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Of Fire

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OF FILE

A Screenplay

Presented to

The Faculty of the School of Film & Television,
Loyola Marymount University of Los Angeles, California

In Partial Fulfillment

Of the Requirements for the Degree

Master of Fine Arts

By

JAMES CARLTON NORRIS III

This feature length screenplay written by

JAMES CARLTON NORRIS III


under the guidance of a faculty committee from the School of Film & Television at Loyola Marymount University, and approved by the members of the committee, has been presented to and accepted by the Graduate School in partial fulfillment of the thesis requirements for the degree of Master of Fine Arts in Screenwriting.

Advanced Screenplay Project Committee:


Committee Chair: SCWR 690



Committee Member: SCWR 691



Director of Graduate Screenwriting


Dean, School of Film & Television

Date

5-9-19

OF FIRE

Written by

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FADE IN:

EXT. SHED - NIGHT

A small wooden shed nestled in a clearing surrounded by woods.

The wind RUSTLES through a small budding tree and a machete, barely held by a chubby hand, SINGS as it leaves its sheathe.

YOUNG PILLAR (8) smiles to herself as she inspects the keen blade. With a buzzed head, and dirty clothes, she might pass as a boy from a distance.

WHACK. WHACK. With all the strength her tiny body can muster, Young Pillar hacks at the smaller branches of the tree.

Her attacks are enthused but yield little results.

ARNAUGH (O.S.)
Hold the handle closer to the
blade.

Young Pillar spins to face ARNAUGH (40s) as he emerges from the shed. He, too, sports a buzzed head and rough clothes.

Young Pillar chokes up on the handle.

PILLAR
Like that?

Arnaugh nods with a smile.

WHACK. Her blade bites deep. Pillar grins with pride.

ARNAUGH
Very good. My turn.

Young Pillar hands him the machete.

YOUNG PILLAR
Can I help this time?

Arnaugh lets loose a quiet chuckle.

ARNAUGH
Patience wasn't ever my virtue
either.

YOUNG PILLAR
When did grandpa let you first
help?

ARNAUGH

When I became an instrument of God.

Young Pillar nods and looks to her father in adoration.

ARNAUGH (CONT'D)

Come, you'll be my eyes tonight.
You know what to wait for.

Taking Young Pillar by the hand, the two walk toward a lake surrounded by log cabins.

It's a summer camp.

Arnaugh and Pillar disappear into the darkness of the night.

INT. REC CABIN - NIGHT

A broken pinball machine, an old ping-pong and pool table litter the room.

MARY (16) crosses and uncrosses her legs as she sits on top of the ping-pong table.

EXT. REC CABIN - NIGHT

Through a window, we see Mary pull out a small hand held mirror. She checks her make-up, hair, and teeth.

SNAP! A twig perhaps, or a branch falling on the roof.

INT. REC CABIN - NIGHT

Mary's eyes jerks away from the mirror. What was that?

She scans the room, the door and windows. Nothing.

MARY

Brandon?

No response.

VRUUM!

Mary SQUEALS as she hops off the ping-pong table and turns toward the noise.

The AC wall-unit has kicked into gear.

She breathes a sigh of relief.

A HAND reaches out behind her... grabbing her shoulder, and spinning her around. This time she SCREAMS.

It quickly dies though as she faces her tormentor, BRANDON (18), handsome douche.

MARY (CONT'D)

Oh my god. You ass.

Brandon holds up a pathetic bouquet of freshly picked wildflowers. It does the trick. She playfully hits him.

Next he pulls out a condom. No wait. It's just the first of a whole row of condoms that unravels.

MARY (CONT'D)

Are we going to need all those?

BRANDON

Well... yeah.

EXT. REC CABIN - NIGHT

At the window, Young Pillar spies on the Teenage Lovers. Brandon cha cha's over to Mary. Young Pillar slowly raises her right hand. It hovers in the air. Waiting.

Standing at the door, Arnaugh can't see inside, but he can see his daughter.

As Young Pillar raises her hand, he slowly turns the knob.

INT. REC CABIN - NIGHT

Brandon rips open a condom pack and leans in for a kiss. Mary studies the wilting flowers.

MARY

This is my first time.

She leans away.

EXT. REC CABIN - NIGHT

Wait! Young Pillar signals "Stop" to her father. Arnaugh releases the door knob, and blows out an exasperated sigh.

INT. REC CABIN - NIGHT

BRANDON
Hey. Hey. Hey... I promise you...
It's gonna be good.

It shouldn't work, but it does. Mary goes back for the kiss.

At the window, Young Pillar raises her hand again. Arnaugh, again, turns the knob.

Until Brandon stops to take off his DEF LEPPARD shirt.

EXT. REC CABIN - NIGHT

Young Pillar signals "Stop."

Arnaugh paces by the door. Rolls his shoulders.

INT. REC CABIN - NIGHT

Brandon tosses his shirt to the ground.

EXT. REC CABIN - NIGHT

Young Pillar grins as Brandon and Mary finally go all the way. She gives Arnaugh the go-ahead.

INT. REC CABIN

Brandon's head rolls back in pleasure. Mary grimaces in pain.

BRANDON
Mary, you're an angel.

MARY
(strained)
Mmhhmm.

Brandon leans forward for a kiss but stops. Mary twists to look at what has caught Brandon's attention.

Young Pillar at the window. She waves at the hapless couple.

MARY (CONT'D)
Who the hell --

She cuts her own sentence short. A weird triangular object protrudes from Brandon's neck, covered in something red.

A glob of blood falls from the machete and drops onto Mary.

She SCREAMS as the pieces come together for her.

Arnaugh pulls his blade out from Brandon's neck with a sickening GURGLE. Brandon crumples to the floor.

For the last time tonight, Mary SCREAMS.

Arnaugh lops off her head.

Blood sprays the window Young Pillar gleefully stands at.

Arnaugh bends over Brandon's body. He dips his thumb into the boy's blood.

On his way out, Arnaugh spots Brandon's shirt.

EXT. WOODS - NIGHT

Arnaugh joins his daughter. He tosses her Brandon's shirt.

Young Pillar holds it up to herself. It's much too big.

ARNAUGH

Hand me your grandfather.

Young Pillar stuffs the shirt away as she reaches into a backpack and pulls out...

A large skull, its forehead spotted with black smudges.

Arnaugh takes the skull, pressing his bloody thumb onto the bone. Those black smudges are, in fact, other thumbprints, the blood dried and aged.

ARNAUGH (CONT'D)

You did well tonight.

Arnaugh cradles the skull in both hands, reverent. Carefully he hands it back to his daughter.

YOUNG PILLAR

Grandfather was a good teacher.

ARNAUGH

He was. People need a warning now more than ever. A reminder. God's judgement finds all who stray into the world of wickedness.

YOUNG PILLAR
Why did God pick Grandfather? Or
did his father tell him to warn the
world like he taught you?

ARNAUGH
I knew you were not ready.

YOUNG PILLAR
Father?

ARNAUGH
Questioning is for the faithless.

Young Pillar nods in silence. Abashed.

ARNAUGH (CONT'D)
It's time to move on. The Lord's
work is needed elsewhere.

Young Pillar wraps the skull in a shroud and places it in her
father's bag who carefully straps it to his back.

Picking up a rolled up tent and handmade bow, Arnaugh trudges
into the woods, sliding into the night. Young Pillar stalks
after him.

CUT TO BLACK.

SUPER: SEVEN YEARS LATER

FADE IN:

EXT. MOUNTAIN ROAD - NIGHT

The sun sets. Its dying light barely illuminates the winding
concrete as Pillar (15) descends its path.

Hard and lean from her upbringing, hair still buzzed, she
shoulders the bow, and rocks the Def Leopard shirt.

Harsh wind RATTLES debris and trash alike. One such discarded
piece of paper shuffles in front of Pillar. She stomps on it
with her combat boots before it can fly away.

Lifting it up, she reads it in the last light of the day.

INSERT FLYER:

"Shepherdstown Narrow Way Church opens it's SUMMER CAMP to
all. This year hosted by newcomers Barry and Margaret Hayes."

BACK TO PILLAR

She hands the flyer behind her to Arnaugh who's just as intimidating only now with a few more gray hairs.

PILLAR

They gave us an address.

Pillar plows on. Arnaugh pockets the flyer and smiles as he watches his daughter lead the way. He marches behind her.

At the bottom of the mountain, the small lights of Shepherdstown barely hold back the night.

EXT. NARROW WAY CHURCH - DAY

A small mountain church for the small mountain town.

A worn-out sixteen passenger van is parked outside. Beside it stands BARRY HAYES (40s) and his wife MARGARET HAYES (40s).

Barry - what could have been a one-time jock now hides under a thin mop of hair, goatee, and nonalcoholic beer gut.

Margaret - Small grey hairs populate her shoulder length cut. Her clothes hang loose. Even her skin looks tired.

BARRY

I really think this is it. This is the one.

MARGARET

What makes you so certain?

BARRY

I can feel it. God's brought us here. Everything we left behind. That was for a reason.

MARGARET

I sure hope so.

BARRY

Hey, where's your faith?

MARGARET

It's still three churches back.

BARRY

Enough of that. I don't need that negative attitude pulling me down, alright?

MARGARET
I'm pulling you down?

BARRY
I didn't say that.

Barry rolls on the balls of his feet.

MARGARET
I need a home, Barry.

BARRY
I'm telling you this is the one. I swear. When I spoke to the minister here... he loves me.

MARGARET
Barry, we need a home.

Barry studies Margaret as he cleans his teeth with his tongue. A tension drapes over the two of them.

BANG. The church doors fly open and out runs:

TYRELL (17) sweater-vest, khakis, and a clean cut hair.

HECTOR (14) thick glasses, wild hair, socks and sandals.

CANDICE (15) A bit on the hefty side but rocking it all the same. Mom jeans and an Elvis shirt.

WHITNEY (16) an African American whose glasses and braces give her a more shy nature in life.

And finally out walks...

STEPHAN (16) sporting a hoodie and sunglasses.

BARRY
Here we go.

He dashes off toward the Kids.

MARGARET
Barry!

Half turning to her.

BARRY
We'll talk about it later.

Margaret opens her mouth to protest, but he's already gone.

Barry jogs over to Tyrell who's pulls a duffle bag out of a car parked along the side of the road.

BARRY (CONT'D)
You ready, champ?

TYRELL
Yeah. Mr. Hayes, right?

BARRY
Just Barry.

HECTOR (O.S.)
I'm Hector.

Barry turns to find Hector invading his personal bubble.

BARRY
Woah.

On the other side of the church yard, Margaret timidly approaches Whitney who's also collecting her bags.

MARGARET
Hi, there.

Whitney spins to face her.

MARGARET (CONT'D)
I'm Margaret.

WHITNEY
Whitney.

MARGARET
Your parents and minsters told you
who we were, right?

WHUMP. A duffle bag lands between them. Whitney and Margaret turn its tosser, Candice.

CANDICE
When's dinner?

Margaret balks a little at the interruption.

CANDICE (CONT'D)
I know. Fat girl here asking about
food, but I skipped breakfast and
communion is cutting it anymore.

MARGARET
Honey, you're not fat. You
shouldn't say that.

CANDICE

(joking)

I won't say it then. I mean I'll
still be fat. But I won't say it.

Whitney chuckles. Margaret stares, dumbfounded.

EXT. WOODS - DAY

Mountains pepper the sky the in background. Large trees
filter the sun.

A small gravel road cuts through the forest.

INT. VAN - DAY

Barry drives. The Teens CHAT except Stephan who has on
headphones.

In the passenger seat, Margaret pulls down the sun-visor and
uses the mirror to help fix her hair. She watches Whitney and
Candice in the reflection.

MARGARET

Did any of the parents or the
minister say anything before we
left?

BARRY

Nothing new. Same as before. Happy
we moved here and good luck.

MARGARET

And they're still setting us up
with a house?

BARRY

Should be ready as soon as we get
back.

MARGARET

And it's got a yard.

BARRY

I mean I haven't been there.

MARGARET

You told me it was going to have a
yard.

BARRY

Well, then it should have a yard.

MARGARET

Children need yards to play in,
Barry.

BARRY

You know, when I said, "we'll talk
about it later," I didn't mean
quite so soon.

MARGARET

You told me "this" is the one. I've
been hearing "later" for fifteen
years. I'm telling you. This is the
one.

BARRY

Okay, I deserve that. But please,
let's get the camp going. Maybe
after this summer, we could start --

MARGARET

-- And how do you know we're going
to be here after this summer?

BARRY

What?

MARGARET

How do you know you're not going to
get fed up and leave or kicked out
aga --

BARRY

-- Okay. Okay. Okay. Let's not
broadcast that kind of thing.

Barry checks the rearview mirror to make sure none of the
Teens heard her... The Teens keep CHATTING.

BARRY (CONT'D)

We'll start after camp.

MARGARET

We'll start this week.

Barry checks on the Teens again.

BARRY

So long as you keep our history to
yourself.

MARGARET

Swear.

BARRY
Let my yes be yes, and my no be no.

MARGARET
This will be fun.

She grins and shuts the sun-visor.

EXT. CAMP - DAY

Log cabins, a lake, an archery range, and a shed.

Barry's van rolls to a stop. Teens press noses to glass to get a better look at their new home away from home.

A shadowed FIGURE enters the shed.

HECTOR
What was that?

EXT. SHED - DAY

Barry, Margaret and the Teens shuffle toward the shed. Coming from inside, RUSTLING and the sounds of metal TINKERING.

Barry approaches the door. Behind him, Margaret and the Teens stopped several feet short.

BARRY
Hello?

The TINKERING and RUSTLING stops.

BARRY (CONT'D)
Hello?

Barry reaches for the door latch.

ARNAUGH (O.S.)
What are you doing?

Everyone jumps as they spin around to find Arnaugh standing behind them. He's holding a machete.

TYRELL
Hello.

HECTOR
Hi.

Everyone else seems frozen, afraid of the tall Man wielding a long blade.

Arnaugh looks to the two boys who swallow their grins under his gaze.

BARRY
What are you doing?

ARNAUGH
I've come to kill a pest.

He steps forward. The Teens back away. Margaret steps inbetween Arnaugh and the Teens.

But Arnaugh steps harmlessly through them and straight into the shed.

WHACK. SQUEAL. WHACK.

Arnaugh emerges from the shed holding a dead and bloody rabbit.

Candice dry swallows. Margaret tenses. Stephan hits "pause" on the music playing from his phone.

Doing so reveals the last of his cell service dwindling away.

ARNAUGH (CONT'D)
Fornicators. That's all they do.
Creatures of sin.

BARRY
Who are you exactly?

ARNAUGH
I keep the grounds.

BARRY
Nobody made any mention of a
groundskeeper.

ARNAUGH
Who ever takes notice of a
groundskeeper?

Stephan hits "play" again.

ARNAUGH (CONT'D)
Are you here to stay?

MARGARET
The first summer of many.

BARRY
Let's not get ahead of ourselves.

If looks could kill. Barry wilts under Margaret's glare.

BARRY (CONT'D)

For right now, just a week. Though more are coming in three days. You're looking at our counselors here.

Barry fans out a hand pointing to the Teens.

ARNAUGH

Three days. And then more arrive?

BARRY

Yep.

Arnaugh turns, addressing the Teens.

ARNAUGH

These three days you'll be tested like never before. A reckoning awaits. But hold back your base nature. Your loaded loins. Leave your temptation behind, and rise like your Savior from the grave...

Stephan hums to his music. Everyone else looks at Arnaugh in total bafflement.

WHITNEY

Loaded loins?

MARGARET

(concerned)

Barry?

BARRY

Alright, I was going to save most of that for the bonfire, but I appreciate your enthusiasm.

Barry leads Arnaugh away from the Teens. Arm over his shoulder.

BARRY (CONT'D)

What kind of arrangement do you have with the church exactly? Did they already pay you?

ARNAUGH

My work is enough.

BARRY

You don't take any payment?

ARNAUGH

None which you would understand.

Barry's surprise quickly turns to respect.

BARRY

See kids, this is the kind of
dedication we're going to be
talking about. A heavenly reward.

He claps Arnaugh on the shoulder who doesn't move but only
stares at Barry's hand.

Arnaugh's stare brings shiver to Barry. He removes his hand.

BARRY (CONT'D)

Can you make sure we have enough
wood for the fire tonight.

ARNAUGH

My daughter has already chopped
some for you.

BARRY

Daughter?

THUNK.

Everyone spins toward the noise except Stephan who, with
earbuds still in, only turns in response to everyone else.

Now before him: a Warrior/Princess straight from the heavens.

Pillar. Shouldering a large axe. A wood log on the chopping
block before her.

She brings the axe up high, sun glinting off the deadly edge.
With furious speed, she brings the axe down. THUNK.

Splitting it in half like it was nothing.

Stephan, mouth open, pops out both earbuds. They fall to the
ground.

BARRY (CONT'D)

Is she staying here?

Barry turns back to Arnaugh only to find him gone. He spins
back to Pillar whom everyone else is still transfixed on.

STEPHAN

(to Pillar)

I'm Stephan.

He moves forward, arm out stretched to shake her hand.

Pilar hefts the axe onto her shoulder. Stephan immediately halts.

MARGARET
What's your name, dear?

PILLAR
Pillar.

MARGARET
What a pretty name.

PILLAR
Is it?

Margaret balks. Candice hasn't quit staring. Hector fidgets. Tyrell looks to Barry for answers. Whitney's dissecting Pillar's outfit with her eyes.

WHITNEY
(approval)
Butch.

BARRY
What's "Butch?"

Whitney immediately shuts down, embarrassed. Barry takes notice of Pillar's shirt.

BARRY (CONT'D)
Pillar. I hate to judge. You being new, but...

PILLAR
... What?

BARRY
The uh Leppard's were known fornicators --

PILLAR
(horrified)
-- Fornicators?

Pillar raises her axe before SLAMMING it deep into the chopping block.

In one swift motion, she rips her shirt off.

No under shirt, no bra. She stands, half-naked and heaving with disgust at the fabric on the ground.

Chaos.

Tyrell and Hector shield their eyes.

Stephan stares.

Margaret GASPS and turns bright red.

Candice's mouth drops open.

Whitney admires and then gags at the sight of armpit hair.

And Barry...

BARRY

What are you doing!?

Barry spins Stephan away.

PILLAR

Removing the sin.

Barry picks the shirt up, stretches it out across her torso.

BARRY

Wear it inside out.

She backs away from him and the shirt.

PILLAR

I'll have no devil rags on me.

Barry advances again.

Pillar backs away again.

BARRY

If you can't see it, there's no
sin.

Pillar looks at pleading eyes of Barry, observes the rest of the Teens and Margaret, before finally taking the shirt back.

She pulls the shirt over her head unintentionally emphasizing her bare chest to Barry and also Stephan who's peeking.

Barry quickly lowers his eyes to her waist line but now catches sight of a horn handle and a leather sheathe.

BARRY (CONT'D)

What was that?

Pillar, now fully clothed again, looks down.

BARRY (CONT'D)
Do you have a knife?

PILLAR
Of course.

He holds out his hand. But Pillar doesn't move.

BARRY
You want to attend this camp, no
weapons of any kind on the premise.

Pillar slowly reaches for the knife. She studies Barry who's waiting impatiently for the knife.

The moment stretches. Her grip tightens until finally...

Lighting fast she whips the knife out, spinning it in her palm until the handle faces Barry.

At first shocked at the display, he snatches the blade.

BARRY (CONT'D)
Thank you.

Barry faces Margaret and the Teens, who are all still in shock.

BARRY (CONT'D)
How bout a quick prayer?

INT. GIRL'S CABIN - NIGHT

Bunk beds and not much else decorate this single-room cabin.

Pillar stands across from the cautious Whitney and Candice.

They each have two bags between them, colorful sleeping bags, and pillows. Pillar holds a small, roughly used back pack.

Pillar takes off her "devil rag" and replaces it with a plain brown shirt from her bag. Again she shows no shame while the other two flinch at her bare breasts... and armpit hair.

WHITNEY
Do you need a razor?

Pillar stares at her blankly.

WHITNEY (CONT'D)
You from out of town?

CANDICE
Whitney... be polite.

PILLAR
My father and I go where our work
takes us.

WHITNEY
Grounds keeping?

PILLAR
Culling.

CANDICE
Rabbits?

PILLAR
Goats.

Pillar turns to a bunk bed behind her. She sets down her bag.

PILLAR (CONT'D)
I'll sleep here.

Whitney and Candice set up show on the opposite side of the
cabin. As far away from Pillar as possible.

CANDICE
That stuff with your dad. Rising
like the savior --

WHITNEY
Yeah, what the heck --

CANDICE
-- was interesting.

PILLAR
(to Whitney)
It was a warning. These camps. They
breed nothing but sin.

WHITNEY
You sound like my grandma.

CANDICE
Good news. We don't plan on doing
any sinning while we're here.

PILLAR
So you say, but which of you has
the burning liquor? Satan's flower?

WHITNEY

What?

CANDICE

I promise you, no one here has any alcohol... Or weed?

PILLAR

(restrained sarcasm)

Of course.

Whitney secretly shoots a confused look to Candice who can only grin and shrug.

INT. BOY'S CABIN - DAY

With the same layout as the girl's cabin, Hector, Stephan, and Tyrell get settled in.

HECTOR

I didn't even know she was a girl until... you know.

He waves his hand over his chest.

TYRELL

I didn't see anything.

HECTOR

(defensive)

Neither did I.

STEPHAN

Good. Stay blind.

HECTOR

What?

STEPHAN

That's a girl right there. I mean a real person. Her own self.

HECTOR

She's got hairy armpits.

TYRELL

I thought you said you didn't see anything.

HECTOR

How could you not?! They were right there.

TYRELL

I'm trying to forget about them and you should too.

HECTOR

Are we still talking about the arm pits or are we talking about... boobs.

STEPHAN

You don't have to worry about either. I got you covered.

EXT. BOY'S CABIN - DAY

The three Boys race out of the cabin where they immediately bump into Arnaugh.

He towers over them. A pair of sharp shears in one hand.

TYRELL

Oh, sorry.

HECTOR

How long have you been there exactly?

ARNAUGH

You need to look where you're going. You might run into trouble.

He stares down Stephan who dry swallows under Arnaugh's gaze.

STEPHAN

Sorry, sir. Won't happen again.

ARNAUGH

I assure you it will.

Tyrell corrals Stephan and Hector away from Arnaugh. Stephan can barely take his eyes of the man.

Arnaugh watches them dash off.

INT. MAIN LODGE - GIRL'S BATHROOM - NIGHT

Pillar stares at the gaping maw that is a camp toilet.

With her foot she lifts the toilet seat. She brings her foot back. The seat falls back to the rim with CLATTER.

Screw this. She squats in a corner.

INT. MAIN LODGE - CAFETERIA - NIGHT

In the corner, Barry and Margaret eat by themselves. Margaret slides her hand up Barry's leg. He bats her down. Eyes darting to make sure none of the Teenagers saw.

Pillar emerges from the bathroom rubbing her hands on her shirt.

She joins the Teens at their table.

Hector sneaks glances at Pillar, almost embarrassed. Stephan studies her, still intrigued.

Pillar stabs at some chicken on her plate. Raising the fork to her mouth, she ends up with some crumbs on her cheek.

Immediately, Stephan reaches forward to hand her a napkin.

Pillar takes it, looking at the Boy handing it to her suspiciously.

PILLAR

You can forget any dirty thoughts
going through your head.

STEPHAN

Woah, it's just napkin.

PILLAR

The girls tried to tell me the same
thing.

Whitney and Candice sheepishly smile.

PILLAR (CONT'D)

I'm guessing you don't have any
liquor either, or sex sacks?

HECTOR

(mouthing)
Sex sacks?

Pillar mimes putting a condom over her finger.

CANDICE

Gross.

STEPHAN

Yeah, no.

TYRELL

I think maybe you've got the wrong
idea here... We're Christians.

Pillar stares at them blankly. The word means nothing.

PILLAR
You're what?

EXT. BONFIRE - NIGHT

TEENS
(singing)
Oh Lord prepare me/ To be a
sanctuary/ pure and holy...

Eyes as big as tea saucers, mouth partially open, Pillar gapes as everyone, seated around the fire, sings.

Behind Pillar, the woods abruptly end at the edge of a cliff.

The song comes to an end. Pillar's mouth still hangs open. Across the fire, Margaret offers Pillar a reassuring smile.

Barry stands up. Candice leans over to Pillar.

CANDICE
(whispering)
You really don't know?

Pillar shakes her head.

BARRY
We've got an intense two days
planned for you. We'll be dealing
with what I believe to be the most
important issue of today's church.
Something that's corrupting our
very soul. But I'm going to need
your help, enforcing it's message.

A gust of wind blows into the fire causing a burst of sparks to fly right at Barry. He jumps and pats at the sparks.

WHITNEY
What's the message?

BARRY
Abstinence.

Barry's cheery grin is met with stone faces.

TYRELL
What kind of abstinence?

BARRY
What do you mean what kind?

WHITNEY

What exactly are you going to be telling the middle schoolers?

BARRY

We're all going to tell them.

STEPHAN

Yeah, but what?

Margaret stands up next to Barry.

MARGARET

Maybe we should go one at a time.

Tyrell raises his hand. He gets a nod from Barry.

TYRELL

This is a sexual abstinence?

Shocked, Pillar looks around at everyone but they don't seem fazed. Did he just say sex?

BARRY

Of course.

TYRELL

So what are we saying is sex?

Pillar balks at the word again. Margaret takes notices.

BARRY

What isn't sex?

Another mention of it. Pillar's head spins.

HECTOR

I heard a girl at my school gave one of the lacrosse players a hand job once. Is that bad?

BARRY

Oh yeah.

STEPHAN

What about blow jobs?

BARRY

Definitely.

STEPHAN

But is it sex?

BARRY

Of course.

Margaret kneels down next to Pillar.

MARGARET

You okay?

Pillar still a little dumbfounded responds.

PILLAR

Are all "Christians" this obsessed with sex?

Now Whitney's hand shoots up.

WHITNEY

What about going down on a girl?

HECTOR

Going down?

WHITNEY

No penetration. Just clitoris action.

BARRY

Let's not be so graphic.

HECTOR

What's a clitoris?

BARRY

I think we're getting a little lost in the weeds here.

Pillar leans over to Margaret.

PILLAR

What is a clit-or-is?

MARGARET

Oh honey.

Candice's hand bolts into the sky, but she launches into her question before Barry can even call on her.

CANDICE

What if hypothetically, just in case one of the middle-schoolers asks this, but you were like making out with a guy...

(MORE)

CANDICE (CONT'D)

And it got like really hot and heavy and then before you even really knew it or had a chance to say maybe not now, they were on second base. Would that be bad? Is that sex?

Pillar studies Candice in a new light.

Barry opens and closes his mouth. Confused.

HECTOR

I heard this one guy at my school was in to... butt stuff.

BARRY

You know. I think we've covered enough ground for the night. Tomorrow's a big day, let's uh... off to bed.

EXT. MAIN LODGE - NIGHT

The moon shines on the worn-down building.

Pillar ducks under an open window. Her steps are silent, a trained huntress.

From inside, she hears

MARGARET (O.S.)

Barry, you promised.

BARRY (O.S.)

Alright but make it quick, tomorrow's a big day.

MARGARET (O.S.)

Not a chance. You're in this for the long haul tonight.

Pillar moves on. Ahead in the shadows, waits Arnaugh.

PILLAR

I've found one for you.

ARNAUGH

Already?

PILLAR

This camp will be quick work.

ARNAUGH

It was your doing. You've grown.

PILLAR

Father, I've never seen a camp so soaked sin.

ARNAUGH

What else did you expect?

PILLAR

Have you heard of "Christians?"
Everyone here claims to be one.

She stumbles through the word, "Christians" like a child learning a new word.

Arnaugh, however, pauses a moment.

ARNAUGH

Is that supposed to mean something?
Forget it. I have something for
you.

From the ground, Arnaugh picks up his bag. Placing his hand inside, he pulls out the blood-stained skull.

He presents it to her. Pillar can't move.

ARNAUGH (CONT'D)

This is yours now.

Stunned at first, she finally moves, launching herself at Arnaugh in a full on hug.

He smiles as he returns the affection.

Pillar lets go, taking the skull and gazing over it with wonder.

ARNAUGH (CONT'D)

You are no longer that little girl,
questioning, challenging. You lead
now. Accepting our purpose without
pause.

PILLAR

(smiling)
Father --

ARNAUGH

-- This camp is yours. Your first
test. But as such you'll do it
alone. Prove yourself.

PILLAR

I will not let you down.

ARNAUGH

I know you won't. Grandfather would be proud. But you must hurry. We must be done and gone in two days times.

PILLAR

The big one. She practically confessed on her first day. Her death will be their warning. Sin before God and all mankind and you will be delivered.

Her grandfather's skull seems to smile in the moonlight.

INT. MAIN LODGE - CAFETERIA - DAY

Pillar pushes her plate forward. Food half eaten.

Candice eyes Pillar's waffle as she devours her own.

The other Teens study Pillar herself. Stephan smiles at her but gets nothing in return.

Barry, face haggard, hair unkempt, pours and drains a cup of coffee.

WHACK. The door to the kitchen opens. Margaret, face glowing, enters the cafeteria bearing a tray loaded with more waffles.

MARGARET

Anyone wants seconds?

She beams and winks at Barry.

BARRY

(yawn)

Off to the archery range.

Chairs scrape against the tile as the Teens push off the table and heads for the exit.

Pillar eyes the unguarded kitchen door.

INT. MAIN LODGE - KITCHEN - DAY

Pillar roams the standard-fair kitchen. Her eyes searching until they fall on a knife-block on the center island.

She beelines for it. Grasps one of the handles and...

MARGARET (O.S.)
Looking for more food?

Pillar whips the knife behind her back as she faces Margaret.

PILLAR
No...

MARGARET
Oh, can I help you with something?

Margaret places the tray of pancakes on the island.

PILLAR
No.

Margaret takes a step toward Pillar. Pillar takes a step toward the door. Both circling the island clockwise.

MARGARET
You don't need to be afraid of me.

Pillar takes another step toward the door.

PILLAR
I'm not.

MARGARET
Good. I want us to be friends.

Margaret switches directions to head toward the door. Pillar has only two options: retreat or continue toward the door.

She goes for the door.

MARGARET (CONT'D)
Is it just you and your dad?

PILLAR
Yes.

MARGARET
You must be close.

Margaret has Pillar trapped now.

Pillar switches her grip on the knife. Still behind her back, she holds it, the blade pointing down.

Knuckles pop white. Forearm flexes. Margaret within reach.

Suddenly, Pillar grimaces. She puts a hand to her stomach in pain.

MARGARET (CONT'D)

Are you okay?

PILLAR

Fine.

Clenching teeth, she barrels past Margaret and out the room.

Margaret reels back in shock, watching Pillar march her way through the Cafeteria.

Margaret turns back to the kitchen, but stops when something catches her attention.

A knife, sticking blade first into the wood floor.

EXT. ARCHERY RANGE - DAY

THUNK!

An arrow slams into the red bullseye of a target.

HECTOR (O.S.)

Wow!

BARRY (O.S.)

(yawning still)

And it's that easy.

Barry, with a bow, stands amongst the Teens.

HECTOR

Such a good shot.

BARRY

Remember, just like I showed you,
and the middle schoolers will pick
it up no problem.

Pillar and the Teens spread out, each standing twenty yards from their respective target.

Pillar stands between Stephan and Candice.

On the other end of the field, Tyrell and Hector are right next to Barry. Whitney's in the middle.

Stephan takes a shot. He hits, but nowhere near the bullseye.

PILLAR
You're dropping your elbow.

STEPHAN
What?

PILLAR
Whitney, have you ever done "butt
stuff"?

WHITNEY
Excuse me?

Stephan goes white. Candice GIGGLES a little.

CANDICE
Pillar, that's kind of a personal
question, don't you think?

PILLAR
It's the theme of the week.

STEPHAN
Don't remind me.

CANDICE
Hey, it's a good theme. We need to
talk about this kind of stuff.

STEPHAN
For a whole week?

WHITNEY
Actually, our three days plus the
middle-schoolers seven make it
almost two.

STEPHAN
Perfect. Ten days of sexually
confused pre-teens promising to
save themselves and asking
questions about finger banging.

PILLAR
What's finger banging? Is that the
same as blow jobs?

Candice goes red with embarrassment.

STEPHAN
Oh Jeez. Whitney, you want this?

WHITNEY
Blow jobs? Ew! Why?

OPPOSITE END

Back over with Hector who has yet to fire a shot.

HECTOR
So should I talk to her?

THUNK. Barry, in a daze, watches Tyrell firing his arrows.

HECTOR (CONT'D)
Do you think I should talk to her?
Barry.

Hector taps Barry, pulling him out of his stupor.

BARRY
What? Who?

HECTOR
The girl. In my class.

BARRY
In your class, huh? That could get
tricky. You got to be careful.

HECTOR
Really?

BARRY
Oh yeah.

Hector nods with Barry, but he looks confused than anything.

FAR END

Again, Pillar suddenly winces in pain, holding her stomach.

STEPHAN
All I'm saying is everyone here is
already a goody two-shoes.

Candice drops an arrow.

STEPHAN (CONT'D)
This is going to be like beating a
dead horse that's already been
shipped to the glue factory.

Pillar smiles as she watches Candice fumble with her bow.

PILLAR
You so certain?

He chuckles.

STEPHAN

Look around.

Together he and Pillar study the Teens one by one.

Hector fires an arrow all of about five feet.

STEPHAN (CONT'D)

I don't know if I've seen Hector
talk to a girl outside bible class.

Tyrell fires another arrow into his target.

STEPHAN (CONT'D)

Tyrell's so straight and narrow,
he'd give Jesus a run for his
money.

Whitney hurts her finger pulling on the bow string.

STEPHAN (CONT'D)

I've never even seen Whitney look
at a boy at school.

They turn their gaze to Candice.

STEPHAN (CONT'D)

Candice...

Candice nervously grins as she tries to notch an arrow. Her
hand slips. Bow and arrows CLATTER to the ground.

She can't make eye-contact with Stephan. Her face goes red.

STEPHAN (CONT'D)

Candice?

His mouth drops in total disbelief.

Candice quickly looks to the ground as tears start to build.

PILLAR

Tell us what happened.

STEPHAN

You definitely do not have to do
that.

Candice wipes away a tear.

CANDICE

No, she's right. I should. I was
going to save it for confessionals
later but better to get it out now.

She stands up straighter. Composed.

CANDICE (CONT'D)

It was Christmas break. I went out for some eggnog and bumped into a boy from school... We ended up in the frozen food aisle... with the eggos.

STEPHAN

You really don't have to tell us any more.

PILLAR

Let her speak.

Candice looks at Pillar and smiles.

CANDICE

It got pretty hot and heavy and... he went... to second base.

Pillar nods with approval. Stephan waits for more.

CANDICE (CONT'D)

Whew. Okay. I thought that was going to eat me alive forever.

STEPHAN

What?

CANDICE

Thank you, Pillar.

She smiles at Pillar who nods back.

STEPHAN

Wait, Candice, is that it?

CANDICE

Is that it!?

Barry looks their way after hearing Candice's outburst.

PILLAR

It's enough.

CANDICE

Exactly.

STEPHAN

Second base is nothing.

At this Pillar, looks between the two in shock.

CANDICE

I felt so dirty. I even forgot the eggnog.

Candice turns to Pillar.

CANDICE (CONT'D)

Thank you. Thank you for having me say something and understanding.

PILLAR

Happy to help.

Stephan steps in looking for anything to change the subject.

STEPHAN

Pillar, let's get you shooting. I know this kind of stuff can be intimidating.

Stephan steps behind her and places his hands on her arms trying to lift them in position.

Pillar doesn't move. Not that it matters. Barry sees the physical contact and hurries over.

Hector hurries after him like a loyal dog at his heels.

BARRY

Woah. Woah. P.D.A.. P.D.A..

With a chuckle, he comes to a stop by them.

BARRY (CONT'D)

But seriously. Let's keep our hands to ourselves. Save room for Jesus.

Stephan sheepishly backs away. Pillar rolls her shoulders and looks at him like he's crazy.

BARRY (CONT'D)

Alright, let's have you shoot, Pillar. If you're going to join us at camp, we want you to feel like a real part of us.

Pillar nocks an arrow.

BARRY (CONT'D)

You want to draw in one motion. Bring it to your cheek.

Something RUSTLES in the woods behind the targets. Small, but Pillar notices.

BARRY (CONT'D)
Go on, bring up your elbow.

Quick as a flash, Pillar pulls and releases. The arrow misses the target by a mile, it streaks into the woods.

BARRY (CONT'D)
Well, the first time is always
harder than you think it will be.

PILLAR
I'll prove myself.

BARRY
For now maybe we'll just use you as
moral support when the middle-
schoolers come.

PILLAR
I can do moral support, but first
let me retrieve what was lost.

BARRY
Oh it's long gone. Just learn from
your mistake and move on.

PILLAR
What was lost can always be found.
It just needs a little help.

Bow and arrows in hand she dashes off into the woods.

EXT. WOODS - DAY

Pillar glides through trees and bushes barely making a sound.
She's right at home.

As if guided by a beacon, she finds her arrow...

Buried in the belly of a still alive and writhing weasel!

SNAP.

Pillar wheels around to find Stephan standing behind her.

STEPHAN
Thought you might need help.

Pillar lifts up the weasel by its tail.

STEPHAN (CONT'D)
Apparently not.

HISS.

At Pillar's feet slithers a large snake. Mouth open, fangs exposed.

Again, fast as lightning, Pillar draws an arrow and fires.

WHACK. It skewers the serpent through the head.

STEPHAN (CONT'D)

Holy shit.

Pillar bends down to pull the arrow out but winces as she moves. Looking down at her ankle, two small, perpendicular, red spots stand stark against her white skin.

Stephan GASPS.

PILLAR

It's fine. They're not poisonous.

She rips the arrow out of the snake's head. Its fangs tipped with blood.

EXT. ARCHERY RANGE - DAY

Pillar carries the barely alive weasel by its tail. Stephan hurries after her.

Barry stares, dumbfounded. Pillar grins with pride.

TYRELL

Is that a weasel?

WHITNEY

What are you going to do with it?

PILLAR

What's merciful.

Gripping the weasel by the throat, Pillar wrings her hands.

CRACK. The weasel goes limp. She drops it to the ground.

Barry goes white.

Tyrell's mouth drops open.

Stephan looks at Pillar in semi-disgust and awe.

WHITNEY

Really?

Hector gags. Vomits in his mouth.

BARRY

Alright, let's call it quits.
Lunch?

Candice smiles at Pillar before wiping another dried tear off her face.

CANDICE

I'm going to go to the bathroom and
freshen up.

PILLAR

I'll see you soon.

The Teens and Barry head to the Main Lodge. Candice toward the shower cabin. Pillar watches her leave.

Bending down, she rips the arrow from the weasel's carcass. Taking the arrow, she SNAPS the feather end off.

In her hand, she now holds a "mini-spear."

She conceals it in her back pocket.

EXT. GIRL'S OUTDOOR BATHROOM - DAY

A small run-down building. Barely big enough a few showers.

INT. GIRL'S OUTDOOR BATHROOM - DAY

Pillar tiptoes in and stands to the side of the stalls.

Only Candice's feet can be seen behind the shower curtain.

Pillar takes out her arrow. Now she waits, ready.

But her mystery ailment strikes again. As if something hit her in the stomach, Pillar doubles over.

Breathing deep, Pillar probes her stomach with her fingers. Applying light pressure, she grits her teeth in pain.

CLUNK.

The shower shuts off. Still in the stall, Candice reaches for a towel.

Back in focus, Pillar grips her arrow with a new determination.

UNTIL. Panic blossoms on Pillar's face.

Pillar cocks her head as she looks down at her waist.

Hesitantly, she moves her free hand down her pants.

She gasps with surprise.

Pulling her hand back out, her middle and index finger are spotted with blood.

A red stain blooms on her pants.

CANDICE (O.S.)

Pillar.

Pillar swings the arrow behind her back. Hidden.

Candice, wrapped in a towel, stands directly in front of her.

CANDICE (CONT'D)

You should have asked. I've got spares.

PILLAR

What is happening to me?

The cool, confident killer is gone. Stripped away. A little girl wilts in front of Candice.

CANDICE

Oh, Pillar. It's your... period.

PILLAR

I'm bleeding. Why?

Candice moves in for a bear hug. She envelops Pillar.

Pillar GRUNTS in surprise.

Pillar slowly maneuvers the arrow inches away from Candice's exposed side. She's within reach of her heart.

Candice pulls back, bringing her face a breath away from Pillar's.

CANDICE

It's going to be okay. I'm going to go get Margaret.

Pillar dry swallows. Her hand holding the arrow shakes.

Candice smiles.

Pillar pulls the arrow back behind her back.

PILLAR

Okay.

She slips it once again into her back pocket.

INT. GIRL'S CABIN - DAY - LATER

Pillar, now changed, squats on the floor in a circle with Whitney, Candice and Margaret.

Pillar notices the tip of the arrow sticking out from her sleeve. She tucks it back up.

Candice presents a fist full of pads.

CANDICE

They line your underwear. Soak everything up.

PILLAR

And those?

Whitney fans out the colored tampons still in their plastic cases.

WHITNEY

These you stick up your who-haw.

PILLAR

Who-haw?

Whitney mimes the action as a demonstration.

PILLAR (CONT'D)

Not on your life.

Whitney and Candice chuckle. Pillar does not.

PILLAR (CONT'D)

Does my father bleed?

The Girls quit laughing. They look to Margaret. This one's all her.

MARGARET

Men don't bleed.

PILLAR

Did we do something wrong?

MARGARET
You did nothing wrong.

PILLAR
Then why?

MARGARET
It's a part of reproduction.

PILLAR
You mean sex?

MARGARET
That's a part of it.

Pillar looks down at her who-haw in horror.

MARGARET (CONT'D)
Pillar, how long has it just been
you and your dad?

PILLAR
Always.

WHITNEY
You don't have a mom?

CANDICE
You must have had one at one point.
Doesn't work otherwise.

Pillar blinks. A true statement she's never considered.

MARGARET
I think Pillar maybe means that she
never knew her mother.

PILLAR
My father never mentioned her, and
I never asked.

Pillar stops cold. It's as if she only just realized it after
saying it out loud.

Whitney and Candice both look at Pillar in a new light.

Margaret's eyes fill with pity.

MARGARET
How bout we bond over something
slightly less bloody.

She swipes the pads and tampons away.

Margaret pulls out a duffle bag filled with cookies and soda.

MARGARET (CONT'D)
I'm calling for a girl's night
tonight.

WHITNEY
What about the bonfire? Didn't
Barry have plans?

MARGARET
Oh he had some plans. I changed
them.

The Girls grin with excitement.

INT. BOY'S CABIN - NIGHT

Stone-faced, Barry slumps in a circle on the floor with the
Boys.

Tyrell sits back straight. Hector leans forward, eager.
Stephan picks at his finger nails.

BARRY
S.T.D.'s And Babies. That's it.

HECTOR
But is it fun? Some of the guys at
school talk and all the movies --

BARRY
-- Are you listening to me at all?

HECTOR
Okay, can I at least talk to girls?

BARRY
There are tons of women at church
that you can teach or advise.

HECTOR
At the church?..

Barry's nods oblivious to how much he missed the point.

TYRELL
I don't think that's what he was
going f--

STEPHAN
Barry, what do you think of born-
again virgins?

Stephan smiles at his own conversation curve-ball.

BARRY

You know when your church told me you were upstanding young men, I wasn't expecting to find you so lacking in your faith.

TYRELL

(incredulous)
Lacking?

Barry stands up.

BARRY

If you weren't, you wouldn't be troubling me with these ridiculous questions.

He storms out of the cabin leaving the three Boys to stare at each other.

Stephan starts to laugh. Tyrell looks shocked. Hector shrugs.

HECTOR

Maybe I just won't tell him if I talk to girls at school.

EXT. CAMP - NIGHT

Barry barrels through the camp grounds. The dark main lodge barely outlined by dim star light looms in his path.

WHACK!

Barry stumbles into a tree branch. Leaves and twigs snap away as he collides with it.

Frustrated, he rips the dying branch wholly off the tree.

With a GROWL, he turns back to the lodge only to run into Arnaugh who appears seemingly out of nowhere.

BARRY

Watch it.

ARNAUGH

I was going to prune that in the morning.

BARRY

It's fine.

He makes to walk away but stops himself.

BARRY (CONT'D)
You know what I like about Pillar?

Arnaugh stands quiet.

BARRY (CONT'D)
She doesn't question. She's the only one who hasn't pestered or back talked. She hears authority and takes their word.

ARNAUGH
She is a worthy child.

BARRY
I get the feeling that a lot of that has to do with your parenting.

Barry looks to the Girl's cabin. Light from its windows break up the dark night. Boisterous LAUGHTER fills the open air.

BARRY (CONT'D)
Everywhere we go, every church we've joined... same story. Half Christians. I hear the same excuses. Work. Family. If God's not first, dare I say what is?

ARNAUGH
Sin.

Barry breathes in deep. Calming. As if a weight has been lifted.

BARRY
I have to be honest. I was almost starting to question God. I was getting to a point to where I never thought I was going to meet someone who saw the world how it really is.

ARNAUGH
God's true work is an isolated calling. But I do have Pillar. And you have your wife.

BARRY
Margaret?

He looks again to the lively Girl's cabin.

BARRY (CONT'D)

She can be willful. She doesn't
always see things my way.

ARNAUGH

Children can be like that. Leave no
room for other options. They will
bend or break but eventually they
will see your way.

Barry nods in agreement.

EXT. GIRL'S CABIN - NIGHT

Seeing it through the window, the Girls chat and laugh
amicably. Even Pillar joins in. She smiles warmly.

INT. GIRL'S CABIN - NIGHT - LATER

Margaret stands by the open door. The Girls in their beds.

MARGARET

Good night, y'all. If you need
anything, I want you to think of me
like your mom for this week.

She smiles before exiting and closing the door.

WHITNEY

That was fun.

PILLAR

It was...

Pillar speaks as if she can't believe it herself.

CANDICE

Let me know if you need help with
those pads. Or anything really.

Pillar studies the smiling Candice. She seems so genuine.

PILLAR

Thank you.

WHITNEY

Alright, good night.

CANDICE

Good night.

PILLAR
Good night.

Pillar lays her head on her pillow as the lights go out.

INT. GIRL'S CABIN - LATER

Pillar, eyes open, sits up. Candice and Whitney snore gently.

Silent as a mouse, Pillar creeps toward Candice.

With a flick of her wrist, the arrow slides into her palm.

Candice rolls over. Her blankets slide off her chest. Pillar can almost see her beating heart underneath her shirt.

Pillar grits her teeth. Holds the arrow tight...

And exits the cabin.

Candice sleeps, unaware of the danger that hovered over her.

INT. MAIN LODGE - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Margaret enters finding Barry, with his back to her, by the dresser unbuttoning his shirt.

She smiles as she approaches. He makes no move to acknowledge her.

Standing directly behind him, Margaret places her hands on his biceps. She kisses the nape of his neck.

Barry shrugs her off.

Margaret changes tactics, swinging her arms around his torso.

BARRY
Not tonight.

He shrugs her off again. Margaret steps back confused.

MARGARET
Barry -

BARRY
I said no.

He folds his arms, finally turning to face her.

Slowly she nods before sliding into bed defeated. Barry throws the covers back before hopping in.

He smiles as falls asleep. Margaret rolls over, wide awake.

EXT. CAMP - NIGHT

Pillar joins Arnaugh by the wood-chopping block.

The axe rests between them, buried deep in the tree stump.

ARNAUGH

How did it go? The girl?

PILLAR

Did you know? What would happen to me?

ARNAUGH

Daughter?

PILLAR

That I'd bleed? By the moon. Every cycle.

Arnaugh takes in a deep breath. He's all caught up now.

ARNAUGH

It was Eve's curse. No place for a son of Adam.

Pillar mulls his response over before taking a deep breath.

PILLAR

Who was my mother?

ARNAUGH

You don't have a mother.

PILLAR

Everyone has a mother.

ARNAUGH

Stop this foolishness. Look what this camp has done. Filling your head with nothing but distractions.

PILLAR

A distraction?

ARNAUGH

Should I take grandfather back?

Any anger that was building comes to a crashing halt.

ARNAUGH (CONT'D)

Are you worthy? The Lord's work, is
no yolk to be taken lightly... Will
you join me in eternal reward?

Pillar bows her head.

PILLAR

Father forgive me. I'm worthy.
Please. I'll show you.

Arnaugh puts his hand under Pillar's chin, lifting her head.

ARNAUGH

Good. I know you won't let me down.

He pulls her into an embrace, stroking her hair.

Pillar smiles with relief.

ARNAUGH (CONT'D)

Go.

She nods before turning back to the cabin.

ARNAUGH (CONT'D)

You never did answer me. Did you
kill the girl?

Pillar stops turning partially back to her father.

PILLAR

She proved more cautious than
normal. I'll find another.

ARNAUGH

See that you do. We have one more
day before others arrive.

Arnaugh watches his Daughter disappear into the night.

INT. CRAFT HOUSE - DAY

Pillar, the Teens, Margaret and Barry craft with paper mache.

Everyone constructs the same T-shaped structure except Pillar
who works on a hand-sized orb of some kind.

Whitney and Candice each offer a warm smile to Pillar who
can't help but wave and awkwardly smile back.

Pillar adjusts her pants - still getting used to the pad.

She grabs some more soaked newspaper and then slides in between Stephan and Tyrell. Hector sits across from her.

TYRELL
(to Hector)
Why don't you ask Pillar?

Hector goes red in the face.

HECTOR
No way.

Pillar's head swivels between the two in confusion.

STEPHAN
You can trust her. She's cool.

Stephan locks eyes with Pillar. He means so much more than just "cool."

HECTOR
Do you think you could help me?

PILLAR
With what?

HECTOR
A girl.

PILLAR
Whitney?
(almost nervous)
Candice?

HECTOR
No. No. No. Not a girl here.

ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE ROOM

Barry's T-shaped structure is an immaculate cross. Margaret can hardly focus on hers.

MARGARET
About last night.

BARRY
We should reconsider our previous arrangement.

MARGARET
I was thinking the same thing.

Barry looks up in surprise. A secret smile plays on Margaret's lips.

MARGARET (CONT'D)
It's just not very fair of me.

BARRY
Thank you. I'm glad you can respect
my perspective on this matter.

MARGARET
Of course.

She slides her hand up his thigh.

Barry twitches in surprise, knocking the table and spilling
the bowl of white glue paste on his pants.

BARRY
Margaret.

MARGARET
It's only fair that since I'm
asking you to put in so much
effort, I make it a little fun.

BARRY
What are you doing?

MARGARET
I read about it in your mother's
Cosmo.

Barry's eyes narrow at the mention of his mother.

MARGARET (CONT'D)
Uh oh. You've spilled a load on
your pants.

She motions to the glue on his leg.

MARGARET (CONT'D)
I'm sure I can help you come up
with another though.

Her hand slides up until it finds Barry's package.

BARRY
Do you have to be so crass?

Barry slides down the bench away from Margaret.

MARGARET
I'm just having fun.

BARRY

We'll go again tonight, okay? Okay?
But it's not appropriate right now.

Slowly, he removes her hand.

MARGARET

(incredulous)

"My end of the bargain..."
What did the Cosmo say to do next?

She unbuckles his belt and slides her hand down his pants.
His head rolls back first in shock and then in pleasure.

BARRY

Margaret. We can't... the kids.

MARGARET

Look at them. They won't even
notice we're gone.

Pillar chats with the Boys. Candice and Whitney focus on
their work.

BARRY

What did Paul say in the bible.

MARGARET

I'll take God over Paul. Be
fruitful and multiply.

Her hand down his pants, Barry's stumped this time.

MARGARET (CONT'D)

You know what else the magazine
told me to do.

She whispers in his ear. Barry releases his paper cross.

BACK WITH PILLAR

Pillar takes a scalpel to her paper mache orb.

Her orb takes shape. Two eye sockets, rows of teeth: A skull.

Behind her, Barry and Margaret sneak out.

HECTOR

So what do you think?

PILLAR

About what?

HECTOR
About the girl? What do I say?

PILLAR
How does this end?

HECTOR
How does what end?

PILLAR
You trying to have relations with
her?

Tyrell, Stephan, and Hector all balk.

HECTOR
What? No. I just wanna talk to her.
Maybe hold her hand.

PILLAR
Is that it?

HECTOR
Yeah, I can't have a kid at this
age. I'm going to be a doctor.

PILLAR
A doctor?

HECTOR
A surgeon. I want to save lives.

Pillar looks up from her paper mache skull to study Hector.

STEPHAN
Wait, having sex doesn't mean
you'll automatically have a kid.

HECTOR
That's not what Barry said.

TYRELL
Maybe he was speaking to something
else.

STEPHAN
If people got pregnant every time
they had sex, they'd have a kid for
every nine months they were
married.

HECTOR
I guess.

He looks to Tyrell and Pillar for confirmation.

PILLAR

I care little for what a man and
his wife do.

He starts to count on his fingers.

HECTOR

How long do you think my folks have
been married?

STEPHAN

Just ask Barry or Margaret. Let
them set it straight.

They turn toward Barry's table, but he and Margaret are gone.

Out the window, the married couple head into the main lodge.

STEPHAN (CONT'D)

Or we could do something else...

EXT. LAKE - DAY

Stephan stands by the canoes with the Teens.

STEPHAN

Whitney, you and Candice could pair
up. Hector, you and Tyrell.
Leaving. Pillar. You can ride with
me.

PILLAR

Ride? I'll be rowing.

TYRELL

Maybe we should wait.

CANDICE

Yeah, aren't we supposed to do this
tomorrow... with Barry.

STEPHAN

If Jesus didn't want you here,
would there be canoes? Come on,
maybe one of you can walk on water.

Thoroughly convinced, each Pair grabs a canoe and paddles.

INT. MAIN LODGE - BEDROOM - DAY

Margaret rolls off Barry, both heave for air.

BARRY

Woah.

MARGARET

That was...

BARRY

... woah.

MARGARET

Amen.

Barry frowns at the perceived sacrilegious slight but says nothing as he stands to get dressed.

MARGARET (CONT'D)

If you enjoyed it as much as I did,
we could retire early tonight...

BARRY

Retire?

MARGARET

After dinner.

BARRY

Skip the bonfire?

MARGARET

Let Tyrell run it. This was fun.

Barry zips up his pants.

BARRY

Out of the question.

MARGARET

Just one night.

BARRY

This week isn't ours, it's God's.

MARGARET

So you can't take time for yourself
or for your family?

BARRY

God gave me this time. Those kids are finally away from their homes of compromise. This is all that matters.

MARGARET

All?

BARRY

I should never have left craft time.

Barry heads for the door.

MARGARET

What?

BARRY

You tricked me. I'm here for the kids, and you seduced me away.

MARGARET

Seduced you? I'm not some floozy. I'm your wife.

BARRY

This was a mistake.

MARGARET

What about being fruitful? Multiplying? Was that a mistake?

BARRY

God first. Everything else... No more until camp is over.

MARGARET

You made a promise.

BARRY

If you're not pregnant now, you'll wait until I can trust you again.

Barry slams the door as he exits. Margaret bursts into tears.

EXT. LAKE - DAY

Hector and Tyrell's canoe wobbles as they paddle.

Candice and Whitney float in circles while Pillar commands her and Stephan's canoe.

STEPHAN

You're different from any girl I've met before.

Pillar looks to Candice and Whitney who both wave to her. She shyly smiles back.

STEPHAN (CONT'D)

In a good way I mean, of course. Most girls, I swear, live by a whole different set of rules.

PILLAR

But not me?

STEPHAN

I feel like I know you. Straight forward. I like that.

PILLAR

You think Hector really doesn't want to fornicate with that girl?

STEPHAN

(with a chuckle)
See. Straight forward.

Pillar waits for her answer.

STEPHAN (CONT'D)

Hector's not going to try to sleep with this girl. He wouldn't know what to do if she smiled at him.

PILLAR

You're lying.

STEPHAN

No way. He... everyone here... die hard virgin. And I mean die.

PILLAR

Candice confessed.

STEPHAN

To letting a guy touch her...

He gestures to his chest.

STEPHAN (CONT'D)

Still a virgin.

PILLAR

That's second base!?

STEPHAN

Everyone here is saving themselves
for marriage. It's practically half
of what being a Christian means.

Pillar strokes but lost in her confusion, her paddle doesn't
never even touches the water.

OVER WITH HECTOR AND TYRELL

Hector spots Barry walking across the grounds.

HECTOR

Barry!

But Barry doesn't hear or notice. He keeps on walking.

HECTOR (CONT'D)

Barry!

Hector stands up, waving his arms. The canoe wobbles
dangerously.

TYRELL

Hector!

The boat flips. Hector falls striking his head on the canoe.

SPLASH! Both he and Tyrell land in the water.

It's at this moment, it becomes very apparent that none of
them are wearing life-jackets.

A moment later. Tyrell's head comes up from under the
surface. He throws his arms onto the over-turned canoe.

He looks around.

TYRELL (CONT'D)

Where's Hector?

They all scan the water.

CANDICE

Where is he?

Tyrell sticks his head under water. But brings it up seconds
later.

TYRELL

I can't see anything.

Another moment passes. Surely, Hector will surface any second
now.

Pillar stares at the rippling surface.

No sign of Hector.

She looks around. Each of the Teens are stunned into inaction.

In a flash, she stands up and dives into the water. SPLASH!

EXT. UNDERWATER - DAY

Pillar makes her way through the murky water. Particles float all around obscuring her vision.

She sees nothing.

All seems lost... But wait! A flash of color.

Only... it's her arrow. It floats past her. Her hand shoots to her back pocket. Empty.

She reaches for it but stops as she spots the sinking Hector.

Ignoring the arrow she makes for Hector.

EXT. LAKE - DAY

Pillar drags a limp Hector to the shore.

Moments later the Teens beach their canoes next to them.

TYRELL

Is he okay?

Hector lies still on the grass. Pillar heaves for air.

CANDICE

What do we do?

TYRELL

Anyone know mouth to mouth?

CANDICE

Will Barry be okay with that?

STEPHAN

Seriously?

SCOFFING in exasperation, Whitney kneels down and begins performing mouth to mouth on Hector.

A few chest pumps later, and Hector coughs up half the lake.

PILLAR
Will he live?

Whitney nods.

Pillar weighs what she's done. Uncertain whether to be happy he will.

STEPHAN
Hector, you okay?

HECTOR
(spluttering)
I almost...

CANDICE
Did you see Jesus?

TYRELL
Maybe we should go to a doctor.

HECTOR
I don't need a doctor. I need
Barry.

STEPHAN
Maybe you do need a doctor.

HECTOR
You only get one life.

He dashes off before anyone can get another word in.

CANDICE
(to Pillar)
That was the bravest thing I've
ever seen.

PILLAR
Bravest?

WHITNEY
You saved his life.

ARNAUGH (O.S.)
Perhaps you meant foolish?

They all turn in shock to find Arnaugh staring down at Pillar.

She gulps in fear.

Tyrell spots the bright orange life jackets bunched together under a covered rack by the water.

TYRELL
Yeah, that was pretty stupid.

ARNAUGH
My daughter should have known
better. Leave us.

EXT. LAKE - MOMENTS LATER

Pillar and Arnaugh now stand alone by the calm water.

ARNAUGH
Explain.

PILLAR
I... I don't know.

Hissing through his teeth.

ARNAUGH
You don't know?

PILLAR
It just happened.

ARNAUGH
Why is the fat one still alive?

PILLAR
You mean Candice?

ARNAUGH
Candice... So not only have you
befriended a sinner but you chose
to save another. God saw your
incompetence and was doing your
work for you but you interfered.

PILLAR
Father. This camp. They're all
Christians.

ARNAUGH
You told me this already. It means
nothing.

PILLAR
It means everything. None of them
are even thinking of having sex.

ARNAUGH
I told you. It means nothing.

PILLAR
You knew. You knew what it meant.

ARNAUGH
You told me this Candice confessed.

PILLAR
It wasn't sex.

ARNAUGH
Did she sin?

Hesitant to answer but with nowhere else to go.

PILLAR
Yes, but --

ARNAUGH
Christian is just another name for sinner.

PILLAR
But it was always been sex. And she confessed. They see their sin, and if they can see it, know that it's wrong, maybe they can change. Are they that different from us?

ARNAUGH
Pillar!

He grabs her shoulders, drawing her close.

ARNAUGH (CONT'D)
We are the Chosen. Would Grandfather have said it was so if God, himself, hadn't ordained it? They are nothing like us. Do you understand?

PILLAR
Yes.

ARNAUGH
Don't forget what you were named you for. God's Pillar of Fire. As it purged the Egyptians, warned his people of God's wrath, you will burn away the chafe and warn a new people of God's narrow path.

PILLAR
But there's no sex.

ARNAUGH
Kill them all. God will know his
own.

Slowly she nods.

PILLAR
I won't fail you again.

He lets go of her shoulders. Relaxing.

ARNAUGH
I know.

ARNAUGH (CONT'D)
Start with the boy who God decreed
should die and finish the rest
tonight.

PILLAR
Yes, father.

EXT. WOODS - DAY

Barry fumes as he picks up stray branches on the ground.
Behind him the woods abruptly end at the edge of a cliff.

BARRY
(sotto)
Skipping the bonfire devo... like
hell --

He chokes on the word.

Hector stumbles into the woods. CRASHING through the brush.
Barry glances at the noise.

BARRY (CONT'D)
Not now, Hector --

He stops, getting his first real look at the sappy wet kid.

HECTOR
We went swimming.

BARRY
Swimming.
(sotto)
I'm gonna kill her.

He bends over to pick up more branches.

Hector joins in on the work.

HECTOR
Is this for the fire tonight?

BARRY
Hector, I got it. Go get changed.

HECTOR
No, it's fine. I'm almost dry
anyway.

PLOP. Water drips off him steadily.

HECTOR (CONT'D)
Can I ask you something?

BARRY
I really need to get this work
done.

HECTOR
How do you know if a girl's the
one?

BARRY
-- Now is really not a good time.

Hector plows on. Bearing his soul.

HECTOR
Not that she gives me the time of
day. Would I really be missing out
on anything? I want to have kids,
but I could adopt.

BARRY
Hector.

Hector keeps picking up branches.

HECTOR
My dad says it's a man and a woman
becoming one though, and I can't
imagine not going through life
having gotten to be a whole with
someone else.

BARRY
Hector.

HECTOR

What do you do if she's not a
Christian though? Is that a deal
breaker?

Hector stops, by this point he's worked his way right by
Barry's side. Both hold an arm load of branches.

HECTOR (CONT'D)

Yeah?

BARRY

Not now.

HECTOR

What if there isn't a later? You
never know.

Water continues to drip from his wet clothes and hair.

BARRY

There's always a later. I promise.

Hector and Barry bend over, reaching for a stick at the same
time.

They both come up holding opposite ends of the same stick.

BARRY (CONT'D)

Drop it.

HECTOR

I got it.

BARRY

Drop it. Drop all of them.

HECTOR

No sense in me dropping all these.
Here give me the stick, and I'll
take them to the fire pit.

BARRY

Just go, Hector.

Barry tugs on the sticks.

HECTOR

That's silly. Let me help you.

Hector tugs back.

BARRY

Let go.

Again Barry tugs.

HECTOR
Come on, let me help you.

Again Hector tugs back. He shifts his feet, steadying his grip. Except his shifting feet shifts dirt right off the edge of the cliff.

They've moved to the cliff's edge and neither of them realize it. It's right behind Hector.

BARRY
Hector.

HECTOR
Barry.

Barry tugs again, Hector resisting.

HECTOR (CONT'D)
Are you really going to do all this work yourself?

The game continues. With each passing moment another tug.

HECTOR (CONT'D)
Trust me.

BARRY
I trust you.

HECTOR
Then let me help you.

BARRY
I'm fine.

HECTOR
That's what I'm talking about. Look how many sticks there are here. How do you ever expect to do all this work if you only think it's for you to do.

BARRY
Hector!

He yanks the stick from Hector's hand. The force of it this time knocking Hector off balance.

Arms flail. Sticks fly. He teeters. He totters.

Hector plummets off the cliff edge. YELLING the whole way down until THUMP! THUD! The yelling stops.

Barry remains frozen for a moment before carefully peeking over the edge.

BARRY (CONT'D)

Hector?

EXT. CLIFF BASE - DAY

Barry scrambles down a ravine, reaching the bottom he searches until he finds...

Hector's body.

Barry looks up to the edge where Hector fell. Thirty feet up.

Hector's sprawled out. His arm at a weird angle. Eyes closed.

BARRY

Hector?

He gives him a little nudge.

Blood, trapped under the body, seeps onto the forest floor, freed after Barry's push.

Barry WHIMPERS. Eyes wide. His fingers twitch.

CAW!

Barry jerks his head up at the sound. Searching.

A flutter of feathers. Just a bird. Barry breathes a little easier.

Some leafs RUSTLE.

The wind WHISTLES.

Barry takes in the sounds of nature. He blinks. His fingers steady. He takes a deep breath.

For a moment, he's at peace. Finally quiet.

Bending over, Barry scraps some leaves together and throws them onto Hector effectively hiding the body.

Barry takes one last look around before dashing off.

EXT. MAIN LODGE - DAY

Pillar joins the Teens who are sitting on the porch steps.

PILLAR
Anyone seen Hector?

They shake their heads. No.

Pillar scans the camp. No sign of him.

But her vision stops at the axe buried in the chopping block where she last left it.

She lets slip the smallest of smiles.

Margaret steps out of the house. Her face haggard.

Before the Teens see her, she wipes away one last tear. Putting on a brave face, she smiles down on them.

MARGARET
Where's Barry?

TYRELL
I think I saw him running into the woods. Hector went after him.

MARGARET
Well, there's no point waiting on him. What we do is up to us now.

Pillar turns to walk off.

MARGARET (CONT'D)
Pillar, where are you going?

PILLAR
Someone should find Hector. Make sure he's okay.

MARGARET
What do you mean?

PILLAR
He almost drow --

All the Teens go wide-eyed. Stephan jumps up from his seat and interrupts.

STEPHAN
Down.

Pillar looks to Stephan like he's crazy.

MARGARET

What?

Pillar opens her mouth to speak again but Stephan intercedes once more.

STEPHAN

Almost had a nervous breakdown.
Cute girl at school. Barry wasn't
so sure it would work out. It's a
long story.

MARGARET

I see.

PILLAR

I'll go find him.

MARGARET

Pillar, best to leave him be. Some
times a person just needs to be
alone.

Pillar mulls this over. Frowns. Can't think of anything to say. She's stuck.

WHITNEY

So if the afternoon is ours, what
are we going to do?

MARGARET

How bout something fun for a
change?

EXT. BASKETBALL COURT - DAY

Whitney passes the basketball to Pillar who catches it deftly but holds it like a alien object.

WHITNEY

Have you seriously never played?

PILLAR

Played what?

MARGARET

Basketball. Real simple. Bounce the
ball as you move. Throw it up into
the hoops to score. Whoever scores
the most, wins.

PILLAR

Wins what?

MARGARET

The game.

Pillar scans the open camp grounds. Again no Hector but also no sign of Barry or Arnaugh.

PILLAR

I don't know if I should be playing any games right now.

TYRELL

Come on, it will be fun.

CANDICE

Yeah, it will be nice to just cut lose for a bit.

STEPHAN

It will be worth it. I promise.

BEGIN MONTAGE:

The Teens and Margaret play basketball.

At first Pillar seems distracted, she keeps looking off.

Missing passes. Shots.

Hector is nowhere to be seen, but Pillar can't help but notice how much fun everyone has as they jump and run around.

Slowly She eases into the game.

Pillar struggles to dribble. She looks up to see Candice grinning her way. Pillar smiles back.

Tyrell passes Pillar the ball, he points for her to shoot.

She makes a basket.

Margaret cheers.

Pillar watches Margaret give Tyrell a high-five.

Pillar's next. She happily slams her palm into Margaret's.

END MONTAGE

Pillar dribbles toward the hoop. Stephan blocks her way.

No holding back now, Pillar jumps into him as she fires her shot off.

They fall to the ground. The ball bounces off the rim.

Neither take notice though as Stephan has fallen to the ground and Pillar right on top of him.

For a moment the world and the game seems to come to a stop. Their faces remain frozen inches apart.

STEPHAN (CONT'D)

Good shot.

He smiles at her.

Her eyes take in his whole face. She smiles back.

And then Barry rushes by. Flustered and out of breath.

PILLAR

Barry?

Stephan frowns. Pillar jumps off him.

STEPHAN

Pillar?

But she's already gone. Chasing after Barry into the Main lodge.

INT. MAIN LODGE - CHAPEL - DAY

Barry kneels down in prayer under a mounted cross. His eyes closed tight. Sweat beads on his forehead.

BARRY

Is this your way of saying this church, this camp isn't it? Like the churches before, are my efforts wasted here?

Barry waits. He opens his eyes peeking at the cross above him. It's almost as if he's expecting something... anything.

Silence.

BARRY (CONT'D)

I sensed some resistance to my purpose here but perhaps I was blind to their sin.

He pauses again to scans the rest of the chapel. Barren. Devoid of life.

Barry licks his lips. The sound of LAUGHTER from the teens outside penetrate the sanctuary.

Barry turns back to the cross. Once again closing his eyes.

BARRY (CONT'D)
 But now you've given me this sign.
 It is a sign, isn't it? What else
 could it be.

Barry's breath slows to a normal pace. He wipes his face
 clean of perspiration.

BARRY (CONT'D)
 You're telling me to move on.
 Forgive me for taking this long to
 see your will.

Again, Barry pauses, opens his eyes.

Still nothing from the cross or the chapel, but this time
 Barry seems unfazed.

BARRY (CONT'D)
 I thank you for your grace. My
 penance was a private one. You know
 how it has enraged me to be chased
 out, humiliated. I will not forget
 your mercy.

PILLAR (O.S.)
 Barry?

Barry slowly rises and turns to face the intruder.

PILLAR (CONT'D)
 Have you seen Hector?

Breathing deep, calm he answers.

BARRY
 No.

PILLAR
 Do you know where he might be?

Again, as if without a care in the world...

BARRY
 No.

PILLAR
 Oh.

BARRY

Pillar, to be honest, I'd have thought you'd have Hector figured by now.

PILLAR

Figured what?

BARRY

I spoke with your dad.

PILLAR

You did?

Pillar takes an involuntary step backwards. Where is this going?

BARRY

I think I and your family are cut from the same cloth. Hector's a dead end. He's not the kind of person you want to spend time with.

PILLAR

What did my father say?

BARRY

We had a meeting of the minds, if you will. I'll be leaving here soon. You should too. No one here will ever learn. Hector especially. It's better that he's gone. One less distraction.

PILLAR

I wouldn't say no one here can learn. Some times people just need to reminded.

BARRY

These people are beyond simple reminders.

PILLAR

Warned then or even pushed.

Barry flinches at the word.

BARRY

You told me that what's lost can always be found. I admire you and your father's faith, but even God knew when to cut his loses. Some people just stay lost.

Barry leaves.

Pillar lowers herself down onto one of the pews. She looks up at the cross Barry was praying under.

For a moment, she mulls over the conversation before...

ARNAUGH (O.S.)

Pillar.

She turns to find her father standing in the doorway.

EXT. WOODS - DAY

Arnaugh leads Pillar through the woods. He tramples through the underbrush practically dragging her along.

He's breathless with excitement.

She's breathless with confusion and masked concern.

ARNAUGH

I have to admit, I was a little afraid you weren't up to the task but here you are pulling one in under my nose.

Pillar studies her dad in total confusion.

ARNAUGH (CONT'D)

A little unorthodox, but even I've used other methods when the Lord provides other opportunities.

Arnaugh brings her to the edge of the cliff. The spot where Hector fell from.

Arnaugh smiles. Pillar looks around in confusion.

ARNAUGH (CONT'D)

Are you really going to make me go down there?

Pillar looks down. Rocks and leaves, that's all she sees.

ARNAUGH (CONT'D)

Well, I can't you haven't earned it.

EXT. CLIFF BASE - DAY

Arnaugh and Pillar stand above a small mound of leaves.

Arnaugh looks at her expectantly.

Still unsure of what's happening, Pillar bends down and sift through the leaves.

Swiping some away, she reveals Hector's bloody face.

She bolts up in shock.

After a moment she gathers her thoughts.

PILLAR
How did you find..?

ARNAUGH
Gathering wood for the bonfire.
Though someone had already done it.
I saw signs of a scuffle. Followed
the tracks.

Pillar silent nods.

ARNAUGH (CONT'D)
Grandfather would be proud. Did you
honor him with the blood?

Hector's vacant eyes seem to bore into her. Pillar steadies her shaking hands.

PILLAR
Yes.

Arnaugh places his hand on his daughter's shoulder.

ARNAUGH
I wish he could be here to see
this... I love you.

Pillar bends over, taking leaves she re-covers Hector.

PILLAR
I love you, too.

ARNAUGH
Go. Finish the rest. It's time we
were gone.

Worry, doubt, confusion mars Pillar face. Looking her father in the eye, she puts on a smile.

EXT. CAMPFIRE - NIGHT

Pillar stares into the roaring fire, losing herself. Flames shoot up into the night.

Stephan scoots in close to her, but she barely pays him any mind.

Everyone else is seated except Barry who slowly marches the perimeter.

Just beyond them lies the cliff edge and Hector...

BARRY

God spoke to me this afternoon. We both agree that it's time for a change.

MARGARET

You talked to God?

Barry doesn't even acknowledge Margaret's question or judgemental tone.

BARRY

Tonight. This is it. Your last chance.

CANDICE

Before the middle schoolers get here?

Stephan brings his hand down to his side. It's a hair's breadth away from Pillar's who's still oblivious to the world around her.

BARRY

God is offering you an opportunity. Margaret and I have traveled a long way but failed to find any real believers. Will you join me?

Pillar's continues to stare into the fire while Stephan is fixated on her, but Everyone else looks to each other in total confusion.

Barry seems off his rocker.

Margaret looks at her husband with concern. She stands up.

MARGARET

I think you and God are on to something. Maybe it is time for a change.

(MORE)

MARGARET (CONT'D)

How about you share with us what a healthy marital sexual relationship looks like?

Stephan gently takes Pillar's hand in his.

WHITNEY

Ooh yes, please.

BARRY

That's not what this night is about any more.

Pillar turns to Stephan who offers her a sweet smile.

MARGARET

But if the kids want it. That's what we're here for, right? To help them.

(To the Teens)

How would you kids like the hear it from the expert himself?

TYRELL

Yeah, what should we be striving for?

The smile jolts Pillar back into reality. She looks down and realizes she's holding hands with... a boy!

She pulls back in shock.

Stephan recoils and quickly faces forward. He goes beet red.

Pillar's face echoes. She wipes her hand on her pants.

BARRY

That's not the point --

CANDICE

-- Hang on. Where is Hector?

At this Pillar's head rockets toward Candice, then Barry.

BARRY

But a brief interlude wouldn't be --

WHITNEY

-- Do you guys have sex all the time? I would.

Whitney's gaze falls on Margaret. They lock eyes.

WHITNEY (CONT'D)

Oh I don't mean that I want to have sex with you... just in general...

MARGARET

I didn't think you meant me. Or anyone.

TYRELL

No, but seriously. Where is Hector? He's been gone all afternoon.

MARGARET

Has anyone seen him?

Pillar shuffles her feet. Her lips pressed into thin lines.

STEPHAN

He went into the woods after Barry.

Everyone turns to face Barry.

BARRY

Yes, he did. Hector... Hector left.

Pillar's mouth opens but she remains silent. Studying Barry.

MARGARET

What do you mean he left?

BARRY

He's in a better place. He went home.

STEPHAN

All his stuff is still in the cabin.

BARRY

Family emergency. His parents came to get him.

Pillar leans back. Now she knows he's lying.

MARGARET

I didn't see their car.

Barry scans the Teens. Most have a puzzled expression over their faces. His cool and calm composure starts to crack.

BARRY

You know, I think we can go to the bible and find some solid marriage examples: Abraham and Sarah.

A few approving nods.

PILLAR

He slept with his wife's servant.

Pillar sizes up Barry. Seeing him in a new light.

BARRY

There was David and Bathsheba.

PILLAR

He killed her husband.

BARRY

What about Esther and --

MARGARET

What was the emergency?

BARRY

What?

MARGARET

What was the family emergency? Why didn't they take any of his stuff?

BARRY

I don't know if it's appropriate to concern ourselves with other people's problems.

PILLAR

What about you and Margaret?

BARRY

What about us?

PILLAR

What is sex like inside your marriage?

Margaret sits back down as she waits for Barry to answer this one.

BARRY

But, what we should do, is pray. For Hector. And yourself. Head into the woods. Find some time with God alone and pray about your own sexual struggles. And Hector.

MARGARET

What about Pillar's question?

BARRY
We'll get there but for now --

TYRELL
-- I liked her question.

MARGARET
Is there any harm in answering it
now?

BARRY
It's prayer time, okay? Go. Go. Go
pray. We'll talk later.

Barry storms off toward the Main Lodge. Margaret chases after him.

One by one the Teens stand up and disappear into the woods.

Pillar watches Stephan walk into the night. She stalks after him.

EXT. WOODS NIGHT

Pillar stalks after an oblivious Stephan. The pale moon illuminates Stephan's forged path through the dark woods. The fire light grows smaller and smaller in the distance.

Like a lioness on the prowl, Pillar steps after Stephan as quiet as can be. She angles her feet to avoid leaves and twigs. Dodges branches.

Her face tells a different story though. Concern. Pain. Despite the ease in which she moves through the woods, this is no easy task.

Bending low to the ground, she picks up a jagged edged stick.

She closes her eyes and breathes out a sigh before pressing on.

Ahead of her, Stephan stops at a fallen tree log. He checks his watch before laying down on it and closing his eyes.

Pillar hides by a tree, watching her prey.

He doesn't move or speak. His chest falls in steady rhythm.

Slowly, Pillar edges toward him. Her movement calculated. Her hands steady. She holds the broken branch like a knife.

Stephan blows air out his mouth in upbeat bursts. His eyes still closed, he looks like a boy just trying to pass time.

The perfect target for Pillar who now stands above him. Her make-shift weapon held in a tight grip.

She studies his exposed and vulnerable neck. She can see his veins. Watch his Adam's apple rise.

Her chin quivers but she flexes her mouth to hold it steady.

She raises the branch high above her head.

She could strike now. His eyes are still closed. Unsuspecting. It would be over so soon. He'd hardly feel anything at all.

Pillar readjusts her grip. Sweat slicks the dark wood of her make-shift knife.

Stephan, oblivious to the world around him, smiles. Something he's thinking about perhaps.

A ghost of a smile echoes on Pillar's lips.

And she drops the branch.

The jagged piece of wood falls on the dry ground below, CRACKLING with the leaves scattered across the forest floor.

Stephan's eyes jerk open to find a tearful Pillar standing above him.

STEPHAN

Pillar?

Tears course down her face.

STEPHAN (CONT'D)

What are you doing?

He sits up on his log.

PILLAR

Failing.

STEPHAN

What?

PILLAR

I can't do it.

STEPHAN

Can't do what?

Stephan stands up and moves toward Pillar, but she takes a step back. He stops.

PILLAR

I'm supposed to be better.

STEPHAN

You're amazing. What are you talking about? You're the only one here who might actually be able to think for themselves.

He moves to her again. Slower this time. She doesn't take a step back.

PILLAR

No. I'm no different from anyone here. I failed God. I failed my father.

STEPHAN

I don't know about your dad, but everyone fails God.

She shakes her head.

STEPHAN (CONT'D)

Everybody. Just cause you can't see it, doesn't mean it's not there. Look at me.

Pillar does. He smiles down at her.

STEPHAN (CONT'D)

What sin am I guilty of?

PILLAR

I don't know.

STEPHAN

Trust me, it's there.

PILLAR

It's in me too. And he won't have me. Where do I belong now?

Stephan makes his move. Putting gentle hands on Pillar's waist, he pulls her in for a kiss.

Eyebrows shoot up on Pillar's surprised face.

But surprise weirdly yields to pleasure and she closes her eyes.

Slowly their lips part. Pillar, a bit breathless, steps back.

SNAP!

A twig? A branch?

Pillar pushes off Stephan and scans the woods.

Nothing.

STEPHAN
Probably an animal.

Stephan steps in again. Pillar looks up into his warm eyes.
Eager mouth...

Her brow furrows in concern.

She puts her hand to his chest stopping him.

PILLAR
Wait.

She steps back. Studying him.

Her finger tips trace her lips. As if remembering their
actions just moments before.

PILLAR (CONT'D)
No.

STEPHAN
What?

PILLAR
No.

Stephan moves toward her again.

STEPHAN
Pillar, did I do something wrong?

Distress is etched all over her face.

STEPHAN (CONT'D)
Pillar?

PILLAR
Father forgive me.

Pillar picks up her sharpened stick and turns it to her own
stomach.

There she holds it, tears streaming down her face.

INT. MAIN LODGE - NIGHT

Barry throws open the door of the lodge. Margaret rushing in right after him.

MARGARET
What's going on?

BARRY
What do you mean what's going on?

He ducks into the...

INT. KITCHEN- NIGHT

MARGARET
Quit dodging and answer me.

BARRY
I'm not dodging.

MARGARET
Then tell me why Hector's had to leave.

BARRY
That's really private information.

MARGARET
Dodge.

Barry pulls open the fridge door and hides behind it as he rifles through.

MARGARET (CONT'D)
What are you doing? You just ate.

BARRY
Looking for something for the road.

MARGARET
We're leaving?

BARRY
I am. You can do whatever you want.

MARGARET
You have to be joking. Because of our last fight?

BARRY

You know I don't like to call them fights. They're discussions.

MARGARET

It's hardly a discussion if your word is always last, and final.

Barry pulls out a packet of sausages.

MARGARET (CONT'D)

What happened to Hector?

BARRY

I told you. It's not nice to air other people's problems.

MARGARET

See.

With a sigh, Barry relents.

BARRY

Their house burned down. They lost all their stuff.

Barry puts the sausages on the counter, and moves to the cabinets, rifling around.

MARGARET

Oh my gosh.

BARRY

I know. Do you know where the skillets are?

He moves to another cabinet.

MARGARET

Wait. Wouldn't they want what little Hector brought here.

BARRY

What?

MARGARET

If they lost all their stuff, they'd want whatever he brought?

Barry pauses. She's got him.

MARGARET (CONT'D)

Their house didn't burn down did it?

His silence gives her the answer.

MARGARET (CONT'D)

I suppose I should be grateful that you chose to start lying only after you decide to leave me.

Margaret starts to move in toward Barry. Slowly edging toward him.

MARGARET (CONT'D)

You going to tell me, why you're leaving?

BARRY

God.

Bingo! He's found a skillet, but it's all the way back in the dark recesses of a cabinet under the counter.

Barry gets on his hands and knees.

MARGARET

Naturally... You know the next set of kids are just going to ask the same questions.

BARRY

These ones were too old. I'll go younger.

MARGARET

They'll grow old too. You can only forced feed them for so long before they wonder what they're chewing on.

With stretching fingers, he reaches the skillet. But on the way out of the cabinet, he bumps his head.

BARRY

Fuck!

MARGARET

Cursing now? That's a first.

BARRY

Margaret!

Still on his knees, he rubs his head.

MARGARET

Where's Hector?

He snaps.

BARRY

He's dead!

This time Margaret doesn't have a comeback. She's stunned.

BARRY (CONT'D)

And you know what you're right.

Slowly, he gets to his feet.

MARGARET

He's dead?

BARRY

They'll always sin. They'll always
be tempted. Narrow is the way. And
me finding any other true
Christians will take a miracle.

MARGARET

How did he die?

BARRY

No. I saved him. I got to him
before this twisted world could.

Those words play again in her head. "I got to him."

MARGARET

Oh my god.

He stands before her skillet in hand. Wielding it like a club. She eyes it, nervous.

BARRY

I can save all of you. Thank you
Margaret. For all the trouble and
pain you caused me, at least you
opened my eyes to this.

MARGARET

Barry, I don't know what happened,
but I know you. It had to have been
an accident. I'll tell them that.

BARRY

Tell who?

MARGARET

The police, Barry. We need to call
the police.

BARRY

They'd just get in the way.

He moves toward her. She backs away, scared. But he stops short at the gas range. And places the skillet on it.

Taking the sausages, he rips open the package and dumps them in.

Margaret shakes with fear, as she backs away.

MARGARET

Barry... We need the police. A boy is dead. This isn't time for God.

Barry drops his arms by his side. Lowers his head.

Margaret lowers her defenses, she takes a step toward her husband.

In a flash, Barry grabs a knife out of the knife block on the counter and stabs Margaret with it in the stomach.

She gasp in shock, staring at him in horror. Her hands goes to the blossoming blood on her blouse.

MARGARET (CONT'D)

Barry?

BARRY

I'm sorry, I couldn't save you.

In quick fashion, Barry rips into her body seven, eight, nine more times until finally...

She's lying on the floor, dead in a pool of her own blood.

Cool as you please, Barry lays the knife on the counter.

He exhales and breathes in deeply before ducking back over to the stove.

He fires it up.

The room is eerily quiet. The only sound is the faint hissing noise of hot grease POPPING.

Barry smiles. Relaxed. Margaret's blood pools at his feet.

EXT. WOODS - NIGHT

Pillar, hunched on the ground, still holds the sharpened branch though no longer aiming it on herself.

She looks worn down, defeated. Her eyes red, face blotchy from crying.

Behind her the SHUFFLING sound of feet on dirt and leaves.

PILLAR
Stephan, just leave me be.

She closes her eyes. Tremors shake her body.

MUFFLED BREATHING interrupts her moment of introspection and pain.

PILLAR (CONT'D)
Stephan!

She wheels around, fire in her eyes.

But it's immediately doused at what's before her.

It is indeed Stephan, but wide-eyed and terrified.

He has a knife to his throat and a hand over his mouth, both belonging to Arnaugh.

Pillar GASPS at the sight before composing herself.

PILLAR (CONT'D)
You saw.

Arnaugh pulls the blade closer to Stephan's neck. A small trickle of blood flows down his pale neck.

PILLAR (CONT'D)
What are you going to do with him?

ARNAUGH
What you should have already.

Stephan's nostrils flare. Breath blowing out in hurried bursts.

He MUMBLES something but Arnaugh's hand muffles most of it.

PILLAR
I'm sorry.

ARNAUGH
It's not my forgiveness you need
but God's.

PILLAR
I was apologizing to Stephan.

ARNAUGH

Stephan.

Arnaugh spits the name out with contempt.

ARNAUGH (CONT'D)

You were supposed to rise above the filth, and instead I find you mucking about with... Stephan.

Pillar takes a step toward Arnaugh who immediately changes the angle of the blade.

Stephan whimpers again. More blood.

ARNAUGH (CONT'D)

Stay where you are.

Pillar stops.

ARNAUGH (CONT'D)

Why kill one but not another?

PILLAR

I didn't kill Hector.

Stephan MUMBLES something again. He squirms.

ARNAUGH

Be quiet boy or your end will come sooner than ordained.

Stephan immediately stop. Tears roll down his cheeks.

Pity fills Pillar's face.

ARNAUGH (CONT'D)

Your grandfather would be ashamed.

PILLAR

I wouldn't know. Everything I was taught for someone I've never met.

ARNAUGH

It's called faith.

PILLAR

For you maybe. But I've just been fumbling around... blind. I know nothing for myself. Only what you have told me.

ARNAUGH

It should have been enough!

PILLAR

But what do you know? I once asked
you why we do this. I realize now
you never had the answer.

Arnaugh readjusts his grip on the knife. Stares down his
daughter.

ARNAUGH

You insolent... I never would have
dared question my father!

He yells it like an insult, but the sentence only damns him
more.

Pillar takes a step forward.

Arnaugh says nothing. She takes another.

ARNAUGH (CONT'D)

Save your soul in God's eyes. Turn
that stick back on yourself.

Pillar keeps the sharpened branch in her grip but doesn't
point it toward herself.

ARNAUGH (CONT'D)

I can see the guilt on your face.
You feel it too. You wouldn't have
tried were it not.

PILLAR

My guilt wasn't for God.

She takes another step forward.

PILLAR (CONT'D)

It was for you... Over how you
would feel. But this camp. These
teens have taught me another way.

ARNAUGH

I'd have thought my daughter would
have recognized Satan the deceiver
when he was staring her in the
face.

She stares her father down and takes another step.

She could reach out and touch him now.

Stephan has calmed somewhat. He studies Pillar in a whole new
light. His neck no longer openly bleeds.

PILLAR

They helped me. Were kind. They were nothing like what you spoke of.

ARNAUGH

I told you, this changes nothing. Only with their death can we warn others. How else will they learn?

PILLAR

No one had to die to change me.

Her words fall like an atom bomb, ripping apart their lives. She's right, and it makes everything else they believe in false.

They wait there for a moment in the fall out. Neither moving in their stand off.

Arnaugh flips the knife, he now holds the blade. The handle pointing toward Pillar.

ARNAUGH

Take the knife. Do what must be done and all will be forgiven.

She doesn't move.

ARNAUGH (CONT'D)

Daughter, you *must* do this.

PILLAR

I don't *have* to do anything any more.

Quick as a flash, Pillar knocks her father's arm away. Grabbing Stephan she yanks him out of Arnaugh's grip.

Stephan stumbles, turns to Pillar.

STEPHAN

Pillar --

PILLAR

-- Go. It's done.

Numb, he does so, fumbling his way in the dark.

A moment later, Pillar and Arnaugh stand alone. They stand beside each other but an eternal difference separates them now.

ARNAUGH
Your own person now.

PILLAR
I want to be.

ARNAUGH
If you must.

A jerk of his hand is all she sees. Pillar's eyes go wide. A soft GASP escapes her lips.

Looking down, her father has already pulled the knife out. Blood quickly stains her shirt.

ARNAUGH (CONT'D)
You leave me no other choice.

PILLAR
Father.

Putting his hands on her shoulders, Arnaugh leans in close.

ARNAUGH
You are no child of mine.

Pillar collapses to the ground; hand at her wound, a poor substitute for a bandage.

Her vision darkens. Shadows creeping in on the edges.

Darkness comes for her now, robbing Pillar of her last image: her late father as he stalks off into the night.

EXT. CAMP FIRE - NIGHT

Soft drops of rain PLOP and SPLATTER on the dry leaves.

The fire has died. All that's left are ash and smoldering logs HISSING under the onslaught of falling water.

Candice, Whitney, and Tyrell cower under tree limbs.

They stand in silence for a beat. Looking around. Barry and Margaret nowhere to be seen.

CANDICE
Should we go back and pray some more?

Stephan CRASHES out of the woods and into the clearing.

Face gaunt, neck bloody, eyes wild.

WHITNEY

Oh my gosh!

TYRELL

What happened?

Stephan doubles over, hands on his knees. It's all he can do to shake his head.

INT. MAIN LODGE - NIGHT

Stephan, Tyrell, Whitney, and Candice storm into the lodge, finding the foyer and halls empty.

TYRELL

Barry!

WHITNEY

Margaret!

STEPHAN

We need help!

Out from the cafeteria walks Barry. He's calm. At first glance there's no visible clues to his terrible deed.

He spots Stephan's bleeding neck.

BARRY

What happened?

STEPHAN

Pillar and her dad. They tried to kill me.

TYRELL

What?!

Barry takes in the freaked out Teens.

CANDICE

Where's Margaret?

Barry doesn't even blink it's like he didn't hear her. Though Margaret is in the room in a weird way.

Her blood stains Barry's shoes though no one notices.

BARRY

Go to the chapel. I'll join you
there shortly. God will protect us.

EXT. WOODS - NIGHT

Arnaugh hacks at a branch in his path as he stumbles through the woods.

A wordless GROWL escapes his lips as the branch proves a tougher foe than anticipated.

Getting impatient, Arnaugh pushes his way through the growth. Brambles bite into his skin leaving long red marks across his forearms and face.

Small droplets of blood fall like tears.

With a YELL, Arnaugh fights his way out of the woods and into the clearing of the...

EXT. CAMP - NIGHT

But not before one last branch whacks him in the back of the head as it snaps back into position.

Arnaugh spins and raises his knife striking down at the branch as if its strike on him was done personally.

With an almost animal rage, Arnaugh hacks again and again at the branch but it proves too sturdy to do any real damage.

He slows, growing tired until eventually he stops. Heaving with effort, his face twisted with anguish.

Looking at the knife, its bloody guilt still lies on the blade. With a CRY, he throws the dagger into the woods.

Facing the camp, he turns his attention to the Main Lodge, inside, his targets.

He stares at the structure for a time before looking past it, settling his sights on the girl's cabin.

His eyes grow wistful.

Like a drunk, he stumbles his way toward it.

INT. CHAPEL - NIGHT

Seated in the pews at the front, Whitney, Candice, and Tyrell look to Stephan in horror.

CANDICE

I gave her my tampons.

WHITNEY

I can't believe I thought she was hot.

Stephan nods in agreement. Tyrell shakes his head in confusion.

TYRELL

What?

The doors in the back BURST opening startling the Kids until they see it's just Barry. His arms are loaded with large plastic bottles and... kitchen knives.

He drops the load onto one of the back pews.

WHITNEY

Where's Margaret?

BARRY

She's safe.

TYRELL

What are we going to do?

Barry tucks the knives into his belt and grasps a plastic bottle in each hand.

BARRY

You don't have to worry any more.
Your path to Heaven has been secured.

STEPHAN

Barry, what are we going to do?

Barry starts to squirt the liquid from the bottles along the wall.

BARRY

I'm going to make you holy.

Stephan and the Others look at each other in confusion. Neither Barry's words or actions are making much sense.

EXT. WOODS - NIGHT

The heavens open and rain begins to fall onto the forest below.

Water droplets pool on a large leaf. Gathering at the edge, it eventually causes the leaf to dip down under the weight.

The water arcs and falls with a tiny splash on Pillar's forehead.

Another droplet falls, colliding with her cheek.

And another, and another.

Slowly, a soft curtain of water descends on Pillar's face.

She wrinkles her nose, Furrows her brow, shakes her head until finally...

Pillar's eyes flutter open.

She's alive!

Her neck cranes forward, lifting her head off the ground but then jerks back in searing pain.

Her hand moves to her side. It comes back sticky with blood.

Slowly she shifts her body allowing her to better examine her wound. Her shirt appears to have stopped most of the bleeding. Its fabric gummed together with blood, creating an adhesive patch to her skin.

Still, she's lost a lot of blood. It's pooled and splattered all round her. Her fingers shake as she gently touches her wound.

She rolls back in agony. Closing her eyes and breathing deep.

INT. CHAPEL - NIGHT

Barry continues to douse the walls of the chapel.

The Teens watch in him confusion though all are now standing as they do so.

BARRY

You see I've done your work for you. Your pursuit of perfection is a doomed one.

(MORE)

BARRY (CONT'D)

Believing you can succeed in
today's world is nothing more than
a cruel joke perpetuated by your
parents and Satan.

Barry looks back at the Teens and smiles. It seems frozen
though, sick. And never reaches his eyes. They stay cold and
dead.

Stephan starts to make his way down the center aisle. The
door in the back of the chapel unguarded as Barry soaks the
walls.

BARRY (CONT'D)

But I've solved it. Finally, truly
listened to God. He showed me the
way.

The Teens follow Stephan. Tyrell stops at the pew where Barry
dropped off his gear he lugged in.

He picks up one of the bottles it's labeled: Vegetable oil.

TYRELL

Barry.

Barry turns around. Sees Tyrell with the bottle and the Teens
closing in on the door.

He shuffles over to the exit. The Teens scurry out of his
way. Blocked.

He stops at the door. One hand holding a bottle that drips
with oil, the other resting on a hilt of a knife still tucked
into his belt.

BARRY

I'm purifying you. Saving you from
the sinful life you are destined to
be steeped in.

He pulls out a zippo lighter from his pocket.

Candice whimpers. Stephan goes pale.

STEPHAN

It was you. You killed Hector.

BARRY

I saved that boy.

WHITNEY

Oh my god.

TYRELL

Barry, whatever you're doing.
Whatever you're thinking. There's
another way.

BARRY

Tyrell... don't you think I've
tried.

Tyrell inches closer to Barry. The rest of the Teens are
frozen in place.

BARRY (CONT'D)

My whole life... It's been a trial,
one great dissertation on following
our Lord. There is only one way.

Barry flips open the lid of the lighter. The oil soaked
wooden walls of the chapel become even more apparent.

BARRY (CONT'D)

Burn away the impurities and only
the purest of vessels are left. I
will guarantee the survival of your
soul.

Barry brings his thumb to the striker right as Tyrell aims
his bottle at Barry's face and squeezes.

Vegetable oil explodes into Barry's eyes stunning him. He
drops the lighter as his hands come up to his face.

STEPHAN

Run!

Tyrell bullies past Barry, knocking him to the ground, as he
and the Others race out of the room.

INT. MESS HALL - NIGHT

The Teens dash through the room knocking into chairs and
tripping over themselves.

Tyrell slows as he looks at the entrance to the kitchen.

STEPHAN

Tyrell, come on!

He doesn't respond and takes steps toward the kitchen door.

WHITNEY

Tyrell!

CANDICE
What are you doing?

TYRELL
Arming myself.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Tyrell rips open a drawer.

The Other Teens stand behind him.

TYRELL
Come on. Help me out. Look for
weapons.

He pulls out a spatula before tossing it.

Candice bolts into action racing around the kitchen island
where she promptly slips and falls.

WHITNEY
Candice!

STEPHAN
You okay?

Candice opens her mouth but no sound comes out as she looks
at the red smear she slipped on.

She follows the river of blood she stepped in all the way to
the lake surrounding the very dead body of Margaret.

CANDICE
Holy... cow fuck.

She claps her hand over her mouth. Shocked at her cursing.

The Others round the corner of the kitchen island and see
Margaret's body.

Whitney SCREAMS.

STEPHAN
Shit shit shit shit.

TYRELL
Okay bad idea. It's time to be
gone.

They pick Candice off the floor and retreat from the body.

INT. GIRL'S CABIN - NIGHT

Arnaugh crashes into the empty cabin.

At last he spots Pillar's bed recognizable by its lack of a sleeping bag and her belongings.

He lowers himself onto the bed. Reaching out a shaky hand, he touches the pillow and strokes the sheets.

Unchecked tears course down his face.

After a moment, he notices something at his feet. Bending over to pick it up, Arnaugh lifts up his father's skull.

Angry, red eyes fill with tears again. His body shakes as he grips the skull with both hands.

CRACK. Small lines begin to appear around the nose and eyes, and still Arnaugh holds the skull in a vice grip.

Until finally, in a fierce YELL of loss and agony, Arnaugh jumps up off the bed and hurls the skull against the door of the cabin.

With a satisfying CRASH, it shatters into a hundred pieces.

INT. MESS HALL - NIGHT

The Teens sprint out of the Kitchen and toward the exit into the Main Hall.

Tyrell opens the door, BUT just on the other side is Barry.

Whitney SCREAMS. Barry lunges. Tyrell SLAMS his weight on the door. A battle of strength quickly ensues: Tyrell, strong but young. Barry, overweight but grown.

The door begins to open. Barry hacks through the gap with his knife coming close to hitting Tyrell.

The other Teens jump into action, slamming their bodies against the door and eventually pushing it closed.

Candice slams down the floor locks. Safe!

Until Barry starts to hack open the nearby window.

WHITNEY

What the literal hell is going on?!

STEPHAN

Run!

They race for the only other exit, a hallway.

Barry crashes through the window.

CANDICE

Fuck!

Again she clamps her hand against her mouth.

EXT. WOODS - NIGHT

Pillar collapses at the edge of the woods. She PANTS in exertion then checks her side. Her shirt still holds the wound together.

Slowly, she makes her way through the woods. Stumbling through bushes. At the edge of the forest, she collapses against a tree, catching her breath.

A SCREAM pierces the night air.

Pillar pushes herself off the tree.

PILLAR

Father. No.

With a grimace, Pillar hobbles her way toward the archery field.

INT. MAIN LODGE HALLWAY - NIGHT

Stephan, Tyrell, Whitney, and Candice race toward the exit. Freedom is in sight.

CRASH!

Barry bursts through a door on their right.

He now blocks the main exit out. The Teens divert their path and continue to head down the hallway.

He swipes at Candice who just barely dodges out of the way.

Stephan trips avoiding Barry's knives. He falls onto his back, Barry towering over him.

WHACK.

Stephan kicks Barry in the groin, doubling over the Camp Director.

Stephan scrambles back up and chases after the Teens.

They reach the door at the end of the hallway.

Whitney tries the handle, it turns, but the door won't open. She shoves the door, it moves a fraction. Something behind it is blocking movement.

Together they push. The door moves again but still not enough for anyone to squeeze through.

CREAK.

Turning behind, they see Barry ambling toward them.

BARRY

You could have been something!

Stephan pushes against the door again. Candice does the same, tears forming in her eyes.

TYRELL

We need time.

The door edges open fractionally. But still not enough.

STEPHAN

Come on. We can do this.

Tyrell turns to face the ever closer Barry.

WHITNEY

Tyrell, help us!

TYRELL

I will.

He charges Barry.

WHITNEY

No!

She reaches out to him, but Stephan pulls her back.

STEPHAN

Whitney. We have to get out of here.

Tyrell charges Barry who swings his knives but misses. Tyrell takes him to the ground. Knocking the knives out of Barry's hands.

Stephan, Whitney and Candice put all their weight against the door. Nothing.

Tyrell and Barry wrestle for a knife. Who's on top goes back and forth both fighters seemingly getting the upper hand at opposing times.

Until finally, Tyrell pins Barry and reaches for one of the knives. His finger tips brush the handle.

Barry throws an elbow into Tyrell's eye knocking him back and momentarily blinding him.

Barry gets out from under Tyrell and grabs the knife.

He plunges it into Tyrell's throat.

BARRY

Rest easy. You'll thank me when you
get to heaven.

Tyrell's slow death GURGLE gets Whitney's attention. She turns and SCREAMS at the sight of her dead friend.

CANDICE

Fuck this shit!

Candice backs up and then charges the door with her considerable bulk. She slams into the wood, shaking the frame and blasting into the next room.

Barry shoves Tyrell's corpse off his body as the remaining Teens move into the next room.

INT. NURSE'S ROOM - NIGHT

A dead end.

The Teens cower in the corner. Stephan has ripped a first aid kit off the wall. Wielding it like a club. Candice has a bed pan in both hands.

Barry enters the room.

BARRY

If you had just listened to me,
none of this would have happened.

STEPHAN

Fuck you.

CANDICE

Fuck... you.

BARRY

What can one expect from the lost?

WHITNEY

You don't have to do this.

Barry edges closer.

BARRY

Oh trust me. It's for your own good.

He raises his knife.

It's metallic surface glimmers in the cold moonlight streaming from the windows.

Barry's arm swings down.

PING.

The knife bursts from Barry's hand as an arrow knocks it away.

They all turn to find Pillar at the door another arrow already notched.

Barry dives. Pillar fires. The arrow catches him in the shoulder. In shock, he drops his second knife.

PILLAR

Run!

Stephan, Candice, and Whitney escape out the room.

Barry charges Pillar. He slams her into the wall, snapping the bow in half. It's useless.

But the arrows aren't!

With two in her hand, Pillar stabs at Barry's neck but his quick reactions save him again.

He raises a hand, saving his life but still ending up with the two arrows piercing his palm.

With a CRY of pain and rage, he backhands Pillar.

BARRY

You bitch.

PILLAR

Proud of it.

She kicks him off her and dashes out of the room after the Teens.

INT. GIRL'S CABIN - NIGHT

All the energy has been drained from Arnaugh, he sits on Pillar's bed, shoulders slumped, his head bowed.

Closing his eyes, Arnaugh lays back resting his head on her pillow.

His eyebrows furrow as he feels something under him. Taking his hand under the pillow, Arnaugh pulls out the paper-mache skull Pillar made.

He holds the smaller replica in his palm. Its glossy surface catches the light of the moon through the window.

ARNAUGH

Pillar...

He looks to the woods just outside the window.

INT. MAIN LODGE - HALLWAY - NIGHT

Pillar ushers the surviving Teens into...

INT. BARRY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

She locks the door behind them.

The bed dominates most of the floor space. A small dresser rests under the window.

Candice wraps her arms around Pillar's neck.

CANDICE

You're amazing.

Pillar stiffens. Looks to Stephan who studies her warily.

Candice senses Pillar's reluctance and then backs off suddenly remembering.

CANDICE (CONT'D)

Oh...

Whitney spots Pillar's bloody abdomen.

WHITNEY

You're hurt.

PILLAR

Stephan...

STEPHAN

Who are you?

PILLAR

I was a lost girl. I didn't know any better. I do now. I know who I am.

Stephan and the Others remain unconvinced. No one moves.

PILLAR (CONT'D)

If I were here to kill you, would I have saved you like I did?

Candice looks to Stephan. Hard to argue with that.

PILLAR (CONT'D)

I'll explain everything later to you. I promise.

Moving to the window, she tries to open it to no avail. It's jammed.

PILLAR (CONT'D)

For now though, we need to get out here. We need to find something to break this window open.

They scatter about the room.

INT. NURSE'S ROOM - NIGHT

Barry WHIMPERS with pain as he pulls the arrows through his palm.

Blood drips on the floor beneath him. Finished, he YELLS as he snaps the arrow protruding from his back.

Barry PANTS as he shivers from the pain. Bleeding. Held together not by courage or strength alone but his twisted conviction.

Finally, he picks up his two knives and pursues the Teens once more.

INT. BARRY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

The Teens search under the bed, in the adjacent bathroom, and in the dresser finding nothing.

Whitney grabs the bed covers to lift them, yanking them off loosens the pillows and causes a glass bottle to fall to the floor.

Candice picks it up. The label reads: Extra Virgin Olive oil.

She touches the pillows, her hand coming back greasy.

CANDICE

Gross.

WHITNEY

What did he want to burn his bed
for?

Candice shifts her grip to the neck of the bottle, wielding it like a club.

She heads to the window.

PILLAR

Wait!

Too late.

Candice smashes the bottle against the window, shattering everywhere.

Oil explodes onto the wood window frame and surrounding wall.

The window stands firm though now with a hefty crack running through one of the panes.

THUD.

The door shakes.

CRASH.

The door shakes again. Barry hammers it from the outside.

BARRY

There's no use running. God can
find you anywhere.

Barry's assault on the door yields fruit. He creates a hole and through it puts his hand, finding the lock and unlocking it.

He's in.

Pillar steps forward.

They fight.

With Pillar wounded it's almost fair.

Barry strikes wildly, Pillar dodges with precision slowly tiring the Old Man.

BARRY (CONT'D)

Pillar, you don't know what you're doing. I know your kind. You should be helping me!

Barry lashes out, but over extends himself.

Pillar grabs his wrist, and bends it causing him to drop one of his knives. She picks it up, wielding it like an expert.

PILLAR

I'm going to end you.

Pillar strikes now, with Barry just barely scrambling out of her way. But he can only escape for so long.

Pillar cuts into Barry's hand causing him to drop his last knife. It's over.

She stands over him, knife at the ready. He looks up at Pillar and the blade with pleading eyes.

BARRY

So you are a killer after all.

Pillar pauses. Blinks. The blade wavers. Is she?

She turns to look at Stephan who's cowering with the others.

Barry grins and strikes while she's distracted. Punching Pillar in the throat, he knocks the air out of her. She drops the knife.

Barry grabs the other one and stands up, he holds it ready to strike down at the little girl who dared challenged him.

He raises his blade high.

CANDICE

Pillar!

And he brings it down,.. on Candice who dives onto Pillar.

Pain and guilt cover Pillar's face.

EXT. WOODS

Rain gently falls on Arnaugh as he returns to the small clearing where he held Stephan hostage.

He heads for the tree where he left Pillar dying at its base.

Lightning flashes illuminating the dark space.

She's gone.

Disbelief fills Arnaugh's face.

He kneels down where her body use to lay.

Sticking fingers in the mud, he brings them close to his face to examine them.

It's red and sticky with blood.

Another flash of light reveals a thin blood trail leading out of the clearing.

A small hope rekindles in Arnaugh. He stands and follows the trail.

INT. MAIN LODGE - NIGHT

PILLAR

No!

Stephan CRIES out for the crumpling Candice.

Leaping into action, Pillar assaults the momentarily distracted Barry. Knife still in Candice, he's weapon-less.

Pillar drives him into the bed where she knees him in the crotch.

Incapacitated, Pillar kicks him out of the room where he stumbles into the hallway.

Pillar slams the door shut and then quickly goes to the dresser. She tries to push it in the way of the door.

It's too heavy.

PILLAR (CONT'D)

Help me!

Her call for help jolts the shocked Stephan and Whitney into action.

They move to her side and together push the dresser to block the door.

With evil held back for a time, Pillar crouches down by Candice.

Tears well in her eyes.

PILLAR (CONT'D)

That was the bravest thing I've ever seen... Why though? Why save me?

CANDICE

I'm ready.

PILLAR

It should have been me.

CANDICE

You're not ready yet. But you will be. I can see it.

PILLAR

Thank you.

CANDICE

Do you think Jesus likes waffles?

PILLAR

Of course.

CANDICE

I love waffles.

Candice smiles one last time before her eyes close.

THUD

THUD

INT. MAIN LODGE HALLWAY - NIGHT

Barry attacks the door now armed with the wood chopping axe.

INT. BARRY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

The axe makes a new hole in the door. Pillar stands up from Candice and grabs the two knives on the ground.

With nothing else to do, Pillar strikes the two knives together to make sparks which fall on the oil soaked wood.

STEPHAN

What the hell are you doing?

He moves to stop her, but she strikes the knives together again.

The sparks ignite the oil. The wall shoots up in flames.

STEPHAN (CONT'D)

Pillar, what are you doing?

PILLAR

Saving us.

Ripping the covers off the bed, Pillar stomps on any flames that fall to the floor, but allows the wall to continue to be consumed.

PILLAR (CONT'D)

The fire will weaken the wood.

STEPHAN

And then we can break out.

PILLAR

Hopefully.

THUD

THUD. Barry continues to hack through the door. They can see him through the hole he created earlier but the dresser holds.

The flames move to the ceiling. Smoke fills the room.

INT. MAIN LODGE HALLWAY - NIGHT

Barry hacks at the door. THUD. THUD.

He stops at the sight of smoke coming from under the door. Still for just a moment, he hears the CRACKLE of the fire.

Slowly, and with a smile, he backs away from the door.

INT. BARRY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

The fire now eats at the entire wall. Pillar, Stephan, and Whitney rest on the opposing side of the room.

Embers fall on Candice's body. Pillar hurries over to her. Gently she moves the body out of the way of the flames.

WHITNEY

Are we just going to sit here?

Pillar picks up the blanket and wraps her body with it.

PILLAR

No.

She dashes to the wall and collides with it shoulder first.

THUD.

She bounces back, the wall seemingly undisturbed.

Again. Nothing. Again. Nothing.

Now she kicks at the wall. The flat of her foot landing on the fiery surface.

Pillar backs away, covered in soot, and exhausted.

STEPHAN

Let me try.

She hands him the blanket but before he can make a push for the wall, a ceiling beam partially crashes down to the floor.

It blocks their path.

Pillar looks to the door. Barry is gone. She moves for the dresser and begins to pull it out of the way.

Whitney goes to join her, but stops as she notices yet another beam about to fall. It's right above Pillar.

WHITNEY

Look out!

She grabs Pillar and throws her out of the way just in time.

Flame engulfs the dresser and door.

The way out is lost.

Huddling in the corner, Pillar drapes the blanket over the three of them.

WHITNEY (CONT'D)

We should have just shut our mouths
and gone along with it.

STEPHAN

You don't think we'd be here?

WHITNEY

He definitely wouldn't be trying to
fucking kill us.

PILLAR

No.

THUD.

WHITNEY

You don't think so.

THUD.

PILLAR

I don't care.

THUD.

PILLAR (CONT'D)

I'd rather be here than where I
was.

THUD.

PILLAR (CONT'D)

I questioned and I challenged. But
I finally got to learn. And I
rather die knowing who I am than
dying being a slave to someone
else.

STEPHAN

Thank you for saving us.

Pillar smiles as they wait for death.

BOOM.

Jerking back the blanket, they see Arnaugh standing, framed
by flame, in a giant hole in the wall.

ARNAUGH

Pillar?

PILLAR

Come on!

Pillar lays the blanket down over Candice in a final goodbye.

Arnaugh moves into the room and lifts the burning beam. The
Teens scramble out of the burning room and into the pouring
rain.

EXT. CAMP - NIGHT

Coughing and covered in soot, the Teens breathe the sweet air.

Pillar stands in front of her Father. Rain beating down on both of them.

He reaches out to touch her face, but she backs away.

ARNAUGH

Pillar.

PILLAR

(to the Teens)

We need to go.

ARNAUGH

Don't leave me.

PILLAR

Leave you?!

ARNAUGH

I'm sorry.

Pillar holds the wound at her side.

PILLAR

You tried to kill me.

ARNAUGH

I was wrong. I was wrong about everything.

PILLAR

Am I to believe your giving up on everything you believe?

ARNAUGH

No code or God should make a man do what I did to you.

He eyes Pillar's still bloody shirt.

PILLAR

And yet you did.

ARNAUGH

I'll live with that for the rest of my life.

His eye's go wide, and a soft GASP escapes his lips as the blade of an axe digs into his back.

Behind him, Barry grins with the kill.

Stephan and Whitney SCREAM.

PILLAR

Father!

A brief smile graces Arnaugh's face as he looks up at Pillar.

ARNAUGH

You'll always be my daughter.

Fucking fire and fury fill Pillar's face.

Barry pulls the axe out of Arnaugh's with a nasty SQUELCH just in time to fend off a brutal attack from Pillar.

Stab.

Block.

Swing.

Miss.

Pillar and Barry go back and forth.

Barry swings the axe down in a anger. Pillar side steps allowing the axe to bury itself in the ground.

Barry tries to yank it up in time but can't. He lets go so as to avoid another knife stab from Pillar but now he's weaponless.

Slowly, he backs up. Hands up before him.

BARRY

Pillar, you're not a killer.

She continues to advance. Mouth curled in disgust.

BARRY (CONT'D)

You don't want this.

Tripping on a rock, Barry falls on his ass. He scrambles backwards.

BARRY (CONT'D)

I was showing you mercy, surely you can see that.

Still she comes.

BARRY (CONT'D)

This would be sin! An unforgivable act.

Pillar towers over him.

BARRY (CONT'D)

What would God think of this?

PILLAR

I know what I think.

With a YELL of rage, Pillar stabs down with both knives deep into Barry's chest.

He GASPS in shock. Blood seeps into his shirt, pools at the nap of his neck. His fingers twitch. Grasping futilely at knives erupting from him. He coughs, blood flowing out of his mouth.

Slowly, he closes his eyes, and stops moving.

Pillar takes in a deep breath as if the world had stopped while she watched the former camp director bleed out in front of her.

She backs away as Stephan inches forward.

He studies Barry with a sharp intensity. He watches his chest. Did he really stop breathing? His face. Did his lips just twitch? Did his hand move?

Closer and closer until Stephan's right on top of him.

Suddenly, Stephan rips a knife out of Barry's chest and stabs him three, four, five more times until he's covered in splattered blood and heaving from the exertion.

He turns to an absolutely baffled Whitney and Pillar.

STEPHAN

You can never be too careful with these types. Gotta make sure they stay down.

PILLAR

I assure you. When I kill someone. I kill them.

What would normally be an insane statement makes sense to Stephan who nods as he steps away from the body.

In the distance, SIRENS pierce the night. Red flashing lights color the dark trees which stand guard along the road into camp.

Help is coming.

Behind them logs CRACKLE and SPIT as the Main Lodge burns, almost completely drowned in flame now.

Leaving Whitney and Stephan, Pillar makes her way to Arnaugh.

The sounds of SIRENS and the Lodge seem to fade into the night as she kneels down beside her dad.

Pillar closes his eyes and folds his arms across his chest.

She takes in the worn face of her father who meant well despite his misguided ways.

Soft drops of rain fall on his face, washing away flecks of blood.

She kisses his forehead.

Done, Pillar makes her way back to Stephan and Whitney. They stand in silence as they watch fire trucks barrel down the road toward them.

As if crossing a deep void, Pillar reaches out and grabs Stephan's hand. She holds it in a firm but comforting grip.

FADE TO BLACK.

THE END