

WE'RE CLOSER THAN YOU THINK

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INT. GLASS TUNNEL - UNKNOWN

SUPER: BELOW ARIZONA'S DESERT, 1975

BLACK - A loud HUMMING NOISE is heard all around.

A group of MEN, all wearing hard hats with lights on them. They are standing on a NUCLEAR BORING MACHINE of massive size in a cylindrical shape.

This machine drills to create a tunnel, it moves at a fast and consistent pace.

In front of this is solid dirt. Nothing.

Behind the machine is a large GLASS TUNNEL that some of the men are looking at. Colors of amber and brown reflect off of hot lamps they have assembled.

This tunnel is endless and cold. Manmade.

The machine begins to slow down.

Murmuring of all the men can be heard. Not distinct enough to make out.

A voice that breaks through is AXL ROTH (46), blue collar and confident, the leader of this team.

The men's voices echo.

AXL

...take note that the vitrification process has been going perfectly.

The machine finally stops.

CO-WORKER

When do you think test runs of the tunnel's durability can be put into place?

AXL

Oh, not until its full completion. I'd rather be a little more cautious.

STATIC comes from one of the subordinate's walkie talkies.

CO-WORKER 2

Hello-Hello--

CO-WORKER 2 walks a few feet away from the group.

A VOICE can be faintly made out on the walkie.

AXL
We'll begin the next stretch
shortly.

CO-WORKER
How much longer?

AXL
About another quarter mile. We need
to get back to the surface by
daybreak--

Co-Worker 2 walks back--

CO-WORKER 2
--We need to stop!

All of the men are silent.

AXL
(a tinge of sarcasm)
And who put you in charge?

Glass CHIPPING can be heard clearly from the distance.

Some men look around, not all of them hear it.

CO-WORKER 2
Higher ups. They said we need to
vacate immediately.

AXL
What do you mean?

CO-WORKER 2
The machine is... it's going near
primary pipes.

AXL
That can't be!

Axl GRABS the walkie talkie.

AXL (CONT'D)
Hello-This is Axl Roth, the team
leader. What do you mean vacate, we
still have--

GLASS BREAKS. No one can tell where it came from.

This time everyone hears it.

CO-WORKER

The tunnel is collapsing, we need
to get out of here now!

The lights go out at the end of the tunnel. Their hard hat
lights automatically turn ON.

AXL

TURN ON THE GENERATOR NOW.

More glass shatters.

Something moving through the glass echoes through the tunnel.

Fumbling through the darkness, a generator is flipped on.

Dim lights flicker on One. By. One.

AXL (CONT'D)

(to the walkie talkie)

Is there anyone there! We need
assistance. We're leaving--

CO-WORKER 2

What the hell is that?

ANOTHER ANGLE.

We see the men staring blankly into the tunnel. They're
silent.

EXT. FROSTBITE, AZ - MORNING

SUPER: FROSTBITE, ARIZONA: 6 YEARS LATER

MOVE THROUGHOUT THE LANDSCAPE.

The desert, wide, open, expansive and untouched.

Until. There is a large build board which says 'EDISON
ESTATES: THE FUTURE IS BRIGHT IN FROSTBITE'

Beyond this are trees, many of them that seem to grow closer
to civilization. They lead to long winding roads.

Now reaching suburbia, a main road with bustling small
businesses, loud diners, and happy people.

FADE IN:

EXT. PARK - CONTINUOUS

A MAP of Frostbite is sprawled out. PULL OUT TO SEE--

At a cement table sits JANIS (18), similar facial features to Axl, a natural beauty. Her face is still, emotionless. She's staring at a--

Trapper keeper, in the binder are multiple different papers, she is deep in thought.

To her side is a small red portable radio. Playing is "Beyond the Bounds" with BENJAMIN...

BENJAMIN

Some believe that these missing pets are cult related but that's bull. In any cult, sacrifices are for an offering or gift to whatever deity they follow. And if it was a that, it would be dead...

PUSH IN ON THE TABLE: A map of Frostbite AZ, a newspaper, some different article clippings, a clipping specifically of an obituary for a 'PAMELA ROTH,' hand written notes, and finally some family photos. All of it is uniformly organized.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)

In an article I've seen, some of these animals have been found and they've been ripped apart as if some other animal attacked the poor things.

He takes a deep breath through the radio.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)

People still choose to not understand or believe in the paranormal. Because come on, humans are neither that smart, or calculated.

MOVE IN ON A PHOTO: AXL ROTH, a WOMAN (PAMELA ROTH), and a little girl.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)

This all began about 3 or so years ago. You can say anything you want but there has been a pattern...

Digging through all the papers, there is a hand written piece on a sheet of looseleaf. She stares at it for a beat with furrowed eyebrows.

She gently closes the trapper keeper, folds her map up and places it in a backpack. Then she begins to walk.

She grabs the radio by the wristband and tightens it, still listening.

It is the summer, kids are running around in playgrounds, their mothers close by.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)

Sadly we're all out of time but I
will leave my listeners with this,
keep alert and don't trust what
people will say to you...

She walks beyond the park, further into the woods, the bright green foliage reflects off of the morning sun.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)

And this has been another episode
of Beyond the Bounds with
Benjamin... Next time we'll discuss
further the Grey's agenda--

Janis abruptly cuts off the radio for only STATIC to break through.

JANIS

(to the radio)

Okay, enough of you.

She takes a deep breath in as she finds herself walking down a dirt road.

As she walks deeper into the woods, more and more trails are revealed.

Birds and woodland animals make up the soundtrack of the woods. Until something heavier BREAKS this silence.

Startling Janis.

It is a DOG. An average looking mutt, a white one with brown spots covering his ears. It's paws and snout are covered in dirt.

It stares nervously at Janis.

JANIS (CONT'D)

Oh... Hi.

The dog stays eerily still.

She squats down to reach eye level with the dog.

She WHISTLES at the dog.

As she moves closer and places her hand out to it when it RUNS off into the woods

Janis scurries after the dog but it's already gone--She shrugs it off.

She walks out of the woods, taking in the scenery.

EXT. PARK - MOMENTS LATER

At the entrance of the park, there is a banana bike tied around a pole.

Janis unties the knot and starts to ride away to--

A quiet neighborhood, a perfect summer day.

There are old men washing cars.

Women are sitting in lawn chairs, gossiping.

Kids playing man hunt.

On a street corner, people stand waiting for a bus, among them a man in an unusually long black trench coat.

Janis bikes by. HOLD ON the man in the trench coat staring after her.

EXT. MARIAN'S HOUSE - AFTERNOON

Janis rides up to a one-story drab home, aged paint and chipping shutters. The lawn is overgrown but seems like it is trimmed once in a while.

There is a concrete garage on the side of the house with weeds popping through the cracks.

Janis gets off her bike and walks over to the car that has barely been pulled into the driveway.

Upon further investigation, Janis sees a POPPED TIRE. This corner of the car has scratch marks on it.

JANIS

What the hell?

Dropping her bike, she paces around the car.

She stops to look through the back seat of the car, where she sees open beer cans under the front seat.

Furious, Janis goes to the front door.

INT. MARIAN'S HOUSE, HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Janis walks through the long hallway.

A TV is on in another room.

ANCHORMAN (O.S)

This has been the fourth incident
this past month.

Janis rushes into the living room.

INT. MARIAN'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

It is a darkly lit room, the TV is the first thing seen.

ANCHORMAN

Visitors must assume all risk and
people shouldn't venture to the
parks.

Janis turns to the TV for a beat, she takes it in.

She turns away.

JANIS

What happened to the car?

She walks over to a darkened lamp and flips it ON.

ANCHORMAN

Several pets have been reportedly
sacrificed in satanic rituals. The
Forest Services have been--

As she turns off the television, she turns to see a passed
out--

MARIAN, a middle aged woman who has clearly been aged by
alcohol and grief. Her glazed over eyes begin to calmly open
with the light on.

JANIS

Wake up!

MARIAN
 (disoriented)
 What... What?

JANIS
 The car. What happened to it?

Marian has a calm disposition but phony air to her. She slowly sits up.

Janis waits...

MARIAN
 (groggy)
 Pothole.

JANIS
 Where?

Marian starts to adjust but is squinting her eyes at Janis.

MARIAN
 On Jarvis, near the deli.
 (yawns)
 You need to help me get a mechanic
 for it--

JANIS
 --Why are you lying?

MARIAN
 I'm not.

JANIS
 Marian... I saw the beer.

Silence.

MARIAN
 There was a pot hole, you can go
 see it yourself.

JANIS
 When did you start again?

Marian stands up, clearly taller than Janis.

MARIAN
 Who's the parent here?

JANIS
 Technically speaking. No one.

MARIAN
And if it wasn't for me, you'd be
an orphan.

JANIS
...when will you stop?

Marian snaps her neck towards her.

MARIAN
I don't know what you're talking
about.

JANIS
You're drunk now. How many times do
I have to tell you you're--

MARIAN
--I'm WHAT. Wasting my life? I just
have to provide for you, which I
do.

Janis nods.

MARIAN (CONT'D)
What do you want from me?

JANIS
For you to not kill yourself.

Marian scoffs.

MARIAN
I'm fine, you don't need to worry.

Janis stares at her blankly.

Marian pushes past her. Janis follows.

MARIAN (O.C.) (CONT'D)
This is your father's fault.

Janis stops.

JANIS
(under her breath)
No.

The sound of a can POPPING open breaks the silence.

MARIAN (O.C.)
Piece of shit. Left Pamela, Left
you.

JANIS
That's not true.

Janis, head down, walks into the kitchen.

The kitchen is a wreck, grocery bags just lie on the floor and the sink is piled high with dishes.

Taking a swig of her drink--

MARIAN
--I never liked him...

Janis looks up.

MARIAN (CONT'D)
He had this air that he was better than everyone... Well I guess he was smarter. But Pamela fell for his line of--

JANIS
--Can you please stop?

MARIAN
I'm not doing anything.

JANIS
My father. Stop talking about him. He didn't leave me and mom.

Marian takes a long sip.

MARIAN
(sarcastic)
He went missing, right? Yeah. But my sister believed he'd come back.

Waves her arms around the room.

MARIAN (CONT'D)
Well is he back?
(beat)
And Pamela had to go looking for him...

CLOSE ON Marian as she walks up to Janis. Face to Face.

MARIAN (CONT'D)
And now it's just you and me.

Janis backs up from her.

MARIAN (CONT'D)
So, how long have you been out?

Janis is quiet, distracted.

MARIAN (CONT'D)
Hello...

Marian SLAMS her beer can onto the counter.

As if waking up--

JANIS
A few hours or so.

Janis goes to leave.

MARIAN
Wait.

Marian points at the dishes.

MARIAN (CONT'D)
You had time to go out but no time
to clean this.

JANIS
I'm sorry. I'll do it now.

She walks over to the sink--Marian stops her.

MARIAN
I mean seriously Janis, how many
times do I have to remind you?

JANIS
You don't...

MARIAN
I ask you to do simple chores and
you do jack shit. I mean really
when are you going to stop running
away from all of this?

Marian finishes her beer.

JANIS
I could ask you the same thing.

MARIAN
Oh don't be such a brat right now.

Beat.

JANIS

You need me to clean out the beer
cans in the car too?

MARIAN

Get out.

JANIS

I was just asking.

She SLAMS down the can.

MARIAN

GO TO YOUR ROOM!

Marian stands there for a moment, staring at the empty
doorway, she blinks and sighs.

INT. JANIS' ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Janis walks into her room and proceeds to lay on a pillow,
she SCREAMS into it... slightly muffled enough for it not to
be too loud.

Janis's room is like any other teenager, a little messy but
under control. Posters drape her walls and pictures surround
her bed.

She paces in her room and punches the pillow. As her hand
LANDS onto the pillow there is a--

MATCH CUT TO:

EXT. DAVID'S HOME - LATE AFTERNOON

CLOSE ON a hand gently moves a rook on a chess board.

ANOTHER ANGLE--DAVID (19), strong features but has a goofy
demeanor stares at the board. His forehead glistens with
sweat.

Across from him is Janis, she's quietly focused on the game.

David is playing white/ Janis is black.

They sit at a table on his back porch. The backyard is barren
and the two are hiding under the one shaded area, avoiding
sunlight.

Beside David is a sleeping Samoyed, ROSALINE, her pristine
white fur shines as she yawns.

DAVID
Earth to Janis...

JANIS
(annoyed)
I'm...thinking.

David sighs.

JANIS (CONT'D)
Patience is a virtue.

David rolls his eyes, scruffs Rosaline's head, and goes to walk into the house.

DAVID
You want lemonade?

Janis shakes her head as David goes inside.

Her back is to the door, she quickly turns around to see him walk in.

FOCUS ON the chessboard. A WHITE bishop is a few squares away from a BLACK king.

Janis goes back to the board and moves the WHITE bishop to the other side of the board.

David comes back.

He BUMPS into her chair, focusing on his glass to make sure it doesn't spill.

With the commotion, her bag falls, having her binder fall out.

DAVID (CONT'D)
SHIT! I'm sorry.

He notices the binder.

Janis goes to pick it all up.

JANIS
It's fine man.

David goes to sit down.

Rosaline wakes up from the commotion.

Janis moves a pawn one space.

JANIS (CONT'D)

There you go.

Janis gives her best poker face.

DAVID

I waited this long, for that.

David moves the WHITE bishop back to its original spot.

Rosaline trots her way over to Janis, who she proceeds to pet.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Do you think I'm blind or stupid?

Looking up from Rosaline with a smirk.

JANIS

Is that a rhetorical question?

Janis goes to move her king.

DAVID

No, no, no.

David moves her hand and grabs his bishop. In a swift motion, David's bishop kills Janis' king.

David looks at the board, pleased with his win.

JANIS

I used to be good before you discovered my tricks...

DAVID

You mean before I figured out you're a cheater.

JANIS

Not true.

DAVID

You're not focused.

Janis crosses her arms.

DAVID (CONT'D)

What's up with you?

JANIS

Today has just been an off day, the next game we play I'll easily--

DAVID
--Not that.

Beat.

JANIS
It's Marian.

DAVID
When is it not?

Janis gives a slight smile to that. But this smile immediately changes when--

JANIS
--You know. She says stuff that's not true, she acts like she knew my family. Like knew-knew my family. How do you have the audacity to say shit about people you only visit on holidays?

DAVID
Wasn't she close to your mom?

Janis glares at him.

DAVID (CONT'D)
(raises his arms)
I didn't mean anything by it!

JANIS
I know, I know. They talked, as much as sisters can.
(beat)
She barely interacted with my father. What gives her the right to say all that?

DAVID
What did she say this time?

JANIS
Every time Marian's drunk. She looks at me, she always has to bring up how she hates my father. He went missing, she blames him for my mother dying.

DAVID
But she died in a car--

JANIS
--crash, yeah. Looking for him.
(beat)
I don't think I can do it anymore.

DAVID
What's that?

JANIS
Being stuck in the past with her.
No matter what I say, she'll always
blame him.

DAVID
Grief is a horrible thing if you
can't let it go.

JANIS
No shit.

A pregnant pause.

DAVID
I noticed your book.

Janis looks at her backpack then him.

JANIS
Yeah?

DAVID
You're still looking for him?

Janis takes a sharp breath.

JANIS
(frustrated)
There's nothing... I have re read
this over and over again.
(shakes her head)
All I know is he went to work,
couldn't tell anybody. That's what
mom would say.

A pause.

DAVID
Janis, you're gonna drive yourself
crazy...

JANIS
You don't think I know that?

Beat.

JANIS (CONT'D)

I use to wait for my dad when he'd come home from work. He would stand at the doorway, and I'd run down the hallway to hug him. We'd spin around and laugh.

David smiles.

Her voice cracks slightly.

JANIS (CONT'D)

You know what I would give to have it back?

CUT TO:

EXT. SUBURBAN NEIGHBORHOOD, ROAD - LATER

Janis is riding on her bike, slow, gliding, in deep thought.

The rest of her and David's conversation is heard as if she is replaying it in her mind.

DAVID (V.O.)

I know the search will never end...
but Janis, he's been missing for
six years, wouldn't he be...
(trails off)
I'm sorry.

JANIS (V.O.)

It's okay, but my dad would never
leave us like that. He loved mom,
he loved me...

Janis closes her eyes slightly, as she slows down on her bike.

DAVID (V.O.)

Look, I won't make anymore
assumptions, do whatever you feel
is right. But you know I have to
keep an eye on you.

This is when Janis finally pulls up to--

EXT. PARK - LATE AFTERNOON

Janis stops by an overlook with water at the bottom. It's peaceful.

She rides her bike back to the woods from earlier in the day, suddenly, she hops off.

Janis walks with her bike into the woods. There is a area with a few rocks to sit on, she sits down and pulls out her binder from her bag.

Some time passes, through the trees it gets darker. She continues writing, the woods begin to quiet down.

There is a point where the woods reach UTTER silence.

Janis raises her head when the sound of someone walking BREAKS the quiet.

She tosses her binder back in her bag and stands up--alert.

Looking around there is no one.

JANIS

Hello?

Nothing.

Janis walks deeper into the woods. Her footsteps drown out any other ambient or outside noise.

JANIS'POV: THERE ARE DOG FOOT PRINTS IN THE MUD, IT LOOKS AS THOUGH THE DOG WAS STRUGGLING TO WALK.

She begins to make small, subtle noises to attract a dog.

Janis follows the trail for awhile, the dog prints look as though they're being dragged, then they finally stop.

She stops as well when she realizes, she doesn't recognize this part of the woods. All looks the same.

She looks around when she sees A FIGURE in the distance.

JANIS (CONT'D)

(unnerved)

Hello! Hello! Did you see a...

She moves past a tree, when she can see again, the figure is gone.

Silence, alone again.

She tries to move faster.

She attempts to go back where she came from when she hears gnawing.

This is when she stumbles upon the scene but at a safe distance of 10 feet or so.

Something is eating a dog.

Face to face with a dying mutt lying on its side. Its intestines have been pulled out. She recognizes the dog from earlier, his face is locked in pain.

What is eating the dog is a DARK BEING, Janis cannot make out if it is human, or not. It seems to be larger than a human but not the same for there is a completely different skin texture.

FOCUS ON: The Dark Being eyes FLASH A BRIGHT RED as it sees her.

That is when Janis starts running.

The noise of the woods seems to come back.

In the distance, she spots her bike, unexpectedly she trips over branches and lands face first in the ground.

CLOSE ON her binder that falls out of her bag.

Janis is unconscious.

FADE TO BLACK.

INT. BLACK - UNKNOWN

Silence.

Lights creep through the sides of the darkness.

JANIS
(groggy)
What... What's happening?

INT. JANIS' ROOM - MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT

Janis JUMPS in her bed, she has a band aid on the side of her forehead.

JANIS
What's happening?

She was laid upon the top of her bed, she's in the same clothes as the day prior.

Turning in her bed, she reads a digital clock that says:
4:30AM

Struggling to get up, Janis turns to find Marian sitting on a chair.

MARIAN
You're finally awake!

Disoriented...

JANIS
What do you...
(pauses)
ugh... I was--

MARIAN
--What the hell were you doing
disappearing in the middle of the
night?

Janis thinks.

JANIS
I, I don't remember...

MARIAN
Don't do this. Tell me.

JANIS
Can you just give me a minute to
wake up?

MARIAN
I wake up and you're just gone, no
note, nothing.
(beat)
Do you realize how much stress you
put me under?

She's still silent. Thinking.

MARIAN (CONT'D)
I get what my mother went through.
(chuckles to herself)
You're mother and I use to do the
same thing at your age, we'd say
we're going to the movies and
instead smoke and see guys. It was
a nice time.

Distracted by her thoughts, she looks at Marian, amused.

JANIS

Noooo she wouldn't. Mom was a nerd.

Marian sits at the edge of the bed.

MARIAN

Not when we were young. We only thought of ourselves at the time. No care in the world.

JANIS

I don't only think of myself.

MARIAN

Janis, you leave, for hours on end... but you always come home, to find you on the porch passed out... I-I don't know what to think.

JANIS

...I just go to the park to--

MARIAN

--The woods?

JANIS

Park. I just like to get into nature.

Pause.

JANIS (CONT'D)

(beat)

Marian, I--

Not listening--

MARIAN

--And some MAN just dropped you off! Were you with him all night?

JANIS

(confused)

What? I wasn't with anyone. I-I fell. Last thing I remember was tripping.

In the deep silence, Marian breaks it with a SIGH.

MARIAN

About an hour ago. Maybe he was a Parks Patroller... I only caught a glimpse, he was in a long trench coat or something.

(MORE)

MARIAN (CONT'D)
 (pointing at Janis' head)
 I put that on you. How's your head
 feeling?

Shrugging it off--

JANIS
 I'm fine.

She then gets up, frantically.

JANIS (CONT'D)
 Where's my bike, my bag?

MARIAN
 Outside... your bag?

Janis rushes toward her bag that is on her bed. She OPENS it
 and her binder is gone.

JANIS
 It's gone... no, no, no, no!

CUT TO:

INT. DAVID'S HOME - THE NEXT DAY

Janis is retelling what happened to David in his room. His
 bed makes up the majority of the cramped space, David is
 seated at the edge of the bed.

Janis paces the floor stepping over piles of laundry.

JANIS
 For shit sure there ain't no
 satanic cult in Frostbite.

David sits back in disbelief.

DAVID
 Janis, I...

JANIS
 I know it's odd. I swear, I don't
 know what the HELL that thing was
 in the woods.
 (in a whisper)
 But what I saw wasn't human. And I
 think that man has something to do
 with it.

DAVID
 Like what?

Ignoring his question--

JANIS

How did he know where I live?
And... and my book, it's gone.

DAVID

Well you had your name and address
in it, you must've dropped it while
you were running.

JANIS

Maybe... but--

DAVID

--What do you mean this guy has
something to do with what you saw
in the woods?

She stops pacing.

JANIS

I was in the wrong place at the
wrong time. I saw something I
shouldn't have seen.

A beat.

JANIS (CONT'D)

You think I'm crazy.

DAVID

(thinks..)

No, I don't Janis!

(pauses)

I know how your mind can go to the
worst case scenario. I've heard
about the animals...

JANIS

I need to go back to find my book,
if you don't believe me you can
talk to Marian if she remembers.

David stands up and pulls Janis into a hug.

DAVID

...I just want to make sure you're
okay. I know you have a lot going
on.

Janis, accepting of the hug, is looking down.

JANIS
(slightly muffled)
...I'm okay.

David lets her go.

DAVID
I think that man was just trying to
help you get home safe.

JANIS
He was probably trying to make it
out like, like it was all some sort
of dream.

DAVID
You're gonna stick with this?

JANIS
Yes.

DAVID
And there's no way I can talk you
out of this theory?

JANIS
Nope.

DAVID
God you're so stubborn.

JANIS
(smiles)
I know.

DAVID
We can go back. Together.

Janis looks up at him, beaming.

JANIS
OH DAVID THAN--

DAVID
--Before you thank me, TOGETHER
means you not going there alone to
crack your skull open.

Janis nods.

INT. MARIAN'S HOUSE - SAME TIME

MONTAGE WITHIN THE HOUSE:

-- Marian walks down the hallway. She looks more alert but also exhausted all at once. She stops at a photo on the wall.

INSERT: PHOTO: Two young women, around Janis's age, are hugging, they're smiling ear to ear on a beach. It seems in the distance there is sounds of laughter.

-- With a smile, she turns to walk on, the laughter is gone.

-- She proceeds into the kitchen where she finds a note that reads "AT DAVID'S."

-- Marian goes to open the cabinet--Her liquor, an array of different types. She turns and looks over at the fridge.

-- Walking away from the open cabinet, she goes for the fridge.

-- A bagel with lox and a generous smear of cream cheese.

-- She plops back down in the chair and turns the TV on.

END OF MONTAGE.

EXT. PARK - MIDDAY

Back at the scene of the crime. David and Janis walk through the woods.

With ease David walks over taller branches, he looks around, not really sure what to look for as he follows--

Janis, who frantically reaches a spot that looks similar to where she got lost. She watches the floor and looks all around. Nothing out of the ordinary.

The two finally stop.

JANIS

Do you see any footprints?

DAVID

Nope.

JANIS

You sure, not even small ones?

DAVID

Nope.

Janis continues to walk deeper, David follows closely behind her.

JANIS

I could've sworn it was all here.

DAVID

There's a possibility you could be misremembering.

Janis glares at him.

DAVID (CONT'D)

...I mean, with the way you fell.
You could be confusing this area
for another.

He lifts up his arms to emphasize.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Honestly, it all looks the same to
me.

Janis stops suddenly, puts her hands on her hips and sighs.
Defeated.

ANOTHER ANGLE

Deeper in the woods, CLOSE ON the floor where there is
HUMANOID FOOTPRINTS, and someone calmly dusts it away with
their foot.

Follow up the body of this foot and it is a man, in a black
trench, his face is not shown yet. He is casted in shadows.

In the distance, there is Janis and David walking out of the
woods. They never notice him, he's hidden from view.

He proceeds to follow the two.

CUT TO:

EXT. DAVID'S HOME - LATER

In the perspective of someone watching; Janis drops David off
at his house, he waves and mosey's toward his house.

She walks off.

EXT. SUBURBAN NEIGHBORHOOD, ROAD - LATER

Janis is alone, walking down the road, back turned walking
forward. In the perspective of someone following her from a
10 foot distance away.

She SHARPLY turns around.

JANIS'S POV: There is nothing there, just the sidewalk.

The neighborhood seems empty. No one is out.

She turns walking forward, walking a few more feet, picking up her pace.

FROM THE CORNER OF HER EYE: there is someone walking across the street, seems to be walking towards her.

Looking again--Nothing.

She shakes it off, but begins to sprint.

As she turns the corner there is a MAN just standing there.

Janis JUMPS back.

"MAN"

There is no need to fear.

Janis looks at him. The MAN, dressed in a 50s styled suit and tie, with a long black coat, and a black fedora. He is peculiar looking, so pale that he looks matte white, and all he is doing is grinning.

CLOSE ON: His hands, he holds her binder.

JANIS

Do I know you?

He keeps a grin plastered on his face.

"MAN"

In a manner of speaking. I helped you last night. It seemed to be a really bad spill.

(beat)

And you are Janis Roth.

The Man stretches out his arm, awkwardly giving back the binder.

"MAN" (CONT'D)

I found this.

The silence grows between the two.

"MAN" (CONT'D)

How is your head?

Janis takes a step back, visibly uncomfortable. She glances once and a while at her binder.

JANIS

I was running... from something in the woods.

"MAN"

Well, I don't know about that.

(beat)

But you shouldn't really be discussing that with anyone. After a fall like that. You're mind can make up crazy things.

JANIS

Yeah...

(pauses)

Were you following me?

With a blank stare--

"MAN"

Yes. I am here on business, and in my search, I saw you. You have a striking resemblance to a colleague of mine.

He motions for her to take the binder.

With distance between the two, Janis snatches it.

JANIS

And what business is it that you work for?

"MAN"

I'm not at liberty to say. Maybe at another time.

(beat)

You're the daughter of Axl Roth, yes?

Trying not to react to this, Janis GRIPS the binder tightly.

JANIS

You know him?

The Man nods in agreement. Slowly.

"MAN"

Thank you for this. I will be in contact with you again.

He walks past her.

Janis turns around immediately and he's gone. Looking down both roads, nothing.

CLOSE ON Janis's face, as she turns to walk off.

CUT TO:

INT. JANIS' ROOM - LATER

Janis flips through her binder, nodding--everything seems to be intact.

She pulls out the MAP of the town and marks out the place in the woods, specifically where the incident occurred.

She SHUTS the binder closed, shoves it in her bag and leaves.

EXT. DAVID'S CAR - DAY

The car is a lemon, in the nicest sense. Old, beaten, but still functioning.

Janis is staring out the window.

DAVID

So this guy is a radio show host?

INT. DAVID'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

The two of them rattle in the car for every bump in the road David hits.

No answer.

DAVID

Hellooo...

JANIS

Yeah? Yeah, I listen to him from time to time. He's a believer in the paranormal, extra terrestrials, and all that.

DAVID

(sarcastically)

Great. You think you saw Bigfoot?

JANIS

Be serious. I think he'll give us some good information.

DAVID

And why's this...dude... gonna help?

JANIS

It's better to be safe than sorry, right? And who knows, maybe I could be seeing things...

DAVID

We'll see what he has to say. Do we have to pay him?

JANIS

(sarcastically)

What do ya think he is--a psychic? I know him, it'll be okay.

David drives down a winding suburban road.

DAVID

How do you know him?

Beat.

JANIS

He use to date Marian.

David looks at her, slightly grossed out, but nods.

EXT. THE HOUSE AT THE END OF THE ROAD - CONTINUOUS

Janis and David pull up slowly in front of the house. She stares for a moment at the house, quite innocent looking from the front with a small trimmed yard, adorned with garden gnomes.

She squints at the note she wrote, then back at the house.

DAVID

You sure this is the right...

JANIS

Yes.

DAVID

Are you...

She shows the note to him, David nods now agreeing.

JANIS
Let me go first.

DAVID
Go right ahead.

She leaves the car and creeps over; she looks at the window where the blinds begin to MOVE, someone was looking through them when--the door opens.

Here stands BENJAMIN (44) with hair that reaches his shoulders, soft in the middle, with a slight crazed look in his eyes and a perpetual smirk.

David, following a few feet back from Janis, jumps slightly.

BENJAMIN
Janis Roth. Long time no see.

His voice cool and collected. It is immediately recognizable as the man from the radio show.

David reaches up to Janis.

JANIS
Hi Ben, I've never been to your house before, its...

Looks at the gnomes...

JANIS (CONT'D)
Quaint.

Benjamin narrows his gaze at David.

BENJAMIN
And you?

David immediately gets nervous.

JANIS
This is David, a friend. Can we come in?

Still eyeing David...

BENJAMIN
Sure.

The two enter in together.

INT. THE HOUSE AT THE END OF THE ROAD - CONTINUOUS

The house is well put together in an off putting manner. As if it was cut out of a Sears catalog. Nothing seems personal or appears as if someone actually lives here.

BENJAMIN

Sit.

With haste, the two kids scurry to a plastic covered couch.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)

I'm sorry, you caught me in the middle of something.

(extends his hand to David)

The name's Benjamin.

David shakes back.

JANIS

We, well I, I wanted to talk to you about things you discussed on your show.

BENJAMIN

Is this for a school project?

JANIS

No.

Benjamin sits down in a couch parallel to them.

JANIS (CONT'D)

In reference to the missing animals, how the news says its 'cults.'

Benjamin nods.

JANIS (CONT'D)

I saw an animal in the woods. I guess trapped by one of these, things.

BENJAMIN

Things.

JANIS

You said, on your show how it could be a--

BENJAMIN

--large animal.

JANIS

But I saw something that wasn't an animal, and wasn't man.

That smirk on Benjamin's turns blank fast.

BENJAMIN

What do you mean?

Janis hesitates.

David nudges her.

JANIS

It was a creature. I-I was running I couldn't make out really what it was...

DAVID

...You said it had red eyes.

Benjamin turns to him.

Janis nods.

JANIS

Yeah, these red eyes, it was like they stared right through me.

BENJAMIN

Did it have fur?

Janis shakes her head.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)

Skin?

She shakes her head again.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)

Scales--

He continues to speak, but Janis is clearly mentally somewhere else...

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)

(muffled)

...Well anyone dealing with a traumatic experience as yourself will usually focus on one aspect of what happened... that being these eyes.

EXT. PARK - EVENING (FLASHBACK)

JANIS'S POV: CLOSE ON THE CREATURE, THE SKIN SEEMS REFLECTIVE, FAR FROM WHAT HUMAN SKIN CAN DO.

END FLASHBACK

INT. THE HOUSE AT THE END OF THE ROAD (PRESENT)

JANIS
There was-scales.

Benjamin leans back.

JANIS (CONT'D)
As if it was reflective in light.

The gears begin to run in Benjamin's head. He lets out a sharp breath.

BENJAMIN
(mumbles)
Could be some form of
extraterrestrial... maybe a
reptoid. Could be a reptoid,
reflective, yeah.

Janis and David lean in.

DAVID
What?

Benjamin looks at them, as if startled they are still there.

Janis desperately waits.

BENJAMIN
Reptilians.

Both kids look completely lost.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)
No one knows where they're from but
there is possible suspicion of them
being an ancient race of alien.

Abruptly Benjamin stands up and begins to pace.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)
Half Reptile Half Humanoid.
(pulls at skin on his arm)
(MORE)

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)

You see how we evolved into this
flesh form... well they didn't
evolve to look like us.

JANIS

So are they from earth?

BENJAMIN

Some people say yes, some say no.
They've only been seen in more
warmer climates... you know cold
blooded and such.

David's eyes bulge out of his head.

Benjamin stops pacing.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)

Have you gone back to the woods?

JANIS

Yes but it's all gone.

(beat)

But there was man...

David and Benjamin looked at her, confused.

DAVID

In the woods?

Janis shakes her head.

JANIS

I... I think he was an
investigator, or someone who works
for the--

BENJAMIN

--government?

Janis nods.

David glares at him.

JANIS

I passed out when I saw that...
reptoid, right? And someone took me
home. And it was this man, he had
my book.

(furrows her eyebrows)

And he said he knew my dad.

Benjamin raises his head--intrigued.

David watches her with concern.

JANIS (CONT'D)
I have no clue why the hell he was
even there. But I'm just
(looks to the floor)
I'm scared. He said what I saw was
fake... I came to you to see if I'm
just--

BENJAMIN
--Crazy.

She crosses her arms and nods.

The three sit in silence then Benjamin leans back and sighs.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)
You're not.

A pause. David is completely lost.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)
I can help you--

DAVID
--CAN I talk to you Janis,
privately?

Janis, embarrassed, eyes David now.

BENJAMIN
Fine by me...

Standing up.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)
You two want coffee or water?

JANIS
Coffee's good.

DAVID
No thanks.

Benjamin walks toward the kitchen.

David grabs Janis and pulls her to the front door. The duration of this conversation is in whispers.

JANIS
Dude WHAT'S UP?

DAVID
Reptile-men? A PI watching you?

JANIS
I didn't say he was a PI...

DAVID
I thought this was just to get info
but this Benjamin ain't right in
the head.

JANIS
I know you're not into all of this,
but he's a professional.

Beat.

JANIS (CONT'D)
Wait. So you believe what I say but
you're distrustful of him?

Another Beat.

DAVID
He's odd.

JANIS
(sarcastic)
Oh, really?

DAVID
Maybe I didn't take it all
seriously.

Silence falls between them.

Seemingly appearing out of nowhere, a cup of coffee comes
between the two, breaking their whispers.

BENJAMIN
(to Janis)
I added sugar and cream.

She takes the coffee, looking at David for a beat.

JANIS
(to Benjamin)
Thank you.

BENJAMIN
If reptoids are the cause of this,
we need to then figure out why
they're here.

David's dumbfounded.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)
 (in an attempt to comfort)
 BUT, It is not fact! Just a theory.

DAVID
 Janis, he's just scaring you, this
 is crazy, we need to leave.

JANIS
 David!

Benjamin turns to eye David.

BENJAMIN
 (calmly)
 Listen Kid. I don't care if you
 believe me or not. But your friend
 does. Repeatedly insulting me, I'm
 not gonna tolerate. If you want my
 resume, I have worked in multiple
 agencies, including the US
 Geological Survey.
 (beat)
 I'm not as crazy as you think.

David is taken aback.

JANIS
 I'm so sorry about him.
 (looks to David)
 But we can at least all agree that
 there is some strange shit going
 on. Pets disappear only to be found
 mutilated, strange government
 types, reptoids or whatever that
 means and not to mention my father
 is brought up when I asked about
 what I saw in the woods.
 (beat)
 What the hell does he have to do
 with any of this?

The three stand in an awkward silence.

DAVID
 (in a groveling manner)
 I'm-I'm sorry sir.

Benjamin starts to laugh.

BENJAMIN

I've never been called that but
I'll take it. Please, follow me.

Benjamin starts to walk away but motions them to follow.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)

Now Janis, you're still living with
Marian?

JANIS

Where else would I be?

Benjamin nods.

All three proceed down the stairs.

BENJAMIN

I have read that reptoids have
always had a distain towards
humans, because they inherited the
earth.

They reach a door with a government grade padlock.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)

Similar to the wood frog, it could
be possible they have frozen
themselves over a long period of
time.

Looking over his shoulder at them, Benjamin covers the lock
as he quickly unlocks it.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)

A safe place to stay undisturbed
would be underground. If they're
unnaturally awakened...

They proceed down a long hallway.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)

They wouldn't be happy. And it's
rumored to have built whole cities,
as their havens.

(beat)

Specifically one is under LA.

A final door with a simple padlock on it, he opens to a--

INT. BEN'S LAIR - CONTINUOUS

-- A room filled with colorful light from lava lamps. There is a state of the art computer and a television beside it. There is one final television with a live feed of his front yard (from the perspective of the garden gnomes).

Low tones of some psychedelic rock plays on a record player.

They turn to see a wall filled with newspaper articles, all of paranormal relation. In a far off corner there are different devices.

David almost steps on sketches on the floor, there are different monster types, and strange beings. David FOCUSES on a reptile standing on two feet.

BENJAMIN

Watch where ya step.

JANIS

Woah...

Benjamin laces his knuckles together and CRACKS them.

BENJAMIN

Reptoids could be migrating to Arizona.

PULL OUT of Benjamin's house in a Bird Eye's View.

There is the sight of the town. It is twilight. The town is overshadowed by the woods in the distance and even further away--mountains.

They seem to be the only bit of civilization for a great distance. Show the SKY, night is coming, stars appear. It's peaceful.

EXT. A LONG STRETCH OF ROAD - NIGHT

A COUPLE, late teens, rides slow down a side road at night.

They drive past a telephone beam that seems to have flowers-- a memorial of some sort.

The HIPPIE CHICK goes to kiss up her HIPPIE MAN'S neck. With ease she slides her hand up and down his leg.

HIPPIE MAN

(chuckles)

Do you want us to crash?

She continues what she's doing.

Clearly distracting the Hippie Man at this point, he chuckles and starts slowing down more, pulling over to the side of the road.

Woods stretch from up and down the road, it is quiet and seemingly endless. There is no other car for miles.

There is a CRACK from the woods, as if someone is walking toward the car but--

BACK IN THE CAR. The couple is now in the midst of a deep hookup.

Hippie Man proceeds to rip off the chick's shirt.

HIPPIE CHICK
Get in the back.

With ease, she squeezes through the middle compartment of the car.

The Hippie Man, clearly not able to do the same, opens the door, and walks out. As he is about to open the back seat, there is the sound of STEPS coming closer.

He stops.

HIPPIE MAN
Hello...

He walks around the car--Nothing.

More steps from the woods.

The Chick watches him, she knocks on the window. He makes a motion for her to be silent.

HIPPIE MAN (CONT'D)
Is anyone there?

He walks a few feet into the woods.

In the car the chick HUFFS in frustration, she watches as he disappears into the woods.

As she turns back she sees MOVEMENT on the other side of the car.

When she fully turns there is a creature, humanoid in it's features but has scales for skin, its red eyes glare at her. It has bent down to watch her in the car.

She proceeds to SCREAM.

The Hippie Man hears MUFFLED SCREAMS, he runs back and is face to face with this creature. It rises up from the car, clearly towering over him.

The only thing spacing them apart is the car.

It is a stand off between the two.

The Man glances at the passenger seat, then back at the creature.

He RUNS for the seat, and flips into the driver seat, SLAMMING the door behind him.

The creature BANGS on the car.

The Chick SCREAMS again as the man floors on the gas.

The creature SCRATCHES the trunk of the car with it's claw hands.

The couple speeds away. The red eyes fade away within seconds, the Chick keeps looking back. Breathless.

INT. DAVID'S CAR - LATER

Nightfall. The two sit in silence.

JANIS

Soo you supposedly believe me but when I take you to Ben, who could help me prove what I see, you freak out...

DAVID

I didn't freak out.

JANIS

You called him crazy.

DAVID

I said I was sorry for it.

JANIS

Do you even care?

DAVID

What? Of course I do, I'm just skeptical on paranormal shit.

JANIS
(looks at him)
So what did you think I saw?

David shrugs.

Janis rolls her eyes.

DAVID
A bear.

JANIS
A bear...

He stops at a stop sign.

DAVID
I don't know Janis. Look, I'll
always be there for you. But I think
what you saw could be proven by,
something else and not by aliens
'living below.'

As he eases off the break, about to turn, another car comes
RUSHING by, out of nowhere.

He SLAMS on the break, that car is already gone.

They both take a deep breath.

DAVID (CONT'D)
You okay?

JANIS
Yeah, where did they come from?

DAVID
No fucking clue. Assholes.

More silence. The tension eases in the car.

DAVID (CONT'D)
Can you understand where I'm coming
from? All of it sounds a little
strange.

JANIS
I do.
(chuckles)
You've always been the down to
earth one anyways.

David nods.

JANIS (CONT'D)
But I feel like Ben is onto
something.

They pull up to Marian's house.

A beat.

DAVID
Look, I will try to be more, open,
I'll help you find out what it is.

She opens the door of the car but doesn't leave yet.

JANIS
Thank you.

He smiles.

INT. MARIAN'S HOUSE, KITCHEN - THE NEXT DAY

Marian sits at a small table, with a cup of coffee in hand.
She's shaking slightly -- staring into her liquor cabinet.

Suddenly Janis rushes by.

MARIAN
Oh, Janis!

Janis stops.

MARIAN (CONT'D)
Can you come in?

JANIS
Hi. What did I do?

MARIAN
Nothing! I just wanted to say that
I brought the car in yesterday.
It's going to be a while before we
get it back.

JANIS
Okay.

Janis goes to walk away.

MARIAN
Wait...

JANIS
What?

MARIAN
Where ya off to?

With crossed arms, Janis stands opposite to Marian.

JANIS
David's.

MARIAN
So are you two dating now?

Janis twists her face in disgust.

JANIS
No. We're just friends.

MARIAN
Oh, sorry!

A beat.

JANIS
Can I... go--

MARIAN
--I know I can be harsh sometimes
and I know, I'm not the easiest
person to live with.

JANIS
Yeah.

MARIAN
The way I was acting the past few
days hasn't been fair to you.

Janis uncrosses her arms, she turns slightly to see Marian's liquor cabinet. Then back.

JANIS
Well, a...

MARIAN
I'm going to try more with you,
this situation can be hard on both
of us and we--

JANIS
--Butt heads.

Janis goes and sits down at the seat parallel to Marian.
Blocking her view of the cabinet.

MARIAN

Yes. I genuinely am concerned for your wellbeing and it seems like at times I'm not. When I'm...

JANIS

..Drunk.

MARIAN

My emotions get the better of me. But I can't tell you what you can and can't do, you're 18 for christ sake.

(chuckles)

You'll do it anyway.

Janis nods.

MARIAN (CONT'D)

Thank you for leaving that note.

(pauses)

Can there be a give and take between us? You letting me know where you go, and I, be more...

She trails off.

JANIS

I get it. And yes.

Janis notices her shaking.

MARIAN

Okay! So do you want me to make you some breakfast?

JANIS

I do have a busy day today, maybe I can be home for dinner.

Janis goes to stand up.

MARIAN

Sounds good.

They smile at each other.

Janis leaves.

Marian SIGHS and takes a long sip of her coffee.

MATCH CUT TO:

INT. DINER - SAME

Benjamin puts down a MUG.

A small run down diner. It has a 50s feel and seems as if it is frozen in time. The early morning sun creeps over the many customers crowding the place. Mainly older folks.

In Ben's other hand he's intently reading through a newspaper.

INSERT: NEWSPAPER: Underground Catacombs of LA, dated 1933

Beside the newspaper is a small notebook where he's taking notes on the catacombs. He flips the pages and looks at--

INSERT: NOTEBOOK: A Newspaper Article pasted in the book "THERMAL BORING DEVICE MELTS AWAY GRANITE," dated 1971

The newspaper says. "A boring device that can melt its way through granite at 30 inches an hour has been developed by the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory. On Thursday, in a trial run, it penetrated 12 feet through solid rock."

He HMPHS as he reads.

THREE COPS sit behind the booth Benjamin is sitting at.

COP 1

I still think they were on something.

Cop 3 just shakes his head.

Benjamin sits up more when--

WAITRESS

(puts down a plate)

--Two eggs sunny side up with hash, bacon.

Startled by her presence, he pushed back the notebook. Out of the back of the notebook falls letters.

He SHOVES them back in their place.

BENJAMIN

Sorry-Sorry.

The waitress waits. Impatiently.

WAITRESS

(puts down a second plate)

And a side of pancakes.

BENJAMIN

Thanks honey.

She shuffles away.

COP 2

Were they out-of-towners?

COP 1

No, the boy was Vito's son.

COP 2

The butcher?

Cop 3 nods while chewing.

COP 1

And his girlfriend. Both were hysterical.

(chuckles)

Saying they saw the missing link.

Cop 2 laughs.

COP 2

What?

Cop 3 stops eating.

COP 3

No, No, they were saying it was some reptile.

COP 1

I think we would've gotten a call in if Godzilla was roaming off of route 67.

Cop 2 laughs.

CLOSE ON Benjamin, he's intently listening.

COP 3

Weird thing about it's that they passed the drug and polygraph tests. They were clean. Clearly something shook them up.

COP 2

Well did you check out what they saw?

COP 1

We told them we'll get to it. That road gets dark at night. I think they just saw a an animal and their minds made up the rest...

As the waitress walks by, Benjamin stops her.

BENJAMIN

Can you wrap this up?

She lets out an annoyed sigh and grabs the food.

CUT TO:

EXT. ROAD - AFTERNOON

A Black Ford Bronco with red and orange panels drives off of the main road. Inside is Benjamin and Janis.

INT. BRONCO - SAME

The two of them sit deep in thought as Ben rushes by the town.

BENJAMIN

I didn't interrupt them because well, they don't like me.

JANIS

You're popular around these parts aren't you?

Benjamin smirks and nods.

BENJAMIN

Everyone was told not to like me. It's not my fault they're weak minded sheep.

JANIS

Was Marian told that?

Beat.

BENJAMIN

No.

JANIS

Well do you talk like this to other people?

BENJAMIN
(shaking his head)
Not all the time.

Janis chuckles.

PULL OUT from the two on the car their voices get muffled but we can see that Janis is speaking.

The small town of Frostbite is far from them now, they begin to inch deeper into woods, far from civilization as the two know it.

The car rushes past piles of different forms of shrubbery.

From these woody plants comes a BLACK CAR that was calmly hidden. Silently, the car pulls out and follows the Bronco from a distance.

BACK TO THE BRONCO.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)
So you mentioned how your father
was brought up when you interacted
with that man?

She nods.

JANIS
Yea. He said he recognized me. I
don't even think I look like my
dad... but he was following me.

BENJAMIN
Seriously?

She nods again.

Benjamin thinks, and lets out a sigh.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)
Your father--he was an engineer
yes?

JANIS
Yep. He never really went into
detail of his job, he said it would
bore me.

Beat. She digs through her bag and pulls out her binder.

JANIS (CONT'D)
But there was this.

She pulls out an envelope.

JANIS (CONT'D)

When he went missing, a letter was sent to my mom from the US Army Core of Engineers.

BENJAMIN

The USACE? That is a sect of the government! I bet you he worked on one of their secret subdivisions.

Janis is perplexed.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)

There was a group of freelance engineers, working for the USACE, they were from all different parts of the country. They disappeared..

(beat)

Around the same time your father did.

JANIS

There were multiple?

BENJAMIN

Yes.

A beat.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)

I still had my job then. That's when I heard it...

Janis adjusts in her seat. She NOTICES an Exit Benjamin is going down.

JANIS

(distressed)

Wait! Where are we going?

BENJAMIN

To Route 67?

JANIS

Why!

BENJAMIN

That's where the kids saw the reptile. What's wrong?

JANIS

I-I didn't know it was route 67...

Silence.

BENJAMIN

Janis?

JANIS

(whispers)

--My mom...

BENJAMIN

What?

JANIS

My mother.

(pauses)

This is where the accident
happened.

Benjamin blinks, then it all comes back to him.

BENJAMIN

God-I, Oh, Janis. I'm sorry. I
should've come here alone.

The Exit approaches.

From the far distance, the BLACK CAR can be seen, but it is
still not noticed by the two.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)

Do you want me to drive you back?

Janis shakes her head through held back tears.

JANIS

I've been needing to visit
anyways...

They reach the same stretch of highway the couple was at the
night before. The car slows down and finally reaches a halt
in front of a memorial on a tree.

Benjamin and Janis both exit the car.

EXT. ROADSIDE MEMORIAL - CONTINUOUS

Janis eases her way slowly to the memorial.

INSERT: MEMORIAL: There are tasteful plastic flowers,
weathered and slightly torn. A wooden cross lay at the base
of the tree. Within the center of all of it is a carving on
the tree "She will always be with us, We miss you Pamela."

Benjamin stays back.

Janis lays her hand on the tree for a beat.

JANIS
She was looking for him.

BENJAMIN
I had a feeling.

JANIS
My trapper keeper. That was my
moms. She became obsessive.
Searching for any clue she can
find.

BENJAMIN
Do you think she was sparing you?

JANIS
To know if he is alive or dead?

Benjamin is silent.

JANIS (CONT'D)
Yeah.

BENJAMIN
I'm sorry Janis.

She shrugs.

JANIS
It's not your fault.

They stand there for a moment.

BENJAMIN
Would you like me to leave you
alone?

Janis turns to him. Her eyes are puffy and redder on the lid
of the eye.

JANIS
It's okay. We should get going.

She moves past him, back into the car. Benjamin rushes after
her.

INT. BRONCO - CONTINUOUS

Benjamin enters the car and looks at Janis, who's eyes are less red now. Clearheaded--

JANIS

--If what I saw was this, reptoid,
and that man who followed me, works
for the government. My dad could've
been working or testing on those
things.

Ben nods.

BENJAMIN

The government has been on record
working with many different types
of aliens.

Janis pulls out her binder again, with her map.

JANIS

Did you know my dad was one of
those engineers?

She marks out the spot where her Mother's memorial is.

BENJAMIN

No, I knew only about what
happened.

She calmly puts it away.

Driving a few miles up they're both looking around.

Any clue.

Any sign.

When...

JANIS

Tire tracks!

Benjamin STOPS the car at a screeching halt.

On the side of the road there are deep tire indents in the
mud.

BENJAMIN

Good eyes.

The two get out.

EXT. A LONG STRETCH OF ROAD - CONTINUOUS

Janis goes to investigate the tire tracks while Benjamin rushes to the trunk of the car.

JANIS

Ben?

BENJAMIN

Wait...

He slams the trunk and comes out with what looks like a lunch bag.

JANIS

Are we having a picnic?

BENJAMIN

Wha-Oh no. This is a sampler bag.

He opens the bag and there is different small shovels, scraping tools, and plastic bags.

He plucks out plastic gloves from one of the pockets and puts them on.

JANIS

Cool. Do you have one for me?

He looks at her.

BENJAMIN

No.

He walks past her.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)

I always carry this. Never know when ya need it. Just keep your eyes peeled.

The two begin to walk around the woods. The trees are barren. Not many leaves. The deeper the two walk in, the more foliage there is.

The sun is high in the sky, illuminating their trail.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)

The study of geology deals with the earth's physical structure and its history. Through the earth, we see what it has been through.

Janis nods.

JANIS
(as a matter of factly)
I'll keep an eye on the ground
then.

They both look at the ground. Benjamin observes bark on each tree.

BENJAMIN
(chuckles)
It's a start.

Beat.

JANIS
If you don't mind me asking, why
did you lose your job?

Sunlight comes through the trees, making Janis squint. She looks up towards the sky then back.

Benjamin freezes as he's picking of bark off a tree.

BENJAMIN
My job was to study and take notes
on Arizona's landscape. If there
were any anomalies or if there was
anything new.

Janis nods.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)
One day, about 6 or so years ago
was when I noticed some
abnormalities in the area. There
seemed to be small earthquakes. And
the strange thing was that they
were near towns and no one was
reporting this. Besides me. I came
to believe that the government was
digging tunnels or making
underground facilities.

JANIS
Why would they do that?

BENJAMIN
Secret, non-surface level, perfect
for experiments, illegal or not.
And faster transportation.

JANIS
Shit.

With a wild look in his eyes--

BENJAMIN

--I was let go as 'cut backs' but
why the hell does the whole town
now say I was shamefully exiled?

RUSTLING of leaves startles the both of them.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)

But it's not fact, just theory.

Janis goes towards the noise.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)

(in a whisper)

Janis-Janis what're you doing?!

JANIS

Don't worry--

--She stops past a few trees. Nothing. She looks down and
sees a JACK RABBIT. The hare stares at Janis. Not moving.

Benjamin barrels over.

BENJAMIN

What is it?

The rabbit RUNS away.

JANIS

(rolling her eyes)

Nothing now.

His voice is drawn out as Janis walks to where the rabbit was
standing. Her EYES follow a tree the hare stood in front of
when--Bingo.

JANIS (CONT'D)

Ben.

She points.

CLOSE ON A TREE, THERE IS DEEP, FRESH CLAW MARKS HERE.

BENJAMIN

Oh my GOD.

JANIS

Do you think this--it could be just
a bear?

Benjamin nods. He calmly places his bag down and pulls out a pair of tweezers.

BENJAMIN

Bears have four. This is three. And bears will mark territory, this looks like something was moving fast, and hit the bark.

JANIS

Some sharp ass nails then.

From her bag, Janis pulls out her MAP and marks where they are.

BENJAMIN

Indeed.

She gently folds it and puts it back.

The two notice how its getting darker. They begin to walk back the way they came.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)

Janis.

JANIS

Yeah.

BENJAMIN

Can you just promise me to not go out alone?

They reach the bronco. Before Janis could answer--

--They both feel eyes on them, they look down the road.

BENJAMIN AND JANIS'S POV: In the far distance, there is a black car, with it's headlights on. It suddenly shuts off the lights.

With haste, the two hop into the bronco and drive off.

Janis turns around to watch the car as it disappears within the horizon.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)

I don't want you to get hurt.

CLOSE ON Janis's eyes watching.

EXT. PARK - LATER

CLOSE ON Rosaline, her tongue hangs low, with the summer heat.

PULL OUT to show David is walking her.

He's walking on a cement street, to the right of him is woods.

Rosaline, looking anxious, wants to move left but David keeps redirecting her with the leash.

DAVID
Come on Rosaline.

They walk for a few until David turns into the woods.

Rosaline whimpers.

David sighs, from his pocket he pulls out a small bone.

DAVID (CONT'D)
You want it?

Rosaline whimpers again.

David stops, he squats down to offer the bone, she whimpers again, not even looking at the bone.

David pets her.

DAVID (CONT'D)
What's up with you?

He stands up.

DAVID (CONT'D)
One round around here and we'll go home.

David WHISTLES at her.

Rosaline, reluctantly, follows.

The woods are open and expansive. Trees fill the frame, something a dog would regularly love.

But something is off.

As if she can smell something in the air, Rosaline looks around.

The two walk for a little while when--

--The wind rises from the woods, moving the trees.

There is a distant shuffle in the woods.

David doesn't take note of it. But Rosaline does.

The anxious look of the dog goes to defense mode. She STOPS walking and stares into the woods.

DAVID (CONT'D)
Rosaline what's--

Rosaline begins to BARK wildly.

The distance sounds seem like its coming closer.

David now hears the noises coming from the woods.

David is struggling to hold her back when finally, she breaks away from his grasp and RUSHES into the woods, still BARKING.

Rosaline's sweet demeanor is now violent, and looks akin to a wolf running through the woods.

David rushes in after her.

She runs into a clearing where she's still barking.

There is nothing here.

Besides from a far...

DAVID (CONT'D)
Rosaline! ROSALINE!

She stops barking. Breathing heavily.

Silence.

Any sounds the woods would make regularly is gone.

She lets out a faint bark when an ARM from OFF SCREEN stretches at her.

Not of human origin, the arm has scales and claws instead of fingertips.

FULL REVEAL OF A REPTILIAN.

It looks similar to humanoid figure, its head is long and above its eyes is two horns pointing outward.

Along the sagittal crest of its forehead has spikes. It is tall, scales all over it's body that reflect in the moonlight, elongated arms, with claws on the hands (3 to be exact), and claws on the feet for balance.

Its eyes blankly stare at the dog, they seems to FLASH a reddish-yellow like glow.

ANOTHER ANGLE.

David finally catches up to see a Reptilian almost having its claws around Rosaline.

He stands there--petrified.

The large dog thrashes and BARKS until she can free herself.

Rosaline GROWLS takes a step back to reveal the creature clawed her pristine white fur on her back. Deep Red claw marks reveal themselves.

The REPTILIAN turns and makes eye contact with David.

David eyes dart to his dog, who looks extremely weak.

Rosaline in a last bit of energy SPRINGS at the Reptilian and LOCKS onto its ankle.

With ease--it shakes the dog off.

David WHISTLES to Rosaline whose now running back to him.

Without looking back--the two run out of the woods as fast as they can.

EXT. PARK - SAME

Finally at a safe distance back in civilization and under the safety of street lamps they stop to breath.

Blood trickles on the floor as she's breathing very heavy.

Rosaline collapses.

David immediately rushes to her side.

EXT. MARIAN'S HOUSE - NIGHTFALL

Benjamin pulls up in front if Marian's house.

BENJAMIN

Phhhh. I haven't been here in a long time.

Janis nods.

JANIS

Let's just be quick, I--

The front door opens to show Marian's silhouette.

JANIS (CONT'D)

(under her breath)

--shittt.

(beat)

I'll see you later.

She hops out of the bronco.

BENJAMIN

Okay I'll--

The door SHUTS as Janis scurries towards Marian.

MARIAN

Whose... Ugh, Janis, you got a call...

Benjamin lowers his car window.

BENJAMIN

(loudly)

Marian! It's nice to see you.

Janis freezes when she reaches the door.

She turns and GLARES evilly at Benjamin.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)

How've you been?

Janis walks in.

Marian shuts the door.

INT. MARIAN'S HOUSE, HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Janis, without turning around asks--

JANIS

--You said I had a call.

Marian stares at her with her arms crossed, she sighs and rubs her temples.

Both walk into the kitchen.

Janis notices two dinner plates laid out. They seem to have been there for a while.

MARIAN

David called. He said it was an emergency.

Turing to look at Marian--

JANIS

(concerned)

Did he say anything else?

Marian, slightly ticked off.

MARIAN

No.

(beat)

You said you were seeing David today?

JANIS

I did, in the morning.

Marian rolls her eyes and impatiently taps her foot.

MARIAN

So why were you with Benjamin?

JANIS

He's helping me with a science experiment for school.

MARIAN

It's the summer.

JANIS

It's summer homework.

MARIAN

Since when has this happened?

JANIS

(shrugging)

New curriculum I guess.

MARIAN

Don't bullshit me.

JANIS

I'm not.

Janis looks up to see Marian, whose just staring at her.

JANIS (CONT'D)

I'm gonna call David before I...

MARIAN

I'm not kidding. Why were you with Benjamin all day?

JANIS

Marian. I know Benjamin! He's a friend.

MARIAN

Well you shouldn't be friends with him.

JANIS

I'm working on the project with David! You can ask him, speaking of, did he say call me back or meet with him?

Marian stays silent.

JANIS (CONT'D)

Should I just go?

MARIAN

No.

JANIS

Okay.

A pregnant pause.

MARIAN

You know Benjamin's just a dead beat.

Janis stays quiet.

Marian begins to pace.

MARIAN (CONT'D)

Why do you think he only has a radio show?

(sarcastically)

He said it was because he 'asked too man questions that made him dangerous.'

(MORE)

MARIAN (CONT'D)

(beat)
Now look at him.

Marian begins to do the dishes, stress cleaning and all--back to Janis.

JANIS

Anyone can get fired.

Marian scoffs.

MARIAN

Not like Ben. Everything was a conspiracy to him.

JANIS

So why did you date him?

She turns to look at Janis.

MARIAN

(in a soft smile)
He's smart and charming.

Shaking it off, she looks away from Janis.

MARIAN (CONT'D)

But I found out he is more obsessive than all of that. Spent more time with his rocks and his radio show than me.

She stops doing the dishes.

Through a sharp breath--

JANIS

--When did David call?

Calming Down..

MARIAN

20 minutes ago.

Janis moves past her.

JANIS

I'll eat later.

She goes for the door.

MARIAN

(under her breath)
Be safe.

The door SLAMS.

I/E. DAVID'S HOME - MOMENTS LATER

David OPENS his door to Janis whose walking up, he has a wild haze in his eyes. He is scared.

The two walk together to his room when--

INT. DAVID'S HOME, BEDROOM - LATER

Janis is sitting beside David, nodding along to what he's saying.

DAVID

--I drove so long to find a 24 hour Vet.

JANIS

Did you... tell them what you saw?

David looks at her.

DAVID

No. Why would I? They'd think I'm insane. I just said an animal attacked her--

JANIS

--But you're not.

DAVID

What?

JANIS

Insane.

David takes a sharp exhale.

DAVID

I didn't want to believe you.

JANIS

Yeah.

DAVID

I'm sorry.

Janis rubs his back.

JANIS
 Don't say that.
 (pause)
 Is she alright?

DAVID
 Rosaline lost a lot of blood. I had
 to let her stay over night...

He shakes his head.

DAVID (CONT'D)
 I'm just hoping for the best.

She stops rubbing her back.

DAVID (CONT'D)
 Janis.

She looks at him.

DAVID (CONT'D)
 (scared)
 What Benjamin was saying, he's
 right. You're right. But I don't
 think you know what you're up
 against. That, that THING, probably
 could've snapped Rosaline in two if
 I didn't run in. And, it could've
 easily killed me too.

JANIS
 I'm lost.

David gives her a perplexed look.

JANIS (CONT'D)
 What do we do if we find them?
 You're scared, I'm scared, I'm
 weak, and the only form of
 authority we have on our side is a
 known nutcase... But he's been
 right.

DAVID
 If we find them, we expose them.

She looks at him, then to the floor.

JANIS
 He's been right.
 (under her breath)
 Underground facilities.

DAVID
Under-what?

Janis looks up at David.

JANIS
What if these reptoids are coming from under the ground? If we expose them, we have to find them. David, where exactly did you get attacked?

She fumbles through her bag to pull out her binder.

Flipping through, she pulls out the map of Frostbite.

MATCH CUT TO:

INT. BEN'S LAIR - LATER

The map is laid out on one of Benjamin's many cluttered tables. There are clear pinpoints of where each incident has been now.

PULL OUT to see the three standing surrounding the map.

BENJAMIN
Underground?

DAVID
Yes.

Benjamin looks at him, then Janis.

JANIS
This is a possibility, where I pinpointed are on the outskirts of the desert.

BENJAMIN
No, I agree with you, here has been the construction for the new housing expansion.

JANIS
Could they be mad humans are going to live there?

DAVID
Who cares about them?

BENJAMIN
There are multiple subterranean reptile species...

He stops for a beat. A glimmer lights up his eyes.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)
They could have been what I was
recording.

Janis nods.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)
(in a eureka-type yell)
So it was a Cover Up!!

Benjamin rushes to another corner of his room.

David looks at Janis, confused. She waves at him that its
okay and mouths at him to--

JANIS
--Wait.

Benjamin come back with rolled up paper, with ease, he
unrolls them on the table. One is a Topographical map and the
other is a seismic map of Frostbite.

BENJAMIN
Way before I got fired, I printed
out all abnormality readings, they
are shown as indents on a seismic
map of Frostbite.

DAVID
What is this of?

BENJAMIN
Inner Earth activity.

JANIS
Inner Earth activity.

They turn to each other and then continue.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)
If I'm correct...

He lays the seismic and Janis's map together in the light.

Where the activity on the map correlates with where each
incident happened.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)
...They happened in the same area.

Benjamin thinks for a moment. He's taken aback.

DAVID
They have some underground nest of
some sort.

JANIS
Eh, I don't like the idea of it
being a nest.

DAVID
How many do you think there would
be?

Janis clearly doesn't know. She looks to Benjamin.

JANIS
Do you know how many would be down
there?

A beat.

Benjamin turns to the kids.

DAVID
Has to be a colony. I-I this was
all conspiracy, all wonder, now
it's--

JANIS
--real.

Benjamin turns to Janis. She gives him a nervous smile.

JANIS (CONT'D)
At least were not crazy.

All three of them turn back to the map.

Benjamin grabs a marker and crudely circles the incidents and
finds a possible center based on it.

The two stare at Benjamin.

BENJAMIN
We can't have these things here or
in our town. From further
conspiracies I've heard, if they
infiltrate. They inevitable go to
the most powerful forms of our
government to take control.

DAVID
Then why choose Frostbite and not
D.C.?

JANIS
Smaller towns are easier to take
over. No one would notice until its
too late.

BENJAMIN
She's right.

Janis smiles to herself.

DAVID
So let's find these bastards.

Some excitement lingers in his eyes when he says--

BENJAMIN
Oh, we will.

They all TURN to Benjamin's tools.

ANOTHER ANGLE

A darkened closet is opened to reveal the three standing in front of it.

David and Janis gawk in awe.

Hunting rifles, small guns, grenades, the works.

DAVID
(mouths to Janis)
Shit.

BENJAMIN
I haven't needed to use these things in forever. But I don't want you two without arms.

A beat.

He turns and sees the kids are staring at him.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)
We need protecting.

JANIS
Yeah.

David sighs, accepting what he has to do.

He then reaches for a grenade when Benjamin stops him.

BENJAMIN
These babies are mine.

BEGIN MONTAGE:

--Janis goes for a hunting rifle. It is large for her but she can carry it and it not look awkward in her frame.

--David finds a revolver and a larger knife.

--In a bag, Benjamin packs a NOTEPAD.

--Gingerly, he secures grenades on himself.

--David pulls out a pack of dynamite that is in the back of the closet.

--Benjamin pulls ROCK CLIMBING EQUIPMENT, and gives organized packs to Janis and David

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)
Never be unprepared.

DAVID
(to Janis)
Nerd.

END MONTAGE.

CIRCLE AROUND THE THREE AS THEY SPEAK:

BENJAMIN
We'll place markers for the dynamites, I'll light them and we can see if the ground is hallow.

DAVID
And what if its not?

JANIS
Then we can keep looking.

Janis looks to Benjamin for some form of approval.

BENJAMIN
(at a loss for words)
I-yes. Yes.

Benjamin closes the closet.

CUT TO:

EXT. THE HOUSE AT THE END OF THE ROAD - MOMENTS LATER

It is a dry and dark night.

Benjamin carefully packs the trunk. David's starting the car, while Janis is standing with Ben.

JANIS

If there are colonies, what do you think could be down there?

BENJAMIN

There are rumored cities, whole civilizations and culture, it--

JANIS

--What do you think?

Benjamin closes the trunk.

BENJAMIN

Honestly... I have no clue. I'm just over the moon that we might find them.

JANIS

But what the hell do we do if we actually see them? I can't fight.

BENJAMIN

Janis, you have a gun for that.

He laughs, clearly his attempt to lighten the mood failed.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)

You're strong and extremely intelligent. You remind me of me when I was young.

(pauses)

But you need to stop underestimating yourself. The more doubt you put out into the world, the more it will keep you down.

He put his hand on her shoulder.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)

I'll let nothing happen to you, I promise.

(in a whisper)

And if all else fails, we sacrifice David.

Janis laughs.

DAVID (O.S.)

Ready to go?!

The two get in.

EXT. FROSTBITE ROADS - CONTINUOUS

David drives with Janis in the passenger seat.

Benjamin is preparing. He has Ground Penetrating Radar, which he is assembling in the backseat. There is a small digital display he is connecting to two poles that go to a small rolling cart.

They drive through the town. Beyond the desolate suburbia, they reach a main road with silenced small businesses, and then past the entrance to the park.

David tenses on the wheel.

Janis looks over at him, then back to the scenery.

Now to the back roads where nature litters the road. It makes it even darker than before. Slowly accelerating, David pushes through.

Trees and more Trees. Up and Down long winding roads.

Finally the trees start to disperse.

They have reached the--

EXT. DESERT - CONTINUOUS

David stops.

This desert has more nature life than one would expect, mainly the nature-life consists of cacti and thick small bushes. The deep purple sky is clear besides a couple of clouds.

Besides the three of them, there is no one else for miles.

Benjamin SLAMS open the back door and pulls out a full assembled piece of equipment.

BENJAMIN

(deeply exhales)

Okay so here is where we mapped it.
I'm going to scan the ground to
look for any parts that could be
hollow.

He immediately walks off, leaving David and Janis.

Janis quickly rushes around the car as if looking if anyone is around. Visibly anxious.

DAVID
Woah, Woah, were are you going?

JANIS
I-I was just checking the
perimeter.

DAVID
Do you seriously think there is
anyone else here?

Janis gives him a look.

DAVID (CONT'D)
Yeah... you're right.

The two of them go into the car and begin to pull out the
rock climbing equipment.

JANIS
You know I've never walked out of a
fight with Marian.

DAVID
Really?

Janis nods.

They put on the equipment as they continue.

JANIS
You didn't see the way she looked.
She just seemed done with me.

DAVID
Aren't all guardians like that.

JANIS
Your mom does that too?

DAVID
Yep. It's kind of in the parenting
rule book. But I doubt Marian is
done with you, she loves you.

JANIS
(chuckles)
I'm just an obligation.

DAVID
Oh, stop that.

Janis is taken a back.

DAVID (CONT'D)

If you were just an obligation, you wouldn't be here. Under that cold-bitch exterior she puts up, she's just a sad woman, who misses her sister.

David pulls out from the car fire extinguishers.

JANIS

She could tell me that.

DAVID

Some people just would rather deal with their demons in their own ways.

He SHUTS the car door.

EXT. DESERT - CONTINUOUS

Benjamin pushing the GPR, closely observing where he is walking.

He pries out maps from his hands and watches, seeing if he's on the correct spot.

BACK TO:

EXT. DESERT - CONTINUOUS

DAVID

Shooting is essentially like playing ball...

Janis is clearly lost.

David sighs.

DAVID (CONT'D)

(slightly sassy)

You've SEEN a baseball game before?

JANIS

Yes.

DAVID

You know how you have to keep your eye on the ball?

JANIS

Yes.

DAVID
Well that is the same process with
shooting a gun.

JANIS
It's slightly different...

David hoists up the gun.

DAVID
Let's say the shrub is an alien--

JANIS
--Let's not! I don't want you
shooting Ben in the ass before we
start.

David and Janis laugh.

JANIS (CONT'D)
I get the concept.

DAVID
Good.

A beat.

JANIS
What if Rosaline doesn't make it?

David is shocked by the question, but tries to mask it.

DAVID
I don't know Janis. She was trying
to protect me.

JANIS
I'm sorry David.

David looks down, sighs, then looks at her.

DAVID
I looked into its-its eyes. Its a
hunter. I don't have any theories
or studied up, I didn't have time
for that.
(pauses)
They're angry.

Without braking his stare.

JANIS
We'll find them.

BACK TO:

EXT. DESERT - CONTINUOUS

Benjamin walks a few feet back and forth.

CLOSE ON: RADAR EQUIPMENT: From the looks of it is multiple horizontal lines, and one enormous curve.

BENJAMIN
(GASPS)
She was RIGHT?!

He walks along for a while, the radar stays relatively consistent.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)
Holy Shi--

BACK TO:

EXT. DESERT - CONTINUOUS

BENJAMIN (O.S.)
(yelling)
YOU TWO BETTER GET OVER HERE

Janis and David rush towards him.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)
David, I'm gonna trust you. I have
place down markers where this
tunnel begins. Go back to the car
and place the dynamite. DON'T light
them up yet.

DAVID
Okay sir.

David runs back to the car.

BENJAMIN
(snarky)
I kind of like him.

JANIS
It's a tunnel?

BENJAMIN

From what I can see, this piece of hollow ground, continues for a while.

Janis turns to David running with the dynamite in hand.

CUT TO:

EXT. DESERT - MOMENTS LATER

CLOSE UP: Dynamite sticks: Benjamin is lighting each with haste then he RUNS away.

Janis and David are already behind the car when Benjamin crashes into them. Out of Breath.

In both Janis and Davids hands are fire extinguishers, David passes Benjamin a second one.

BAM! BAM! BAM!

The Bronco SHAKES back and forth, dust blows from under the car to hit the three of them.

Benjamin raises his hand to stop the two before they begin walking.

BENJAMIN

(yelling)

Wait for my signal.

JANIS

(yelling back)

We can hear you.

Benjamin twitches his head then dramatically waves at his ears.

BENJAMIN

I think my ears popped.

(beat)

Wait here.

He STAND up abruptly, leaves from behind the bronco, then audibly GASPS at how much fire there is. The shrubs are lit up.

David and Janis proceed to go out after him.

The fire is controllable, shining up the dark desert.

Janis goes to extinguish out any fire she sees--David follows after.

Benjamin also starts to extinguish.

Through the fire, they burst through it with large white puffs. Finally Benjamin reaches the sources of the explosion.

This is when he almost falls.

JANIS

Ben!

Janis rushes towards him to hear--laughing.

Benjamin's okay, almost falling into what looks like a cave.

BENJAMIN

You, you got good instincts kid.

She's awestruck...

JANIS

Thanks.

Benjamin gets up.

INT. GLASS TUNNEL - MOMENTS LATER

We're back in the Glass Tunnel, the colors of amber and brown have seemed to not fade at all with age.

A rope is gently lowered down.

All three of them have assembled on their rock climbing equipment. A flood of light comes in as Benjamin is slowing climbing down. He is taken aback by all the tunnel has to offer.

When he reaches the bottom, he tugs slightly to let the other two come down.

Janis slides down gently, then immediately David, clumsily.

The three stand in awe off this glass tunnel.

BENJAMIN

I don't think this is
extraterrestrial at all...

David and Janis are both confused.

David walks towards one of the walls.

DAVID

Then what the hell could made this.

He gently knocks on it, it sounds like the flicking of a glass cup.

BENJAMIN

This sucker's nuclear.

The three begin to walk the tunnel, they move closer together.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)

Nuclear Boring. They essentially work as a faster way to make a tunnel. A nuclear powered one gets 10 times the work done compared to what regular one could do. Nuclear power melts through gravel and sediment. Essentially making conventionally drilling obsolete.

(sucks his teeth)

I've been following this for years. If you believe the bull shit New York Times, they've only made them 4 centimeters in diameter.

Benjamin opens his arms wide.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)

Clearly we've been lied to.

The tunnel seems endless and massive, on a closer look, its cracked and broken with time.

DAVID

I guess its not as perfect as it seemed.

Dirt falls through these cracks.

Beyond the three making further steps, there is just silence.

JANIS

The government could have been looking for these reptoids.

BENJAMIN

The heat and the power of the boring could have woken them from a frozen state of essentially hibernation.

They finally reach the end of the tunnel. It is a large circle. As if the boring machine stopped, a tunnel that leads to no where.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)

Either way, pissing of an extraterrestrial species is not a good way to introduce them to humanity.

More dirt and shards of glass are here. Through closer look through Janis's flashlight is when--

JANIS

--There.

A few feet above where they are, is a DIRT TUNNEL, different than this pristine tunnel. Animalistic.

BENJAMIN

Bingo.

JANIS

How are we gonna get up there?

There is no response.

Janis turns around to see both Benjamin and David staring at her--clearly towering over her.

JANIS (CONT'D)

Oh no--

CUT TO:

INT. GLASS TUNNEL - MOMENTS LATER

Janis is standing on David's shoulders.

DAVID

(to Benjamin)

Is this the best thing to leave her in there alone?

Benjamin's holding onto David's shoulders so he doesn't wobble as much.

BENJAMIN

(to David)

If she fits, we'll figure out a way to squeeze our asses in there.

JANIS'S POV: This is a clear tunnel, with her flashlight, the tunnel seems like sharp nailed hands carved them.

She props her arms to PULL herself in.

The tunnel is not as large as the glass tunnel but roomy enough that its not claustrophobic.

JANIS

I'm in!

BENJAMIN

Perfect. Does it seem substantial for you to crawl through?

DAVID

I seriously can't leave her alone in there.

Benjamin just looks at him then pushes David in there.

Laying down both can fit, Janis grabs onto David's arm to pull him in.

David looks around.

DAVID (CONT'D)

This is a joke right?

Benjamin JUMPS toward David, he GRABS him with all he can.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Oh GOD.

BENJAMIN

Stop complaining, this'll add muscle to you.

Janis is slightly in front of the two of them and can see something in the distance--A blue light.

JANIS

I'm going to try to reach the end.

Benjamin and David adjust to see what she is looking at.

DAVID

Seriously Janis?

JANIS

You didn't have to come up here.

DAVID

I didn't want you to get hurt.

Benjamin inches his way up to be shoulder to shoulder with David.

BENJAMIN

And we all should stay close together.

David rolls his eyes.

JANIS

Well David, you're already up here, so come on.

David inches towards her.

JANIS (CONT'D)

You see that.

She points, while leaning closer to the wall so the other two can see.

DAVID

The blue light.

JANIS

Yep. There could be reptoids there.

BENJAMIN

No lights could have lasted that were manmade... the glass tunnel looked as if it was abandoned for years.

DAVID

There could be government workers. GOD, I can't believe you've dragged me into this.

JANIS

Sure I literally did drag you but you know you came here under your own fruition.

BENJAMIN

(under his breath)

You keep calling out for God like that, he might just let the tunnel collapse.

Not hearing Ben--

DAVID

--I guess.

Janis chuckles.

JANIS
You have such a big brother
complex.

DAVID
OW!

Janis turns slightly to see David flicking small pebbles off
of his elbows.

DAVID (CONT'D)
No I don't. I just think you like
to put yourself in dangerous
situations.

JANIS
...you're not wrong.

DAVID
WHAT? I couldn't hear you.

JANIS
I win this argument cause you're in
the tunnel with me!

The blue light gets brighter. As they get closer, they get
quieter.

BENJAMIN
Quit your bickering!

DAVID
This is all for proof that these
reptile men are real right?

JANIS
Well, yeah.

DAVID
Look, I'm only thinking about this
now, and its not like I can go
back...

JANIS
...what?

DAVID
One thing I know about conspiracy
is that they're never proven.

Janis moves faster.

Benjamin scoffs.

JANIS

Yeah.

DAVID

And if someone wants to prove a
conspiracy they die.

A beat.

JANIS

David I doubt--

--Janis falls out of the tunnel.

DAVID

Janis!

BENJAMIN

Janis!

INT. FORGOTTEN ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Janis falls into a small dirt room. The wall is littered with
scratch marks that seem to have sculpted the room.

The blue light is still visible but now is unsettlingly
bright, it is coming from a smaller hole in the room.

JANIS

I'm okay.

She JOLTS up to go help David.

David comes down.

DAVID

What the hell...

Benjamin gracelessly fumbles out of the tunnel, into David's
arms.

JANIS

You said there's no going back now
right?

Both men out of breath, they nod in unison.

Janis points to the blue light.

DAVID

Did you bring your weapons?

Janis pats her back.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Yeah-Yeah.

BENJAMIN

I'll go first.

Benjamin dusts himself off and crouches to see into the whole.

BENJAMIN'S POV: There are more tunnels, slightly more cleaner than the dirt tunnel. Iron pipes surround the perimeter of the room. The blue light is coming from a light built into the ceiling, it is all far from a man made structure.

The blue light is a bent lamp overlooking objects that Benjamin can't make out.

Benjamin leaves the hole.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)

From what I can see, there's no one in there.

JANIS

Is it a closed off room?

Benjamin pulls out an hand-held picking axe.

BENJAMIN

No, there is probably more tunnels. Grab your axes start digging.

They begin digging.

A few moments go by when they finally get the hole to be bigger. They all stop in a hush to see if they hear anything else--nothing.

Benjamin, Janis, then David ease their way through to find this--

INT. ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The three observe the room. Now in closer detail they see the room is larger than expected.

JANIS

This looks like a storage room.

The objects Benjamin couldn't initially make out are extremely large.

DAVID
These look like broken down parts
of a larger object.

Benjamin is frantically taking notes.

DAVID (CONT'D)
Like a car but not.

BENJAMIN
(pointing at David)
I think your onto something.

Janis is walking around the object when--

INSERT: OBJECT: Property US Government

JANIS
It's not alien.

David and Benjamin walk over to her.

JANIS (CONT'D)
This looks like it was left here.

She walks up to the object and rubs her finger on it. A clean
finger smear is left behind.

DAVID
Do you think this could be that
boring machine.

JANIS
Shit, you're right!

INSERT: BENJAMIN'S NOTEBOOK: He is sketching out each object
in the room.

BENJAMIN
Parts looks like they were broken
down and carefully brought here,
but the government wouldn't want
their technology to go to waste
like this.

Janis notices the PIPE on the floor continues to lead out of
the room.

She pats Benjamin and points.

JANIS
We should keep moving.

Benjamin and Janis leave.

David stops at the doorway and feels the entrance. He pulls out the knife and carves and 'X.' He follows after them.

INT. DIRT TUNNEL(S) - CONTINUOUS

There are 3 tunnels, the pipe as well breaks off into all of them.

BENJAMIN
So its gonna be like this.

JANIS
Maybe we should--

Benjamin raises his hand.

BENJAMIN
--We're not separating. Marian already hates me, I'm not having you get lost on my conscious.
(looks to David)
And I don't know your parents, but same goes.

JANIS
We can go down one at a time. I guess.

David tilts his flashlight and he sees reflections of something on the floor.

DAVID
Look down here.

He rushes down one of the tunnels.

JANIS
Wait up!

She goes after him. Benjamin follows.

JANIS (CONT'D)
(to Ben)
I don't think Marian hates you.

BENJAMIN
What makes you think that, the door slam or the distain in her eyes?

JANIS
It's just a feeling.

BENJAMIN
(shaking it off)
I don't go off by feelings.

JANIS
What if I said it was a theory of
mine?

Benjamin crinkles his eyes, holding back a smile.

They reach David whose holding more pieces of this
technology.

BENJAMIN
This has to be some abandoned
government facility.

DAVID
But why would they abandon it?

BENJAMIN
Many reasons. They could have been
done with a project, or it could
have failed and they didn't want to
be reminded of it.

JANIS
Should we keep moving?

Ben nods.

David carves another 'X' on the wall.

DAVID
Do you think we're under Frostbite
by now?

JANIS
We've been moving north, we have to
be.

BENJAMIN
We are.

They reach the END of this tunnel which has a doorway on the
left.

DAVID
This is just another tunnel.

DAVID'S POV: Looking left and then right, this tunnel goes
deeper than the other one.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Wait a second.

David rush down the tunnel (making a left), giving Janis a start, she watches him.

He then makes another left.

JANIS

Hey!

Before Janis could race after David, Ben grabs her arm.

BENJAMIN

Wait.

David comes back right behind them. Janis sighs.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)

Ah-ha, this was purposely here as a diversion.

DAVID

They looked too similar not to connect.

David walks up near the end of the tunnel again and carves another 'X.'

The three of them walk through. And make a right this time.

BENJAMIN

I've been sketching the architecture of these tunnels. They're utterly fascinating.

JANIS

They seemed to be made in a rush.

BENJAMIN

You think that too?

JANIS

Yeah. I don't think this is man made.

BENJAMIN

The tunnel being a diversion is calculated. Different than a regular animal.

The tunnel curves, when they reach the end of the curve, there is another blue light.

All three abruptly stop.

JANIS
You guys see that?

Benjamin makes a motion for the three of them to be quiet.

For the duration of the tunnel, they all stay silent.

The blue light progressively gets BRIGHTER and BRIGTHER until...

Benjamin mouths.

BENJAMIN
Be ready for anything.

They enter the--

INT. BLUE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

This place is not like the sediment or stone like the previous rooms and tunnels they have been in. It is a sky blue, the pipes are connected to what seems to be 5 large cylinders.

It is also cold in this room, it can be shown by the wetness on the cylinder tubes.

Janis grabs Davids hand as they walk around the room.

A small BEAP is repetitive coming from each tube.

Benjamin is the first one to walk directly up to one of the tubes. With his sleeve, he wipes off the condensation.

Janis attempts to read the side of the tubes but they're not in English, she NOTICES a large button next to the words.

When Ben looks inside, he JUMPS back. He turns to look at Janis. Then David.

BENJAMIN
We shouldn't be here.

Janis lets go of Davids hand and goes toward Ben.

JANIS
What do you mea--

CLOSE ON: MAN IN CHAMBER: He is in a frozen state, staring blankly but afraid, his arm is partially ripped off but on his uniform it reads 'US Army Core of Engineers'

Shocked--she takes a step back and begins to breath heavily.

Turned to see the other 4 chambers.

David, already seeing the same thing.

DAVID
(disbelief)
Benjamin--what is this?

BENJAMIN
They--They have to be status tubes.
In a way, it keeps them alive, but
I don't--I--

Janis goes to wipe down each tube.

DAVID
--Janis--

JANIS
--Back off David.

Janis wipes down each one.

One human looking more afraid than the next when--The final chamber.

It is Axl Roth.

She smiles, then frowns, chocking back tears.

JANIS (CONT'D)
He looks exactly as I remember him.

They all stand there for a beat.

Benjamin walks towards her but stops.

BENJAMIN
Janis
(pauses)
I don't know if he's alive.

Janis turns to looks at him. Tears litter her face.

JANIS
He looks okay.
(beat)
He's-fine.

BENJAMIN
I--

JANIS
 --You said they're alive, in some
 state of suspension?

BENJAMIN
 Yes... but I have no idea how
 these things work.

JANIS (CONT'D)
 Perfect! We can just pry it
 open!

DAVID
 Janis!

Janis snaps her neck to look at David.

DAVID (CONT'D)
 This is not a good idea.

With her arm, she wipes away the tears, still staring at him.

DAVID (CONT'D)
 What if he's dead?

JANIS
 I can't just LEAVE him here!
 (beat)
 His eyes are open, what if he sees
 me.

David takes a step to her.

DAVID
 Janis, we don't know.

Another pause.

Janis glances over at Ben, whose silent.

In a FLASH, Janis turns to Axl's tube and SLAMS on the
 button.

BENJAMIN
 JANIS!

David is speechless.

The chamber opens, smokes releases throughout the room,
 making the room colder than it was before.

A loud THUD can be heard as Janis moves past all the smoke.

Axl's body lands at the end of the chamber.

Janis stares at him.

Benjamin and David stay still.

The smoke and the cold dissipate.

Axl blinks.

He's alive.

Janis can't contain her joy, she smiles from ear to ear.

JANIS

Dad!

She hugs him--he doesn't hug back.

Janis releases him and stares.

JANIS (CONT'D)

Dad?

Axl looks visibly scared, to the point where it is off putting.

JANIS (CONT'D)

It's me, Janis. Janis Roth.

Benjamin opens his mouth to speak but nothing comes out.

AXL

(confused)

Where am I?

Axl starts to move his head. He squints at Janis, clearly trying to recognize who she is.

JANIS

You are--were in a chamber of some sort.

BENJAMIN

Status tubes.

JANIS

Yeah. We're in tunnels under Frostbite. We think that you we placed in here by those reptoids.

Axl winces.

He blinks a few times when he says...

AXL

Janis?

She nods.

JANIS
You've been gone for 6 years.

He shakes his head.

AXL
It can't be.
(pauses)
Six years.
(beat)
Are you okay?

JANIS
(nodding)
Are you?

BENJAMIN
We think that you and your team got
trapped here. We here to help.

AXL
We were brought here by them.

He tries to step out of the chamber. This is when Janis notices his ARMS: The sleeves have been cut off of his shirt.

On his arms, there is what looks to be skin colored mesh. Under it is bright red.

AXL (CONT'D)
The last thing, I-
(it all dawns on him)
Where-Where are They?!

Helping him out--

JANIS
--They're not here.

The blue light in the top of the room begins to FLASH, slowly.

Benjamin notices Axl's arms.

BENJAMIN
Is that skin graphing?

David sees the flashing, visibly concerned.

Axl looks at Ben for a beat, then turns to Janis.

AXL
Where's Pamela?

Janis doesn't--

DAVID
--We need to leave.

Benjamin sees the flashing.

BENJAMIN
Now.

Janis, waking up from her moment, notices the flashing.

JANIS
(concerned--to Axl)
We're gonna get you out of here.

Axl has an arm over his daughters shoulders.

Janis looks to Ben and David.

JANIS (CONT'D)
We need to let the rest of the crew
free.

Benjamin starts to HIT the rest of the buttons on all the chambers.

AXL
(stopping Ben)
He didn't make it.

Ben stops at the first chamber.

David begins to look around the room as the FLASHING gets faster.

The 3 other crew members from the original mission wake from their froze state. They are all in different states of damage:

-- One has a few fingers removed. His opposite hand has extended fingers.

-- The second one has what appears to be radiation burns.

-- The third one has bandages wrapped around his neck, from his chin, we can see veins and the skins discoloration.

Ben and David pull out their guns and begin helping out he other members.

The FLASHING now is fast enough to look akin to a strobe light.

The flashing STOPS after all the smoke disperses.

Foot steps can be hear in the distance.

BENJAMIN

Do you think you can walk?

CO-WORKER shakes his head gingerly. CO-WORKER 2 doesn't.

AXL

My men got injured when we were initially captured. They've been testing on us since.

Benjamin looks at Axl in horror.

JANIS

We need to move.

Janis looks at Co-Worker.

JANIS (CONT'D)

If you can walk-do it.

She turns to Benjamin.

JANIS (CONT'D)

Just grab him tight.

The foot steps grow louder when--

Reptoids enter the room. There is 3 and they easily tower of the humans.

David, Janis, and Axl move with haste.

Benjamin watches them from a distance.

Co-Worker 2, who moves slower, is grabbed by the face by one of the reptoids. Muffled screams come through his mouth.

With great vigor the reptoid chucks the human back into a chamber so hard, we hear a CRACK from their head.

Benjamin SHOOTS one of the chambers.

STEAM releases in the air blocking the view of the reptoids.

They all begin to run.

INT. DIRT TUNNEL(S) - CONTINUOUS

The crew member and even Axl are lagging on, holding back the trios hasty escape.

They are stiff, and two teenagers carrying grown men through the run is harder than what they planned for.

DAVID
(to Benjamin)
Can you take him?

Passing one of the members to Benjamin, David swiftly moves by the group to go in front of them.

He FOCUSES on an 'X' he made on one of the walls.

DAVID (CONT'D)
This way.

They all are moving as fast as they can.

But clearly not fast enough.

STOMPS come from separate tunnels.

They race through until they reach--

INT. FORGOTTEN ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Out of breath, David leads them all into the dirt room.

Benjamin and the other crew men get into there when Reptoids reach them.

Before David could crawl through--

One Reptoid goes to GRAB at David; he jumps back, missing only by sheer inches, he pulls out his gun and SHOTS AT ITS HAND.

WHILE THIS IS HAPPENING.

BENJAMIN
(looking back)
We need to get the injured in first.

JANIS
Can you reach?

The crew members struggle, Axl, finally regaining some strength with Benjamin helps hoist them into the dirt tunnel.

NEAR GUNSHOTS can be heard.

Janis looks up anxiously.

BACK to David.

They move back slightly--That's when David crawls into the room.

They are placing the final crew member in the tunnel, Ben is hoisting Janis.

BENJAMIN
LETS KEEP MOVING!!

RUSTLING comes from the door.

Ben and David jump into the tunnel.

The tunnel is more claustrophobic than ever, Janis and Ben's flashlight can only do so much with how many people in it.

JANIS
Just move forward, we'll reach a
glass tunnel!

BENJAMIN
When you get out just make a left.

CO-WORKER
Glass tunnel?

AXL
Its still there?

NOISES come from the forgotten room.

DAVID
If you could pick up the pace that
would be great.

JANIS
We've pissed them off.

DAVID
No SHIT.

BENJAMIN
We can't let them reach the
surface.

AXL
Do you have anyway to reach the
surface?

JANIS

Yes. You're gonna have to climb.

The tunnel is endless, longer, and now the sound of claw marks scratching sediment is coming from behind Benjamin.

Benjamin knows they are right behind him, while crawling he fumbles to get his gun.

The team is almost at the end when--

BENJAMIN

FUCK, GET OFF OF ME.

Benjamin goes to kick--one of the reptoids is right on him, ripping through his pant-leg.

In a beat, David turns, gun still in hand, starts SHOOTING.

The reptoid is HIT. Direct in the head. It falls down, lifeless and blocking the tunnel.

Benjamin looks at his leg, his ankle is ripped open, he WINCES in pain.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)

Thanks.

DAVID

Don't mention it.

CO-WORKER

WE'RE IN THE GLASS TUNNEL.

JANIS

Ben! Are you okay?

INT. GLASS TUNNEL - CONTINUOUS

Axl helps Janis down.

BENJAMIN

I'm fine.

David helps Benjamin out.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)

Say, where the hell did you learn how to shoot?

DAVID

(as a matter of factly)
Boy Scouts.

Janis looks over at him in shame.

DAVID (CONT'D)
I was in it until 9th grade.

They all begin to move.

Benjamin is struggling to walk.

David extends his hand to him--now they move.

Janis rushes ahead of the crew workers, she's looking for the rope.

CUT TO:

INT. FORGOTTEN ROOM - SAME

CLOSE ON the reptoid corpse is being pulled out of the tunnel--it is CHUCKED to the corner by one of the others with ease.

PULL OUT to a few more reptoids, ONE is wielding a LARGE WEAPON, it attaches with a wire connector on a belt.

They all now effortlessly climb into the tunnel.

BACK TO:

INT. GLASS TUNNEL - MOMENTS LATER

Janis sees the rope in the distance.

JANIS
Come on!

She reaches on the rope and gently tugs on it--still secure.

The crew gets to her.

Benjamin and David are lagging behind.

The crew members start climbing the rope.

BENJAMIN
(to David)
I have some back up explosives.

DAVID
Do you need me to place them?

BENJAMIN
No-No.

David stays silent, he watches Janis help the others up.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)
I need to detonate them right as
they're coming. It'll kill them and
collapse the tunnel.

DAVID
But you--

JANIS
--Hurry up you two--

--GUN SHOTS COME FROM BEHIND Ben and David.

They all DUCK.

In the near distance comes the reptoids.

Almost at the surface--

AXL
--JANIS! Come on!

David laying on the floor looks at Ben. They look at each other.

BENJAMIN
Run.

David nods.

Through the firefight, David stands up, SHOOTING BACK.

Janis is now shooting too.

JANIS
HURRY UP!!

Benjamin crawls as fast as he can to one of the walls.

AXL
JANIS!

JANIS
I'M COMING.

She continues to shoot.

JANIS (CONT'D)
Ben!

Benjamin, who is sticking clay explosives gingerly on the walls.

The shooting from the reptoids is coming closer.

David reaches Janis.

DAVID
Janis, keep MOVING.

JANIS
But Ben...

David looks down.

Janis moves PAST David.

Benjamin is placing the last explosive when he looks up and SEES Janis.

BENJAMIN
Janis, what the hell are you doing?!

JANIS
We need to leave. Come on!

BENJAMIN
I need to set these off.

JANIS
(a beat)
Please.

BENJAMIN
Janis.

Janis rushes toward him, she looks down at his ankle this large gapping cut that leads all the way up his leg. His leg is all red and the cut looks almost black.

BENJAMIN (CONT'D)
I can't climb.

JANIS
We-We can get David and my dad to pull up the rope.

Benjamin just looks at her.

Benjamin attempts to stand up, Janis goes to his side to grab his hand.

Instead of his hand--Benjamin gives her his notebook, attached to it is keys.

BENJAMIN

Go.

JANIS

I--

BENJAMIN

--Go to you father.

The reptoids are a few feet away.

Janis begins to back up. She nods. And climbs.

The rope is being pulled up.

EXT. DESERT - CONTINUOUS

The sky is long and expansive, filled with purples and dark blues, the bright orange morning sun blinds Janis as she's pulled up by David and Axl.

Axl brings her into an embrace. She finally reacts and hugs him back.

DAVID

We need to go.

BOOM.

The ground seems to be MOVING around them.

BOOM.

They all run toward the Bronco as their haven.

BOOM.

The ground under the tunnel begins to CRASH, SHAKING everything around them.

As they get closer, they notice another parked car, the same BLACK CAR from the woods.

Janis notices it.

There is two people standing there. One is the "Man" from the woods.

The SECOND MAN is wearing the same attire as him in a suit and tie, with a long black coat, and a black fedora. He's nearly identical to him.

All of them arrive to the car, breathless.

Janis tenses up.

"MAN"

It's nice to see you again Janis
(to Axl)
Its been a long time Axl.

Axl looks away from him.

DAVID

(out of breath)
What do you need?

"MAN"

Nothing. We're from the government.
We're here to help.

FADE OUT:

EXT. DAVID'S CAR - THE NEXT DAY

David, still in the same dirty clothes, drives fast down the road.

In the backseat lays Rosaline with a large band aid wrapped around her torso, she yawns and nestles her head within her paw.

He gazes at her in the rearview mirror, smiles, and drives back into Frostbite.

INT. BRONCO - SAME

Janis is driving the Bronco now.

The large build board for Edison Estates has been covered with a new sign: CLOSED INDEFINITELY.

Soft rock flows through the car as she pulls up to Benjamins house.

INT. BEN'S LAIR - MOMENTS LATER

A key unlocks the door, in comes Janis.

She walks calmly around the room, it looks the same as they last left it. The colorful lava lamp hypnotically moves back and forth.

The room is filled with more theories and suspicion, Janis discovers a page on a cork board that says "TOPICS TO BRING UP ON NEXT EPISODES."

She continues to walk through the room when she kicks a milk carton, filled with records, she hastily fixes it.

Finally reaching the desk.

Out of her bag she pulls out her binder and lays it on the table. Next, she pulls out Benjamin's notebook. From the back of his book comes letters falling out.

She stops the letters from hitting the floor when she grabs one.

INSERT: LETTER: To Marian.

Goes to another one.

INSERT: LETTER: To Marian.

A few more letters all go by, all to Marian.

She sighs deeply and pockets them.

INT. MARIAN'S HOUSE, LIVING ROOM - LATER

Marian and Janis stand on either side of the living room door, staring at Axl who is asleep on the couch.

Marian is eerily silent.

A beat.

MARIAN
He was alive.

Janis nods, she tries to speak but nothing comes out.

Marian walks into--the kitchen.

Janis follows.

JANIS
Marian, I'm sorry I ran out on you.

Marian doesn't turn around.

JANIS (CONT'D)
I-I knew there was something off here.

(MORE)

JANIS (CONT'D)

(pauses)

And I was right...

Marian turns, red faced, her mask breaks momentarily.

MARIAN

Your mother was right.

JANIS

Yea.

MARIAN

And I laughed at her.

JANIS

I know.

MARIAN

I didn't believe her...

(beat)

She could be alive right now.

Marian starts to cry.

MARIAN (CONT'D)

Now I know where you get it from.

Janis grabs a kitchen towel. Extends it to Marian.

Marian pulls her into a hug--still crying.

MARIAN (CONT'D)

Just don't run off and disappear on me again. I can't stand losing you too.

Janis is silent. She just hugs her back.

INT. MARIAN'S HOUSE - LATER

Alone at the kitchen table, Marian sits. The letters Janis found are laid out in front of her.

INSERT: NOTE: I found these. He wanted to share them with you, but he didn't get a chance to. - Janis

She opens the first one, reads.

HOLD ON her reading... and reading.

EXT. FROSTBITE GRAVEYARD - SAME

Both of them sit surrounding a grave. They speak looking up at the sky.

AXL
I never said bye.

JANIS
Neither did I.

A beat.

JANIS (CONT'D)
I was asleep when she left.

AXL
She knew my job was classified.

JANIS
She didn't want to give up looking.

AXL
I know.

Silence.

AXL (CONT'D)
I can't believe it's been this long. It felt as if time was paused in a nightmare. We angered them more than we can ever understand.

JANIS
It wasn't your fault, it was a job.

AXL
Yeah, but the one always blamed is the one caught in the line of fire.

More silence.

AXL (CONT'D)
I didn't mean to leave you two.

JANIS
I know Dad.

He reaches his hand for hers, they meet in the middle of the tombstone.

AXL
I still can't believe you're so grown up.

Janis is silent.

AXL (CONT'D)

I wish I could've protected you
from all of the world. It's not a
nice place.

JANIS

If I never went out, I would've
never found you.

She squeezes his hand.

MONTAGE:

-- Janis and Axl take their time to say goodbye to Pamela.

-- They walk off.

JANIS (V.O.)

There is a lot of different aspects
of the extraterrestrial,
cryptozoology, and other types of
strangeness...

-- Janis and Axl drive away from the cemetery.

JANIS (V.O.)

...give me a break I'm still
learning all of it myself.

-- They silently drive through town.

JANIS (V.O.)

Secrets are out there. Some leave
clues, some leave nothing for you
to find. Some mysteries will never
be solved.

CUT TO:

INT. BEN'S LAIR - LATER

Janis is speaking into a mic and is continuing a time honored
purpose.

JANIS

You can look up at the sky or take
a walk in the woods. No ones
certain of what will happen next.

(pause)

Sadly we're out of time.

(MORE)

JANIS (CONT'D)

This has been another episode of
Beyond the Bounds.

She takes off the headphones, then shuts off the mic.

FADE TO BLACK.

THE END.