## LAKERIDGE \#305 -- SCENE REPORT

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# STRANGER THINGS 3 

EPISODE \#305
"CHAPTER FIVE: THE FLAYED"
by

Paul Dichter

Directed by
Uta Briesewitz

INT. STARCOURT MALL, SECRET ELEVATOR SHAFT - NIGHT
The elevator continues to plummet out of control.

INT. ELEVATOR - NIGHT
Holding on for dear life, STEVE, DUSTIN, ERICA, ROBIN. SCREAMING.

DUSTIN
(mashing the buttons)
Shit! Shit!
STEVE
We're going down! We're going down!
ROBIN
No shit, Harrington!
DUSTIN
(mashing, screaming)
Why don't these buttons work!?
ERICA
Press the button!
DUSTIN
What do you think I'm doing!?

STEVE
Come on! Press something! Just press the button!

JUST THEN, the elevator comes to an immediate STOP. Boxes fall off the shelves, the kids fall flat. Steve is buried under a pile of boxes.

STEVE (CONT'D)
(distressed)
My groin! It fell on my groin. Dustin, get this off of me!

Dustin goes to help Steve, he struggles with the heavy box.
ROBIN
Is everyone okay?
STEVE
(furious)
Yeah I'm great now that I know Russians can't design elevators! (mashing the buttons)

ROBIN
We've clearly established that those buttons don't work.

STEVE
They're buttons. They have to do something.

ROBIN
Yeah, if we had a key card.
STEVE
A what?
ROBIN
It's an electronic lock. Same as the loading dock door. If we don't have a keycard, it won't operate. Meaning --

DUSTIN
-- we're stuck in here.
ROBIN
Yeah.
ERICA
Just so you nerds are aware, I'm supposed to be spending the night at Tina's, and Tina always covers for me. But if I'm not home for Uncle Jack's party tomorrow, and my mom finds out you three are responsible, she's gonna hunt you down, one by one, and slit your throat.

STEVE
(angry)
I don't care about Tina! Or Uncle Jack's party!
(calmer)
You mom's no going to be able to find us if we're dead in a Russian elevator!

DUSTIN
Hey. What if we climbed out?
Dustin points to a hatch in the ceiling.

INT. ELEVATOR SHAFT - MOMENTS LATER
The hatch door opens. Dustin climbs out. Steve is right behind. They look up, in awe.

STEVE
What were you saying about climbing?

Steve's voice ECHOES as the CAMERA PULLS BACK, GOING UP THE * SHAFT. 2, 3, 4, 10, 15, floors - starting slow, then faster * and faster, until:

EXT. COUNTRY ROAD - NIGHT
Hopper's truck speeds down an empty road.

INT. HOPPER'S TRUCK - NIGHT
HOPPER, JOYCE. Hopper takes a drag from his cigarette. Joyce, sitting beside him, follows a roadmap.

EXT. HESS FARM, DRIVEWAY - NIGHT
The truck pulls in, passing a mailbox with the name HESS painted on the side.

INT. HOPPER'S TRUCK - NIGHT
Pulling in closer to the house:
HOPPER
Looks like somebody's home.

EXT. HESS FARM, DRIVEWAY, PARKING - NIGHT
As the truck parks, we REVEAL A CAR and A LYNX DELIVERY TRUCK. The farm appears to be abandoned. It's dark. Windows are boarded up.

INT. HESS FARM, FRONT DOOR - NIGHT

The door opens, slowly. CREAKING. First, we see Hopper's FLASHLIGHT, then Hopper. He aims his flashlight and REVOLVER and slowly walks in. Joyce is right behind - no gun, but a FLASHLIGHT.

CONTINUED:
SCANNING THE ROOM, we see a TABLE WITH A TEA CUP ON TOP. The cup hasn't been sitting here for very long. It's too clean, too white. A SOFA sits nearby. An ASHTRAY on one of the arms with TWO HALF-SMOKED CIGARETTES. This place is not abandoned.

LOW FREQUENCY HUM
JOYCE
Did you hear that?
Hopper says nothing. He and Joyce walk toward the sound. Hopper's flashlight and revolver are leading the way - hand over hand.

INT. HESS FARM, FOYER - NIGHT
An OVERHEAD LIGHT FLICKERS and PULSES as Hopper and Joyce enter the room. Hopper shines his light toward the front door. Nothing there.

INT. HESS FARM, BEDROOM - NIGHT
Hopper and Joyce continue walking toward the LOW REQUENCY HUM and pass under another OVERHEAD LIGHT. It, too, PULSES in synchronicity with the HUM. Hopper walks to the other side of the room.

HOPPER
(softly)
Where's that coming from?
Joyce pauses at the foot of a MURPHY BED. There's a VENTILATION COVER on the wooden base. Joyce bends down and * puts her ear to the floor.

JOYCE
(whispers)
It's below us.
Hopper lowers his flashlight and revolver and glances over to Joyce. She notices A SOFT ORANGE LIGHT coming through slits of the ventilation plate. The light BRIGHTENS with the hum before dying out. The hum stops. It's dark.

INT. HESS FARM, BEDROOM - MOMENTS LATER
Hopper and Joyce lift the Murphy bed, REVEALING A SECRET STAIRCASE to the basement. Hopper pulls his revolver.

EXT. COUNTRY ROAD - NIGHT
GRIGORI, on his MOTORCYCLE, SPEEDS PAST.

EXT. HESS FARM, DRIVEWAY - NIGHT
Grigori drives past the mailbox and toward the house; making no effort to be discreet.

INT. HESS FARM, BASEMENT, BOTTOM OF THE STAIRS - NIGHT
The basement is nothing like you've ever seen before. It's more like a high-tech staging area, but for what? As Hopper and Joyce get to the bottom of the stairs, a CLANG draws them in a different direction.

## MACHINE ROOM

TWO MEN are working on a piece of machinery. They're speaking RUSSIAN. One of the men is DR. ALEXEI. The other - a MECHANIC.

HOPPER
Hey, dipshits!
The men drop their tools and stand.
HOPPER (CONT'D)
Hawkins PD. Hands in the air.
Dr. Alexei steps forward, putting himself between Hopper's gun and the Mechanic. The flashlight beam lighting up Alexei's confused face.

HOPPER (CONT'D)
Don't make me say it again!
MECHANIC \#1
(in Russian, nervous, to Alexei)
Is this the American police?
HOPPER
English! You speak English?
Alexei tries to calm the situation.
ALEXEI
(in Russian, calm)
Sir, please. Lower your gun.

HOPPER
(enunciating)
I can't understand you!

ALEXEI
(in Russian)
We didn't do anything bad. We didn't do anything illegal, we're just a couple of mechanics.

ALEXEI (CONT'D)
(in Russian)
Mechanic! Mechanic!
THUDDING FOOTSTEPS from above. Grigori.
JOYCE
Hopper!
Joyce and Hopper look toward the thudding.

INT. HESS FARM, FOYER - NIGHT
HOPPER (CONT'D) No understand!

GRIGORI walks across the room and to the stairs. He's ARMED WITH AN ASSAULT RIFLE. His heavy frame making the floor boards creak.

INT. HESS FARM, BEDROOM - NIGHT
GRIGORI enters the bedroom and notices the secret staircase uncovered.

INT. HESS FARM, BASEMENT, BOTTOM OF THE STAIRS - NIGHT
Grigori slowly comes down the stairs, alert and ready.

INT. HESS FARM, BASEMENT, ANTECHAMBER - NIGHT
MUFFLED VOICES draw Grigori over to where Alexei and the Mechanic were moments ago. Grigori notices some movement on the other side of the machine. The Mechanic is tied and gagged. He's trying to warn Grigori about --

HOPPER
Don't move!
The feel Hopper's cold steel revolver pressed against the back of Grigori's skull is enough to make him obey - for now.

HOPPER (CONT'D)
Drop the gun.
Grigori does not comply. He's colder than the lifeless gun.
HOPPER (CONT'D)
DROP IT!
Nothing.
HOPPER (CONT'D)
You understand what I'm saying, big guy? Drop the weapon.

GRIGORI
(English)
Or what?
(smirks)
You going to shoot?
HOPPER
Good. So you do understand what I'm saying, huh? And yeah, you don't put that thing away, I'm gonna blow some daylight into that thick skull of yours.

GRIGORI
No. You won't do that.
HOPPER
Why's that?
GRIGORI
Because you're a policeman. Policemen have rules.

## HOPPER

Yeah?
(pulls the hammer back)
Wanna test that theory? I'm going to count to three. One -- TWO -THREE!

The moment Hopper fires his weapon, he is disarmed. Grigori and Hopper grapple. Hopper's gun slides across the floor. As Hopper grabs Grigori from behind, Grigori's rifle fires, spraying bullets everywhere until it's empty. Hopper knocks the rifle from Grigori's grip. Now, it's hand-to-hand combat. Grabbing a nearby wrench, Hopper kneecaps Grigori.

CONTINUED: (2)
JOYCE
(holding Hopper's revolver)
Hopper!
Joyce throws Hopper's gun to him, but it goes past - way past - Hopper and slides to a stop beside Grigori! Hopper and Joyce take off running, dodging bullets from Hopper's own gun.

ANTECHAMBER, PIPES
Alexi is handcuffed to some machinery. Hopper uncuffs Alexei, but only one bracelet. The other, Hopper cuffs to his own wrist.

HOPPER
Come on, Smirnoff. You're coming with us.

BACK TO GRIGORI
Grigori throws aside Hopper's spent pistol and reaches for his assault rifle. Joyce, Hopper and Alexei run past and up * the stairs. Grigori reloads, and opens fire - continuously. *

INT. HESS FARM, BEDROOM - NIGHT 20

Joyce, Hopper and Alexei emerge from the basement. Hopper quickly lowers the Murphy bed. Bullet's pierce the mattress. Foam, feathers, mattress shrapnel and bullets fly everywhere.

INT. HESS FARM, BASEMENT, BOTTOM OF THE STAIRS - NIGHT
Grigori stops at the bottom and continues firing up the stairs like a madman - yelling with RAGE.

INT. HESS FARM, BEDROOM - NIGHT
Hopper pushes a heavy bookshelf down on to the bed.
HOPPER
Let's go! Let's go!

INT. HESS FARM, FOYER - NIGHT
Joyce leads the way. Hopper and Alexi - cuffed to each other - *

* are right behind. - are right behind.

HOPPER
Move it, Smirnoff! Move it!

INT. HESS FARM, BASEMENT, BOTTOM OF THE STAIRS - NIGHT 24
Grigori limps up the stairs.

EXT. HESS FARM, DRIVEWAY - NIGHT
HOPPER
Joyce! Drive!
Joyce, Hopper and Alexei run to Hopper's truck. Hopper tosses Joyce the keys. Joyce fumbles with the keys.

JOYCE
Are you kidding me?
HOPPER
Come on, Joyce! Quit screwing around!

INT. HESS FARM, BEDROOM - NIGHT
At the top of the stairs, Grigori is using every bit of strength he has to lift the Murphy bed. He's using his back as leverage. He's straining.

INT. HOPPER'S TRUCK - NIGHT
Hopper and Alexei are in the back. Joyce in the driver's seat. She's trying to find the ignition key, nervously looking at each key.

HOPPER
Joyce, drive!
JOYCE
I'm trying!
HOPPER
Joyce, please, DRIVE!

INT. HESS FARM, BEDROOM - NIGHT 28

With one final screaming push, Grigori forces the bed and the * shelf to give way. He stands tall at the top of the secret stairs.

EXT. HESS FARM, DRIVEWAY - NIGHT
Joyce gets the engine started. She floors it. The truck peels out of the driveway.

EXT. HESS FARM, FRONT DOOR - NIGHT
Grigori kicks open the front door. Pieces of the frame splinter. As the truck drives away, Grigori opens fire marching forward.

INT. HOPPER'S TRUCK - NIGHT
Bullets fly past. Joyce ducks.

EXT. HOPPER'S TRUCK - NIGHT
Bullets riddle the side of the truck. The engine starts to smoke. The back window shatters.

EXT. HESS FARM, PORCH - NIGHT
Grigori fires ceaselessly at the fleeing truck as he walks down the porch stairs and across the lawn. One part Rambo, one part Terminator.

EXT. HESS FARM, MAILBOX/COUNTRY ROAD - NIGHT
Joyce drives through the mail box and onto the road.

EXT. HESS FARM, LAWN - NIGHT
Grigori is out of bullets.

INT. HOPPER'S TRUCK - NIGHT
HOPPER
Still think it was our government?
No response from Joyce. She's in shock.

EXT. HESS FARM, LAWN - NIGHT
Grigori limps forward, hoisting his rifle onto his shoulder. He stops and scowls as Hopper's truck disappears into the night.

CUT TO:

BLACK

## OPENING CREDITS

EFFECTS IN:

## CHAPTER FIVE: THE FLAYED

INT. BYERS' HOME, KITCHEN - MORNING
The BLUE WALL PHONE rings. Once. Twice.

INT. JONATHAN'S BEDROOM - MORNING
JONATHAN, hung over, is sleeping. On the THIRD RING, he stirs awake. Groggy. He looks at the CLOCK on his nightstand. 5:48am. FOURTH RING.

JONATHAN
(to himself
God! Shut up!
(buries head in pillow)

INT. BYERS' HOME, KITCHEN - MORNING 39

FIFTH RI --. It doesn't finish. A silence falls through the house. Then:

RING.

INT. JONATHAN'S BEDROOM - MORNING
Head still buried in his pillow, Jonathan muffles an angry scream.

INT. BYERS' HOME, KITCHEN - MORNING
Jonathan answers.

JONATHAN
Hello?

EXT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL - MORNING
At a PHONE BOOTH. INTERCUT.
NANCY
Jonathan?
JONATHAN
Do you realize what time it is?
NANCY
Listen to me, okay?
JONATHAN
It's six a.m., and, I had a late night with Fagin and the gang, so --

NANCY
-- I'm at the hospital with Driscoll.

JONATHAN
What?
NANCY
She's been sedated for a few hours and the doctors are still running tests.

JONATHAN
Nancy, please tell me you're joking.

NANCY
(increasingly angry) I'm insane and irrational and out of touch, but you can save your lecture, because I really don't give a shit right now. I just ... (regains composure)
I need you to put me on the phone right now with your brother.

JONATHAN
What?
NANCY
Jonathan ... please.

JONATHAN
He's not even here.
NANCY
Where is he? Is he safe?
JONATHAN
(concerned)
Why wouldn't he be safe?
Nancy says nothing.
JONATHAN (CONT'D)
Nancy? Why wouldn't he be safe?

EXT. FORESTED AREA, HOPPER'S TRUCK - DAY
Hopper is under the hood, leaning over the seized engine.
HOPPER
Son of a bitch!
Nearby, Joyce is trying to communicate with Alexei - who is handcuffed to a tree. She's holding two rocks.

JOYCE
Okay, a magnet? Magnets? Do you know magnet? Magnet?

ALEXEI
Mag-neet.
JOYCE
Yes, magneet!
(Alexei smiles)
Okay, so, magneet -- my fridge, my ice-box, and then they --

Joyce drops the "magnets."
JOYCE (CONT'D)
-- they fell. They demagnetized, stopped working. Do you understand?

ALEXEI
Da.
JOYCE
Okay, so is that because of the machines that you're working on?

ALEXEI
Machina.

JOYCE
Machnina, machina, yes.
(imitates a running machine)

ALEXEI
Da, da, machina. (he points to Hopper's truck)
Vroom. Vroom.
JOYCE
Oh, not -- not the car. The machines at Hess Farm where -where we kidnapped you --

HOPPER
Joyce! Please! You're giving me a headache, both of you!

JOYCE
(walking to Hopper)
Hey! I am making progress.
HOPPER
Progress?
JOYCE
Yeah.
HOPPER
What have you learned? You learned that Smirnoff over there --

JOYCE
Alexei.
HOPPER
Smirnoff is Russian and works for Starcourt, two things we already knew.

JOYCE
Thought we knew, but now we knowknow, because I've confirmed them. You're welcome.

HOPPER
Yeah? Why don't you confirm whether this baby'll start, huh?
(tosses Joyce the keys)
Keep it in park, please.

JOYCE
(getting in)
Yeah, duh!
(mutters)
Do something useful. You do something useful.

Joyce tries to start the truck. It doesn't turn over.
JOYCE (CONT'D)
It's not working.
HOPPER
Try it again.
She does. But nothing. The engine sputters.
HOPPER (CONT'D)
Shit.
Hopper steps onto the bumper to get a closer look inside the engine. Joyce continues trying to start the engine. She steps on the gas. An ELECTRICAL SPARK catches Alexei's attention.

ALEXEI
Hey! Hey! Stop. Stop!
HOPPER
Shut up, Smirnoff!
ALEXEI
(in Russian)
You don't understand! If you turn on the car it will blow up --

HOPPER
(walking to Alexei)
Awe, come on! Are you deaf! I said shut your damn --

POOF! The engine catches fire. A plume of black smoke. Joyce is still in the driver's seat.

JOYCE
Shit!
HOPPER
Oh, Jesus.
Joyce jumps out of the truck just moments before the engine explodes into a huge ball of flames. Alexei and Hopper stare at the wreckage wide-eyed. Then:

CONTINUED: (3)

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(3)
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ALEXEI
(in English, with attitude)
Stop.
ext. FORESTED AREA - DAY
Joyce, Hopper and Alexei, having abandoned the truck, hike through the thick forest. Alexei is handcuffed, hands in front.

JOYCE
I thought this friend of yours lived in Illinois.

HOPPER
He's not really a friend. More like an acquaintance.

Alexei struggles with a buzzing fly around his head and is lagging behind.

JOYCE
Okay, well --
HOPPER (CONT'D)
(noticing Alexei)
Hey, hey, keep up.
JOYCE (CONT'D)
Okay, so this acquaintance lives in Illinois? Correct?

EXT. FORESTED AREA - DAY
Alexei is now out front.
HOPPER
Yeah.
JOYCE
So we're walking to Illinois?
HOPPER
(sarcastic, tight)
Yeah, yeah. We're gonna walk to Illinois. You know, I figure we'll get there by, like, Friday evening. I hope that works with your schedule Jesus Christ, Joyce. We're not walking to Illinois, okay?

JOYCE
Then what are we doing?

HOPPER
I don't know, okay -- I will figure something out.

JOYCE
Isn't there someone in Indiana who speaks Russian --

HOPPER
You know what? I'm all ears, Joyce.
(grabs Alexei and marches forward)
I'm all ears!
Then, as Hopper lets go of Alexei and swats away bugs ... 46
ALEXEI FADES AWAY INTO A BALL OF DUST. BLACKNESS overtakes the forest. Hopper is ...

INT. BLACK VOID
...alone, and still swatting away bugs. Except, Hopper doesn't know that he's alone and in the BLACK VOID. To him, nothing has changed. But ...

ELEVEN, from a distance, is watching Hopper trudge away.

INT. MIKE'S BASEMENT - DAY
Eleven is blindfolded. Blood drips from her LEFT NOSTRIL.
ELEVEN
I found him.
MIKE, WILL, MAX, AND LUCAS are there.
MAX
Where is he?
ELEVEN
Woods.
LUCAS
Woods?
ELEVEN
He's there with -- Will's mom.
WILL
(alarmed)
My mom?

MAX
What are they doing?
ELEVEN
Ill ... annoy. They're going to Ill-a-nnoy.

KAREN WHEELER (O.S.)
Mike! Breakfast!
MIKE
NOT NOW, MOM!
(to Eleven)
Illinois? Illinois, like the state?
Eleven removes her blindfold. Blood flowing stronger from her nose.

MIKE (CONT'D)
The state of Illinois?
ELEVEN
(shrugs)
Ill-a-noy.

INT. MIKE'S BASEMENT BATHROOM - DAY
At the sink, Max is cleaning the blood from beneath Eleven's nose. Eleven touches the bruise on her neck.

MAX
Does it still hurt?
ELEVEN
Only when I talk.
MAX
Well, it's a good think you're not Mike, then. -- Blah, blah, blah, blah. And you'd be in constant pain.

They laugh.

INT. MIKE'S BASEMENT - DAY
MIKE
Something's not right. I can't get Hopper off my back all summer, now all of a sudden he's hiking with Will's mom to Illinois?
(MORE)

MIKE (CONT'D)
And Dustin's MIA, too? I mean, this can't be a coincidence.

LUCAS
What does it matter? The bottom line is, they're not here. It's up to us --

MIKE
Up to us to do what exactly?
LUCAS
Find Billy and stop him.
MIKE
That's a really nice sentiment, but even if El could find him again, and that's a pretty big if, then what?

LUCAS
We burn the shit out of him and make sure he doesn't escape this time.

MIKE
Okay, then what?
LUCAS
Then we win.
MIKE
No. See, that's the problem. We don't. We don't win. We got the Mind Flayer out of Will before and just came right back. We don't just have to stop Billy, we have to stop the Mind Flayer.

LUCAS
How in the hell do we do that?
MIKE
I don't know.
WILL
Maybe El does.
They all look at the closed bathroom door.
MIKE
What are they still doing in there?

CONTINUED: (2)
LUCAS
Girls just like hanging out in bathrooms.

MIKE
(annoyed)
Why?

LUCAS
I don't know.
MIKE
They're conspiring against me.
WILL
(really annoyed)
That's what you're concerned about now?

MIKE
It's not my main concern -- it's just a sub-concern.

WILL
I thought it was already over.
MIKE
It's not over, okay? We're just taking a break.

WILL
She said she dumped your ass. That doesn't sound like a break.

MAX (O.S.)
It wasn't!

INT. MIKE'S BASEMENT BATHROOM - DAY
MAX
You guys do realize we can still hear everything you're saying, right?

Max and El laugh.

INT. MIKE'S BASEMENT - DAY

MIKE
(whispers)
Told you. They're conspiring.

KNOCK.
MIKE (CONT'D)
NOT NOW, MOM!
NANCY (O.S.)
Mike, open the door.

INT. MIKE'S BASEMENT, TOP OF THE STAIRS - DAY
Mike opens the door to find Nancy and Jonathan standing there.

INT. ELEVATOR SHAFT - DAY
Back at the Soviet bunker beneath Starcourt, Dustin is using his WALKIE to radio for help. He's pacing along the elevator's roof.

DUSTIN
(into the walkie)
Code red, I repeat code red. This is a code red, I repeat, a code red. Does anyone copy? We're innocent children and we are trapped under Starcourt Mall. The Red Army has infiltrated Hawkins and if we are found, they will torture and kill us.

STEVE
Hey! You gotta take it easy on that thing. Gonna drain the battery.

DUSTIN
The mall just opened.
STEVE
So?
DUSTIN
So someone could be in range.
STEVE
Whatdya think, Petey the Mall Cop is gonna rappel down here and save the day?

DUSTIN
All right, why are you such a cranky pants after --
(whispering)
(MORE)

DUSTIN (CONT'D)
-- getting to spend the night with Robin?

STEVE
Shhhhhh! Jesus Christ. Will you just give up already on your creepy dream?

DUSTIN
I heard you guys talkin' all night.
STEVE
Yeah, we were trying to figure out a way to open up the door while you children were sleeping. After eight hours, we're still exactly nowhere, which is, you know probably just a little but of the reason why I'm feeling just -- a tad cranky.

Steve walks over to a corner. Pee break.
DUSTIN
(aghast)
What are you doing?
STEVE
What's it look like I'm doin? I'm takin a leak. Look away. LOOK AWAY!

INT. ELEVATOR - DAY
Robin notices a stream of pee flowing down the wall.
ROBIN
Can you redirect your stream, please?

INT. ELEVATOR SHAFT - DAY
Steve shifts his feet.

INT. ELEVATOR - DAY
The pee stream moves off to the side, but continues its relentless assault of the wall. Robin is clearly disgusted.

Nearby, Erica is carelessly banging a CYLINDER OF RADIOACTIVE * GOO (KEY FUEL) on the side of a METAL DRUM.

ROBIN
Hey, hey! Be careful. (grabs the cylinder)
We don't even know what that is.

ERICA
Exactly. It could be useful.
ROBIN
Useful, how?
ERICA
We can survive down here a long time without food, but if the human body doesn't get water, it will die.

ROBIN
I hate to break it to you, but this is not water.

ERICA
No, but it's a liquid, and if it comes down to me drinking that shit, or dying of thirst, I drink.

A WHIRRING sound catches Robin's attention. She puts her ear to the wall of the elevator and listens.

INT. ELEVATOR SHAFT - DAY
Robin sticks her head up through the hatch.
ROBIN
We've got company.

INT. DEATH STAR HALLWAY - DAY
TWO UNIFORMED RUSSIAN WORKERS (non-military) are driving a
FLATBED CART down the long hallway. They drive into an ANTECHAMBER and park.

INT. ELEVATOR ANTECHAMBER - DAY
On the wall beside the elevator door, one of the workers inserts his KEYCARD in the reader. The elevator door opens.

INT. ELEVATOR - DAY
The elevator appears vacant. The two workers enter, but one of the men stops and sniffs the air.

WORKER \#1
(in Russian)
Smell that?
WORKER \#2
(in Russian)
What?
WORKER \#1
(in Russian)
Piss.
Worker \#2 sniffs the air, shrugs his shoulders, then and carries a box to the flatbed cart.

INT. ELEVATOR SHAFT - DAY
Steve is watching the men through a grated ceiling panel. The others are sitting around it, quietly. Steve motions for quiet, before locking eyes with Erica. She's holding the cylinder of radioactive fuel.

INT. ELEVATOR ANTECHAMBER - DAY
Having finished loading boxes onto the cart, the two men drive off.

As the elevator door closes, Steve hops down with the cylinder in his hand. He dives to the floor, placing the cylinder beneath the closing door, jamming it open a crack.

INT. ELEVATOR - DAY
STEVE
Let's go!
Erica first, then Dustin crawl out. The cylinder begins to buckle under the weight of the door. Robin quickly crawls out.

INT. ELEVATOR ANTECHAMBER - DAY
Steve crawls through, paying close attention to the cylinder as a spiderweb of cracks spread across the glass.

Steve slips under the door to safety just before the cylinder breaks and the liquid inside splatters. The door slams shut.

STEVE
Jesus Christ.
The glowing-green liquid is corroding the floor.
ROBIN
(to Erica)
You still wanna drink that?
Dustin glances over his shoulder.
DUSTIN
Holy mother of God.

INT. ELEVATOR ANTECHAMBER - DAY
They all turn to face the long Death Star tunnel that goes to * a vanishing point.

STEVE
Well. I hope you guys are in good shape.

Steve cuts between Robin and Dustin, patting Dustin on the shoulder as he walks by:

STEVE (CONT'D)
Looking at you, roast beef.

EXT. WHEELER HOME - DAY
A lone sprinkler is doing its duty.

INT. MIKE'S BASEMENT - DAY
NANCY
It was the same thing, the exact same thing that happened to Will last year.
(showing Driscoll's medical chart)
And look at this. Look at the body temperatures.

Will is the first to see it. Driscoll's body temperature is $95^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ - and dropping. The normal temperature for an adult is $98.6^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$.

WILL
He likes it cold.
MIKE
Okay, so this crazy old woman who was eating fertilizer --

NANCY
Mrs. Driscoll...
MIKE
Right, Mrs. Driscoll. What time was this attack?

NANCY
Last night.
MIKE
Right, but what time last night?
NANCY
Around nine.
JONATHAN
You waited all night to call?
NANCY
I was waiting for the doctors to run some tests.

WILL
You weren't there?
JONATHAN
Well, I'm here now, aren't I?
NANCY
Hallelujah.
LUCAS
(winces)
Ooh.
NANCY
(regains composure)
So, what time was your ... sauna test?

EL, MAX, MIKE, WILL
Around nine.
NANCY
Well, that proves it. That proves my theory.
27.

MIKE
She's flayed, just like Billy.
JONATHAN
Flayed?
MIKE
The Mind Flayer. He flays people. Takes over their mind. Once they do that, they basically become him.

LUCAS
If there are two flayed --
WILL
We have to assume there are more.
ELEVEN
Heather. Billy was doing something to her.

## FLASHBACK:

INT. BLACK VOID
Billy kneeling beside Heather, his back turned to an approaching El.

INT. MIKE'S BASEMENT - DAY
ELEVEN
She was scared. She was screaming.

## FLASHBACK:

INT. BRIMBORN STEELWORKS - NIGHT
HEATHER HOLLOWAY, on her back, is tied up. She SCREAMS.

INT. MIKE'S BASEMENT - DAY

69

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70
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ELEVEN
Bad screams.
LUCAS
What's a good scream?
ELEVEN
Max said --

MAX
Doesn't matter.
NANCY
I'm sorry, I'm lost. Who is Heather?

MAX
She's a lifeguard at the pool.
NANCY
Heather Holloway?
The kids nod. Nancy and Jonathan look at each other. Then:
NANCY (CONT'D) JONATHAN
Tom.
Tom.

EXT. WHEELER HOME, DRIVEWAY - DAY
The group come out of the garage and all hop into the Wheeler Wagon. Nancy driving, Jonathan in the passenger seat. Max, Eleven and Lucas are the first to get in the back seat. Which * leaves ...

MIKE
Seriously?
WILL
Welcome to my world.

INT. WHEELER WAGON - DAY
Will and Mike reluctantly get into the Wagon's trunk seats. Nancy glances behind her:

NANCY
Seat belts.
The kids do as they're told.

EXT. WHEELER HOME, DRIVEWAY - DAY
Throwing it into reverse, Nancy clumsily backs up - taking out the kids' bicycles in the process.

EXT. WHEELER HOME, DRIVEWAY, MAPLE STREET - DAY
Nancy and the Wheeler Wagon tear out of the driveway.

EXT. FORESTED AREA, HOPPER'S TRUCK - DAY
Hopper's truck is a smoldering wreck. Black smoke billows from the engine. Grigori approaches the vehicle. He takes a moment to inspect the damage before turning and scanning the forest. He notices something. He walks a few steps forward, crouches down, and hovers his hand over a fresh footprint in the soil.

EXT. FORESTED AREA - DAY
Alexei, Hopper and Joyce, looking exhausted, continue trekking through the forest.

JOYCE
Oh, my God, can you not walk so close?

HOPPER
What?
JOYCE
Can you not walk so close to me, you stink.

HOPPER
(chuckles)
I get it, I get it. You're upset right?
(sniffs armpits)
Cause I blew up the car?
JOYCE
Yeah, with me in it.
HOPPER
Well, I just want to remind you of something, Joyce. I am not a mechanic.

JOYCE
Yeah, clearly. That's why you should have listened to Alexei.

HOPPER
Oh, right, yeah. You're new boyfriend.

EXT. FORESTED AREA - DAY
JOYCE
Yes, every man $I$ talk to from now on has to be my boyfriend.

They stop walking to argue more -- Alexei keeps going.
HOPPER
Yeah, he reminds me a bit of a Russian Scott Clarke.

JOYCE
Oh, here we go.
Hopper bends down, eye level with Joyce. Perfect example of how NOT to talk to someone.

HOPPER
Maybe you should go on a date. I don't know, I'm thinking, like Enzo's?

Suddenly, Alexei runs past. Hopper doesn't notice, but Joyce does.

JOYCE
(not at all concerned)
Whoa.
HOPPER
What?

JOYCE
He's running.
Hopper glances over his shoulder to see Alexei awkwardly running the opposite direction - still handcuffed.

HOPPER
Sonofabitch!
Hopper gives chase. Joyce does as well, except with a lot less gusto.

EXT. FORESTED AREA - DAY

HOPPER
Hey, Smirnoff! Get back here.
ALEXEI
Da. Da!
ext. FORESTED AREA - DAY
HOPPER
Hey! C'mere.
ALEXEI
(giggles)

EXT. CLEARING, BY THE ROAD - DAY
Alexei stops at the edge of a small hill, looking straight ahead and smiling.

ALEXEI
(in Russian)
Look! Come look!
Hopper catches up, as does Joyce. Alexei is giddy and can barely contain his joy.

EXT. 7-ELEVEN - DAY
Like an oasis in the Sahara.

INT. 7-ELEVEN, FRONT AREA - DAY84

The trio enter the store. Alexei glances around in awe. So many choices!

INT. 7-ELEVEN, COOLERS - DAY
Hopper reaches in to a cooler and pulls out a can of JOLT COLA. He cracks it open and wastes no time gulping it down. Joyce prefers a SUGAR FREE TAB. And Alexei's choice of thirst quencher: NEW COKE. He has to use two hands to hoist the soda * can to his parched lips - he's still handcuffed.

RICKY (O.S.)
You gonna pay for those?
They look to the cashier.

INT. 7-ELEVEN, CASH COUNTER - DAY
RICKY, late teens, PART-TIME 7-ELEVEN CASHIER/SMARTASS is munching on SKITTLES and doing a CROSSWORD. Ricky eyes the trio with suspicion.

BACK TO COOLERS

Hopper lets out an impunitive BURP, Joyce ignores the kid, * and Alexei smugly smiles back at Ricky before gulping the rest of his refreshing beverage.

INT. 7-ELEVEN, CASH COUNTER - DAY
Hopper slams down a 6-PACK NEW COKE, SMALL BAG OF PORK RINDS, * MEAT STICKS, HIGHWAY MAP OF ILLINOIS 1983-84, and a CARTON OF CAMEL CIGARETTES. Ricky totals it up. Hopper glances over to Alexei.

INT. 7-ELEVEN, SLURPEE MACHINE - DAY
Using one hand to engage the machine, and the other to tastetest, Alexei helps himself to a sampling of CHEERY SLURPEE.

INT. 7-ELEVEN, CASH COUNTER - DAY
RICKY
So what are you, some kinda bounty hunter?

HOPPER
I'm a cop.
Ricky doesn't believe him.
HOPPER (CONT'D)
I'm undercover.
While Ricky continues to tally the bill, Hopper looks outside and notices a MAN driving a YELLOW CONVERTIBLE pulling in for gas.

EXT. 7-ELEVEN, PAYPHONE - DAY
Joyce is at a PAYPHONE.
90
*
JOYCE
Oh, hey, Karen, it's Joyce. I'm just checking on Will. At the movies?

EXT. 7-ELEVEN - DAY
Hopper forces Alexei out the door of the shop. Alexei is carrying -- with both hands -- a massive CHERRY SLURPEE.

CONTINUED:
Hopper has Alexei with one hand, the other carrying the items from 7-Eleven, and he's got a meat stock in his mouth - still half-wrapped. They're heading for the convertible.

HOPPER
(to Alexei)
Just keep your mouth shut, all right?

EXT. 7-ELEVEN, GAS PUMPS - DAY
Hopper loads Alexei into the convertible while the car's owner pumps gas.

HOPPER
All right, hop in. Come on, get in.
MAN
Hey!
HOPPER
Hey!
MAN
Hey!
HOPPER
You hey!
(the man stops before Hopper)
You hey! This is a police emergency, all right?
(flashes his wallet)
I need to commandeer your vehicle.
MAN
What?
PHONE BOOTH
JOYCE
(talking to Karen)
As long as there's a --
(she sees what's happening with Hopper)

GAS PUMPS
HOPPER
What is your name, sir?
MAN
Todd.

HOPPER
Todd?
TODD
Yeah.
Hopper disengages the gas pump and replaces the hose.
HOPPER
Toooooodddddd.
TODD
Todd.
HOPPER
Todd. Listen to me. That man in there --
(referring to Alexei)
I know he doesn't look it, but he is one of the most dangerous men in the world.

Alexei, sipping his Slurpee, is pure bliss right now.
HOPPER (CONT'D)
He's murdered many children.
TODD
What?
HOPPER
(gently shoves Todd away, with the empty meat wrapper)
Yeah, he's a true psychopath. I tracked him over two state lines.

JOYCE
Hey, what's going on?
HOPPER
Ah - Detective Byers. This is Todd.
Joyce is awkwardly playing along.
HOPPER (CONT'D)
He's agreed to -- lend us his vehicle to transport our dangerous criminal.

JOYCE
(gets in the convertible)
Oh yes, he's -- very dangerous --forger-er-er.

I/E. CONVERTIBLE - DAY
JOYCE
(lowered voice, confused)
Child murderer?
Hopper gets in.
HOPPER
We should really get going.
TODD
How do $I$ get my car back?
HOPPER
Just call the station.
(starts the car)
TODD
What station?
HEAVY METAL MUSIC blares.
HOPPER
Oooh, I like the sound of that, Todd!
(puts it in gear)
TODD
WHAT STATION!?
HOPPER
You're doing the right thing.

EXT. 7-ELEVEN, GAS PUMPS - DAY 94
FROM BEHIND:
Hopper speeds off. The Indiana license plate reads: TODFTHR.
Todd can only watch his beloved Yellow Cadillac Convertible, * the Todfthr, speed away without him.

TODD
Dude! (angry)

INT. DEATH STAR HALLWAY - DAY
Dustin, Robin, Steve and Erica are making the trek down the long, very long hallway.

DUSTIN
You have to admit as a feat of engineering alone, this is impressive.

STEVE
What are you talking about, it' a total fire hazard. There's no stairs, there's no exit, there's just an elevator that drops you halfway to hell.

ERICA
They're Commies. You don't pay people, they cut corners.

ROBIN
To be fair to our Russian comrades, I don't think this tunnel was designed for walking. Think about it, they developed the perfect system for transporting that cargo.

DUSTIN
It all comes into the mall like any old delivery.

ROBIN
And then they load it up onto those trucks and nobody's the wiser.

STEVE
You think they built this whole mall so they can transport that green poison?

DUSTIN
I very seriously doubt its something as boring as poison. It's gotta be much more valuable, like promethium or something.

Dustin is speaking Robin's language.
STEVE
What the hell is promethium?

ROBIN
It's what Victor Stone's dad used to make Cyborg's bionic and cybernetic components.

ERICA
You're all so nerdy, it makes me physically ill.

STEVE
Don't lump me in with them. I'm not a nerd, all right?

ROBIN
Why so sensitive, Harrington? Afraid of losing cool points to a ten-year-old child?

STEVE
No, I'm just saying I don't know jack shit about Prometheus.

DUSTIN
(tight)

ROBIN (CONT'D)
-- but maybe that's it. Maybe it's our very ...

DUSTIN
(to Steve)
You think the Russians know?

STEVE
About the --
DUSTIN
They could.
STEVE
So it's connected?
DUSTIN
Maybe.
STEVE
How?
DUSTIN
I don't know, but --
STEVE
Possible.
-- possible.
Robin and Erica stop, realizing Steve and Dustin are chatting.

ROBIN
I'm sorry, is there something you'd like to share with the class?

JUST THEN:
A BUZZING. Then the WALKIE comes to life with a RUSSIAN SOLDIER REPEATING THE CODE.

STEVE
Walkie.
The two rush over to Erica and Robin. The walkie is in Erica's BACKPACK. Robin takes it out, pulls up the antenna. She repeats, in Russian, the code.

ROBIN
(in Russian)
A trip to China sounds nice. If you tread lightly.
(in English, to the group) It's the code.

DUSTIN
ROBIN (CONT'D)
Wherever that broadcast is -- It's close.

DUSTIN
Walkie.

CONTINUED: (3)
ROBIN (CONT'D)
And if there's one thing we know about that signal --

DUSTIN
It can reach the surface.
ROBIN
(glances up, then to Dustin)
Let's go.

EXT. HOLLOWAY HOUSE - DAY
The Wheeler Wagon pulls into the driveway.

EXT. HOLLOWAY HOUSE, PORCH - DAY
Nancy and Jonathan stand side-by-side at the door. Behind them, El, Max, Lucas, Will and Mike. Nancy rings the doorbell. Once. Twice. Nothing. Nancy and Jonathan look back at Eleven.

Say no more.
Eleven concentrates on the door, and flicks her head up.
CLANK! Just like that, the door opens.

INT. HOLLOWAY HOUSE, FOYER - DAY
The door swings open. The group enters the house cautiously.
NANCY
Tom? Heather?
MAX
Jeez, it's freezing.

INT. HOLLOWAY HOUSE, HALLWAY - DAY
The group enters the hallway and into the den.

INT. HOLLOWAY HOUSE, DEN - DAY
NANCY
(sniffs the air)
Do you guys smell that?

CONTINUED:
Mike, Lucas, Will, Max and Eleven sniff the air and look to each other.

INT. HOLLOWAY HOUSE, KITCHEN - DAY 101
On the TIPPED-OVER FRIDGE, several BLEACH-BASED CLEANING PRODUCTS are spilled. The smell is almost overpowering.

NANCY
More chemicals.
Like the rest of the house, the kitchen is a mess. What's weird, is the fridge itself. On its side, and a corner of the back panel is peeled open, revealing a hole.

JONATHAN
(holding a can of Comet)
You think they're guzzling this shit?

NANCY
Yeah, either that or they just went on a hell of a cleaning spree.

MAX
But, last year, Will didn't eat chemicals.
(to Will)
Did you?
WILL
No. This is something new.
MIKE
Mr. Clarke, fifth grade. Posit. What happens when you mix chemicals together?

LUCAS
You create a new substance.

WILL
You create a new substance.

MIKE
What if they're making something?
MAX
In themselves? I mean, come on, if you drink this crap, it'll kill you.

LUCAS
Yeah ... if you're human.
Nancy glances over her shoulder.

INT. HOLLOWAY HOUSE, DINING ROOM - DAY
The table remains untouched. Spilled wine, uncleared plates. The remnants of the Holloway's dinner with Billy two nights ago.

INT. HOLLOWAY HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - DAY
A wine bottle, on its side. Nancy sees it and walks over to the living room. She bends down and spots a blood stain on the carpet.

NANCY
Blood.
(thinks for a moment)
Yesterday. Tom had a bandage on his forehead.

She picks up the wine bottle. Blood smear on the label.
NANCY (CONT'D)
He was attacked.
FLASHBACK:

INT. HOLLOWAY HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 104
Two nights ago.
TOM
(leaning over Janet)
Call 9-1 --
Heather smashes Tom with the bottle.

INT. HOLLOWAY HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - DAY
Nancy notices a rug scrunched against a wall.
FLASHBACK:

INT. HOLLOWAY HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 106
Two nights ago.

BILLY drags Tom's body into the next room, scrunching the rug along the way.

INT. HOLLOWAY HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - DAY
Nancy and the rest of the group follow the clues, finding a blood stain leading through a door. They go through.

INT. HOLLOWAY HOUSE, GARAGE - DAY 108
The door opens. Nancy and Jonathan walk in. They're followed closely behind by the rest of the group. Jonathan crouches by a pile of rope in the center of the space.

JONATHAN
He must have tied them.

## FLASHBACK:

INT. HOLLOWAY HOUSE, GARAGE - NIGHT 109
Two nights ago.
Billy and HEATHER tying and gagging JANET and Tom HOLLOWAY who are still unconscious.

INT. HOLLOWAY HOUSE, GARAGE - DAY
Jonathan stands.
JONATHAN
They must have taken them somewhere.

FLASHBACK:

INT. HOLLOWAY HOUSE, GARAGE - NIGHT
Two nights ago.
Janet and Tom are loaded into Billy's car. Tom in the trunk, Janet in the back seat.

INT. HOLLOWAY HOUSE, GARAGE - DAY 112

NANCY
Mrs. Driscoll. She kept saying, "I have to go back."

FLASHBACK:

INT. AMBULANCE - NIGHT
113

Two nights ago.
Mrs. Driscoll, on a stretcher, suddenly reaching out.

INT. HOLLOWAY HOUSE, GARAGE - DAY

NANCY
What if the flaying ... it's taking place somewhere else? There must be a place where all this started, right? A source.

ELEVEN
Somewhere he didn't want me to see.
FLASHBACK:

INT. BLACK VOID/BRIMBORN STEELWORKS - NIGHT
Billy glances over his shoulder and sees Eleven. He evaporates into a cloud of dust and particles.

INT. HOLLOWAY HOUSE, GARAGE - DAY
NANCY
If we can find the source, then maybe we can stop him. Or at least stop it from spreading or doing whatever the hell he's doing with those chemicals.

ELEVEN
How do we find it?
WILL
Mrs. Driscoll. If she wants to go back so badly, why don't we let her?

INT. CLEARING, BY THE ROAD - DAY
Grigori's search for Hopper continues. He stands at the edge of a small hill by the side of the road near 7-Eleven. Grigori notices (and listens to) Todd talking to TWO STATE POLICE OFFICERS.

EXt. 7-ELEVEN, GAS PUMPS - DAY
TODD
(righteous yelling)
118

So this guy comes up to me -- I'm just pumping gas over here, and he -

A car pulls in for gas, edging closer to Todd.
TODD (CONT'D)
(to the driver)
Hey, whoa! Don't cross me right now!

INT. 7-ELEVEN, CASH COUNTER - DAY
Grigori puts two packs of SNACK CAKES on the counter. Ricky rings it in.

GRIGORI
(off Todd and the police outside, to Ricky)
Busy day?
RICKY
You could say that. Some psycho stole that dude's car.

GRIGORI
What else?
RICKY
What?
GRIGORI
What else did he say? This psycho.
RICKY
No offense, but I already went over all this with the cops.

GRIGORI
I'm not a cop.
RICKY
Yeah, no shit, Khrushchev.
Grigori grabs Ricky's arm, twists it, then slams his head on the counter. Ricky looks out at the two cops - contemplating screaming for help.

GRIGORI
Don't look at them. At me.
Ricky, looks up at Grigori.
GRIGORI (CONT'D)
Tell me. About this psycho.

EXT. MURRAY'S HOUSE - DAY
The Todfthr pulls in to a fenced area surrounding a warehouse * - MURRAY's place.

EXT. MURRAY'S HOUSE - DAY
Hopper gets out, as does Joyce.
HOPPER
(to Alexei)
Come on, let's go.
JOYCE
(off the look of Murray's
'house')
I thought you said this guy was a journalist.

HOPPER
Yeah, uh, he was.

EXT. MURRAY'S HOUSE, FRONT DOOR - DAY
JOYCE
Was?
Hopper pushes the button on the intercom.
MURRAY (O.S.)
Look at the camera.
Hopper leans toward the buzzer.
MURRAY (O.S.) (CONT'D)
The camera! Above you to the right.
ANGLE ON: A black and white surveillance video of the three.
ANGLE ON: A CCTV camera.
MURRAY (O.S.) (CONT'D)
Identify yourselves

CONTINUED:
ANGLE ON: A black and white surveillance video of the three. *
HOPPER
Jim Hopper, Joyce Byers, Smirnov.
JOYCE
Alexei.
HOPPER
Alexei.
MURRAY (O.S.)
Surname.
HOPPER
I don't know.
MURRAY (O.S.)
Family name!

EXT. MURRAY'S HOUSE, FRONT DOOR - DAY
123
HOPPER
Yeah, I know, I told you, -- OPEN THE DAMN DOOR!

JOYCE
Hopper.
HOPPER
It's all right, don't worry. He's a little bit eccentric, but ... completely harmless.

MURRAY opens the door and COCKS HIS DOUBLE-BARREL SHOTGUN.
MURRAY
(to Alexei)
Name.
ALEXEI
(in Russian)
Get that out of my face, you bald American pig.

MURRAY
(in Russian)
I may be bald, but you're the one in handcuffs, Soviet scum.
(beat, then, in English)
Hi, Jim.

INT. MURRAY'S HOUSE, FOYER - DAY
The trio follow Murray inside. But ...
MURRAY
Wait.
Murray opens a cabinet and pulls out a HOMEMADE METAL DETECTOR. He runs the device over Alexei -- slowly.

ALEXEI
(in Russian)
Watch it!
MURRAY
(in Russian)
Silence, scum.
HOPPER
How long is this going to take, because I --

MURRAY
No.
HOPPER
No?

No.

## MURRAY

No.
MURRAY (CONT'D)
No, you do not get to question me. You have dragged an enemy of the state into my home as carelessly as a child drags in shit on his shoe! I will search him until I am satisfied.

JOYCE
Jim. C'mere. I need to talk to you.
Joyce pulls Jim aside.

INT. MURRAY'S HOUSE, FOYER BY THE DOOR - DAY
HOPPER (CONT'D)

125

HOPPER
What?
JOYCE
This is not gonna work.

HOPPER
What do you mean?
JOYCE
He's not eccentric, he's certifiable.

HOPPER
Glass houses, Joyce.
JOYCE
What?
HOPPER
You know, pot calling the kettle black.

JOYCE
Oh, come on.
MURRAY
Excuse me!
JOYCE HOPPER
What?
What?
MURRAY
Do me a favor and move your lovers' quarrel elsewhere.

HOPPER JOYCE
Oh, oh, this? No, no, no, no.
HOPPER (CONT'D)
Not a lovers' quarrel, pal.
MURRAY
Spare me!

INT. MURRAY'S HOUSE, FOYER - DAY

Joyce marches over and confronts Murray.
JOYCE
What -- is your problem?
MURRAY
Please, STOP TALKING!
JOYCE
(almost yelling)
126

NO! We have had a very long day.
(MORE)

JOYCE (CONT'D)
We have been shot at, nearly blown up, walked God knows how many miles in a hundred degree heat, stole a car, all while being chased by this gigantic ... psychopath, all so we could bring him to you. Because somehow, you're the closest person who speaks Russian, which I can't believe, but that doesn't matter because, unfortunately, we're here. So if you don't mind, put that thing away, stop behaving like a jackass, and ask him what he's doing that's making my magnets FALL OFF MY DAMN FRIDGE!
(beat)
Please.
Alexei gives Murray a smug look as he's led away by Hopper who is impressed.

INT. DEATH STAR HALLWAY - DAY
Steve emerges from behind a piece of machinery.
STEVE
Okay, it's clear. Let's go.
ROBIN
That was close.
DUSTIN
Too close.
STEVE
Relax. All right? Relax. Nobody saw

INT. DEATH STAR HALLWAY, HUB - DAY 128
Rounding a corner, they unwittingly walk into a bustling 2LEVEL HUB - the main entryway that leads to the RIFT LAB. Dozens of SCIENTISTS, ARMED SOLDIERS, MEN IN HAZMAT SUITS are hard at work.

The kids duck out of sight.

INT. DEATH STAR HALLWAY, HUB, BEHIND A CART - DAY

DUSTIN
Red Dawn.
ERICA
I saw it. First floor, northwest.
STEVE
Saw what?
ERICA
The Comms Room.
STEVE
(incredulous)
You saw the Comms Room?
ERICA
Correct.
DUSTIN
Are you sure?
ERICA
Positive. The door was open for a second, and I saw a bunch of lights and machines and shit in there.

DUSTIN
That could be a hundreds different things.

ROBIN
(to Steve)
I'll take those odds.
Steve shakes his head and sighs. They peer out from their hiding spot, gauging the distance to the Comms Room.

STEVE
All right. We're gonna move fast, we're gonna stay low. Okay?

Steve goes first, then the others follow. Keeping low.

They take cover behind some large containers. They take a moment, waiting for a couple of RUSSIAN WORKERS to pass. * Then, Steve, Robin, Dustin and Erica make their way to a spot * across from the Comms Room.

INT. HUB, NEAR COMMS ROOM - DAY
A SCIENTIST exits the room and Steve motions the group forward. Steve catches the door before it closes and they all slip inside.

INT. COMMS ROOM - DAY 132

Steve shuts the door softly. But a RUSSIAN SOLDIER sitting at the console turns to them. The soldier takes off his HEADPHONES, stands, and eyes the group with a bewildered expression. He reaches for his GUN.

ROBIN
(in Russian)
Tread lightly.
The soldier stops. Now he's really confused.
ROBIN (CONT'D)
(in Russian)
Tread lightly!
SOLDIER
(incredulous)
Who are you!?
ROBIN
(in Russian)
Silver cat. Silver cat.
SOLDIER
(in Russian)
I don't understand.
ROBIN
(in Russian)
China?
The soldier reaches for his gun. But ...
YELLING LIKE IT HELPS, Steve charges at the soldier, but the man easily shoves Steve aside. The soldier takes a swing, but Steve (somehow) manages to dodge the punch. The soldier grabs Steve and throws him into a desk. Steve elbows the soldier who stumbles back. Giving Steve time to grab a phone and whack the soldier across the face, who spins, slips and bangs his head off the console. Unconscious.

DUSTIN
Dude! You did it!
(super excited)
You won a fight!

CONTINUED:
Steve breaks into a smile. Dustin takes the key card from the soldier's belt.

ERICA
What are you doing?
DUSTIN
Getting us our ticket out of here.
ERICA
You want to walk all the way back?
DUSTIN
Well, we can hang out for a bit, relax, have a picnic maybe.

ERICA
Have a picnic!? We came here for the radio.

DUSTIN
Well this plan is way better. If I knew Steve could knock out a Russian, that would have been our plan in the first place.

INT. COMMS ROOM - DAY
ROBIN
Guys. There's something up there.

INT. OBSERVATION ROOM ANTECHAMBER - DAY
Robin ducks through the door first, then ushers the others in. They walk to a set of windows looking into the Control/Observation Room.

INT. OBSERVATION ROOM - DAY
TWO SCIENTISTS are at the console, OTHERS are milling about taking notes on CLIPBOARDS.

CAMERA PULLS BACK REVEALING:

INT. RIFT LAB - DAY
MEN IN HAZMAT SUITS working on THE KEY. Two men on either side each push a CYLINDER OF RADIOACTIVE FUEL into ports on the side of the Key. It's fully operational. The beam is firing and opening a gash to the Rift. Alexei has accomplished his mission.

INT. OBSERVATION ROOM ANTECHAMBER - DAY
Steve and Dustin are shocked. They're speechless.

EXT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL - NIGHT
The Wheeler Wagon pulls into an empty parking spot.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, RECEPTION - NIGHT 140
Nancy leads the others past the reception desk, where the RECEPTIONIST is chatting (ad lib) on the phone.

RECEPTIONIST
(interrupting the call) *
Whoa, whoa, whoa! Excuse me! Where do you think you're going?

NANCY
Oh, uhm. I was just going to visit my grandma again. And this -- this is my family.

The receptionist eyes Lucas.
LUCAS
Extended.

RECEPTIONIST
I don't care who they are. You know the rules. Two visitors at a time.

NANCY
Yeah, but --

RECEPTIONIST
Two!
The receptionist goes back to her phone call (ad lib) as Nancy and Jonathan shoot each other a look.

INT. HOSPITAL ELEVATOR - NIGHT
Nancy and Jonathan. Nancy presses the button for the fourth floor. There's an awkward silence, save for the MUZAK flowing from the cheap elevator speaker.

NANCY
You know -- those things that I said yesterday, I didn't mean them.

JONATHAN
I know.
NANCY
I don't think you're like those assholes. At all. I never have. I was just --

JONATHAN
Angry?
(beat)
Which I still don't get. I was just completely, utterly, mortifyingly
... wrong.
Nancy gives Jonathan a look. Clearly surprised with his honesty.

JONATHAN (CONT'D)
(smirking)
Don't let that go to your head.
NANCY
(shyly)
I won't.
(beat)
I just look forward to you never doubting me again.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, WAITING ROOM - NIGHT
Lucas and Mike are at a VENDING MACHINE. Mike feeds it quarters, presses D3, and waits ...

Atypical of vending machines, the COIL JAMS, leaving Mike's 50-cent KITKAT stuck.

MIKE
Awe, come on you piece of shit!

He and Lucas smack the machine trying to jar the candy loose. Suddenly ...

CONTINUED:
A LOW HUM, then -- the VENDING MACHINE JERKS, spilling dozens of treats from their coiled binds and into the bin below. Mike and Lucas glance over at Eleven wiping a drop of blood from her nose.

MIKE (CONT'D)
Thanks.
She nods and goes back to reading a magazine. Mike and Lucas collect the candy.

LUCAS
Dude, I think that was it.
MIKE
That was what?
LUCAS
The olive branch.
MIKE
The what?
LUCAS
(patronizing)
*
Oh my God. You're hopeless.
(beat, normal attitude)
*
Okay. I'll distract Max, get you an opening. And then talk to her. All right?

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, $4 T H$ FLOOR - NIGHT
Nancy and Jonathan head to Mrs. Driscoll's room. The hallway is devoid of people. They pass by an office where some papers * and a pen are scattered on the floor. Strange. They pass by a * patient's room - above the door a FLASHING RED CALL LIGHT goes ignored. Getting weird now.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 4TH FLOOR - NIGHT
They get to Mrs. Driscoll's room and push the door open.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, DRISCOLL'S ROOM - NIGHT 145 *
The door creaks open and the two enter. Driscoll is missing, * and the room is a mess. There must have been a struggle.

JONATHAN
Where is she?

NANCY
I don't know.
JONATHAN
Are you sure this is the right room?

NANCY
Yeah.
The LIGHTS FLICKER. Then, at the door ...
TOM
She's gone home.
TOM HOLLOWAY stands at the doorway, wiping blood from his hands.

TOM (CONT'D)
We were hoping you might come back.
He approaches them. Jonathan and Nancy slowly back away.
JONATHAN
Whose blood is that?
NANCY
Tom, whatever you've done, it's not you. He's making you do this.

Jonathan grabs the VASE OF FLOWERS and smashes Tom across the face. Tom falls to the ground, giving Nancy and Jonathan time to escape.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 4TH FLOOR - NIGHT
Jonathan and Nancy run out of Driscoll's room -- and right into Bruce standing in the middle of the hall.

BRUCE
(touching his head)
Owie.
Bruce calmly walks toward them. BLACK VEINS spread across Bruce's face. Nancy and Jonathan head to the stairwell.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 4TH FLOOR STAIRS - NIGHT 147
They burst through the door. Bruce advances. Jonathan and Nancy run down the stairs.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, WAITING ROOM - NIGHT 148
Oblivious to what's happening above them, Lucas is tossing SKITTLES into Max's mouth. A distraction for Mike.

BY THE CHAIRS
Eleven is sitting quietly flipping through a magazine. Will sits a few seats away. Mike sits beside Eleven and motions to Will. Will nods, and leaves them be.

MIKE
Hey.
ELEVEN
Hi.
MIKE
Does your species like M\&M's? (holds up a package)

After a beat, Eleven extends her hand. Mike pours some M\&M's into her palm. She smiles at Mike.

MIKE (CONT'D)
I like the new look, by the way. It's cool.

ELEVEN
Thanks.
Eleven allows a small, shy grin.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 3RD FLOOR - NIGHT
Jonathan and Nancy sprint out of the stairwell, passing a DEAD ORDERLY's LIFELESS BODY. Bruce follows - stalking, not running. More DEAD BODIES, LIGHTS FLICKERING.

JONATHAN
This way.
They cut into a different wing of the hospital that's under construction. Bruce is not too far behind.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 3RD FLOOR, CONTRUCTION - 150 NIGHT

Jonathan and Nancy sprint down the hallways littered with
contruction equipment. Bruce continues his steadfast pursuit, calmly.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 3RD FLOOR, O.R. PREP
The doors burst open. Jonathan spots an intercom on the wall.
JONATHAN
(pushes the buzzer)
Hello?! Hello!?

NANCY
Here!
They dash into an OPERATING ROOM.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 3RD FLOOR, O.R. - NIGHT 152
Jonathan locks the door. Nancy picks up the RED PHONE on the wall - automatically CALLS RECEPTION.

NANCY
It's ringing!

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, RECEPTION - NIGHT 153

At the reception desk, the Receptionist is still on the phone with a friend. A BUTTON on the PHONE SYSTEM next to her FLASHES. She doesn't see it.

RECEPTIONIST
(ad lib dialogue)

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 3RD FLOOR - O.R. - NIGHT 154 *
NANCY
Come on! Pick up!

The lights starts to FLICKER. A HAND SMASHES THROUGH THE WINDOW ON THE DOOR. Bruce. He pokes his head in.

BRUCE
(manically)
Hi there.
Bruce reaches his bloody hand in through the smashed window and unlocks the door, then enters.

BRUCE (CONT'D)
I'm here for you, Nancy Drew.
As Bruce advances, Jonathan takes a swing. But, with very little effort, Bruce grabs Jonathan by the throat. Nancy tries to intervene, but Bruce shoves her into a wall.

CONTINUED: 154

Bruce headbutts Jonathan before throwing him into a wall. Jonathan tries to get up, but before he can get to his feet, Bruce raises a METAL STOOL over his head.

NANCY
Jonathan!
Bruce smashes the stool across Jonathan's back. Nancy spots a PAIR OF SURGICAL SCISSORS nearby. Bruce, again, raises the metal stool above his head, preparing to finish Jonathan off. But then ...

Nancy stabs Bruce in the back. He drops the stool. He reaches around and pulls the scissors from his left shoulder.

BRUCE
You bitch.
(flings the scissors to the floor)

JONATHAN
Nancy! Run!
She pushes a cart into Bruce, giving her a chance to escape. Bruce advances, leaving Jonathan behind.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 3RD FLOOR, CONSTRUCTION - 155 * NIGHT

She bursts into the hallway.
NANCY
Help! Help!
Calmly, Bruce steps into the hall. He follows.
NANCY (CONT'D)
Is anyone here?!
BRUCE
(sing-songy)
Nancy! Oh, Nancy!
Nancy grabs a FIRE EXTINGUISHER and shuts herself in a room at the end of the hall.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 3RD FLOOR, O.R. - NIGHT 156
Jonathan struggles to get to his feet. He uses the metal stool for leverage. But then ...

A foot kicks the stool aside. Tom. He grins.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 3RD FLOOR, ROOM - NIGHT 157
Nancy, holding the fire extinguisher, glances around frantically before going through a dividing curtain.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 3RD FLOOR, CURTAINED RM 158 *
On the other side of the curtain, she stops, wide eyed. Panic stricken.

ANGLE: LOOKING THROUGH THE GLASS ON THE DOOR ...
... we see Bruce in the hallway. He approaches the window. *
BRUCE POV: The curtains moving. *
ON BRUCE: A maniacal grin. *

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 3RD FLOOR, O.R. - NIGHT 159 *
Tom lifts Jonathan up by his shirt and effortlessly throws him into a cabinet.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 3RD FLOOR, CURTAINED RM 160 Bruce pushes the door open.

BRUCE
Yoo-hoo. Nancy Drew, where are you?
He slinks up to a curtain. Pushes one section aside. Nothing. *

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 3RD FLOOR, O.R. - NIGHT 161 *
Out of breath, in pain, is Jonathan. Tom picks him up, and * tosses him across the room.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 3RD FLOOR, CURTAINED RM 162 * Bruce, walking along to the next curtain.

BRUCE
Nancy!
He pulls the curtain aside. Nothing.
*

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 3RD FLOOR, O.R. - NIGHT 163
Jonathan feebly crawls toward the bloodied surgical scissors on the floor. Tom kneels down, grabs Jonathan by the hair, and slams his face to the floor - knocking him unconscious. Tom picks up the scissors.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 3RD FLOOR, CURTAINED RM 164 *
BRUCE
Marco!
Pulls another curtain.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 3RD FLOOR, O.R. - NIGHT 165
Kneeling overtop of Jonathan, with two hands wrapped around the scissors, Tom raises them above his head.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 3RD FLOOR, CURTAINED RM 166 *
BRUCE
(pulls another curtain)
Marco!
NANCY
Polo!
From behind, Nancy comes from shadows and smashes Bruce in the face with the fire extinguisher.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 3RD FLOOR, O.R. - NIGHT 167 *
At that exact moment, Tom feels the hit. He recoils, dropping the scissors. He reaches for his lip.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 3RD FLOOR, CURTAINED RM 168
Bruce does the same. His face smashed, BLACK BLOOD pours from his nose. Nancy hits Bruce again.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 3RD FLOOR, O.R. - NIGHT 169 * Tom recoils back, falling onto a gurney. Jonathan seizes the scissors.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 3RD FLOOR, CURTAINED RM 170
Nancy holds the extinguisher ready, but Bruce falls to his knees. His nose: crooked. His teeth: broken.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 3RD FLOOR, O.R. - NIGHT 171 * Tom rises to his feet, facing Jonathan.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 3RD FLOOR, CURTAINED RM 172 * Nancy raises the extinguisher above her head ...

NANCY
Go -- to -- hell!
She smashes the extinguisher into Bruce's head.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 3RD FLOOR, O.R. - NIGHT 173 * At that exact moment, Jonathan stabs Tom in the throat.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 3RD FLOOR, CURTAINED RM. 174 *
Bruce falls lifeless. *

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 3RD FLOOR, O.R. - NIGHT 175 * Black veins spread across Tom's face.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 3RD FLOOR, CURTAINED RM. 176 * Bruce lies flat on his back. Motionless.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 3RD FLOOR, O.R. - NIGHT 177 *
Tom, choking, scissors sticking out of his throat, drops to * his knees and collapses face down.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 3RD FLOOR, CURTAINED RM. 178 * Nancy drops the extinguisher smeared with black blood. She stands over Bruce's body.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 3RD FLOOR, O.R. - NIGHT 179
Jonathan stands over Tom's body. The operating lamp flashes erratically.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 3RD FLOOR, CURTAINED RM. 180 *
The lights in this room do the same. Nancy looks up, and begins to back away from Bruce's body.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, WAITING ROOM - NIGHT 181
Will, flipping through a magazine, instantly looks up. The florescent bulbs flickering. Max, Lucas, Mike and Eleven don't notice right away. Will stands, staring at the ceiling.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 3RD FLOOR, O.R. - NIGHT 182
Tom's corpse starts to shake.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 3RD FLOOR, CURTAINED RM. 183
Bruce's corpse does the same.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 3RD FLOOR, O.R. - NIGHT 184 * The shaking becomes more violent and pronounced.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 3RD FLOOR, CURTAINED RM. 185 *
The shaking grows more intense. Bruce convulses, his BLACK EYES open into a vacant stare.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 3RD FLOOR, O.R. - NIGHT 186
The skin on Tom's face erodes. It melts into a pool on the floor. A horrified Jonathan takes a step back as Tom turns into a puddle of goo.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 3RD FLOOR, CURTAINED RM. 187 * Bruce's body deteriorates into a gelatinous bloody mass.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 3RD FLOOR, O.R. - NIGHT 188
The goo, formerly known as Tom's body, begins to move across the floor.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 3RD FLOOR, CURTAINED RM. 189 Goo Bruce slinks across the floor, heading toward the door.

INT. HAWKINS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 3RD FLOOR HALLWAY - NIGHT 190
Jonathan follows the goo into the hallway.
Nancy trails after Bruce's goo.
Lights flicker in the hallway.
Nancy is at one end of the hall; Jonathan at the other. The gelatinous piles of goo inch toward each other.

The piles of goo meet and begin to grow and shift into a form. The lights go out.

Blackness.
An exit sign FLICKERS. There's a LOW GROWL.
The lights come back on, revealing one pissed off -AMORPHOUS FLESHY MONSTER.

*     * 

BLACK .
CREDITS.

