looks up at the banner, grimaces and stuffs his hands into his pockets.

SVEN

Don't remind me.

ALEX

Tell me you at least decided.

Sven grumbles, walks over to a water fountain, taps on the button.

SVEN

I filled out an application for NYU.

ALEX

And?

Sven shoves his face into the stream of water as Alex groans.

ALEX

You froze.

Sven pulls back, wipes his mouth, flips around.

SVEN

Like a fucking glacier.

Alex shakes his head, gently places his hand on Sven's shoulder as Erin and Selena rush over from behind.

ALEX

Looks we'll have to do things the old fashioned way.

Sven raises his brow.

SVEN

Uh, what?.

ERIN

Hey guys!

Sven's eyes go wide.

SVEN

Shit.

Sven fidgets, tries to turn tail and run, only for Alex to grab him by his collar and yank him back like a dog on a leash.

ALEX

Ladies, Selena.

Selena's eyes light up at the sight of Sven's body. She nods, steps forward, eyes him up and down as she smacks her lips

against the lollipop in her mouth.

SELENA

Mmm, wouldn't I love to get me some of that.

Sven grimaces, steps back.

SVEN

Thanks?

Erin clenches her fists as Alex pushes Selena away.

ALEX

Don't you have cheerleading practice or something?

Selena narrows her eyes at Alex, pulls the sucker out with a loud POP, and pastes it onto his shirt.

SELENA

Hey, everyone look!

Erin turns red as a crowd of students stop in their tracks.

SELENA

It's Willy Wonka and the Loser Factory!

The students point at Alex's shirt, snicker, as Jason, in his varsity jacket, face slightly swollen, suddenly steps forward and shoves Selena back.

JASON

Lay off him Selena.

Selena frowns, pouts.

SELENA

Aww, I didn't think you two were still friends.

Selena narrows her eyes at Alex as he glares at Jason.

ALEX

We're not.

Jason grumbles, rips the lollipop off of Alex's shirt, licks it, and hands it back to Selena.

JASON

There, should still be edible.

Selena makes a face, turns tail, and stomps away as Erin takes a deep breath.

ERIN

Thanks.

JASON

No problem.

Jason tosses the lollipop aside as Alex narrows his eyes towards his reddish looking cheek.

ALEX

You get hit with a football or something?

Jason sneers.

JASON

None of your fucking business.

Alex scowls as Billy and Jerry run up to Jason and pat him on the back.

JERRY

Yo Jason!

BILLY

What up?

SVEN

Well, being you see all.

Sven darts away as Jason cries out.

JASON

Sven.

Sven stops, shuts his eyes, grits his teeth, turns around, and marches back over to him.

Jerry chuckles.

JERRY

Man, it's just like the fairy tale.

ERIN

The what?

JERRY

You know, the one about that the fox  
that...

All eyes are now on Jerry. He stops, mumbles under his  
breath, and slinks behind Billy as Sven takes a deep breath  
and faces Jason.

SVEN

OK. I'm here.

JASON

I didn't forget about yesterday.

Sven fidgets as his eyes shift towards Jason's hands, the  
science classroom behind him.

Erin fidgets, leaps forward, stands between them.

ERIN

Hey, Did you know Sven has a huge  
collection?

BILLY

Of what? Porn?

Sven scowls, clenches his fists, stomps forward.

SVEN

You know, you've got a really big  
mouth...

Jason sneers, flips around as Jerry throws back his head, and  
makes the foxes signature mating call.

Alex and Erin wince, cover their ears, as Jason shoves Billy  
and Jerry into a wall of lockers.

JASON

What the fuck are you two still doing  
here?

Jason, eyes bulging out of his sockets, scowls, snorts at the  
pair.

Billy and Jerry gulp, turn tail, and run away as Erin and  
Alex remove their hands from their ears and breathe a sigh of  
relief.

ERIN

What the hell was that?

SVEN  
Fox mating call.

All eyes are now on Sven.

SVEN  
Don' worry, I'm a virgin.

Alex and Erin breathe a sigh of relief as Sven hurries away. Jason sneers, grabs him, and shoves him into his locker.

JASON  
We didn't finish our conversation.

Jason cracks his neck, as Sven's eyes dart to his skateboard, lying on the ground next to him.

SVEN  
I've still got some trade credit.

JASON  
Nothing I'd ever want to play.

Erin opens her mouth, only for Alex to pull her back.

ALEX  
Well, don't want to miss science class.

Alex turns to leave.

JASON  
Stay here, Alex.

Alex grumbles, stops in his tracks as Jason faces Sven, and pounds his fist against the locker, right next to his face.

JASON  
Go on, show me.

SVEN  
Show you?

Jason sneers, rips off Sven's hat and tosses it to the ground.

Sven turns red as his eyes dart to the students at the end of the hallway, MURRAY (50s) the janitor cleaning the floor, and two more students headed down the staircase.

JASON  
Well? Gonna get it?

Sven whimpers, rushes forward, drops to his knees, and grabs the hat.

Alex sneers, rushes forward.

ALEX  
Douche!

Jason flips around and smacks Alex clean in the jaw.

ERIN  
Alex!

Alex crumples to the ground as Erin rushes to his side.

JASON  
I'm not ready for you.

SVEN  
Jason.

Jason grits his teeth, flips around, only for his eyes to go wide.

Sven stands across from, on his skateboard, hat off, tail hanging loose behind him.

SVEN  
This what you want?

Jason snickers at the mere sight of the skateboard.

JASON  
Man, I knew you were obsessed but...

Jason steps forward as Sven smirks, pushes his foot back, and cruises forward.

ALEX  
Oh man.

Jason pulls back his arm, takes aim, thrusts it at Sven as he whizzes by, misses.

Jason grumbles, flips around.

JASON  
You think you're so hot?



Sven ollie's up the staircase, does a vert, and positions himself at the top of the railing.

SVEN

Me? No?

Sven leaps in the air, grinds down the railing, and barrels towards Jason.

Erin and Alex's eyes go wide as they hurry to their feet.

ALEX

Holy...

The two throw their backs against the wall as Sven slams into Jason, full force, and knocks him clean off his feet, down the hall, and into Murray.

Erin's jaw drops, Alex does a cheer as Sven kicks his skateboard into his hands with his feet, and heaves it over his shoulder.

SVEN

I'm just a gamer.

Jason scowls, stands up, and stomps away as Erin and Alex rush over to Sven, high-five him.

ALEX

Dude, you got to show me how you did that.

SVEN

All it takes is a little balance.

PRINCIPAL GAYLAN (O.S.)

Thames!

Sven's smile drops as PRINCIPAL GAYLAN (50s), tall, burly, balding, stomps forward, stops in front of Murray, and places his hands on his hips.

Sven growls, shoves past his friends, and stomps forward.

ALEX

Shit.

ERIN

Should we?

ALEX

Nah, we'd just make it worse.

Principal Gaylan snatches Sven's skateboard from his hands and shoves him into his office as Murray stands to his feet, shakes his head and waves to Erin and Alex.

The two grimace, wave back, and hurry into the nearby science classroom.

INT. KENVIEW HIGH SCHOOL - PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE - DAY

Sven and Olivia sit next to each other as Principal Gaylan shoves Sven's skateboard onto his desk, points to it.

PRINCIPAL GAYLAN

This is more than just a violation.

OLIVIA

Please, Mr. Gaylan...

PRINCIPAL GAYLAN

We're talking assault!

Principal Gaylan begins pacing in front of them.

PRINCIPAL GAYLAN

Destruction of school property,  
hospital charges...

SVEN

I didn't hurt anyone.

Principal Gaylan sneers, leans across his desk, and wags his finger at Sven.

PRINCIPAL GAYLAN

You knew Murray had a bad back, didn't  
you?

Sven sneers, grabs his finger, and twists it around with a clean SNAP.

Principal Gaylan howls in pain, jumps back, as Oliva jumps up and forces Sven out of the chair.

SVEN

Prick.

PRINCIPAL GAYLAN

I knew you were trouble the minute you

walked in!

Olivia flips Sven around, stares into his eyes.

OLIVIA

Sven!

SVEN

Go on, expel me!

Olivia gasps, freezes as Sven stomps forward, grabs his skateboard off the ground, and sneers at Principal Gaylan.

SVEN

It's not like I had a future anyway.

Sven brushes past a tearful Olivia, stomps out of the office and down the hall as Principal Gaylan lets out a long sigh and takes a seat.

Olivia rushes up to his desk, leans forward.

OLIVIA

Please, you can't...

PRINCIPAL GAYLAN

What would you suggest I do?

Olivia purses her lips and shifts her eyes towards the hallway.

EXT. KENVIEW HIGH SCHOOL - PARKING LOT - DAY

Sven, on his skateboard, kickflips in the air, lands, and jumps off his board, as he whips out his car keys and places them in the lock.

As he turns it, he spots Ginny next to her Subaru, arguing with Billy and Jerry.

Sven sneers, shoves his keys back into his pocket, and skates over.

Ginny frantically shoves away a bouquet of roses back at Billy, wearing his titular leather jacket, with ripped blue jeans, black boots, and gelled back hair.

GINNY

I said no!

Jerry, in a baseball tee, shorts, and sneakers, tries to hold

Billy back.

JERRY

Billy man, come on.

BILLY

All I'm asking for is one chance, one night.

GINNY

What makes you think I even like you?

BILLY

Any girl who can beat the Dark Souls is the right girl for me.

SVEN (O.S.)

Ginny?

Ginny flips around as the roses hit the ground. Sven's skateboard slices into them, shattering them to bits as he stops in front of the three, looks into Ginny's eyes.

SVEN

You alright?

GINNY

Yeah, I was just, uh...

Billy, eyes wide, bends down, picks up the ruined bouquet, and stares at it. It trembles in his hands as fat wear tears drop from his eyes.

BILLY

I had this custom made.

Sven eyes the tattered bouquet, sneers.

SVEN

From what? Wegmans?

Billy snarls, shoves the bouquet into Jerry's hands, and cracks his knuckles.

BILLY

You want to go with me? Fox boy?

SVEN

I bet I can run faster than you.

BILLY

Oh, really?

Billy snatches Sven's skateboard with his foot, grabs it, and shoves it into Jerry's hands.

BILLY

Prove it.

Sven smirks, winks to Ginny, and steps forward, faces Billy.

SVEN

First one around the parking lot wins...

BILLY

A date with Ginny?

Sven and Billy flip around, glare at Ginny. She stutters, stammers, looks to Jerry.

Jerry frantically nods.

GINNY

OK, but I get to pick.

SVEN

Seems fair enough. Billy?

BILLY

Already got a spot lined up.

Billy walks over to an old Pontiac, spits into his hair, freshens it up, as Sven stops next to him, bends down, takes a deep breath.

SVEN

Ready?

Billy nods, rubs his hands together, steps forward, only to be knocked by a sudden gust of wind.

Billy sways backward, tries to balance himself, fails, and tumbles back onto the pavement.

Jerry rushes forward, stares down at him, snickers.

JERRY

Man, you got punked!

Billy sneers jumps up, shoves Jerry aside, and sprints

forward.

Sven dashes between the cars at a brisk pace with ease as Billy manages to catch up to him, sweaty, red, out of breath.

BILLY

This ain't over yet.

SVEN

You look hot. Why don't you take your jacket off?

Sven whips his tail out, whacks off Billy's jacket with it, and jogs ahead.

Billy sneers, rips off his t-shirt, and hurries after him.

Jerry stumbles up to Ginny's side as she watches, eyes wide, heart nearly beating out of her chest.

JERRY

It's so close.

Billy catches up to Sven and the two find themselves now side by side, as they dash closer, closer to Ginny and Jerry.

Closer...

Closer.....

Closer...

Billy raises his arm out, makes a mad dive towards Ginny. He misses, falls to the ground with a hard THUD as Sven speeds by him, stops behind Ginny and breathes out a sigh of relief.

BILLY

Ginny.

Ginny shrugs her shoulders, shoves Billy's hand away.

GINNY

Sorry, Billy.

Ginny rushes up to Sven, takes hold of his hand, and puts her on his shoulder as the two walk back towards the school.

Jerry cracks a smile, walks up to Billy, shakes his head.

JERRY

Pathetic.

BILLY

Buddy?

Billy whimpers, reaches for Jerry as he sneers, waves towards Sven and Ginny and rushes towards them.

JERRY

Yo, Sven!

Billy lets out a cry, cover his arm with his eyes, and sobs uncontrollably into them.

INT. KENVIEW HIGH SCHOOL - CAFETERIA - DAY

Selena sits at the cafeteria table, eating her lunch, as Erin and Alex play with theirs.

ALEX

I really hope he's alright.

SELENA

Relax, he'll be fine.

ERIN

How can you be so sure?

Selena chugs down a bottle of Pepsi.

SELENA

It's a week before graduation! No way Gaylan would be that stupid.

ALEX

I don't know...

Alex and Erin shift their eyes towards two brand new, smart vending machines as a STUDENT (17) stares blankly at the credit card interface.

ERIN

Who pays for a \$1.50 water bottle with credit card?

Selena waves a bottle of Aquafina in front of their faces and plunks it down on the table with a satisfying THUMP.

Alex grumbles, shoves his tray aside.

ALEX

This just ain't right!

ERIN

We should go to Gaylan, tell him the full story.

ALEX

I'm with you on that.

Alex and Erin jump up, turn to leave, only to come face to face with Sven and Ginny, holding hands.

ALEX

Sven, brother...

SVEN

Hey guys.

Erin sees the two hands locked, bites her lip looks away. Sven and Ginny sigh, let go.

ALEX

Why are you all sweaty?

Ginny grumbles.

GINNY

Billy.

JASON (O.S.)

That clown?

Alex, Ginny, and Erin jump in front of Sven as Jason steps forward, eyes Ginny, smirks.

JASON

Way out of his league.

GINNY

Guess I should take that as a compliment.

ALEX

Get out of here Jason, before you land Sven in prison.

JASON

Surely, you don't blame me, for starting this?

Jason walks around Sven, and swiftly kicks him in the rear.

Sven winces, grits his teeth as Jason stomps over to a table



full of his football friends and raises his arms.

JASON

I wasn't the one born in an inbred.

Sven growls, clenches his fists as Selena jumps to her feet, rushes over to Jason and shoves him against the table.

SELENA

You think you're so tough?

JASON

I'd watch where you put those hands of yours Little Miss Homecoming.

Jason grabs Selena's hand and thrusts it against his dick.

JASON

You might not like where it end ups.

The football jocks snicker as Selena turns red, fidgets, sweats.

Alex clenches his fist, grits his teeth, flies forward, takes aim at Jason's face.

ALEX

You son of a bitch!

SVEN

Jason!

Alex plows into Jason, sending both of them on top of the table.

Erin pulls Selena aside as Sven rushes forward and forces himself in-between the two.

Ginny winces, cries out.

GINNY

Stop it!

ALEX

I'll fucking kill you!

JASON

Go on than, make my day!

Jason shoves Sven back, into Ginny.

Ginny slips on a puddle of milk on the floor, cracks her skull on the table, and drops dead with a sickening CRUNCH.

Erin and Selena can't believe their eyes.

ERIN

Ginny?!

Alex and Jason stop brawling as Sven flips around, sees the blood pooling around Ginny, frantically bends down, cradles her in his arms.

SVEN

No, no..., please...

Selena rushes forward, bends down to Ginny, gently closes her eyes as the students begin whipping out their phones and taking pictures.

Erin rushes over and furiously shoves them away.

ERIN

Get back you sick freaks!

SELENA

Alex!

Alex rushes over, bends down to her side, as two SECURITY GUARDS (40s), and Principal Gaylan rush in, stop at the scene before them, grimace.

Principal Gaylan takes a breath, addresses his students.

PRINCIPAL GAYLAN

Everybody get the fuck out!

The students rush out of the cafeteria as the two security guards pull Sven, Alex, Selena, and Erin away from Ginny as Principal Gaylan whips out his phone and dials 9-1-1.

Jason sees the phone in his hand, panics, darts towards the exit.

Sven sneers, breaks away from the guard, and charges after him.

ERIN

Sven!

INT. KENVIEW HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY - DAY

Jason, face red, shoves his way past several students as he sprints down the hallway.

SVEN

Jason!

Jason grimaces, turns a corner, only to collide with Murray, with something very suspicious in his hands.

MURRAY

You're out of line young man!

Jason sneers, shoves Murray aside and continues forward. Sven rushes past him as Murray snorts, lifts up the suspicious item, now revealed to be a signed photograph of Ariana Grande and sighs.

INT. KENVIEW HIGH SCHOOL - GYMNASIUM - DAY

Jason bursts through the doors, runs towards the ones on the opposite side, only for Sven to barge through them.

SVEN

End of the road man.

Jason stops, scowls.

JASON

It's not fucking fair.

SVEN

That you what? Just murdered Ginny!

JASON

You think that your some kind of hero huh?

Jason huffs and puffs as Sven carefully steps forward, analyzes his movements.

JASON

You get to have all that cool shit.

SVEN

None that I fucking asked for.

JASON

You should be grateful!

Sven chuckles, shakes his head.

SVEN  
Seriously? Grateful?

Jason begins pacing back and forth.

JASON  
Strength like the hulk, speed like  
fucking Sonic speed, goddammit,  
you're, you're...

Jason whips out a pistol and fires at Sven. The bullet hits him in the shoulder.

Sven winces, grits his teeth.

SVEN  
You got a permit for that?

Jason sneers, whips out his mother's permit, and tosses it to the ground.

JASON  
They'll know who to look for.

SVEN  
You'd frame her? Have you lost it?

JASON  
You have no idea, what she's really  
like.

Sven winces, lifts up his sleeve, grabs the bullet and, with one hard thrust, yanks it out of his skin.

Jason, with a joyful glee in his eyes, can't help but laugh as he raises his arms into the air.

JASON  
Fucking science man!

Sven sneers, tosses the bullet aside as Jason breathes a sigh of relief.

JASON  
Ain't it wonderful?

SVEN  
I'm not some lab rat!

Sven rushes forward only for Jason to whip out a switchblade, crack it open, and aim at Sven's left eye.

JASON

Sorry, remind me again how he died?

Sven trembles as his eyes rest on Jason's blade.

SVEN

He was the last of his kind.

JASON

A freak.

SVEN

Kitsune.

Jason scowls.

JASON

What?

Sven takes a deep breath.

SVEN

It means fox, in Japanese.

Sven takes a step forward as Jason fidgets, waves the blade out in front of him like a baton.

JASON

I bet he was just like you, afraid!

SVEN

I don't know.

Sven stops in his tracks, sniffles.

SVEN

I never got the chance to know.

Jason fidgets as the blade shakes in his hands.

JASON

Why can't you just go away? Disappear into some remote part of Canada?

SVEN

I was considering that.

Sven confidently and boldly steps forward as Jason inches

back towards a set of bleachers.

SVEN

But you know? I think I'd be missing out.

Jason gulps, steps backward.

JASON

Stay back.

Sven slowly raises his hands.

SVEN

I'm not going to hurt you!

JASON

How do I know that, huh?

Jason whimpers, snuffles, and throws up his shirt. Sven's eye 's go wide at the sight of several cuts and bruises along on his chest, stomach.

SVEN

Jason.

JASON

You don't know.

SVEN

What the hell is all this?

As Jason opens his mouth, a swarm of police officers suddenly storm in, guns blazing.

Sven freezes, raises his hands as the officers move in, pull Sven aside, and shove Jason a frantic and sobbing Jason to the ground.

EXT. KENVIEW HIGH SCHOOL - PARKING LOT - DAY

Sven, Erin, Alex, Selena, Billy, and Jerry watch as Jason, handcuffed, is shoved into a police cruiser. An ambulance containing Ginny's body sits behind it, doors closed.

Alex and Billy pat Sven on the back as Principal Gaylan marches forward, takes a deep breath.

PRINCIPAL GAYLAN

Sven.

Sven fidgets, takes a deep breath.

SVEN  
Mr. Gaylan, listen...

PRINCIPAL GAYLAN  
Come with me.

Principal Gaylan marches towards the entrance. Erin and Selena pat his shoulders as Sven takes a deep breath and hurries after him.

INT. KENVIEW HIGH SCHOOL - PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE - DAY

Sven takes a seat as Principal Gaylan walks over to his desk and sits down.

PRINCIPAL GAYLAN  
I was going to tell you tomorrow, but in light of this recent tragedy...

SVEN  
Sir, I didn't...

PRINCIPAL GAYLAN  
Relax.

Principal Galyan puts his hand up. Sven takes a deep breath, fidgets, shifts his eyes towards the door, as police officers and a news crew rush by.

PRINCIPAL GAYLAN  
In light of this recent tragedy, I have decided to postpone this year's graduation.

SVEN  
You can't...

PRINCIPAL GAYLAN  
Clearly there's a lot going on here that isn't being told.

Sven's eyes shift towards his hat, back, to Principal Gaylan.

SVEN  
So, am I still being...

PRINCIPAL GAYLAN  
Expulsion? I considered it after what you tried to pull on Jason but, as I

might have already mentioned...

SVEN

But?

PRINCIPAL GAYLAN

Considered yourself suspended until the end of the school year. That means, no senior ball, trip to Manhattan, and...

Sven grumbles, lowers his head.

SVEN

Will this affect my chances getting into a good college?

Principal Gaylan stands up, walks over to a file cabinet, flips it open, and pulls out a folder titled, THAMES, SVEN.

PRINCIPAL GAYLAN

Let's see here.

Principal Gaylan opens the folder, takes a seat, and begins reading Sven's transcript.

PRINCIPAL GAYLAN

A solid B+ average across the board.

SVEN

Well?

PRINCIPAL GAYLAN

You surely won't be getting into Harvard or Yale anytime soon, but...

Principal Gaylan sighs, closes the folder, and tosses it down on his desk.

PRINCIPAL GAYLAN

We'll just keep these little incidents off the record.

Sven's eyes go wide.

SVEN

Is that legal? I mean, Ginny, she's...

PRINCIPAL GAYLAN

As far as the coroner's concerned it was an accident.



Principal Gaylan stands up, walks around his desk, and gently places his hand on Sven's shoulder.

PRINCIPAL GAYLAN

That's good enough for me.

Sven cracks a smile as Olivia suddenly bursts in with Sarah.

OLIVIA

Sven.

Olivia hugs Sven tightly.

PRINCIPAL GAYLAN

You three are free to go.

Olivia's eyes meet Principal Gaylan's.

OLIVIA

Thank you.

Olivia takes Sarah's hand and leads both children out of the office as Principal Gaylan sighs, walks over to his desk, sits down, and presses his button his microphone.

PRINCIPAL GAYLAN

(into the phone)

Students, teachers, other faculty members, today, we bore witness to a tragedy.

EXT. CEMETERY - DAY

Sven, Olivia, Sarah, Alex, Erin, Selena, Billy, Jerry, Katherine, and Murray the janitor, along with several other faculty members, all dressed in black, watch teary-eyed as Ginny's casket is slowly lowered into the ground.

PRINCIPAL GAYLAN (V.O.)

Let this be a reminder of how precious our life is. Something we should never take for granted.

Katherine snuffles, squeezes Olivia's hands tightly, as Sven and his friends exchange glances with one another before turning back to the casket.

PRINCIPAL GAYLAN (V.O.)

As of today, this school will be named in honor of Miss Warburton.

EXT. KENVIEW HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

Two ENGINEERS (40s) finish adjusting the new sign to Kenview High School that now reads: GINNY L. WARBURTON HIGH SCHOOL.

PRINCIPAL GAYLAN (V.O.)

May her intelligence and kindness live  
on through all of us.

EXT. THAMES HOUSE - DAY

Sven sits on his front porch with his hood up, tapping at his skateboard with his foot as Olivia exits her Cavalier, with an armful of groceries.

Sven looks at her, grumbles, looks away as Olivia hurries up to the porch drops the bags to the floor and lets out a sigh of relief.

OLIVIA

They were having this huge discount on  
pasta.

SVEN

Not hungry.

Olivia sighs, takes out her key, unlocks the front door and shoves it open.

OLIVIA

I'm here if you want to talk about it.

Sven says nothing, remains still, motionless as Olivia picks up the bags, heads inside, and gently closes the door behind her.

Sven stares down at his skateboard, in deep thought, as Sarah steps out, Nintendo 3DS in hands.

SARAH

What are you doing?

SVEN

Something stupid and boring.

Sarah walks past Sven and takes a seat in the rocking chair next to him. As she mashes her buttons on the handheld, Sven smirks, picks up his skateboard, leans forward.

SVEN

Want to do something fun and exciting?

Sarah nods, sets down her Nintendo as Sven grabs her and leads her out towards the driveway.

Sven sets down the board.

SARAH

Wait!

Sarah dashes into the garage, grabs her purple beanie, returns to Sven, and throws on it.

Sven chuckles, helps Sarah on the board, and gently takes her hand.

SVEN

OK now, push back, with your foot.

Sarah kicks back as the board slides forward. She bounces, giggles.

SARAH

Look Sven, I'm doing it!

Sven chuckles.

SVEN

One more time.

Sarah pushes back with her foot and glides forward. Sven releases his grip as Sarah maneuvers the board down the driveway and onto the sidewalk until it comes to a stop.

Sarah beams, gives Sven a thumbs up.

Sven jogs over to her as Sarah stares down at the board.

SARAH

It's like I'm flying!

Sven pats her on the back.

SVEN

You'll get used too it.

Sarah hugs Sven and begins trying to balance herself on the skateboard.

SVEN

Hey, uh, Sarah?

Sarah raises her brow.

SVEN

Does Ava talk to you about her Mom?  
Jason?

SARAH

She says she's not supposed to.

Sven grits his teeth, slowly clenches his fist.

SVEN

Do you know, why?

SARAH

She'll have to go to the quiet room.

Sven grumbles as the sound of Britney Spears's Til It's Gone catches his attention. He perks up, jumps out of his seat, and leans over the railing as a blue Ford Fusion pulls into the driveway and stops.

Sven stands up, rushes towards it, as Erin and Selena exit and hurry towards him.

ERIN

Sven.

Erin hugs Sven tightly.

ERIN

It's been two weeks.

SVEN

I know, sorry.

SELENA

What about Alex?

SVEN

I sort of been ignoring his calls.

Selena bites her lip as Sarah skates towards the two and stops at their feet.

SARAH

Hi Erin!

Erin bends down, ruffles her head.

ERIN

How's my little future thrasher?

SARAH

I'm going to be the next Sky Brown!

Erin and Selena chuckle as Olivia cracks open the front door, sticks her head out.

OLIVIA

Sarah?

Sarah grumbles, jumps off the board and rushes towards the front door as Sven picks up his skateboard.

SELENA

You've been teaching her?

SVEN

I figured I'd show her some moves.

Sven plops down onto the grass, sets his board aside, and takes a deep breath.

Erin and Selena exchange glances, shrug their shoulders, and join him on the ground.

SVEN

So, how'd finals go?

ERIN

I passed, I think.

SVEN

Selena?

SELENA

I wasn't really paying attention.

Sven grumbles, lets out a sigh.

ERIN

Any word on Jason?

SVEN

He's still being held at the police station last time I heard.

Selena huffs.

SVEN

Selena?

SELENA

Hard to believe you guys were friends  
at one point.

Sven raises his hand to his face, stares at it.

SVEN

What do I look like too you?

Erin raises her brow.

ERIN

Sven?

Sven stands up, rips off his shirt, unbuttons his past.

Erin, eyes wide, jumps up, shakes her head as Selena sits up,  
grumbles.

SELENA

I think my uterus is burned out right  
now.

Erin flips around, makes a face as Sven takes off his pants,  
shoes, socks and throws them aside.

Selena shrugs her shoulders as Erin turns back around. Her  
jaw drops as Selena lets out a chuckle.

SELENA

Wow, it's like a real forest.

SVEN

Well? Girls?

Erin stammers.

ERIN

I...I...uh...

Sven smirks dashes up to his porch, grabs his skateboard,  
throws it down, steps on.

Erin chuckles, grabs Sven's pants off the ground, and rushes  
towards him.

ERIN

Put some fucking clothes on!

SVEN

Selena?

Selena stands up, struts over, looks into Sven's eyes, leans forward, gives him a kiss on the cheek, and winks.

Sven smirks, pushes at the ground, and skates down the driveway and into the street, butt naked.

Erin gasps, sputters as Selena giggles and pats her on the back.

SELENA

The vixen finally got his colors.

Erin chuckles, snatches Selena's car keys from her hands, and sprints towards her Fusion.

Selena grumbles, trudges after her.

SELENA

I'm driving!

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD STREET - DAY

Sven whizzes past several cars, shoots by a house, waves to an ELDERLY NEIGHBOR (70s), in a floral dress, watering her plants.

SVEN

Hey Mrs. Baca!

Mrs. Baca goes limp, clumps to the ground as MR. BACA (70s) stumbles off his porch and rushes to her aid.

Sven chuckles, takes aim at a pile of trash cans in front of the next house and ollie's clean over them.

Sven whips his hair back, cheers, and waves to Principal Gaylan, in a Polo shirt with khakis, exiting his Cadillac Escalade, with a bag of golf clubs around his back.

SVEN

How'd you do Mr. Gaylan?

Principal Gaylan can't help but stare.

PRINCIPAL GAYLAN

80 points.

Sven swerves past an oncoming car, gives Principal Gaylan the thumbs up and continues on as the golf clubs fall off his back and onto the ground.

Sven pushes onward, does a few flips as Selena and Erin, in the Ford Fusion, joins him, blasting Madonna's Express Yourself.

Erin, in the front passenger seat, rolls down the window, sticks her head out, and cries out.

ERIN

Where are you going?

SVEN

I don't know!

Selena whips out her phone, hands it to Erin.

ERIN

Are you insane?

SELENA

Yes!

Erin grumbles, takes the phone, currently livestreaming on Selena's TikTok and aims it at Sven.

ERIN

Don't you think this is a little reckless?

A red ball suddenly bounces into the street, in front of Sven's path, followed by a small BOY (7).

Sven grits his teeth, leans down, swipes the ball off the ground and tosses it to the boy. He grabs it, stares down at it, and waves to Sven.

Sven waves back, continues forward as his tail and ears bristle in the breeze.

SVEN

I'm done hiding!

Selena smacks the roof of her car.

SELENA

Well?

ERIN

2,000 and counting!

Selena smirks, rips open her glovebox, takes out a lollipop, tears off the wrapper with her teeth, and shoves it into her



mouth.

Sven approaches a MAILMAN (40s) next a mailbox, jumps on the box, grinds the top, and pushes onward.

Erin grumbles, climbs up to the roof of the car, and slowly stands to her feet.

Sven gasps, snickers.

SVEN

You OK?

ERIN

Yeah! I think?

Erin sways to the left.

SVEN

Lean right!

Erin balances herself towards the center as Sven swerves around a line of traffic cones near a driveway.

SVEN

Bend down!

Erin bends down and holds her arms out to her sides.

SVEN

Can you feel it?

Erin, wind whipping through her hair, takes a deep breath, closes her eyes, and lets out a cheer.

ERIN

We're the misfits of Kenview!

Selena turns up the volume, throws her arm outside the window and cries out.

SELENA

Yeah, fuck New York!

Sven slows down, swerves behind the Focus and takes aim at the bumper.

Erin looks over her shoulder, cries out.

ERIN

Sven?

Sven smirks, plants his feet into the board, and grabs onto the bumper.

The Fusion jolts as Selena sticks her head out, whips it around, raises her brow.

SELENA

Where's your EZ Pass?

Sven flashes his penis at her.

SVEN

Right here, baby!

Selena chuckles, sticks her head back in, and turns a corner.

Billy, carrying a bouquet of Red Dahlia's, hurries down the sidewalk with Jerry, staring down at box of chocolates in his hands.

JERRY

How the hell is she supposed to eat this stuff man?

Billy whips out a rather antique looking corded phone from the 1980s.

BILLY

One phone call is all it takes.

JERRY

Where'd you get that thing from? A landfill?

BILLY

Some weird guy who likes suits.

Selena cruises up to Billy and Jerry, with Erin, barely maintaining her balance on top, and Sven swaying back and forth from behind.

Billy gasps, Jerry chuckles as Selena takes out her lollipop with a satisfying plop.

SELENA

Hey, boys.

Jerry waves, stops, looks down at the chocolates, and sneers at them as Selena speeds away.

JERRY

Man, what the hell am I doing.

Jerry tosses the chocolate's on the ground and stomps away.

Billy gasps, drops to his knees, and frantically scatters to pick them up.

BILLY

Fine! Go home and play with your dolls!

Jerry scowls, flips around, gives him the finger.

JERRY

Barbie Signature man, Pfft.

Billy sneers, returns the favor, picks up the chocolates, and hurries down the sidewalk.

EXT. WARBURTON HOUSE - DAY

Katherine, wearing a heavy sweater and blue jeans, closes the front door, throws her purse over her shoulder, and steps off the porch.

As she reaches her Volvo, and opens the door, she stops at the tune of Lady Gaga's Born This Way and looks towards the street. Her jaw drops at the sight of Erin, on the roof of Selena's car, and Sven, naked, clutched onto the rear bumper.

ERIN

Hey, Ms. Warburton.

KATHERINE

Erin? What are you...?

Erin jumps off, takes a deep breath, as Sven steps forward and kisses her on the lips.

SVEN

We were just out for a little drive.

Katherine eyes Sven up and down, sees his tail, ear, penis, and breaks out into a fit of laughter.

Sven smirks.

SVEN

Yup, I've bloomed, literally.

Katherine shakes her head.

KATHERINE

No, not that.

Katherine races forward and hugs Sven, so hard he turns red.

SVEN

Hey, come on, I'm fragile.

KATHERINE

She'd be so proud of you.

Sven bites his lip, shifts his eyes towards Katherine's car.

SVEN

Heading out somewhere?

KATHERINE

A meeting with the town court to discuss Jason's trial.

ERIN

Can we help?

Katherine shakes her head, hugs Erin, and waves to Selena.

KATHERINE

You've three done enough. Alex too.

SELENA

Wherever the hell he is.

Katherine takes Sven's hand, squeezes it, and looks into his eyes.

KATHERINE

Thank you.

SVEN

For?

Katherine's eyes shift towards Sven's tail, ears, as she rubs his head, walks towards her car, enters, and starts it up.

SVEN

I think we ought to pay him a visit.

SELENA

I've got some spart clothes in the trunk.

Sven's eyes shift towards Erin's pocket.

SVEN  
Got your phone?

Erin takes it out, hands it to him.

ERIN  
Calling ahead?

Sven takes it, dials 9-1-1, and puts it to his ear.

SVEN  
Something like that.

EXT. HICKS HOUSE - DAY

A police officer, JOHN (40s) knocks at Sandra's door. She cracks it open, sticks her head out, sneers.

SANDRA  
Something I can help you with?

JOHN  
Ms. Hicks?

John's partner EMMA (30s) steps in and begins looking around the house. Sandra flips around, grumbles, turns back to John.

SANDRA  
Yes. This about my son?

JOHN  
Yes, and no.

INT. HICKS HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Emma walks past a bookshelf, hears sniffing coming from behind the door next to it, stops, and turns the handle.

It doesn't budge.

EMMA  
John!

John shoves Sandra aside, steps in, and moves towards the door.

SANDRA  
I hope you've got a warrant.

Emma takes it out, shows it to Sandra as John pushes at the handle.

It doesn't move.

JOHN

Open it.

Sandra sneers, walks up to the bookshelf, pulls out a key from behind an old book, and unlocks the door.

John shoves it open, walks in.

INT. HICKS HOUSE - THE QUIET ROOM - DAY

Ava, face covered with bruises, sits in the corner of the empty room, accented only by two heavy blinds, covering both windows.

Sandra rushes forward only for Emma to restrain her, as John walks up to Ava, bends down.

JOHN

Ava?

Ava nods.

John grumbles, looks to Emma and cocks his head towards the front door.

Emma pulls Sandra out of the house as John takes Ava by her hand and leads her out of the room.

INT. KENVIEW POLICE STATION - JAIL CELL - DAY

Jason sits on a dusty old cot as an officer, SIMPSON (40s) walks forward with a familiar figure.

SIMPSON

You have a visitor.

Jason's eyes quickly meet Alex's.

Simpson steps away as Alex, clean, freshened up, with a new hair cut, jeans, t-shirt, and sneakers, grumbles.

ALEX

How long?

JASON

Don't know, I'll find out in about an

hour.

ALEX

Tch, I always wanted to be on TV.

JASON

You mean like Judge Judy?

ALEX

She'd throw me right out for being a smartass.

JASON

And say her most famous line...

ALEX

(mockingly)

Your an idiot!

Jason chuckles, points to himself.

JASON

(mockingly)

I'm speaking!

Alex lets out a sigh, takes out a cigarette, holds it out.

ALEX

Want one?

JASON

You smoke?

ALEX

Helps take my mind off things.

Jason takes it as Alex whips out his lighter and lights it for him.

Jason takes a puff, stares out the window as Alex takes out another cigarette, lights it, and takes a puff.

ALEX

I sold all my game consoles.

Jason grumbles.

JASON

No.

ALEX  
Guess how much I got for them?

JASON  
Tree-fiddy.

Alex chuckles.

ALEX  
\$500 dollars cash.

Jason shifts his eyes towards Alex's shirt.

JASON  
I figured that was new.

ALEX  
You like it? Abercrombie. Wanted to try something fresh.

JASON  
You plan on joining the team at...

ALEX  
Bearcats? Thought about it.

Silence.

JASON  
So, you mad?

ALEX  
Depends who you're talking about.

Jason sighs, leans back.

ALEX  
She was my only anchor to reality.

JASON  
It's good to have an escape.

ALEX  
Not if it makes you ill.

Jason nods, takes another puff.

JASON  
I'm such an idiot.

Alex raises his brow.



JASON  
You and Ginny, never seem to be  
bothered by...

ALEX  
What separates Sven from me? You? Her?

Jason grumbles, kicks at the ground as Alex throws his  
cigarette to the ground, and stomps it out with his foot.

ALEX  
Do you know how many mirrors I've had  
to replace?

JASON  
I don't...

ALEX  
3, one for each bathroom.

Jason sighs, takes another puff.

JASON  
I would've thought he'd of gotten used  
them by now.

ALEX  
Life's never that simple, especially  
not for a fox with testosterone.

Jason stands up, walks up to the bars, faces Alex.

JASON  
You're seeing him soon, right?

Alex nods.

JASON  
Well, tell him that...

Sven, wearing Selena's spaghetti strap top and short shorts,  
bursts in along with Erin and Selena.

Jason's jaw drops at Sven's skimpy getup.

JASON  
Dude.

SVEN  
You like?

Jason stammers, sweats.

JASON

Eh...

Selena snaps a picture of him with her phone, posts it to her TikTok.

SELENA

And one confused convict, just to reel it in.

ERIN

Delete it.

Selena grumbles, complies, stuffs her phone into her pocket, and walks away, begins pacing as Sven walks over to Alex, shakes his hand, hugs him.

SVEN

Sorry that I was avoiding you.

ALEX

Don't worry, I had to get some things in check.

Sven's eyes Alex's new clothes, haircut, nods.

SVEN

You like you're ready for a presentation.

ALEX

Yeah, and it's called...

Alex takes out an old GameBoy Advance, chucks it to the ground, and smashes his foot into the screen.

ALEX

How to break an addiction.

Sven grumbles, points to it.

SVEN

That's valuable.

ALEX

Not anymore.

Sven grumbles.

JASON

Sven.

Sven flips around, steps forward as his eyes meet his.

JASON

I don't know how to say this but...

Sven smirks, slides his tail in-between the bars.

SVEN

Go on.

Jason furrows his brow, takes a deep breath, bends down, and gently touches it. As his fingers dance over Sven's soft, warm fur, Jason relaxes, chuckles.

JASON

How do you wash this thing, anyway?

SVEN

A whole lot of conditioner.

Jason snuffles, stands up, and presses his hand against the bars.

JASON

I'm sorry.

SVEN

Don't be.

Jason raises his brow as Emma suddenly storms in with Sandra, cuffed, frantic, shouting.

SANDRA

I demand a lawyer!

Jason's eyes light up.

JASON

Mom?

Sandra flips her head around, scowls at him.

JOHN (O.S.)

And you have the right to be provided  
with one of course.

John steps in.

JOHN

Would you like to speak with your son?

Sandra scowls, sneers at Jason, remains silent.

John huffs, nods to Emma. She carries Sandra towards a cell in the back, shoves her inside as John steps up to Jason's cell.

JASON

Well? Sir?

JOHN

Your being charged with assault in the third degree and the murder of Ginny Warburton.

Jason snuffles, stumbles back onto his cot as Selena, Erin, Alex, and Sven grumble.

JOHN

However, due to your living circumstances with your mother, there might be room for an appeal.

Sven and his friends perk up.

JASON

Really?

John nods, flips around.

JOHN

Ava?

Ava walks up to John, carrying her doll, stops.

JOHN

(to Jason)

Well?

Jason frantically nods as John opens up the cell. Ava enters, jumps onto the cot, and into Jason's arm as he hugs her tightly.

AVA

I'm scared.

JASON

It's OK. She can't hurt us anymore.

Ava and Jason sob as Sven stares down at his skateboard.

INT. COURT ROOM - DAY

JUDGE RUFUS SCHNEIDER (60s) reads Jason's appeal.

JUDGE RUFUS SCHNEIDER

The motion of appeal is denied due to insufficient evidence in the defendant's case.

Jason, in prison grab, stands next to his LAWYER (40s), in front of a table, Katherine, Sven, and their LAWYER (30s) across from them, as Ava, Olivia, and Sarah watch JUDGE RUFUS SCHNEIDER (60s) read the verdict.

JUDGE RUFUS SCHNEIDER

The jury finds the defendant, Jason Hicks, guilty on the account of assault in the third degree of Sven Thames and is charged with one year in prison and a fine of 5,000 dollars.

Jason snuffles, shuts his eyes, lowers his head, as a member of the COURT STAFF hands Judge Schneider the second verdict. He takes it, reads it.

JUDGE RUFUS SCHNEIDER

In the matter of the murder of Ginny Warburton, the jury finds the defendant Jason Hicks guilty on the account of manslaughter in the second degree and is charged with five years in prison and a fine of 10,000 dollars.

Judge Schneider lowers the paper, picks up his gavel.

JUDGE RUFUS SCHNEIDER

The court is dismissed.

Judge Schneider slams it down on his podium, stands up, and exits. As the jury and members of the court exit, Olivia rushes up to Sven and Katherine with Ava and Sarah and hugs them both.

OLIVIA

(to Sven)

I'm sorry.

Sven nods, pats her on the back as two POLICE OFFICERS carry

Jason towards the exit. A tearful Ava rushes after him, only for Olivia to pull her back.

AVA  
I want my brother!

Jason sniffles, cries out as the two officers carry him out of the courtroom.

JASON  
I love you!

Olivia hugs Ava as Sarah clings onto Sven's legs. Sven gently strokes her back as Katherine pats Sven on his shoulder and exits.

EXT. THAMES HOUSE - DAY

Olivia, hands over Sven's eyes, snickers as she leads him over to his surprise.

SVEN  
Come on!

OLIVIA  
OK.

Olivia removes her hands and steps back as Sven, head free of hats and hoods, opens his eyes. He gasps, steps forward and places his hand on the hood of his new Honda Civic Type-R in Rallye Red.

SVEN  
No way.

OLIVIA  
Payments are due the first of every month.

Sven whistles at the spoiler, opens the door, steps in, and marvels at the stereo, steering wheel, heated seats.

Olivia bends down, sticks her head in.

OLIVIA  
I'll expect for you to find a job?

SVEN  
Shouldn't be too hard.

Olivia snickers as Sven steps out, slams the door shut, and

lets out a sigh.

OLIVIA

Did you get a chance to pick out your  
classes yet?

Sven whips out his schedule from his pocket, shows it to her.

SVEN

Unreal Engine Fundamentals, Blueprint  
Screening, User Interface.

Olivia chuckles.

OLIVIA

OK.

Sven puts it away as Sarah and Ava rush out of the house and  
stop at Olivia's feet.

SARAH

Ava's being mean.

Sven cracks a smile, bends down, looks into Ava's eyes.

SVEN

Remember what we agreed upon?

Ava pouts, shifts her eyes towards the ground.

AVA

Everybody gets a turn.

Sven pats her on the back, looks to Sarah.

SVEN

Want me to bring you home anything?

SARAH

Chicken!

Sven grumbles playful nudges her in the side.

SVEN

Don't play too rough.

Sarah takes Ava's hand and leads her up the porch and back  
inside the house.

SVEN

When Ms. Warburton picking up her

again?

Olivia checks her watch.

OLIVIA

Two hours.

Sven walks back over to his Civic, stares at his reflection in the shiny plastic, and flashes his teeth.

OLIVIA

I'm so glad she took her in,  
considering where they were planning  
on sending her.

Sven flips around.

SVEN

Plenty of skateparks in Florida.

Olivia chuckles.

OLIVIA

Shouldn't you be getting going?

SVEN

Right, Dave and Busters.

Sven enters his Civic, starts it up, revs the engine and blasts Green Day's Holiday on the radio, as he slowly backs out of the driveway.

Olivia waves goodbye as Sven waves back, pulls out, and speeds down the street.

INT. SVEN'S CIVIC - DAY

Sven's car phone rings, it's Erin. He taps the screen, answers it.

SVEN

(into the phone)  
Hey, sorry I'm running late.

INT. DAVE AND BUSTERS - DAY

Erin sits at a bar, cocktail in hand, phone in ear.

ERIN

(into the phone)  
It's fine. I can wait.



SVEN (O.S.)

Really?

Erin chuckles as Selena, wearing a very slim fitting top, mini skirt, small star studded earrings, and hair tied back into a long, flowing ponytail jerks the handle of a claw machine around and around as Alex watches, eating a basket of Onion Rings.

ALEX

You know these things are rigged right?

SELENA

Tch, I'll be the judge of that!

Selena lowers the claw over a fox plushie, snatches it, yanks it over to the slot, and drops it inside.

The machine lights up, like a neon sigh as Selena cheers, reaches inside and pulls out the plushie much to the shock of Alex as a half-eaten Onion ring drops out of his mouth and back into the basket.

ALEX

You're kidding.

Selena turns to Erin and waves the plushies high in the air.

SELENA

Look, Erin!

Erin waves back.

ERIN

(into the phone)  
She's having more fun than I expected.

SVEN (O.S.)

What she'd win now? An iPad?

ERIN

(into the phone)  
Don't I wish.

Erin takes a sip of her drink as Selena's eyes light up at the sight of a House of the Dead arcade machine.

SELENA

Zombies!

Alex groans as Selena grabs his hand and pulls him towards it.

SELENA

Come on!

Alex begrudgingly trudges behind as Erin sets her glass back down on the bar.

ERIN

(into the phone)

So, when do you leave?

SVEN (O.S.)

Next weekend, and before you ask...

ERIN

(into the phone)

You've packed every console known to man?

SVEN (O.S.)

I might need a little help with the CRT.

ERIN

(into the phone)

See you in 20?

SVEN (O.S.)

Bingo.

Erin hangs up, swivels around, and calls out to the BARTENDER (20s).

ERIN

Two cosmopolitans, with apple.

EXT. SKATE SHOP - DAY

Sven stops his car, exits, and hurries up to the store, as Billy, carrying a mini cruiser skateboard, and Jerry, carrying a cruiser skateboard exit, and bump into Sven.

JERRY

Sven! What up?

Sven narrows his eyes at Billy's board, chuckles.

SVEN

I think that's a little small for you.

BILLY

It's called a mini cruiser, glick.

Jerry shows Sven his much bigger, but similar board.

JERRY

Just like mine, but smaller.

SVEN

Which means?

BILLY

I don't know, I made it up.

JERRY

It's his word for the week.

Sven raises his brow, narrows his eyes at Billy. He fidgets, sweats, leans forward, whispers.

BILLY

Girls like guys who can spell.

Sven smirks, turns to leave.

SVEN

Don't forget your helmets.

Sven enters the store as Jerry and Billy fist bump each other and walk away.

INT. SKATE SHOP - DAY

Sven steps in, stares up at the wall, as Iggy tightens the wheels on a skateboard to his right.

IGGY

Well, it's been a while.

Sven walks up to the counter.

SVEN

Sorry, I've been busy.

IGGY

How's your sister liking the hat?

SVEN

It's all she ever wears now.

Iggy chuckles, resumes his work on the skateboard as Sven

fidgets.

SVEN

I'm heading off to college next week  
so I'd thought I'd drop by and say thank  
you.

IGGY

I see you're not wearing a hat?

SVEN

Yeah, call it an awakening of sorts.

IGGY

Your inner primal rage?

SVEN

More like my dick kissing a Ford  
Fusion's ass.

IGGY

So, you've learned that?

SVEN

You mean how to let loose? Be free?

Iggy smirks, sets down his wrench, and flips the board  
around.

IGGY

Well, that should do it.

Iggy hands Sven the board, now revealed to be a double kick.  
Sven's eyes light up as he takes it, stares down at it.

SVEN

Incredible.

IGGY

It's a double kick. Allows you to pop  
more easily off the ground, walls,  
rails, mailboxes.

SVEN

So, you saw me...

IGGY

Something like that.

A small boy runs up to Iggy, with a familiar red ball in his  
hands.

BOY  
Can I play outside now?

Iggy pats his son, RYKER (7) on the shoulder, beams.

IGGY  
Just for a few minutes Ryker, alright?

Ryker nods, rushes out from behind the counter and dashes out of the store.

SVEN  
Ryker, huh?

IGGY  
It was my wife's idea, before she...

SVEN  
Heh, guess we both have something in common after all.

IGGY  
Sven?

SVEN  
Nothing.

Sven's phone vibrates. He grumbles, takes it out, and reads the text from Erin.

SVEN  
Listen, thanks for the board, but I got to...

IGGY  
Have fun living.

Sven smirks, stuffs his phone in his pocket and dashes out of the store as Iggy wipes his hands on his pants, and walks away.

EXT. SKATE SHOP - DAY

Sven walks up to his car, opens the trunk, and prepares to place the board inside, only to feel a small tug at his shirt. He turns around and looks down, only to become face to face with Ryker.

RYKER  
Can you fly?

Sven smirks, looks into the park across the street, and spots a small pedestrian bridge overlooking a walkway below it.

Sven takes Ryker by his hand and leads him over to it.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Sven lets go of Ryker, jumps on his new board, and lines himself up with the bridge at an angle.

SVEN  
You watching?

Ryker eagerly nods.

Sven sets his tail loose, takes a deep breath, and kicks at the ground with his feet, once, twice, ZOOM!

Sven speeds across the bridge, reaches the railing, and ollies off it.

In the air, he pulls off a 900 in perfect form, and lands solid on the ground.

The pedestrians around Sven, clap, snap pictures as Ryker claps eagerly above him, Iggy by his side.

Sven waves to them, bends down and cruises into the distance.

END.