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Patient Zero

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KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY

Patient Zero

A Screenplay

Crystal Ramos

5/1/2017

*College of Humanities & Social Sciences
Kennesaw State University
Kennesaw, Georgia
Certificate of Approval*

This is to certify that the Capstone Project of

Crystal Ramos

*has been approved by the committee
for the capstone requirement for*

*the Master of Arts in Professional Writing
in the Department of English*

Spring 2017
at the (month and year) graduation

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Acknowledgements

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WE SEE A BLACK SCREEN.

BILL (V.O.)

I don't know what it was that made her sick. A virus? A military experiment that got into the water? Something alien that crashed to earth eons ago and only got unearthed because of fracking? I don't know. But I do know it was my fault it happened. So I had to make things right.

We hear the sound of a gunshot.

EXT. DORM - MORNING

We see one of the dorms at Valdosta State University. In the background is a billboard with has the Valdosta State University logo on one side, and on the other the motivational quote "A river cuts through rock, not because of its power, but because of its persistence - Jim Watkins".

INT. LILLIAN'S DORM - MORNING

LILLIAN (21, always wears long sleeves even when in bed) is curled up in her bed, asleep. Even though the sun is shining through her window, it doesn't touch her eyes. We hear some laughter from outside and it wakes her up. She looks across the dorm room to her roommate, JENNA (20), who was reading in bed but has put her book down and is watching LILLIAN.

JENNA

Close your eyes again. You looked so innocent.

LILLIAN

Can't they just shut up for one day?

JENNA
They don't know.

LILLIAN
What time is it?

JENNA
Eight something. I think.

LILLIAN
Aren't you supposed to be in class
for that big group project due in a
couple of days?

JENNA
Did you forget who's driving you
and your boyfriend today? Besides,
I want to visit his grave too.

LILLIAN
Why?

JENNA
I knew him too.
(Pause)
Your boyfriend's getting here
around what, ten?

LILLIAN
Why do you always call Bill my
boyfriend?

JENNA
Because he is.

LILLIAN
It's just the way you say it. "Your
boyfriend". That's not even right,
I can't match the passive disdain
you have in your voice.

JENNA
It's not like that.

LILLIAN

It so is.

JENNA

You know that as long as you're happy, I'm happy.

LILLIAN

God, I don't want to hear your bullshit today.

JENNA

Look, I'm trying to be really patient with you because of what today is, but there is no need for you to start cursing at me.

LILLIAN

You're right. I'm sorry.

There's a pause as JENNA thinks of a way to ease the tension.

JENNA

There's a party tonight. We should go.

LILLIAN

I don't want to go to a party. I don't want to go to class. And I don't want to go to work.

JENNA

It might be fun. Keep your mind of things.

LILLIAN

How can I have fun today?

JENNA

Your dad would want you to enjoy life.

LILLIAN

You don't know anything. Stop talking like you do.

LILLIAN gets out of bed.

JENNA
Where are you going?

LILLIAN
I need to pee. Can I do that alone
or do you want to watch?

LILLIAN exits the room to the bathroom the two of them share. JENNA sets a timer on her phone for five minutes and goes back to reading.

INT. LILLIAN'S DORM - FIVE MINUTES LATER

The timer on Jenna's phone goes off. JENNA slams the book shut and gets out of bed. She goes over to the bathroom door and knocks.

JENNA
Lillian?

LILLIAN (O.S.)
What?

JENNA
Just checking on you.

LILLIAN (O.S.)
I'm fine. Go away.

JENNA
What's taking so long?

LILLIAN (O.S.)
Not your problem.

JENNA
(Quietly, to herself)
Wrong answer.

JENNA goes to her desk and fishes out an old credit card. She then uses it to force the bathroom door open.

INT. LILLIAN'S BATHROOM - MOMENTS LATER

The top of the tank of the toilet is leaning against the toilet. LILLIAN is holding a razor blade and has used it to cut her arm. With the sleeve of her pajama pulled up we can see numerous cutting scars. JENNA kneels down next to her.

JENNA

Come on. Give it here.

LILLIAN hands JENNA the razor blade.

JENNA

So. I even have to check the toilet now too, huh?

LILLIAN

Please don't tell Bill.

JENNA

You know I'm going to. Let's get this cleaned up.

INT. LILLIAN'S DORM - LATER

JENNA is putting the final touch on a bandage on LILLIAN'S arm. There's a sense of routine about this, they've done this before.

JENNA

We need to start getting ready. Want me to do your makeup? You always did like that in high school.

LILLIAN

Aren't you going to say anything about...?

JENNA

You've already heard everything I can say about it. And yet you still made that choice.

There's a pause before LILLIAN starts to cry.

JENNA

Come on, Bill will be here in a bit
and I know you don't want him to
catch you like this.

JENNA goes into LILLIAN'S closet and tosses her a
dress.

JENNA

Here. It was his favorite color.

LILLIAN

You're right. You're always right.

JENNA

Don't worry, I won't forget you
said that.

LILLIAN

I would expect nothing less of you.

LILLIAN takes the dress.

INT. LILLIAN'S DORM HALL - LATER

BILL (22 and always wears a hoodie) knocks on
LILLIAN'S door. He is holding a bouquet of flowers.
JENNA answers.

BILL

Hey Jenna.

JENNA

Bill.

BILL

We ready to go?

JENNA

Almost.

LILLIAN appears, wearing the dress JENNA picked out
for her.

LILLIAN

Hey you.

LILLIAN steps into the hall where she and BILL kiss.
JENNA looks away.

JENNA

Let me just...grab my keys...

EXT. GRAVEYARD - DAY

LILLIAN is standing at a headstone with the flowers
BILL was holding earlier. Behind her, some distance
away, are BILL and JENNA. As BILL and JENNA talk,
LILLIAN puts the flowers on the grave.

BILL

I should be at her side.

JENNA

She needs this moment.

BILL

Look like she's having a rough day.

JENNA

Some years are worse than others.

BILL

Is this a better or worse one?

JENNA

We shouldn't leave her alone today.

BILL

Did she...?

JENNA

Yeah.

BILL

How could you let her?

JENNA

Don't act like it's my fault. She's
cut on your watch too.

BILL

She isn't taking therapy seriously.

JENNA

Give her some credit. She's trying.

BILL

I wonder.

JENNA

Trust me. She is a lot better than she was.

BILL

You know, you always act like I don't understand mental illness and shit. But I understand a lot more than you know.

LILLIAN turns and heads back towards them. JENNA reaches for a hug, but BILL'S the one who gets the embrace.

LILLIAN

Mom's not coming. Again.

JENNA

Didn't think she would.

LILLIAN

I was hoping that maybe this year...

BILL

(Pause)

Come on. Let's get something to eat and then go back to campus.

INT. JENNA'S CAR - MOMENTS LATER

JENNA is driving. BILL and LILLIAN are sitting in the back seat. They have the remains of some fast food spread throughout the otherwise fairly neat car. They are driving in silence.

LILLIAN

I'm going in to work tonight.

JENNA
You are?

BILL
Good idea.

LILLIAN
You think so Bill?

BILL
It will keep your mind off things.

LILLIAN
Yeah. That's what I was thinking.

JENNA
Sure you don't want me to...

LILLIAN
I don't need a babysitter all the time. I'm fine. Work will keep me busy.

JENNA
Ok, ok. I hear you.
(to herself)
Guess I'm going to class.

INT. BILL'S DORM - LATER

BILL walks into his dorm. He is a fairly neat person. Bed made, books stacked neatly on his desk. He starts charging his cell phone and we see he has several missed phone calls from his mom and dad, which he does not return. There are also texts from MICK and ANDRE. MICK'S text says "My place. Tonight. Bring your water bottle." and ANDRE'S says "Party. We leave at ten." He texts both of them "OK". Next he opens his laptop and starts looking at all the homework he has to do. Checks his grades, the highest grade he has is a C.

BILL
Fuck.

He tries to open up a book, but he doesn't look at it and instead keeps staring off into space. He closes the book. Even though the room is empty, he looks around before going to his closet and pulls out a shoebox. He sets it on his desk and opens it. There are a bunch of unorganized Magic the Gathering cards,

which he brushes aside to reveal a gun. After a minute he reburies the gun under the cards, closes the box and puts it away. Then he pulls a water bottle out of his desk, grabs his phone, and heads out of the room.

INT. LILLIAN'S DORM - DAY

JENNA enters and flops down on her bed, staring at LILLIAN'S side of the room.

JENNA

I hope you're ok at work and not...

JENNA'S phone rings. It's her mom.

JENNA

Hey mom...no, you didn't catch me at a bad time just got out of class...it's going ok, got this...no, I haven't met any guys. Mom, you there's something I...well, I know you want me to find someone to give you grandchildren but...mom, what if I adopted...yes they would be your grandchild...mom...mom, I have to tell...I'm not...oh. I see. Enjoy your massage.

JENNA'S MOTHER hangs up the phone, leaving JENNA to stare at the screen flashing "Call Ended".

JENNA

Dammit.

INT. LIBRARY ENTRANCE - MOMENTS LATER

It has started raining again. BILL enters the library, wet from the rain, and sees LILLIAN sitting behind the checkout counter. She is cross stitching. BILL pulls out his phone, and, ignoring the plethora of texts and social media notifications, takes several pictures of her as she cross stitches. BILL'S phone rings, his dad again, and BILL declines the call. Then a young, male student comes up and starts talking to her. LILLIAN smiles, sets her needlework down, and reaches under

the counter and pulls out a book with a band on the cover. BILL puts his phone away and goes up to her.

INT. LIBRARY CHECKOUT COUNTER - CONTINUOUS

BILL stands behind MALE STUDENT 1. LILLIAN sees BILL and gives him a small wave.

MALE STUDENT 1

Do I have to do anything different with this book?

LILLIAN

Nope, just bring it back here before the due date like any other book.

MALE STUDENT 1

But this is from UGA in Athens, don't I need it here a couple days earlier so they can check it in before the due date?

LILLIAN

I take care of that for you. It's all the same system so checking it in here is like checking it in there.

MALE STUDENT 1

Thanks, I'm so glad I was able to get this for my project.

LILLIAN

It's probably a good sign for your project. That book's always checked out everywhere.

MALE STUDENT 1

Thanks. I'm going to need all the help I can get for this.

LILLIAN

Well, I'm sending you positive vibes. Enjoy the evening. As much as you can.

MALE STUDENT 1

You too.

MALE STUDENT 1 leaves and BILL steps up.

LILLIAN

Hey!

BILL

You were awful friendly with him.

LILLIAN

Just doing my job.

BILL

That was overstepping the call of duty.

LILLIAN

Oh stop. You know I love you.

BILL

I love you. You just know how it is for me. I mean, all we have done is kiss and then I see you making eyes at someone else.

LILLIAN

I wasn't making eyes. And I told you, give me time. I'm not ready for...that yet.

BILL

I'm being as patient as I can. But I have needs, you know?

There's a heavy pause.

BILL

So, um, there's this party I'm going to tonight. Wanna come?

LILLIAN

Is it the one at the house just off campus?

BILL

That's the one.

LILLIAN

Jenna's going. She asked me, but I told her I wasn't feeling up to it.

BILL

Come on, for me? It'll get you out. And you could use a drink or ten today.

LILLIAN

I'm working until close tonight.

BILL

The party goes until everyone passes out.

LILLIAN pauses and looks down at her hands, her wrists.

BILL

If you don't go that means one of us won't get to go either. You wouldn't want that.

Finally, she looks up.

LILLIAN

All right.

BILL

Great. Just text me when you get there.

LILLIAN

Ok.

BILL leaves.

EXT. PARTY HOUSE - NIGHT

BILL and ANDRE (22) are walking to the house, ANDRE is carrying a six pack while BILL holds a water bottle. Music is pouring out of the house, all the lights are on, and college students are swarming around it.

ANDRE

I am so ready for this.

BILL

You work too much.

ANDRE

Some of us don't really have a choice.

BILL

You really gonna go there?

ANDRE

Didn't mean it like that. Sorry.

A group of people are outside the house smoking cigarettes. ANDRE packs and opens a fresh pack of cigarettes and hands BILL the beer.

ANDRE

Can you take that in and get something with liquor?

BILL

Roger that.

BILL heads inside.

INT. PARTY HOUSE LIVING ROOM

There are three couches, a loveseat, and two recliners there. None match and all of them have seen a lot of wear and tear. People are squeezed into them and are even sitting on the armrests. BILL looks around, and sees MICK (21).

MICK

Bill! Hey hey hey. And look, there's that water bottle. That's the coolest thing ever, you know that right?

BILL

You only mention it every time you see it and at some point tonight you will threaten and at some point tonight you will try to steal it.

MICK

I'm not drunk enough for that.
Speaking of, need a drink?

BILL

My hands are empty aren't they?

MICK

Touche. Come on.

INT. PARTY HOUSE BEER PONG ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

They enter the beer pong room. The beer pong table is the focus of the room, but against a back wall is a table set up with liquor and some mixers. On the floor is a cooler with beer. There are shelves lining the walls, and they are filled with different empty liquor bottles. MALE STUDENT 1 and another kid are playing beer pong.

BILL

That douche.

BILL looks as though he might go up and say something to MALE STUDENT 1, but MICK ushers him around the room.

MICK

Here's the spread. We're having a tournament tonight, too. I have to uphold my title.

BILL

I think I'm gonna give beer pong a pass tonight. Lillian's gonna be here.

MICK

The elusive girlfriend.

BILL

She's just shy.

MICK

Yeah, yeah. Aight, when you open that bottle grab me.

MICK goes to play host with some of the other guests. BILL pours two drinks and then leaves the room, but not without one final look toward MALE STUDENT 1.

INT. PARTY HOUSE LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

BILL is walking across the living room. ANDRE is sitting on the couch, chatting up a pretty girl. He gives a half wave to BILL. BILL gives a thumbs up, hands the drink over, and walks on down the hall.

INT. PARTY HOUSE SMOKING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

BILL enters the weed room, which has a group of people sitting in a circle passing a pipe. The room has black lights and a bunch of neon designs on the walls. Sitting in the circle is MISTY (21).

MISTY

Oh hell no.

BILL

Didn't know you were here.

MISTY

Don't give me that bullshit.

BILL

It was over six months ago.

MISTY

I still have nightmares.

BILL

You dropped the rape charges, remember?

FEMALE STUDENT 1

Woah, guys, just chill.

MISTY

You know damn well why I had to do that. Money really does make the world go round, doesn't it?

BILL

Whatever. I'm not dealing with this bullshit. I'm out.

MISTY

Too bad the overdose didn't work. Next time do us all a favor and shoot yourself. Just put the gun against your temple and pull the trigger.

BILL leaves.

INT. PARTY HOUSE LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

BILL passes by ANDRE on his way out, who is now kissing that girl and he doesn't notice BILL.

EXT. PARTY HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

The stream of people going to the house has peetered out to only a few drops. BILL leans against a tree, away from the smoking group, and downs his drink. His phone buzzes, he looks at it and sees a text saying "I'm here." He looks up and sees LILLIAN and JENNA walking towards the house. He goes up to LILLIAN

BILL

You made it.

LILLIAN

There's a lot of people here.

BILL

Just ignore them. Come on, let me get you a drink.

He offers LILLIAN his hand, which she takes, and then he leads her inside the house. JENNA is left standing alone.

JENNA

Hi. Good to see you too. Dickweed.

JENNA follows them inside.

INT. PARTY HOUSE BEER PONG ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

BILL leads LILLIAN to the spread of alcohol, pushing their way past the people playing beer pong group. MICK is hooting and hollering and killing it at beer pong.

BILL
What would you like?

LILLIAN
Something sweet.

BILL
Rum and coke?

LILLIAN nods and BILL pours them both drinks. The people shuffle around a bit as the round of beer pong ends and a new game begins.

LILLIAN
What about one for Jenna?

BILL
She's a big girl.

LILLIAN
Where is she?

BILL
She's around. Don't worry about her. Just focus on me. Us.

LILLIAN
Hard with so many people here.

BILL
Let's go outside for a few minutes, then.

He manages to get himself a kiss. They then leave through a door to the kitchen just as JENNA enters from the living room.

JENNA
Asshat.

Jenna grabs herself a beer and then follows them.

INT. PARTY HOUSE KITCHEN - MOMENTS LATER

JENNA looks around but doesn't see LILLIAN or BILL.
MALE STUDENT 2 comes up to her.

MALE STUDENT 2
Looking for someone?

JENNA
Yeah. But I think they've made it
obvious I'm on my own tonight.

MALE STUDENT 2
You're not alone anymore.

He puts his arm around her. JENNA shrugs it off.

JENNA
No thanks.

JENNA walks off to the living room. MALE STUDENT 2
follows.

INT. PARTY HOUSE LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

JENNA sits on one of the couches. Still no sign of
LILLIAN and BILL. MALE STUDENT 2 squeezes himself in
next to her.

MALE STUDENT 2
I spotted you when you walked in.

JENNA
Really now?

MALE STUDENT 2
That's a shitty boyfriend you have
not saying hi when you walk in the
door.

JENNA
You've got it all wrong.

MALE STUDENT 2
Your boyfriend's not here?

JENNA

I don't have a boyfriend.

MALE STUDENT 2

The worst kind of boyfriend, then.

JENNA

To me, it's the best kind.

MALE STUDENT 2

Just need a real man to show you
how a woman should be treated.

JENNA

I've heard that one before.

MALE STUDENT 2

Where you from?

JENNA

Hahira.

MALE STUDENT 2

Another local! I'm from Adel. It's
next to Sparks.

JENNA

And hey, did know they are all real
close to Valdosta?

MALE STUDENT 2

Sarcasm. That's funny, I like it.

JENNA

I'll try to refrain from using it
then.

MALE STUDENT 2

So, Miss Hellhira...

JENNA

Hahira.

MALE STUDENT 2

I know. We call it Hellhira because
Adel is so close to Hell you can
see Sparks.

JENNA

Wow. Incredible. I've never heard that one before in my entire life. Oh shit, there goes that sarcasm again.

He kisses her. She pushes away but he won't let go.

MALE STUDENT 2

You're shy. Cute.

JENNA

Get off.

MALE STUDENT 2 roughly grabs her and tries to fondle her. She dumps her beer on him. While he is momentarily shocked she shoves him to the floor. Everyone around them stops talking and looks as JENNA.

FEMALE STUDENT 1

That was a little extreme.

JENNA

Oh sure, look at me like I'm the crazy one because I didn't want some guy forcing himself on me. Fuck all ya'll.

JENNA storms outside.

EXT. PARTY HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

JENNA finds BILL and LILLIAN. They are sitting on some steps, talking.

JENNA

Time to go.

BILL

What are you talking about? You just got here.

LILLIAN

Why are you all wet?

JENNA

I'll explain on the way back to our room. Come on.

LILLIAN looks from JENNA to BILL. BILL wraps his hand around LILLIAN'S.

BILL

We aren't ready to leave yet, are we?

LILLIAN

I'm sorry.

JENNA

Fine. Whatever.

JENNA walks off into the night.

LILLIAN

Jenna, wait...

JENNA ignores her and keeps walking.

LILLIAN

Shit.

BILL

She'll get over it. Come on, let's get you another drink.

INT. PARTY HOUSE LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

The party has recovered from JENNA and MALE STUDENT 2'S argument. MALE STUDENT 2 is drying himself off with a towel. MICK comes up to them.

MICK

Jenna ok?

LILLIAN

She left. What happened?

MICK

Dude didn't know she bats for the other team.

LILLIAN

Ah. I see how that ended.

MICK

Tell her she owes me a round of
beer pong.

LILLIAN

Will do.

MICK goes off to recover his towel from MALE STUDENT
2.

BILL

Find yourself a seat. I'll be right
back with more drinks.

BILL also exits and LILLIAN sits on the couch. It
doesn't take long for her to realize why there was a
vacant space. It's wet from the beer. She stands and
starts trying to brush the liquid off her pants and
then she overhears some people talking.

FEMALE STUDENT 1

Oh my god, is that her?

FEMALE STUDENT 2

Who?

FEMALE STUDENT 1

That girl. The one who's in and out
of the nuthouse.

FEMALE STUDENT 2

I heard that her arms are so cut up
they look like a zebra.

FEMALE STUDENT 1

Do you think she's gonna go cray
cray here?

BILL comes up, puts an arm around her, and hands her a
drink.

BILL

Come on. Let's go. There's a spot I
want to show you.

EXT. PARTY HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

They walk away from the house and the cigarette smokers. BILL starts leading them through the neighborhood, a different way to campus than the one everyone took to get there.

BILL

Forget about them. Most people are assholes.

LILLIAN

That's how everyone except Jenna looks at me.

BILL

I don't.

LILLIAN

And you.

There's a sidewalk to the side of the road, following a creek and heading into a small, forested park. BILL turns down that sidewalk as LILLIAN talks.

EXT. PARK - CONTINUOUS

The streetlamps are yellow and give the trees an eerie glow. The water in the creek is high and rushing.

BILL

So, I've always wanted to know, why do you...you know...

LILLIAN

After my dad died my mom got remarried. She started selling Tupperware and when she was out doing a party, her new husband would come into my room and eat my cookie. He said it was our secret. I tried to tell mom once, but she called me a liar. That's when I started...

There's a pause as they walk in silence for a few moments.

BILL

You didn't deserve that.

LILLIAN

People rarely get what they deserve.

The path curves and suddenly it's like they are in a little glen, completely cut off from the neighborhood and campus that are just a few steps away. This is also the widest part of the creek. A fallen tree forms a bridge over the creek and the water's almost covering it in places.

BILL

This is the spot I wanted to show you. Normally the water's not so high. This tree fell forever ago and I usually sit there, chillax, swing my legs and smoke a bowl but I guess we'll just have to sit on the edge of the creek bed this time.

They sit and BILL takes the water bottle out of his front hoodie pocket. Then he opens his water bottle, revealing it is a secret storage container for a bowl and some weed. He packs a bowl. They take turns passing the pipe back and forth. LILLIAN coughs like she's about to die each hit. Then he turns and looks at her, moonlight shining on her through a gap in the trees.

BILL

You're beautiful. Like a faerie princess. My faerie princess.

He strokes her cheek and she pulls away slightly. He forces a kiss on her and she breaks free.

LILLIAN

(standing)

You want my cookie too? Is that what all men want? All of you just pretending to be princes.

BILL
(also stands)
Wait, I'm sorry.

She turns and he reaches for her hand. She struggles out of his grip and slips, falling into the creek. There's a thunk sound and we see her limp form floating in the creek.

BILL
Oh god.

BILL dives into the creek and manages to get LILLIAN to shore. There's blood coming from the side of her head. BILL checks to see if she is breathing and then performs CPR. Finally, she opens her eyes and starts coughing and vomiting up water.

BILL
You ok?

LILLIAN doesn't answer, just continues to catch her breath. BILL takes off his hoodie and then his shirt. He hands her his shirt.

BILL
Here.

LILLIAN takes his shirt and wipes off the blood.

BILL
Let me help you up.

He offers her a hand, but she doesn't take it and stands on her own. With purpose she starts walking back to campus.

BILL
Lillian, wait.

LILLIAN
Don't follow me.

LILLIAN walks off, leaving BILL standing there. He follows her.

INT. LILLIAN'S DORM HALL - LATER

LILLIAN is walking down the hall, BILL close behind her.

BILL
Wait, don't end the night like
this.

LILLIAN starts coughing.

LILLIAN
Here.

She throws his shirt back at him.

LILLIAN
Now go away.

She goes inside her dorm and slams the door in his face. BILL looks as if he might start pounding on the door, but one person walking down the hall is staring at him and someone else has leaned out of their dorm to look too. Defeated, BILL leaves.

INT. LILLIAN'S DORM - MOMENTS LATER

JENNA looks up from her studying as LILLIAN slams the door shut. JENNA has clearly already showered and changed into her pajamas.

JENNA
What the hell happened to you?

LILLIAN
I should have just left with you.

JENNA
Are you bleeding?

LILLIAN
I'll be all right. I just don't
want to see or hear from Bill right
now.

JENNA
Can do. Get yourself cleaned up.
And then...

JENNA reaches under her desk and pulls out some vodka.

LILLIAN

I love you.

LILLIAN goes to the bathroom and we hear the sound of her coughing over the shower starting.

JENNA

I wish you meant that.

INT. BILL'S DORM - DAY

BILL is looking through the pictures on his phone that he took of LILLIAN. Then he scrolls through to look at older pictures. Some are of the two of them but the bulk have clearly been taken without LILLIAN'S knowledge. Then, he goes onto social media sites and searches for LILLIAN. He finds her. Her last post was from the day before: "Another year and the void in my heart remains. Miss you Dad." He sends a message saying he's sorry.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

BILL is sitting in class, taking notes.

TEACHER

Physiology is all about the normal functions of an organism. Now, there are many things which can change an organism's physiology, such as pregnancy, viral infections, even age. For your test you will have to know...

BILL pulls out his phone in his lap and checks his messages. Nothing from LILLIAN. He sends her a message "Say something. Anything. Don't hate me." It's his twelfth text to her.

TEACHER

Mr. Bill!

BILL

Yes ma'am?

TEACHER

Your phone.

BILL

Right.

BILL puts his phone away.

INT. LILLIAN'S DORM - DAY

LILLIAN is in bed. JENNA is holding some tylenol.
LILLIAN'S running a fever. Coughing.

JENNA

Have some tylenol.

LILLIAN

No.

JENNA

It'll help with the fever.

LILLIAN

It'll make me throw up.

LILLIAN'S phone rings from her night stand. It's BILL.
JENNA reaches over and declines the call.

LILLIAN

Who was it?

JENNA

No one important. I'm gonna turn
your phone off so you can get some
rest. Now, come on: tylenol.

LILLIAN takes the tylenol. After a few seconds she
starts gagging and rushes to the bathroom. Retching
sounds can be heard.

JENNA

And I have that group project I
have to work on. Only thirty five
percent of my grade. Great.
Just...great.

INT. LIBRARY ENTRANCE - LATE AFTERNOON

BILL enters the library and sees someone else at the checkout counter. He looks around, but doesn't see LILLIAN. Finally, he goes up to the checkout counter.

INT. LIBRARY CHECKOUT COUNTER - MOMENTS LATER

The LIBRARY EMPLOYEE is staring at the computer and doesn't seem to notice BILL approach.

BILL

Excuse me?

LIBRARY EMPLOYEE

Book and Student ID.

BILL

I'm not here for a book?

LIBRARY EMPLOYEE

Who's your teacher and what's the assignment?

BILL

No, no it's not...

LIBRARY EMPLOYEE

You got a room reserved for the group project everyone's working on?

BILL

No. I'm looking for Lillian. She around?

LIBRARY EMPLOYEE

Lillian? No, she called out sick today.

BILL

Sick?

LIBRARY EMPLOYEE

Some kind of cold or something. I don't know, I'm just covering her ass. You a friend of hers?

BILL
Boyfriend.

LIBRARY EMPLOYEE
Tell her I hope she gets better
soon. I have a group project that
needs to get done soon.

BILL
Will do.

INT. DORM ENTRANCE HALL - NIGHT

BILL steps inside the dorm. The RA at the desk stops
him.

RA 1
Hey, Bill! You got a visitor in the
common area.

BILL
Thanks.

INT. DORM COMMON AREA - MOMENTS LATER

The common area has a couple couches, some tables, and
a TV. BILL'S FATHER stands when he sees BILL.

BILL'S FATHER
Son.

BILL
Hey dad.

BILL'S FATHER
Sit.

BILL sits. BILL'S FATHER continues to stand.

BILL'S FATHER
I've heard you've been having
problems.

BILL
I'm fine, dad.

BILL'S FATHER

You're missing classes. Not turning
in homework. Lovely F's on tests.

BILL

(Beat)

Who told you all that?

BILL'S FATHER

I have my sources. Now, over the
summer...

BILL

Because it isn't like that...

BILL'S FATHER

Do not interrupt me when I am
talking to you.

BILL

Dad...

BILL'S FATHER

I didn't come here to listen to
your whining or your excuses. Your
mother may put up with that crap
but I sure as hell don't. Do you
understand me?

BILL

Yes.

BILL'S FATHER

Yes sir.

BILL

Yes sir.

BILL'S FATHER

Good. Now here's what's going to
happen. I am cutting your allowance
by seventy-five percent...

BILL

But dad...

BILL'S FATHER

Was I finished?

BILL

No sir.

BILL'S FATHER

Interrupt me again and see how much allowance you get. Seventy-five percent. And if I hear of any more...incidents...I won't be as lenient.

BILL

You call this lenient?

BILL'S FATHER

Your mother always kept a soft hand with you. Next time, no more allowance. Period. No tuition. No more money for housing.

BILL

What? But...you can't just do that...

BILL'S FATHER

I can do whatever I want. You will focus on school. You will bring your grades up. Do you know what's waiting for you when you graduate?

BILL

Yes, a job in the company so I can...

BILL'S FATHER

Learn the ropes and take over when I retire. That's right. But you can kiss that goodbye if you screw around again. Just another year and a half and then you can have any pussy money can buy.

BILL

Cause that's exactly what I want.

BILL'S FATHER

You're just like your mother.

BILL

And you only stayed with her for her money.

BILL'S FATHER slaps BILL.

BILL'S FATHER

Maybe money can't buy you love, but it let's you pick your miseries. Think about that during the rest of this semester. If you work hard, bring your grades up, and stay out of trouble we might discuss this allowance situation at Christmas. Is that clear?

BILL

Yes sir.

BILL'S FATHER

Good. Call your mother. She's going sick worrying about you. Oh, and one more thing: no more girls. Got it?

BILL

Yes sir.

BILL'S FATHER

I'm glad we have an understanding. You could make me very proud son. But don't choose to disappoint me. Again.

BILL

I'll try, dad.

BILL'S FATHER

Don't try. Just get out there and make it happen. That kind of attitude is why you're having problems. It ends, now. I can't keep bailing you out of trouble like I did after your DWI this summer. You're lucky you only lost your license. And let's not forget what happened with that girl.

BILL

Yes sir. I know, sir. I've learned my lesson.

BILL'S FATHER

I hope you do son. I really hope you straighten your life out or things are going to get very difficult for you.

INT. BILL'S DORM - NIGHT

BILL is trying to do homework but BILL'S ROOMMATE is playing a game.

BILL

Dude, can you stop screwin' around?

BILL'S ROOMMATE

Not my fault you got in a fight with your daddy.

BILL

Fuck you.

BILL'S ROOMMATE

Sorry to disappoint you, but I'm straight and if we did that it would strain our roommate status.

BILL

Everything that comes out of your mouth makes me want to punch you.

BILL'S ROOMMATE

Sounds like a personal problem to me.

BILL slams his books closed and leaves the room.

BILL'S ROOMMATE

Can you bring me some Mountain Dew when you come back?

EXT. CAMPUS - NIGHT

BILL is walking around. He pulls out his phone and looks through the pictures that he took of LILLIAN. As he does so he passes by some flowers. He pauses, and then picks them to form a nice little bouquet.

EXT. DORM - MOMENTS LATER

BILL is standing in outside a dorm, holding the flowers, and looking up at LILLIAN'S window. He pulls out his cell phone and tries to call her, the sixth time that day and not counting text messages. It goes to voicemail. BILL heads inside the building.

INT. DORM ENTRANCE HALL - MOMENTS LATER

ANDRE is sitting at the desk as BILL walks in.

ANDRE

Hey man. You down for some gaming tonight?

BILL

What games?

ANDRE

Oh, you know. The usual. Magic the Gathering. Maybe some Minecraft. Mick says there's this new MMORPG we've got to try.

BILL

Sounds good to me.

ANDRE

Bring that card, Angel of Light and Hope.

BILL

It's in my deck. And I'm not trading it.

ANDRE

Aw, come on, I got...

BILL

Don't care. Not trading her. Where are we meeting?

ANDRE

We're gonna meet up at Mick's place.

BILL

This a party party or game party?

ANDRE

Both. Some other people are gonna show up for beer pong and stuff later on.

BILL

Then I'll bring my party favors.

ANDRE

You would want to. I get off in a bit.

BILL

Text me.

INT. LILLIAN'S DORM HALL - MOMENTS LATER

BILL knocks on LILLIAN'S door. After a moment, JENNA answers.

JENNA

It's you. Thought you would show up eventually.

BILL

How is she?

JENNA

I got everything under control. Just a cold. So you can leave. Now.

BILL

Can you at least give her these?

JENNA

Nope. And you can stop trying to

call her. I don't know what happened between you two after I left the party, but she said she doesn't want to see you right now.

BILL

Look, I'm just...

JENNA

There's no "I'm just" here. I said to get the fuck away from here, and that means leave.

BILL

I'm sorry for...

JENNA

Don't make me call the front desk and have them throw you out.

BILL

Fuck you.

But BILL walks off.

BILL

(To himself)

Bitch.

BILL throws the flowers away.

INT. PARTY HOUSE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

BILL, ANDRE, MICK, and a couple other people are each sitting in front of laptops. Drinks are scattered around.

ANDRE

Come on, someone get him.

MICK

I'm trying but I'm not pulling any aggro.

ANDRE

Turn your skills on.

MICK

They are on.

ANDRE

Naw man, check again.

MICK

They aren't?

(Beat)

Oh shit they ain't. My bad y'all.
Anyone want another beer? Bill, I'm
especially talking to you.

BILL

Huh?

MICK

Something's eating your mind alive.

BILL

Andre, what's he going on about?

ANDRE

Something's bothering you.

BILL

What's going on with that girl,
Andre?

ANDRE

Diandra?

MICK

That the name of the girl you
sucking face with the other night?

ANDRE

Yeah, she cool. We been texting and
stalked each other on Facebook. But
no changing the subject Bill.
What's wrong?

BILL

I'm fine.

MICK

Bullshit. You can either talk now or we get you so drunk that you won't remember telling us everything.

BILL

Fine, fine. My dad found out I'm sucking at school.

ANDRE

Uh-oh.

BILL

He killed my allowance and threatened to cut me off entirely.

MICK

So no more weed?

ANDRE

That sucks, bro.

BILL

I mean, what would I do if he stopped paying for school?

ANDRE

Find a job and take out student loans like the rest of us?

BILL

I don't know how to find a job.

MICK

Oh, the trials and tribulations of the rich.

BILL

It's not funny Mick.

MICK

If you lived down here on earth with the rest of us you would find it hilarious.

ANDRE

Dude. Isn't the time for that.

MICK
Yeah, you're right. Sorry.

BILL
The thing is, I know that I'm going
to wind up disappointing him. I
can't help it.

There's a pause.

MICK
Think like that and you will. Prove
him wrong, bro.

ANDRE'S phone beeps. He looks at it.

ANDRE
Hey Bill, got a minute?

BILL
What's up?

ANDRE
Let's go into the kitchen.

BILL
All right.

MICK
What about this boss?

ANDRE
We'll kill it when we get back.

ANDRE and BILL stand and then BILL follows ANDRE into
the kitchen.

INT. PARTY HOUSE KITCHEN - MOMENTS LATER

BILL and ANDRE stand on opposite sides of the kitchen.

ANDRE
You fighting with Lillian?

BILL
What does that have to do with
anything?

ANDRE

I just got a message about how you wouldn't leave her room when asked.

BILL

I was just standing in the hall.

ANDRE

Man, how have you not figured this out? Someone asks you to back off, you back off.

BILL

I did.

ANDRE

Yeah, well someone says you were being...

BILL

Did Jenna report me? That's some nerve.

ANDRE

It don't matter who said what to who. You...

BILL

Bitch asked me to leave so I left. Why you taking her side? What kind of friend does that shit?

ANDRE

I'm also an RA. I got a job to do for all my residents.

BILL

That's some bullshit, friends stick together.

ANDRE

Why don't you think about that? Your bullshit makes me look bad. I need this job. My family can't afford to send me to college.

BILL

What's that supposed to mean?

ANDRE

You know damn well what it means.

BILL

Are you blaming your money problems
on me now?

ANDRE

You ain't even listening to a word
I'm saying, are you?

MICK steals into the kitchen.

BILL

What I hear is...

MICK

Hey Andre, don't you have some
fireworks? It would be totally dope
if we smoked a bowl and then lit
off some fireworks.

ANDRE

Yeah, they in my car. Let's do
that. This conversation's ain't
goin' nowhere.

INT. LILLIAN'S DORM - CONTINUOUS

JENNA is trying to read and take notes while Lillian
is curled up in her bed, coughing and whimpering.

LILLIAN

Where's Bill?

JENNA

You said you didn't want to see
him.

LILLIAN

I like it when he holds my hand.

JENNA

But...

LILLIAN

It's comforting.

JENNA
I could...

LILLIAN
Not the same.

JENNA looks away to hide the pain in her eyes.

EXT. PARTY HOUSE - NIGHT

Everyone is outside, passing a bowl around while ANDRE lights off fireworks. He rejoins the circle and BILL hands him the pipe. ANDRE takes it, but it's clear there's a crack in their friendship now.

EXT. CAMPUS - DAY

BILL is outside the dorm again. He looks to see who is working the desk. ANDRE and someone else are there. He waits before entering. Soon classes let out and BILL sneaks inside the dorm with a rush of people.

INT. LILLIAN'S DORM HALL - MOMENTS LATER

BILL knocks on LILLIAN'S door. JENNA answers. She looks frazzled to say the least.

JENNA
You're here. I guess I'm glad for that. She's been asking for you.

BILL
What's going on?

JENNA
She's sick. Very sick. And I have this group project I have to present today and Lillian can't...you'll see.

JENNA lets BILL enter the room.

INT. LILLIAN'S DORM - MOMENTS LATER

LILLIAN is clearly worse than yesterday. BILL goes

over to her.

BILL
Hey, hey, I'm here.

LILLIAN
It hurts. It hurts.

BILL
What does?

LILLIAN
Everything.

BILL
Do you want some tylenol?

LILLIAN
I can't.

BILL
You can't?

JENNA
She'll just throw it up.

BILL
It's gonna be ok. Jenna, go and handle your business. I got this.

JENNA
Ok. Lillian, I have to go. But if something happens just call or text me and I'll come running, ok?

LILLIAN
Kay.

JENNA grabs some books, her purse, and phone and then leaves.

BILL
What can I get for you?

LILLIAN
I'm hungry. And thirsty. But I keep throwing up.

BILL gets her a glass of water.

BILL
Here, try and have some water.

LILLIAN sips the water and then pushes his arm away so hard the cup flies across the room.

LILLIAN
I can't...

She starts to heave and BILL helps carry her to the toilet where she throws up.

LILLIAN
Unh...

LILLIAN starts screaming and pulling at her fingers as her fingernails start to fall out. BILL pulls out his cell phone and dials.

BILL
9-1-1? Help...

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - LATER

LILLIAN is in a hospital bed hooked up to IVs and other monitors. BILL is with her, looking at his phone. He types something and then looks up at LILLIAN.

BILL
Jenna's parking. She says she called your mom.

LILLIAN
Of course she did.

BILL
Should she not have?

LILLIAN
It's whatever.

BILL
The doctor said he would be back in a bit to check on you.

LILLIAN
I know, I was here.

BILL
I'm sorry. I don't know what to do.

LILLIAN
Just hold my hand.

BILL takes her hand.

BILL
I shouldn't have...

LILLIAN
Not now.

BILL
But you have to understand...

LILLIAN
It doesn't matter.

BILL
It does.

LILLIAN
I just need you to hold my hand.

BILL
But I need you...

LILLIAN
I want you here. Isn't that enough?

LILLIAN starts coughing again.

INT. HOSPITAL - MOMENTS LATER

JENNA is running through the hall, pausing at each room to read the number. She gets to LILLIAN'S room. She's about to rush in when she sees BILL and LILLIAN having a sweet, couple moment. Well, as sweet a moment as can be had under the circumstances. It makes JENNA pause and look away with a hurt expression. She gathers herself together and enters the room. LILLIAN and BILL look up when she enters.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

LILLIAN and BILL look up as JENNA enters.

LILLIAN

Did my mom say she was coming?

JENNA

She'll be here soon.

BILL

Why did call her?

JENNA

What else was I supposed to do?

LILLIAN

Did she say if he was coming?

JENNA

You know she told him. I'm guessing he will.

JENNA sits on the other side of LILLIAN'S bed.

LILLIAN

(To Bill)

Stay with me? Please?

BILL

I'm right here.

LILLIAN

Thank you.

JENNA

Can I get you anything? Either of you?

BILL

No.

LILLIAN

Nothing you can get.

JENNA

Let me know if you want something. I don't mind.

LILLIAN

Don't you have a big project to do?

JENNA

Don't you worry about my class.

BILL

You don't have to stay. I can take care of her.

JENNA

You think I can just leave my best friend in the hospital?

LILLIAN

But Jenna...

JENNA

No buts. Whatever the consequences, I need to be here with you.

JENNA grabs LILLIAN'S other hand and stares intensely into LILLIAN'S eyes.

BILL

Ahem.

LILLIAN

You both are too good to me.

BILL

Don't forget I love you.

JENNA

Nonsense.

BILL

Jenna, could you get me something to drink?

JENNA pauses.

JENNA

I did offer, didn't I? What do you want?

BILL

Doesn't matter. Something with caffeine. Coke.

JENNA

I'll be right back. You going to be ok while I'm gone?

BILL
She'll be fine. We're in a hospital
for fuck's sake.

JENNA
Yeah. Ok. See you in a minute.

JENNA leaves.

INT. HOSPITAL - MOMENTS LATER

JENNA is going through the hospital. She looks like she might start crying, so she ducks into a bathroom.

INT. HOSPITAL BATHROOM - MOMENTS LATER

JENNA closes the door and starts to cry.

JENNA
I should be the one holding
her...it should be me.

After a minute, JENNA washes her face.

JENNA
(To herself in the mirror)
I'm getting him a fucking Sprite.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - CONTINUOUS

LILLIAN and BILL are still sitting there.

LILLIAN
I going to die? Or maybe I already
did...

BILL
Don't talk like that. The doctor's
gonna fix you up, you'll see.

LILLIAN doesn't respond and looks away.

MAY (O.S.)
Lillian?

LILLIAN

Mom?

MAY and RICHARD, LILLIAN'S mom and stepfather, enter the room. They crowd BILL away from LILLIAN as they go to her side.

MAY

My baby.

RICHARD

(To BILL)

Who are you?

BILL

I'm...

LILLIAN

He's my boyfriend.

RICHARD

Boyfriend?

LILLIAN

Yes.

RICHARD

Let's give the ladies a moment.

BILL looks at LILLIAN who nods. BILL and RICHARD leave the room.

INT. OUTSIDE HOSPITAL ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

RICHARD closes the door to LILLIAN'S room.

RICHARD

Thank you for keeping her company,
but we have it covered now.

BILL

It's ok, I need to hear what the
doctor says.

RICHARD

Let me stop being polite: Go home. Stay away from her. I don't know who you are, but she ain't never talked about no boyfriend and I know that she knows no one would be interested in her unless they wanted to take advantage of a crazy girl.

BILL

No one except you?

RICHARD

You keep your damn mouth shut. You mean you actually believe the crazy that comes out of her mouth? You must be crazy too, just like her.

BILL

Maybe it takes someone who is crazy to see when someone isn't. I'm not leaving her alone with you.

RICHARD

Look who's trying to be a man. You don't seem to understand...

JENNA walks up. She is holding a Sprite.

JENNA

You made it.

RICHARD

You're here. Of course you're here. Where else would the neighborhood bean flicker be?

JENNA is stunned.

RICHARD

Oh don't look like that. You think we didn't know? That I couldn't see the poison you were slipping my precious, little angel?

BILL

Shut up you ignorant piece of shit.

MAY comes out.

MAY

I think you both should leave. Now.

JENNA

That's up to Lillian.

MAY

Don't make this uglier or harder
than it already is. Just go.

BILL

You can't...

MAY

I said leave!

All the nurses and staff look at them.

BILL

(to Jenna)

Let's go.

BILL and JENNA leave.

INT. JENNA'S CAR - LATER

JENNA is driving back to campus. BILL is sitting in
the passenger seat.

BILL

Fuckin' bullshit.

JENNA

Guess I can make it for my group
project.

While stopped at a red light, they see the billboard,
but half of it is covered up and they can only see the
quote "A river cuts through rock, not because of its
power, but because of its persistence - Jim Watkins".
Both JENNA and BILL look at it.

JENNA

Fuck it.

When the light turns green, JENNA maneuvers the car and makes a U-Turn.

INT. HOSPITAL - LATER

JENNA and BILL come up through the hall, ignoring the looks the hospital staff give them. They pause outside LILLIAN'S room and can hear the conversation inside.

RICHARD` (O.S.)

May, honey, it's going to be a few minutes before the doctor comes back and I know you haven't eaten anything. Why don't you go grab something?

LILLIAN (O.S.)

Please don't leave mom.

RICHARD (O.S.)

You need to keep your strength up. I can hear your stomach growling. I'll be here with her.

LILLIAN (O.S.)

Mom, please.

MAY (O.S.)

I couldn't...

RICHARD (O.S.)

Oh yes you can. It'll do you good to get something in your stomach.

LILLIAN (O.S.)

Mom...

RICHARD (O.S.)

Oh be a big girl. Think of everything you've put her through and you are going to stop her from eating lunch?

MAY (O.S.)

If you really insist...

RICHARD (O.S.)
I do. Here, take some cash.

MAY (O.S.)
I'll be back in a minute
sweetheart.

MAY leaves. BILL and JENNA duck behind a corner so she doesn't see them.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

RICHARD leans in close to LILLIAN.

RICHARD
Oh my sweet, sweet, precious angel.

RICHARD strokes the side of LILLIAN'S cheek like a lover would. He bends down to kiss her. BILL and JENNA enter the room just as LILLIAN screams like a rabbit that's been shot. Before RICHARD can pull his arm away, LILLIAN bites him. She starts chewing and sucking his blood.

JENNA
Get him, girl.

HOSPITAL STAFF rush in and LILLIAN turns towards them. She is missing a lot of her teeth; they are in Richard's arm.

NURSE 1
Jesus Christ!

LILLIAN growls at them.

DOCTOR
Get them out of here.

NURSE 1
Ma'am you have to calm down...

NURSE 2
Get security in here!

As they try to come between LILLIAN and RICHARD, LILLIAN attacks the staff and BILL and JENNA are

shoved outside.

INT. HOSPITAL WAITING ROOM - LATER

BILL is sitting there with his head in his hands.
JENNA is sitting next to him.

BILL

This is all my fault...

JENNA

What do you mean by that?

Before BILL can answer, his cell phone rings. He pulls out his cell phone and sees it's his dad.

BILL

Dad...no, I'm not in class...would you list...dad...I'm at the hospital...no, not for me...my girlfriend, she...just listen to me for once...she's sick. Like real sick. Like throwing up, losing her hair, nails...it is serious, that's why she's at the hospital...yes her parents are here, so what? I still need to be here, Ok?...Verify whatever you want with whoever. Or cut me off. I don't care right now. This is more important.

He hangs up. BILL and JENNA look at each other.

JENNA

Guess we can both agree on something.

BILL

We always have.

INT. HOSPITAL WAITING ROOM - LATER

MAY comes out and sits next to BILL.

MAY

So. You're her boyfriend.

BILL

That's right.

JENNA

She ok?

MAY

They gave her sedative. She's resting. Now, I'm not going to ask how long you've been together or any of that bullshit. I just want to know what you did to her.

BILL

What I did to her?

MAY

Richard said he saw you...

BILL

Always believing him. That's why you're a shitty excuse for a mother.

MAY

Excuse me?

JENNA

Why do you think Lillian is the way she is?

MAY

I won't sit here and listen...

BILL

You will listen to me. She told you what he was doing to her. And instead of protecting your daughter you chose to believe that monster...

MAY

Shut your fucking mouth!

There's a pause as everyone in the waiting room stares at them.

MAY

You don't know shit about anything.
Richard was right, you are a sick
and twisted individual who's
feeding Lillian's delusions. I
never want you to see my daughter
again.

MAY leaves.

BILL

Fuck.

JENNA

Yeah.

(Beat)

What did you mean earlier when you
said it was your fault?

BILL pauses.

BILL

Nothing.

BILL tries to sit and wait, but is antsy. Finally he
gets up and starts wandering the hospital.

JENNA

That's just great.

INT. HOSPITAL - LATER

BILL is walking towards LILLIAN'S room. He passes an
open door and sees RICHARD getting treated by NURSE 1
for the wound on his arm. BILL steps back and listens.

RICHARD (O.S.)

Never in my entire life...

RICHARD's talking is interrupted by a coughing fit.

NURSE 1 (O.S.)

You coming down with something?

RICHARD (O.S.)

I'm all right.

NURSE 1 (O.S.)

Let me have someone check you out anyways. That girl who went crazy on you started off with just a cough.

BILL hears NURSE 1's footsteps and hightails it out of there.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

BILL finally makes it to LILLIAN'S room. LILLIAN is asleep and has been restrained. NURSE 2 is there adjusting IV.

NURSE 2

Thank god you're back. She's calmer when you and the other girl are here.

BILL

With me?

NURSE 2

We had to send her mother out of the room because the patient was getting too agitated.

BILL

Is she going to be ok?

NURSE 2

We're doing the best we can. But we've never seen anything like this. For now she's sedated, so she should just sleep for a while. We'll be back to check on her in a bit.

NURSE 2 leaves. BILL sits next to LILLIAN. He takes her hand and notices that the restraints have chaffed her wrists.

BILL

My poor faerie princess...

He goes to loosen them. LILLIAN opens her eyes. Black

streaks have started to appear in them.

LILLIAN

Stop.

BILL

Hey, you're supposed to be sleeping.

LILLIAN

Don't loosen those.

BILL

But they're hurting you. Just a little bit. There. Isn't that better?

LILLIAN

But I don't want to hurt anyone else...I can't help it. I'm so hungry and thirsty and then...I'm gone. Whoever I am, is just gone. This may be the last time I get to talk to you.

BILL

Don't talk like that. The doctors are gonna fix you up, you'll see.

LILLIAN

All I can think about is blood. I want it so bad that I can't even feel how much everything hurts anymore.

There's a knock at the door. DOCTOR comes in.

DOCTOR

You're awake?

LILLIAN

For right now.

DOCTOR

You shouldn't be...well, nevermind. We got some of your lab results back. Pretty much everything we tested for is abnormal.

LILLIAN

What does that mean?

BILL

Nothing good.

DOCTOR

I'm going to start you on some medication. An antibiotic, antifungal, and an antiviral medication. Just hit the whole gambit of possibilities. And also something for your pain.

LILLIAN

Ok.

BILL

Whatever you have to do. Please. She's the only one who understands me.

DOCTOR

Believe me, we are doing everything we can. Someone will be in soon to administer those medications.

The DOCTOR leaves and BILL holds one of LILLIAN'S hands.

LILLIAN

I'm not even human, now. I'm something else.

BILL

You will always be my faerie princess. Always.

INT. HOSPITAL WAITING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

JENNA looks at the time on her phone.

JENNA

Oh come on, Bill. Where did you go?

JENNA gets up.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

JENNA goes into LILLIAN'S room.

JENNA
Here you are.

LILLIAN
You're back too. But your project?

JENNA
I told you, I'm not leaving you.

JENNA sits on the other side of LILLIAN'S bed.

JENNA
(To Bill)
The doctor say anything yet?

LILLIAN
I'm here you know.

JENNA
I wasn't sure if you had been awake
the whole time or anything.

LILLIAN
I was. They gave me a bunch of
drugs. The doctors have the good
stuff.

JENNA
Yes they do. Hey, Bill?

BILL
Yeah?

JENNA
Could you get me something to
drink?

BILL looks as though he is about to say no.

JENNA
Please? Just...please?

Their eyes meet and they share an entire conversation
in that moment.

BILL

I got you.

BILL leaves.

LILLIAN

He didn't ask what you wanted.

JENNA

It doesn't matter.

LILLIAN

Text him.

JENNA

That's not why...look. There's something I need to tell you.

LILLIAN

You don't have to tell me anything.

JENNA

Yes, there is. You see, I...

LILLIAN

I know.

JENNA

What?

LILLIAN

I'm not stupid, Jenna. I can see the way you look at other girls. It's like how I look at men.

JENNA

That's not...

LILLIAN

I never wanted to hurt you. I know I have, every time you saw me with someone. But you were the very best friend I could have ever asked for. I want you to know that.

JENNA takes LILLIAN'S hand.

JENNA

Can I just...pretend until Bill gets back?

LILLIAN

Close your eyes.

Both girls close their eyes and JENNA nuzzles her cheek against LILLIAN'S palm. After a moment, JENNA curls LILLIAN'S hand and kisses the back of it. Then, JENNA sets LILLIAN'S hand down and opens her eyes.

JENNA

Thank you.

LILLIAN doesn't react.

JENNA

Sleepyhead.

BILL comes back in. JENNA motions for him to be quiet. He nods and takes LILLIAN'S hand. JENNA backs away.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - LATER

JENNA is looking at her phone while BILL is still holding LILLIAN'S hand when NURSE 1 comes in with some IV bags.

NURSE 1

She asleep? Good. Let's get these into her.

NURSE 2 hooks up the bags to the IV. Almost instantly, LILLIAN starts thrashing against the restraints. New teeth are growing. They are fangs. She's also growing claw like fingernails that start to shred the hospital bedding. All her machines start beeping like crazy.

NURSE 1

I need some help in here!

DOCTOR and other staff rush in.

NURSE 1

You both need to go.

BILL and JENNA swept outside as the swarm of hospital staff try to save LILLIAN'S life.

INT. HOSPITAL WAITING ROOM - LATER

JENNA is sitting. Several seats away from her is BILL and several seats from him is MAY. None of them are looking at each other. BILL'S phone rings, but he simply turns the ringer off. The other people in the waiting room are giving them their space. Finally, the DOCTOR comes out and looks haggard.

DOCTOR

I'm very sorry. We did everything we could...

MAY

My angel? She...?

DOCTOR

We did everything we could.

JENNA

No.

MAY

I'm sure you did. And I'm sure next you're going to be telling me my husband is dead too.

DOCTOR

I'm very sorry.

JENNA

You're wrong. Her hand. It was so warm. So warm.

BILL

(To himself)

She's not an angel, she's a faerie. Her wings are bright full of pink, blue, green, purple, gold...

BILL stands, and goes over to MAY. He kneels down.

BILL

Please, may I tell her goodbye?

JENNA

We. May we tell her goodbye?

INT. HOSPITAL - MOMENTS LATER

The door to LILLIAN'S room is closed. BILL, JENNA and the DOCTOR are standing outside it.

DOCTOR

Take all the time you need.

He opens the door. BILL steps inside, but JENNA pauses.

JENNA

Save a few minutes for me.

BILL

Will do.

BILL goes inside.

INT. HOSPITAL - LATER

JENNA is still waiting outside the door. BILL comes out. He starts crying and starts to crumple into a head, but JENNA catches him.

BILL

I couldn't say anything. She was just lying there. My princess. You know I raped her? Misty. She said no. But I wanted it. And I got away with it. But no one would even look at me. And then she came along and she didn't...she trusted me. And then I almost did it again. To her. My faerie princess. But she fell in the water and got sick. My fault. I'm so weak. How could she love something so weak?

JENNA lets go of him and stands. She leaves BILL, a crumpled mess, and goes inside the room. She shuts the door behind her.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

The room has been darkened. The IV and machines have been disconnected from LILLIAN. She could almost be asleep but her chest doesn't move. JENNA walks over to her.

JENNA

I don't even know what to say.

JENNA reaches for LILLIAN's hand. The restraints are still on.

JENNA

So cold.

(Beat)

Why are these still on?

While JENNA releases the restraints, LILLIAN opens her eyes a crack. They are completely black. She closes them again when JENNA finishes undoing the restraints.

JENNA

Now you're free. Free from a world that brought you so much pain. I'm jealous. Now it's all I have.

LILLIAN hisses and then grabs for JENNA who just manages to avoid getting slashed.

JENNA

Help! Someone!

LILLIAN is standing, advancing, and hissing. She barely seems human now. The door opens, the DOCTOR sees them.

DOCTOR

Jesus Christ!

LILLIAN turns towards the DOCTOR. JENNA grabs her, but LILLIAN throws her off into the blood pressure monitors. Somehow, JENNA avoids getting scratched or bitten but she does hit her head pretty hard on impact. Other hospital staff rush in as LILLIAN attacks the DOCTOR.

NURSE 1

Get the fuck off!

LILLIAN scratches and bites all the hospital staff in some way. Blood's everywhere. They back off, but have managed to corner her against a window.

SECURITY

You need to calm down. There's nowhere you can go.

LILLIAN hisses and then turns to the window. She starts scratching it, leaving huge gouge marks.

JENNA

Lillian!

LILLIAN turns to JENNA for a moment and then the hospital staff close in. With a growl of rage LILLIAN smashes the glass with her fists and escapes through the broken window.

INT. HOSPITAL - LATER

JENNA is receiving treatment for her head wound from NURSE 3. BILL is hovering nearby.

NURSE 3

You don't have a concussion, which is good. Just take care of this laceration you got going on and you'll be ok. Questions?

JENNA

Is everyone ok?

NURSE 3

It's never fun having to treat one of your own.

BILL

Those people she attacked. Are they starting to get sick?

NURSE 3

...yes. And violent.

JENNA

(Beat)

What's going to happen to Lillian?

NURSE 3

The police are looking for her now.

BILL

The cops? Is that really necessary?

NURSE 3

She attacked us, destroyed hospital property, and fled. And she's still very ill with something that's highly contagious. What did you think was going to happen?

JENNA

You said she was dead.

NURSE 3

No heartbeat and no brain activity usually mean that, yeah.

BILL

So what happened?

NURSE 3

When the police bring her back we will find out.

JENNA

Am I free to go?

NURSE 3

We want to keep you under observation for a little while longer. Just to make you sure you aren't displaying any symptoms.

JENNA

I'm not sick.

NURSE 3

Trust me, we want you out of here as fast as possible too. I have a feeling we're gonna need the room.

(Beat)

NURSE 3 (CONTD.)

Some other people have started to
come in who had no contact with
your friend.

NURSE 3 leaves.

JENNA

More waiting.

BILL

We can't let the cops get her. She
hasn't done anything wrong. She's
sick. She needs help.

JENNA

What do you want to do about it?

BILL

We need to find her and bring her
back ourselves.

JENNA

We?

BILL

Yes. We. Us. The two people who
loved her most.

There's a pause as BILL waits for JENNA'S response.

JENNA

We'll find her.

INT. HOSPITAL - LATER

BILL and JENNA are looking at their phones when
there's a knock on the door. CDC EMPLOYEE is standing
there with a notebook in hand.

CDC EMPLOYEE

Hello, I'm Daniel Austin. But you
can call me Dan.

JENNA

Jenna.

BILL

There are some who call me...Bill?

CDC EMPLOYEE

A Monty Python fan, I see.

BILL

You get it!

CDC EMPLOYEE

Indeed I do. But I am not here to talk about the Pythons.

JENNA

You're here to discharge me.

CDC EMPLOYEE

Sorry to disappoint you. I am from the CDC and I need to ask you some questions.

BILL

The CDC? Isn't that up in Atlanta?

CDC EMPLOYEE

As soon as we got word about the nature of this infection they sent me down here right away. Now, Lillian's parents suggested I talk to you two about possible vectors for her illness since you are her boyfriend and roommate.

JENNA

What do you want to know for?

CDC EMPLOYEE

Due to the nature of the physiological changes Lillian and the other people who have become infected and how quickly the disease seems to be spreading, we felt it necessary...

JENNA

Other people?

CDC EMPLOYEE

Yes. The ones who were clearly infected by her in the hospital, but we have also isolated other cases around campus. Whatever this is acts quickly.

BILL

I think I know how she got sick.

CDC EMPLOYEE

You do?

BILL

She fell in this creek by campus.

CDC EMPLOYEE

When did that happen?

BILL

The other night. There was this party and I was walking her home. She slipped. I think she swallowed some of the water. She got sick the next day.

JENNA

That night. She was coughing when she got back to our room.

CDC EMPLOYEE

I see, I see. Do you know where to find her? We need to run some tests...

BILL

She's not an experiment.

JENNA

No sir, we don't.

CDC EMPLOYEE

We are well aware of that, but she is patient zero...

JENNA

Her name's Lillian.

CDC EMPLOYEE

Neither of you have to impress her humanity on me. But I also have a responsibility to about those she has already infected and those she could potentially infect.

BILL

I don't know how much more I can help you.

CDC EMPLOYEE

Who else might she have been in contact with?

JENNA

No one. After she got sick she stayed in the room until Bill called 9-1-1.

CDC EMPLOYEE

How have either of you not gotten sick?

JENNA

Good question.

BILL

Maybe because she hasn't bitten us?

JENNA

But you were exposed to the water too, right?

BILL

I didn't drink it.

CDC EMPLOYEE

Could we run some tests on your blood? Perhaps one or both of you have a natural immunity...

JENNA

Anything to help.

BILL

I'm not a science experiment either.

CDC EMPLOYEE
I'm not asking for you to be an
experiment. Just some blood.

BILL
Fine.

CDC EMPLOYEE
My thanks. Someone will be along to
collect the samples.

CDC EMPLOYEE leaves.

JENNA
Cool it, Bill. He's not an enemy.

BILL
Sure as hell ain't our friend.

JENNA
Maybe not. But he has a job to do.

BILL
Some job. I would think you'd get
more upset about the way he was
talking about her.

JENNA
Getting mad at him won't bring us
any closer to finding Lillian. For
now it's easier and faster if we
play along so we can get out of
here and start looking.

BILL
You're right. I wasn't thinking
like that.

JENNA
At least one of us is.

BILL
Already we make a good team.

JENNA
Whatever.

But they share a smile.

INT. HOSPITAL - LATER

NURSE 3 is drawing some blood from JENNA'S arm. BILL already has a bandage wrapped around his elbow.

JENNA

Am I good to go?

NURSE 3

After I finish this up.
Registration already stopped by?

JENNA

A few minutes ago.

BILL

Yes.

NURSE 3

Then you're free to go. If you have any symptoms, dizziness...

JENNA

I know, come back.

NURSE 3

Right. You should be fine. Please be fine. Too many patients here right now. Gonna be a long night.

EXT. HOSPITAL PARKING LOT - SUNSET

JENNA and BILL are walking to JENNA'S car.

BILL

Now what?

JENNA

I drive around while you look on campus?

BILL

Word.

They get in the car.

INT. JENNA'S CAR - MOMENTS LATER

As they pull out of the parking lot and start driving, JENNA turns on the radio.

RADIO DJ (O.C.)

...attack of a student the police are advising everyone to stay in their dorms. Areas of campus are in lockdown and classes have been suspended until Lillian Green has been caught. The police are asking for anyone who has seen her to come forward. Once again surgical masks are being handed out at the Student Health Center to all students...

BILL turns off the radio.

BILL

How they offer you a surgical mask at the health center but tell you to stay in your dorm at the same time? Dumbasses.

JENNA

Turn it back on.

BILL

It's just bullshit.

JENNA

Did you miss the part about an attack?

JENNA turns on the radio but it is playing music now.

JENNA

God dammit Bill.

BILL

Sorry. Wasn't paying attention.

JENNA

Of course you weren't. Of course you missed what could have lead us right to Lillian.

BILL

She's gone by now.

JENNA

You don't know that.

There's a tense moment of silence between.

BILL

Least your group project got cancelled.

JENNA

Would everyone stop talking about the fucking project?

BILL

Sorry.

(Beat)

I'll ask Andre about the attack. I'm sure he knows.

JENNA

You need to pay attention.

BILL

Yeah, yeah.

JENNA gets to campus and pulls up. BILL gets out.

JENNA

Text me.

BILL

Duh.

BILL walks off and JENNA drives away.

INT. DORM ENTRANCE HALL - NIGHT

BILL enters the dorm hall. ANDRE immediately grabs him.

ANDRE

Where have you been?

BILL

Hospital.

ANDRE

Holy shit. Is it true? Did she...

BILL

Yeah.

ANDRE

Dude. Man. What the fuck.

BILL

Right now isn't a good time.

ANDRE

Yeah, you're right. Besides, there's something important you need to know.

BILL

Has someone found her?

ANDRE

No. There's a cop in your room. He wants to ask you some questions.

BILL

Fuck. I don't have time for that.

ANDRE

Make time. I can't let you go anywhere without talking to him first.

BILL

Man...after I deal with that, I gots to ask you what you know. You owe it to me.

BILL walks off to his room.

INT. BILL'S DORM - NIGHT

BILL enters his dorm. BILL'S ROOMMATE is there talking with a POLICE OFFICER.

BILL'S ROOMMATE

And there he is.

POLICE OFFICER

Hello, I'd like to ask you some questions about Lillian Green. This shouldn't take long and then I can get out of your way.

BILL

I'm really not feeling this at the moment.

POLICE OFFICER

Neither am I. My little girl is in a play at school tonight. Right now she is singing a solo she's been practicing all month. But instead of sitting in the audience, I am here trying to find your girlfriend.

BILL'S ROOMMATE

You never talked about having a girlfriend. Isn't that fast after you were all "I can't live without Misty?"

BILL

That was months ago. See what happens when you bury yourself in video games? You miss shit. Life. And even Romeo had his Rosalind before he saw Juliet.

POLICE OFFICER

I'm not here to talk about your Rosalind.

BILL

You're here about Lillian.

POLICE OFFICER

We need to find her. Can you tell me about friends she had? Places she usually went to? That kind of thing.

BILL

No.

POLICE OFFICER

No you don't know or no you are refusing to help me?

BILL

I mean I don't know. She worked in the Library. Most of her classes were in West Hall. Her roommate's Jenna. She would know about friends and other stuff. Go ask her.

POLICE OFFICER

Someone is looking for her, but I'm talking to you right now. Where did you two meet?

BILL

(Beat)

A few months ago. Greenleaf Psychiatric Hospital.

BILL'S ROOMMATE

It all makes sense now, two cuckoos finding love in a cage.

BILL

See, this is why I didn't tell you. We were both going through a rough time.

POLICE OFFICER

I see. Know any enemies she might have had or people she didn't like?

BILL

A girl like Lillian didn't have enemies.

POLICE OFFICER

Everyone has enemies.

BILL

Whatever you say.

POLICE OFFICER

Even if not enemies, there's always someone. Everyone has a teacher they don't like.

BILL'S ROOMMATE

Like Dr. Adams, the College Algebra teacher.

POLICE OFFICER

Did she have Dr. Adams?

BILL

What? No. She liked her teachers.

POLICE OFFICER

Can you tell me anything else?

BILL

Already told you I wouldn't have anything for you.

POLICE OFFICER

Well, I'm sure you've helped me the best you can. Here's my card. My number's right there. If she tries to contact you or you think of anything else, let me know.

BILL

Are you going to arrest her?

POLICE OFFICER

We are just going to act in her best interest. She's a very sick woman and needs to be under the care of a physician.

BILL

What if she attacks more people?

POLICE OFFICER

Then we will have to reassess the situation at that time. But for now we just want her getting the best treatment possible.

BILL

I'm sure.

POLICE OFFICER

Thank you again for your time.

BILL'S ROOMMATE
Hope your daughter did well.

POLICE OFFICER
I'm sure she did. She's been
working hard. Good night.

The POLICE OFFICER leaves.

INT. BILL'S DORM - MOMENTS LATER

BILL
What the hell was that about?

BILL'S ROOMMATE
I was going to ask you the same
thing.

BILL
You had no right...

BILL'S ROOMMATE
You know what your problem is?

BILL
Excuse me?

BILL'S ROOMMATE
You, for whatever reason, instantly
get antagonistic whenever you deal
with someone in authority.

BILL
Well, thank you for your
psychoanalysis Mr. Freud. How much
do I owe you for this therapy
session?

BILL'S ROOMMATE
I'm just trying to help.

BILL
Not wanted and not your place.
Here's a piece of advice from me:
Stay out of other people's
business.

BILL'S ROOMMATE

After dealing with your crazy ass,
I'm starting to think that's a good
idea.

BILL

Fuck you man, I was trying to keep
it civil.

BILL'S ROOMMATE

Try harder.

BILL

I don't have to listen to this. I'm
out.

BILL leaves, slamming the door behind him.

INT. JENNA'S CAR - NIGHT

JENNA pulls over.

JENNA

Not at your home. The mall. The
bookstore. That hole in the wall
Chinese place you like. Damn it.
Just fuck.

JENNA pulls out her phone and starts looking through
some emails.

JENNA

Come on campus updates, news,
fucking twitter, give me something
to go on.

EXT. CAMPUS - NIGHT

BILL is wandering around campus in the general
vicinity of the library. He sits on a bench.

BILL

None of them understand.

He pulls out his phone and looks at the pictures of
LILLIAN.

BILL

Only you. Only you.

Blue and red lights color the pictures. BILL gets up and starts walking towards them.

EXT. CAMPUS LIBRARY - NIGHT

There is an ambulance and police officers are talking with several witnesses in front of the library. The front glass doors are smashed. BILL walks up to the scene as he sees someone, bloody with huge gashes from claws and bites, loaded into the ambulance. Several people are standing around, one of them is LIBRARY EMPLOYEE. BILL taps LIBRARY EMPLOYEE on the shoulder.

LIBRARY EMPLOYEE

You.

BILL

Me. What happened?

LIBRARY EMPLOYEE

Lillian. But she didn't look like herself she was...different.

BILL

Which way did she go?

LIBRARY EMPLOYEE

How the hell should I know? I was hiding under my desk.

BILL

Great. Thanks for not being helpful.

POLICE OFFICER 2

Hey! You there! Library's closed. Go back to your dorm and stay inside.

BILL

Yeah, yeah.

(To Library Employee)

Stay safe.

LIBRARY EMPLOYEE

I'm gonna have one of these fine public servants escort me to my car. And once I'm home I'm gonna hide under my covers. No shame.

BILL

Whatever works.

(Pause)

You may want to stay there for a while.

BILL starts to walk off.

JENNA (O.S.)

Bill!

BILL turns as JENNA runs up to him.

BILL

Too late.

JENNA

Fuck.

BILL

We're not gonna find her.

JENNA

We can't give up. She needs us.

BILL

She could literally be fucking anywhere.

JENNA

We have to try.

JENNA walks back to her car and slams the door shut.

BILL

Wait...

BILL goes up to the car, but JENNA drives off.

BILL

Fuck. She's right. Why she gotta be right?

He heads back off into the night.

EXT. PARTY HOUSE - NIGHT

The house is eerily silent. BILL knocks on the door. It takes a minute, but MICK answers. He's only wearing boxers.

MICK

What the hell dude?

BILL

I didn't think you would be sleeping.

MICK

I do that sometimes. Ugh, come in.

INT. PARTY HOUSE LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

BILL enters the house.

MICK

It's like four in the morning.

BILL

I looked for her.

MICK

Who?

BILL

Lillian.

MICK

Everyone's looking for her.

BILL

I thought I could find her. I thought she would come to me.

MICK

She's wacked out right now.

BILL

It's not her fault she got sick. She's the victim here.

MICK

If you say so. Have you really been out all night looking for her?

BILL

Yeah.

MICK

What are you gonna do if you find her?

BILL

I don't know. All I know is that I have to see her again.

(Pause)

She was dead. Now she ain't. Something brought her back. Maybe she came back for me. To tell me something. I have to know.

MICK

Want a beer?

BILL

I just need a place to sleep.

MICK

You need a beer. After that you can have the couch. I'll be right back.

MICK leaves. After he leaves the room, BILL goes over to the couch and lays down. He immediately falls asleep. MICK comes back with the beer.

MICK

Aw, dude. That much, eh?

MICK downs the beer. He then gets a blanket and covers BILL with it.

INT. JENNA'S CAR - MORNING

JENNA is parked and is asleep in her car. The sun touches her closed eyes. She opens them.

JENNA

The air tastes like death.

JENNA'S phone rings. It's her mom. JENNA declines the call.

INT. PARTY HOUSE LIVING ROOM - MORNING

Sunlight is falling across BILL's face, but he has pulled the hood of his hoodie down over his eyes. MICK, now fully dressed, enters and shakes him awake.

MICK

Dude. Hey. Bill. Bill. Bill.

BILL

Unh...what?

MICK

You need to see this. Come on.

BILL gets up and follows MICK.

INT. MICK'S BEDROOM - MOMENTS LATER

MICK's laptop is sitting on a desk. MICK sits in a chair and turns to BILL.

MICK

This was just shown on the news.

BILL

What was?

MICK

Ready for this?

BILL

Ready for what?

MICK

It's the end of the world.

MICK turns around and presses play on a news video. A reporter is standing in front of the hospital which is surrounded by police and people are running from the front doors.

REPORTER (O.C.)

This is the scene at South Georgia Medical Center, pure chaos as three people pronounced dead and sent to the morgue, one patient and two nurses, stood back up within an hour of dying and began attacking people seemingly at random. This is the fourth such reported case, the first being Lillian Green who has been missing since yesterday. This illness has spread through many of the nurses and doctors who were attending to attending to the infected and thus far there is no effective treatment for it. We are also getting reports of this illness and phenomena spreading outside the hospital. Some religious leaders are saying that this is a sign the end of civilization is near. The CDC is asking for those who have started to show symptoms of coughing and nausea to seek immediate medical attention. Quarantines are also being put in place to try to contain this illness. Everyone is urged to stay indoors until authorities can contain this situation.

The video ends.

MICK

Well?

BILL doesn't say anything.

MICK

She's not your own personal miracle.

BILL

I have to go.

MICK

You actually want to go out there?

BILL just looks at MICK. There's a strength and determination in him that we haven't seen before. BILL'S cell phone rings. He pulls it out. It's ANDRE.

BILL

He never calls. You ever gotten a call from Andre?

MICK

Hell no. Answer it. Living room, shit reception in here.

BILL exits to the living room to answer the phone.

INT. PARTY HOUSE LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

BILL enters the living room and sits on a recliner in a shadowy part of the room.

BILL

Andre, what's up?

ANDRE (O.C.)

Where are you?

BILL

Mick's.

ANDRE (O.C.)

You need to get back on campus.

BILL

Why?

ANDRE (O.C.)

They found her. Well, my girl Diondra did. She was attacked.

BILL

Where? Did she get scratched or bitten?

ANDRE (O.C.)

No, thank god. You know that little pretty garden path by the science center?

BILL

I'm on my way.

ANDRE (O.C.)

You better hurry. The police are already evacuating the area and cordoning it off. Shit's getting real.

BILL

Thanks man.

BILL hangs up and then pauses. He's thinking about what to do. Then he stands, and steps into the main area of the living room, into the daylight coming in from the windows. He pulls out his cell phone and makes a call.

BILL

Hey mom?...I'm ok. I just wanted to call and tell you I love you. You were an amazing mother and the things that happened with me weren't your fault...don't worry mom. It's all going to work out the way it is supposed to...no, I don't want to talk to dad, but tell him I forgive him...I promise, I will take care of myself. I love you mom. Good bye.

BILL hangs up.

BILL

HEY YO MICK!

MICK comes into the living room.

BILL

You still got those fireworks Andre brought the other night?

MICK

Yeah.

BILL

I'm gonna need them. And a ride to campus.

He texts JENNA "Think I found her. I'll meet you at the dorm."

INT. JENNA'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

JENNA'S driving when she gets a text. She glances down.

JENNA

Fuck yeah.

INT. DORM ENTRANCE HALL - DAY

BILL enters the dorm hall. It is crowded with lots of people talking. He is out of breath and sweating. He is also holding a bag. ANDRE spots him.

ANDRE

Bill!

BILL

One sec.

BILL pushes past ANDRE and through the crowd.

INT. BILL'S DORM - MOMENTS LATER

BILL enters his dorm. His roommate is watching the news. He mutes the TV when BILL enters.

BILL'S ROOMMATE

Hey man. Look, about last night...

BILL

It's whatever, man. I'm sorry.

BILL'S ROOMMATE

Are you feeling ok?

BILL

I'm perfectly fine.

BILL'S ROOMMATE

Apologizing just isn't something you do.

BILL

Today it is. You have to give forgiveness to get it, right?

BILL'S ROOMMATE

Maybe you should go to the Student Health Center...

BILL

I'm not sick. Really.

BILL'S ROOMMATE

You're just acting weird.

BILL

Don't worry about it.

BILL goes to his desk and puts his water bottle and deck of Magic the Gathering cards in his hoodie. Then he goes to his closet and pulls out the box. Once he has the box on his desk he pulls the gun out and makes sure it is loaded.

BILL'S ROOMMATE

Dude.

BILL

Whatever you think I'm going to do, you're wrong.

BILL'S ROOMMATE

That's a gun.

BILL

Yes. I need to take care of this.

BILL'S ROOMMATE

How long have you had that here?

BILL

I'm just going to get rid of it off campus before the cops start looking through our stuff.

BILL'S ROOMMATE

Don't lie to me.

BILL

Just trust me.

They share a long look.

BILL'S ROOMMATE

I can't believe I am going to trust you of all people.

BILL

You worry too much. But you've been a good roommate. Take care.

BILL leaves.

INT. DORM ENTRANCE HALL - CONTINUOUS

JENNA walks into the dorm and goes up to ANDRE.

JENNA

Bill around?

ANDRE

Just went to his room.

JENNA

Tell him I'm in mine.

She runs off, rudely pushing people.

ANDRE

The police wanted...

But she's gone.

ANDRE

Crap.

INT. LILLIAN'S DORM - MOMENTS LATER

JENNA enters the dorm. It's quiet. Empty.

JENNA

It's like the air knows you aren't coming back.

JENNA goes over to LILLIAN'S side of the room. On LILLIAN'S desk char is a scarf. She starts moving her hands over LILLIAN'S things as if she will touch them, but doesn't actually. Finally, after going over everything, JENNA goes to the scarf. This she picks up and brings to her face where she inhales deeply.

JENNA

I'm going to find you. I'm going to take you back to the hospital. They will make you better. You will wear this scarf again. You will...

JENNA starts crying.

INT. DORM ENTRANCE HALL - CONTINUOUS

BILL makes his way to ANDRE.

ANDRE

Jenna's in her room.

BILL

Thanks. Any word on Lillian?

ANDRE

Nothin' official yet. But I've been checking out social media. A bunch of students are posting shit about the cops clearing out that part of campus by the park.

BILL

Seriously?

ANDRE

They told everyone to stay inside. So what do those dumbasses do? Crowd around and post shit to see who can get the most likes.

BILL'S phone rings. It's his father. BILL puts his phone back in his pocket without answering.

BILL

So. I know I'm a shit friend.

ANDRE

What?

BILL

Just listen to me, ok? I know I'm a shit friend. But you and Mick were always there for me anyways. So...give this to Mick for me.

BILL hands ANDRE the water bottle.

ANDRE

No man, I can't...

BILL

Take it. Now, give me your other hand. This is for you.

BILL puts the deck of Magic the Gathering cards in ANDRE'S outstretched hand.

BILL

The Angel. She's in there. I don't need her anymore.

ANDRE

You're scaring me.

BILL

Don't be. I know what I have to do now.

JENNA enters.

JENNA

We ready to go?

BILL

Yeah.

ANDRE

Wait...

BILL
Bye, man. Thanks.

BILL and JENNA leave the building while ANDRE stands there, holding BILL'S gifts.

EXT. CAMPUS - MOMENTS LATER

Once outside the dorm, BILL starts looking through his phone.

JENNA
What are you doing? We have to go.

BILL
Checking social media to see where...ah, there. Got it.

BILL holds out the phone for JENNA to see. There is a trend, #lillianattacks, and people are posting about the police having cornered her in the park with the creek she fell in earlier.

JENNA
Come on.

BILL
Wait. We need to plan.

JENNA
Huh?

BILL
You think you can just run up there and get to her? I need you to...

EXT. PARK - DAY

The police have cordoned off the park. There's a large crowd gathered and the police but the police are keeping them back. Separate from the crowd are MAY, BILL'S FATHER, and JENNA'S MOM. JENNA and BILL are running, but stop when they see the parents.

JENNA
Shit.

BILL
Fuck.

Before they can sneak away, MAY spots them.

MAY
There they are.

JENNA'S MOTHER
Where the hell have you been?

JENNA
Mom, what are you doing here?

JENNA'S MOTHER
May needed me. The police have been looking for you.

BILL'S FATHER
And you. I knew I should have just taken you home with me.

BILL
I'm not a child anymore.

JENNA
We've been looking for Lillian.

MAY
Haven't you two done enough?

JENNA'S MOTHER
Is this what you wanted? To cause her more pain?

JENNA
You don't understand.

BILL'S FATHER
You're right and I don't care too. Bill, you're coming with me.

JENNA'S MOTHER
And Jenna, you need to come with me to the police...

BILL
No.

JENNA
no.

BILL'S FATHER
What?

JENNA'S MOTHER
Excuse me?

JENNA
We aren't children anymore.

MAY
Can't you just leave well enough
alone? Isn't it bad enough that
she's turned into a monster and you
two want to...

JENNA
She is not a monster.

BILL
And you have no idea what we want.

MAY
You weren't there at the hospital
when they...

Gun shots ring out. MAY starts to break down but
JENNA'S MOTHER comforts her.

BILL'S FATHER
See what you're doing? Enough.

BILL
Come on, Jenna.

BILL walks off into the crowd. JENNA follows.

BILL'S FATHER
STOP THEM!

But the police are busy and no one in the crowd
listens.

EXT. PARK - MOMENTS LATER

JENNA and BILL are squeezing through the crowd which
has started to move since the gun shots went off. BILL
hands JENNA a firework and a lighter. They both light
off fireworks and drop them in the crowd. People start
to panic and scream, rushing away from the fireworks.
In the confusion, JENNA and BILL slip into the area

the police have blocked off.

EXT. PARK - LATER

Cicadas are buzzing, which gives the air an eerie feel. JENNA and BILL are staying off the path and are somewhat covered by the trees and bushes. They can't see the creek.

JENNA

We should head towards the
gunshots.

BILL

We are. I know this park. Trust me.

They step into a small clearing. A police officer is lying on the ground. He's been mauled and is obviously dead.

BILL

My faerie...
Oh, Lillian.

POLICE OFFICER 3

Freeze!

They turn and see POLICE OFFICER 3 is standing there with his gun pointed at them.

POLICE OFFICER 3

Put your hands behind your head.

BILL

We didn't....

POLICE OFFICER 3

Hands behind your head, now!

BILL and JENNA comply. There is a hissing from the air above them. As POLICE OFFICER 3 talks, there is rustling in the leaves above them.

POLICE OFFICER 3

(Into his radio)

Officer down. I have two suspects
in front of me. Requesting backup.

Blood drips onto POLICE OFFICER 3.

POLICE OFFICER 3

What the...

He looks up. We see LILLIAN. She drops from the tree as POLICE OFFICER 3 fires several rounds at her. None of the bullets hit her head. POLICE OFFICER 3 screams as LILLIAN rips his chest open and eats his heart. As she eats, her wounds close up.

JENNA

My sweet, sweet Lillian.

LILLIAN stops and stares at them.

JENNA

This isn't you.

More police rush into the clearing.

POLICE OFFICER 4

We have you surrounded...

LILLIAN roars and attacks the officers. BILL and JENNA watch, horrified and transfixed at the carnage. Eventually they do start to overwhelm her and she runs off. Even so, only one officer remains standing.

POLICE OFFICER 4

(Into radio)

Uh...situation...Multiple officers down. I repeat, multiple officers down....suspect Lillian...Shoot and kill on sight.

JENNA

You can't!

BILL runs after LILLIAN. JENNA chases after.

EXT. PARK - LATER

JENNA has lost sight of BILL. She is following a trail of blood. It leads to the creek, where LILLIAN fell in earlier. On the other side is BILL and LILLIAN is standing on the fallen tree over the creek. A trail of

blood leads off the side of the creek Bill is on before circling back around to the tree bridge.

BILL

It's ok, you don't have to run from me anymore. We're back here. Where it all went wrong. I tried to ask your forgiveness. I need it. And then you weren't dead anymore. I thought you had come back to tell me you forgive me. But that's not the way it is, is it?

JENNA

Bill!

LILLIAN looks at JENNA.

BILL

It's ok, Jenna. I understand now. My faerie princess. This hurts you. You've always been hurting.

These words seem to calm LILLIAN.

BILL

It's ok. I can make it all go away. If you come to me there won't be anymore pain.

LILLIAN hesitates.

JENNA

It's ok, Lillian. We aren't going to hurt you.

JENNA reaches out her hand. LILLIAN looks from JENNA to BILL several times before stepping towards BILL.

BILL

That's it...no more pain. Come on.

JENNA watches helplessly as BILL pulls LILLIAN into his arms.

BILL

Shh...

BILL strokes LILLIAN'S hair with one arm. As LILLIAN seems to tremble, she might possibly be crying but we don't hear it, BILL pulls out his gun.

JENNA

What are you doing?

BILL

It's almost over.

JENNA

Stop!

BILL shoots LILLIAN in the head. Her body hits the ground. He shoots her head a couple more times. But she's finally dead.

JENNA

LILLIAN!

JENNA runs over. BILL points the gun at her.

JENNA

Why?

BILL

I need you to do something. I need you to tell Misty she was right. Tell her I said "As you wish".

JENNA

Oh my god.

BILL

PROMISE ME!

JENNA

I will, I will, just please don't...

BILL turns the gun towards his own temple. There's a brief pause before he pulls the trigger, spraying JENNA with blood.

EXT. PARK - LATER

JENNA picks up LILLIAN'S body. JENNA'S tears have

washed the blood of her face, but she's stopped crying now. She starts to walk back, carrying LILLIAN'S body but leaving BILL'S behind. As she breaks through the park, the crowd and POLICE OFFICERS all become silent as they see her walking. Behind the crowd is MAY and LILLIAN walks with purpose towards her. The crowd parts for JENNA who places LILLIAN in MAY'S outstretched arms.

THE END

Curriculum Vitae

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EDUCATION

- 2017 *M.A. in Professional Writing*
Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, GA
Thesis: "Patient Zero"
Areas of Concentration: Creative Writing and
Composition
Honors: Summa Cum Laude
- 2013 *B.A. in English*
Valdosta State University, Valdosta, GA
- 2009 *A.A. in General Studies*
Community College of Aurora, Aurora, CO

RELATED EXPERIENCE

- 2016 *Web Designer*
www.lularoemichellerolsen.com
Created and edited content until client
decided to close her business. Linked
website to domain, edited and uploaded
pictures, and maintained a blog for the
client. Still in contact with client.
- 2016 *Web Content Editor*
ProjectFND.org
Provided copyediting and created some pages
for this website while it was still live and
am still in contact with the client.
- 2013-2016 *Computer Repair Technician*
That Computer Chick, Marietta, GA
Instructed and informed customers how to use
Windows based operating systems and
Microsoft Office either in person or over
the phone and remotely logging into the

customer's computer. Specialized in finding driver software. Diagnosed and repaired hardware problems on Desktops, All in One Computers, and Laptops such as replacing cracked screens, regreasing heat sinks, installing new power supplies, and put in new hard drives. Diagnosed and repaired software issues caused by viruses and other malware either through minor fixes such as check disks and cleanups or by performing full reformats. Performed Data Recovery attempts. Reception duties as needed.

PUBLICATIONS

Ramos, Crystal. "Indignity's Worth." *These Fragile Lilacs Poetry Journal*, Vol. 2 Issue 2, <http://www.thesefragilelilacspoetry.com/>. 2016.

Ramos, Crystal. "Best Taste in the World." *The Doctor T. J. Eckleburg Review*, <https://eckleburg.org/works/nonfiction/essays/essays-best-taste-in-the-world/>. 2014.

Ramos, Crystal. "A Kiss of Salt and Iron." *Odradek*, edited by Ashley Daily, Valdosta State University, 2012, pp. 78-85.

Ramos, Crystal. "Even When it Rains." *Odradek*, edited by Rebecca Fussell, Valdosta State University, 2010, pp. 266-267.

LANGUAGES

English - Native language
HTML - Fluent
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PROGRAMS

Proficient in OpenOffice, Libre Office and Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, and Powerpoint). Working knowledge of Quickbooks, GIMP, TeamViewer, Seatools, QT Pro, and File Scavenger. Familiar with the online applications Prezi and Canva. Confident in using the

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