

UNPLEASANT

Written by

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INT. MARCO'S BEDROOM - DAY

We see black. The darkness is broken with a flashlight revealing the face of MARCO GONZALEZ (18, caring, down-to-earth yet unpredictable) wearing a black graphic tee and black ripped jeans.

MARCO
(to audience)
Long ago, in an ancient era called
the sixties, a fearsome creature
roamed the earth.

The light faces the wall and we see a shadow puppet of a man.

MARCO (CONT'D)
A man nearly six feet tall was
discovered by a couple in the
forest. But there was something off
about him. His eyes were blood
red...

Shadow wings emerge from the shadow man's back.

MARCO (CONT'D)
...and he had large leathery wings.

The light returns to Marco's face.

MARCO (CONT'D)
No one knew where he came from or
what he was here for, but what they
soon came to realize, was that the
winged-man was an omen of death!

Marco quietly gasps and whispers ad-libs such as "Oh my gosh" and "That's crazy" as if there were more people in the audience. The light returns to the wall where a shadow puppet of a house emerges.

MARCO (CONT'D)
Shortly after the couple looked
into his eyes, they received a
phone call.

The house disappears and a shadow lady on a phone replaces it.

MARCO (CONT'D)
When they answered it, there was a
whispered voice that spoke to them.
(spookily whispers)
Seven days.

RIA (O.S.)

Marco...

The lights are turned on by RIA GONZALEZ (14, jaded and cynical, wearing a purple hoodie) She rolls her eyes.

Marco's room is a mess with knick knacks and laundry on every surface yet a surprisingly clean floor.

Marco is revealed hunched over a small flashlight with paper figures.

MARCO

(to Ria)

Ria! Turn the lights off! You promised to watch my show for tonight!

RIA

Not if you're gonna tell it wrong.

MARCO

Then how does it go?

RIA

It doesn't matter, Marco. Don't you have better things to do on your birthday than to pander to Dad?

MARCO

It's not pandering. I'm becoming an adult and I just want to show him that he's still my dad, and i'm still his kid.

RIA

I don't think you need a story to remind him you're related. This day is supposed to be about you, dude.

MARCO

You're right, It's about what I want... and this is what I want.

RIA

I can't believe you're using birthday privileges on him. You don't actually think a man with wings exists right?

MARCO

I dunno. Dad seems very confident about it. The stories he told us have so much detail. Besides...

Marco stands with the puppet of the winged man and floats it around Ria's face.

MARCO (CONT'D)
 (in a fake shaky voice)
 ...You can never be too sure.

Ria snatches the puppet from Marco's hand. Marco makes one last effort to be scary in vain.

We hear a KNOCK on the door. CARMEN GONZALEZ (late 30's firm and grounded wearing jeans and a t-shirt; Ria and Marco's Mother) enters.

CARMEN
 Hey, kids.

MARCO
 Mom! What did we say about knocking and entering?

CARMEN
 I know but I need your guys' help cleaning the living room. Your father's stuff is all over the place.

RIA
 Why can't he pick it up?

CARMEN
 Cause I'm telling you to.

Carmen exits. Marco turns off his flashlight and heads for the door. He walks backwards facing Ria.

MARCO
 This isn't over.

Marco exits. Ria looks at the moth-man puppet in her hand and rolls her eyes. She throws it in the garbage and sighs.

EXT. HOUSE BACKYARD - DAY

Marco and Ria are each carrying a box walking to a shed.

RIA
 Why do we have to do this anyway?
 The living room is always a mess.

MARCO
 She probably wants it clean before
 Tia Lina comes over.

Ria stops.

RIA
Wait, the family's coming?

Marco turns to Ria.

MARCO
Of course they're coming, they're family. Plus, I didn't want anything big.

Marco continues walking. Ria groans and begins to walk again.

MARCO (CONT'D)
I don't know why you don't like them.

Ria and Marco walk to -

EXT. SHED - CONTINUOUS

It is abnormally large for a shed. It is hooked up with many cables and wires that connect to a large pad placed next to the door.

Marco and Ria place down the boxes.

RIA
I'm just not in the mood to deal with our cousin.

MARCO
Jordan's just a kid.

Marco presses some buttons on the launchpad.

RIA
I meant Elena.

We hear a BEEP. The door to the shed slowly opens.

MARCO
What? But she's so supportive.

RIA
She's an enabler. It's not like she likes me anyway.

MARCO
She loves you, Ria.

Marco and Ria pick up the boxes and walk into -

INT. SHED - CONTINUOUS

The shed is run down and filled with biology samples and machinery. Every table is flooded with scattered paper work and the walkways are narrow, blocked by large equipment.

Marco and Ria navigate the labyrinth of a lab and stumble into ARIAS GONZALEZ (late 30's neurotic and eccentric wearing a lab coat; Ria and Marco's Father)

BIN (a monkey and furry member of the family with a metallic and wired hat on) is sitting opposite at a table with him playing chess.

MARCO
Hard at work, Dad?

Marco and Ria place the boxes amongst him.

ARIAS
I'm actually taking a break.

Bin moves a piece and screams.

ARIAS (CONT'D)
(to Bin)
Oh really?

Arias moves a piece.

ARIAS (CONT'D)
Checkmate!

Bin screams and throws his king at Arias' face.

ARIAS (CONT'D)
Ow!

Marco goes to a cluttered table filled with burned, bent, or broken pieces of metal.

MARCO
(to Arias)
What happened here?

ARIAS
That happened.

Arias points in the direction of a machine that resembles a laser gun placed on its own small table. It's a sleek and high tech looking laser gun.

Marco's eyes light up.

MARCO

Woah! Is this the new project you were talking about?

ARIAS

What? Oh, no, don't mind that it's still in beta.

Arias gets up and moves the table to the side a little too carelessly. Arias gestures to a large machine with a metal archway in the center and two control panels on either side.

Marco's eyes widen, mouth agape.

MARCO

Woah! That's so cool. What is it?

ARIAS

Well, it's hard to explain in layman's terms....

Ria rolls her eyes.

ARIAS (CONT'D)

... But if successful, it would be the most important invention of a life time.

MARCO

Woah!

ARIAS

The only problem is the control panels. The core I'm using is pretty reactive and I can't find a metal sturdy enough.

MARCO

Hey, you'll figure it out.

ARIAS

Yeah, I have a few more replacements I wanna try. It's probably gonna take all night.

Arias looks at his watch. It has four hands and there are symbols that correspond to the numbers. There are three separate crowns on the case of the watch. It's obviously customized.

RIA
Especially, after Marco's party.

Beat.

ARIAS
What?

MARCO
My birthday party...tonight.

Arias looks at his watch again. He turns a knob and the symbols switch to numbers.

ARIAS
(nervously)
Oh... yeah. Of course, after your party.

RIA
(sarcastically)
Nice to know we're high on the priority list.

MARCO
Seriously, Ria?

Arias still messes with his watch.

ARIAS
No she's right, I'm sorry, it's been a stressful week. I mean the machine is really important, not more than you of course but I don't have as much time...

RIA
What do you mean you don't have as much time?

MARCO
Dad, don't worry about her. I know you're busy. Hey, I can help you out.

Marco sifts through the scraps trying to make sense of the mess.

ARIAS
Marco, no, it's fine. I have a system...

Marco shifts some scraps around and finds a notebook with strange insignias on it similar to the ones on Arias's watch.

MARCO
Woah, what's this?

ARIAS
It's nothing. Just put it back.

MARCO
What are all of these symbols?

Marco starts to open the notebook but is quickly stopped by Arias who snatches it from his hands.

ARIAS
Don't touch it! Don't touch anything!

A tense beat.

MARCO
(hurt)
I'm sorry, Dad. I didn't mean to...

ARIAS
No, no. *I'm* sorry. I shouldn't have yelled. I'll...I'll see you tonight, kid. I love you.

Marco takes a breath and smiles.

MARCO
I love you, too.

Marco hugs Arias. Marco ruffles Bin's fur.

MARCO (CONT'D)
See ya, Bin!

Bin screeches. Ria gets up to follow Marco out.

ARIAS
I love you, Ria.

Ria gives no reaction.

Arias looks at his children solemnly, then quickly focuses on the diary.

Marco and Ria exit to -

EXT. SHED - CONTINUOUS

Marco looks at Ria disappointedly.

RIA
What?

MARCO
He's trying.

RIA
He really isn't.

INT. LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Ria is lounging on a couch watching television. Ria switches through the channels. She looks toward a decorated wall. There are some family pictures, but the wall is mostly covered in Arias's awards and pictures of him with people in lab coats and suits.

As she leans back she sees JORDAN MILLER (10, energetic and opinionated wearing a long sleeved shirt and sweat pants) staring right at her.

RIA
AH!

Ria jolts up hitting her head on Jordan's. They both collapse on the couch and groan.

JORDAN
I'm okay.

RIA
Jordan, what are you doing here?

Jordan peers up behind the couch.

JORDAN
Marco invited us.

RIA
Yeah but you're like an hour early.
Wait, if you're here...

ELENA (O.S.)
Hey little cuz.

ELENA MILLER (16, blunt, zany, and generally chaotic, wearing a pink dress with stockings, a jacket and long curly hair) jumps on Ria and hugs her tightly. Ria is unamused.

RIA
Elena, you're squishing me.

ELENA

I haven't seen you in like a week.
I'm making up for lost time.

Elena lets go and collapses on the couch.

RIA

When did you even get here?

ELENA

A few minutes ago. We *do* live next door.

JORDAN

Do you have snacks?

RIA

They're in the kitchen.

Jordan runs to the kitchen.

ELENA

Wait, Jordan!

RIA

Let him. Marco didn't invite many people anyway.

ELENA

I think we should wait for everyone. I mean It's a big day. He's turning 18!

RIA

(sarcastically)
Yay. He can vote.

Elena gives her a look.

RIA (CONT'D)

Relax. He's still the same goof he was yesterday.

Ria continues to channel surf. Elena exits.

INT. KICTHEN - EVENING

Pots upon pots line the kitchen counters, some with steam escaping the lids.

Jordan and Marco are on bar stools picking at the snacks displayed on the kitchen counters.

MARCO

They discover a large winged man in the woods with eyes as red as blood. And the man, not wanting to be exposed, kidnapped the couple, and took them to the Sunken Place.

JORDAN

No... I don't think that's how it goes.

MARCO

Really? I'm like 80% sure...

JORDAN

Yeah, I'm pretty sure they just saw him and then left.

MARCO

That's boring.

We hear a DOOR open.

VOICE (O.S.)

Hello?

JORDAN

Mom! We're in here!

LINA GONZALEZ enters (late 30's, busy, wearing a blouse and khakis, Elena and Jordan's Mom)

LINA

Hey, boys! What's going on?

MARCO

We're going over the shadow puppet show I made, but I'm missing something in the story.

LINA

Story?

MARCO

The one dad would always tell Ria and me about the man-human hybrid.

LINA

(reluctant)

Oh. Well what did your dad tell you?

MARCO

About a man and a woman in the sixties finding him. But I'm pretty sure there was something more to it.

LINA

Well, why not take some liberties with it? I mean it is just a story.

MARCO

But he took them somewhere, I'm... I'm pretty sure...

JORDAN

Mom, ask Tio Arias what it is.

LINA

He's probably busy honey.

JORDAN

Just ask him with your mind.

LINA

Honey, twins can't read each others mind.

MARCO

What if you really concentrate?

Ria enters and goes straight to the fridge. She takes out a soda can. Jordan runs to Ria snatches the soda can and giggles as he exits.

RIA

Jordan...

LINA

Ria!

RIA

Hi, Tia Lina.

LINA

Where's your parents?

RIA

Mom's getting ready and Dad's at home.

LINA

Oh honey, the shed isn't his home.

RIA
Yet, you knew exactly what I was
talking about.

LINA
He just gets in his little world
sometimes.

RIA
(correcting Lina)
All the time.

MARCO
I don't know what you're talking
about. He's always there for us.

RIA
Only when it feeds his ego.
Remember when I was in band and he
didn't come to any recitals until
our local papers reported on his
new inventions.

MARCO
Yeah?

RIA
Once we were done, the entire post-
performance meeting was just the
parents talking about how 'smart
and amazing' he was.

MARCO
Dude, he does important work. He
created a cleaner energy source. He
discovered a new element. He saved
turtles!

LINA
Hey, I was part of some of those
too you know.

MARCO
Sorry, Tia.

LINA
But Marco is right. It was
important.

RIA
What about what he's doing now? He
claims he's 'running out of time'.

Lina raises a brow.

LINA
What did he say?

MARCO
He's working on an old project. I'm
pretty sure he'll talk about it
when Ria goes to get him.

Ria is taken aback.

RIA
Why me?

MARCO
It's my birthday.

Marco gives Ria a snide grin.

RIA
Ugh!

Ria exits.

EXT. SHED - EVENING

Ria approaches the entrance. An EXPLOSION is heard inside the
shed. Ria enters -

INT. SHED - CONTINUOUS

Bin immediately climbs on Ria's back. Half of the shed is
covered in a light smoke. Arias emerges coughing.

ARIAS
Oh, hi Ria. Don't worry about the
smoke, it's nothing I can't fix.

RIA
Tia, Elena and Jordan are here.

Arias eyes widen and he checks his watch.

ARIAS
Marco, right. Heh. Where did the
time go.

Pause.

RIA
So are you coming?

ARIAS

Well I still have five minutes.
I'll be there. I just have to make
sure this is done. If the machine
isn't done. I have to finish it.

RIA

(sarcastically)
Yeah, you're right. We have tons of
birthdays, you only have one hunk
of metal.

ARIAS

Ria...

The machine starts to whirl and shake. Arias looks at the
machine, then at Ria. He walks backward toward the machine.

ARIAS (CONT'D)

Five minutes...

Arias waves through the smoke to tend to the machine. Bin
screams.

RIA

(to Bin)
Hey, I tried buddy.

Bin jumps off Ria and follows Arias in the smoke. Ria catches
sight of the symbol ridden diary on the table. She sneakily
takes it and exits the shed.

INT. DINING ROOM - DAY

The table has a large assortment of food from tapas to a full
rotisserie chicken.

Most of the family is already seated. They are talking over
each other, loudly. Carmen is still putting food on the
already crowded dinning table.

MARCO

So, after seeing him, Moth-man uses
his telekinetic powers to destroy
the couple and bring down their
house.

ELENA

That's not even close.

MARCO

Seriously?

ELENA

My mom always told me that he got trapped.

MARCO

By the couple?

ELENA

I think they we're brothers.

MARCO

You know what, forget it.

ELENA

Oh, c'mon.

MARCO

No, I'm done. Plus, Ria's right. Dad knows I love him. I'm just stressing myself out.

Elena raises a brow.

ELENA

Don't let Ria discourage you.

MARCO

Seriously Elena, it's fine.

Ria enters.

CARMEN

Hey, Ria.

Ria notices the table.

RIA

Wow, this is a lot.

CARMEN

I know, but I got excited. We're all so busy it's great to have the family together.

(to everyone)

Alright. Let's dig in.

MARCO

What about Dad?

RIA

He's tending to his favorite child.

Ria sits at the table.

CARMEN

Honey, it's just a machine.

RIA

Yet you knew what I was talking about.

ELENA

Honestly Ria, why don't you spend less time judging him and more time understanding him.

RIA

No one asked Elena.

ELENA

Classic Ria, she's right and everyone is wrong.

RIA

Why are you never on *my* side?

ELENA

Because you're on no one else's!

CARMEN

Hey! No bickering!
(to Marco)
Dad will be here soon. Let's just start eating.

Everyone starts to put food on their plate. Marco reluctantly takes some food.

EXT. HOUSE - NIGHT

Most of the rooms in the house are dark. The shed, however, is brighter than ever.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

Ria walks into the hallway from the stairs with a present in hand. She notices Marco's bedroom door. Marco is holding the shadow puppet figures, just staring at them. Ria enters -

INT. MARCO'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

The bedroom floor has a few unwrapped presents and crumpled wrapping paper laying around.

RIA

Marco?

Marco quickly tosses the puppets aside.

MARCO

Hey, Ria! What's up?

RIA

Just checking. How do you like your presents?

MARCO

They're pretty cool. Most of it is money.

(notices the present in
Ria's hand)

You have one to add to the pile?

RIA

Oh... yeah. It's actually kind of dumb.

MARCO

I doubt it.

Ria hands Marco the gift. He rips it open to reveal a stack of comic books called "Sas-squash!".

RIA

It's about these archaeologist detectives who work with Sasquatch to fight crimes in the jungle. It's super cheesy, but it's kind of funny. Now that I say it out loud it's a pretty weird gift.

Marco gives Ria a big smile.

MARCO

I love it. I'm the king of cheese. I'm pretty sure I'll enjoy it.

RIA

Hey... about Dad...

MARCO

No worries, I know you guys are weird right now.

RIA

I meant your party. I'm sorry he didn't make it.

MARCO

Oh.

Marco fixes his gaze downward. He opens his mouth to speak but quickly shuts it. He sighs.

MARCO (CONT'D)

He's a busy guy.

RIA

Are you really making excuses?

MARCO

(losing his cool)

What do you want from me, Ria?

Beat.

MARCO (CONT'D)

(somberly)

Thanks for the gift. Love you.

RIA

No problem. G'night.

Ria exits.

INT. RIA'S BEDROOM - LATER IN THE NIGHT

The room is dark and we see Ria sleeping in her pajamas. We hear RAIN coming from outside. On a bedside table is Arias' diary and a digital alarm clock beside Ria's bed reads 11:46PM and. There are jolts of light that flash through the window that make a CRACKLING sound.

This happens a few times until we see Ria disturbed by the light and wakes up. Ria sits up to see the shed from her window.

She looks at the diary.

INT. SHED - NIGHT

Ria enters and peaks through the shed door with Arias' diary in hand. No one is there. The machine crackles dangerously expelling small jolts of light and has small spots of soot surrounding it. The table next to it has more scrap metal than it did last time.

RIA

(to herself)

He's not even here...

Bin screeches. His head pops out from the side of the machine.

RIA (CONT'D)
Hey, Bin. Have you seen Dad?

Bin shrugs and pounces on Ria taking place on her shoulder.

RIA (CONT'D)
He spends all night working on this dumb machine only to make it worse.

Ria opens a a panel on the machine. It has seen better days and the wiring is a mess. Bin squeaks.

RIA (CONT'D)
(sarcastically)
You're right, Bin. I should be supportive. He works from home but we only see him once a week. Misses everything important. But *sure!* I guess I'll be the bad guy!

Ria takes a piece of scrap metal from the table and reels her hand back and throws it. It hits the machine. Bin screams. The machine powers down yet continues to SPARK.

RIA (CONT'D)
Oh no.

We hear the SHED DOOR OPEN. Ria and Bin hide.

Lina and Arias enter they are frantic and dripping wet.

LINA
What do you mean it's tonight?

ARIAS
The watch went out of whack. I thought we had at least two more months.

LINA
I didn't even know there was a deadline, Arias! I thought The Nether was enough.

Arias sees the broken machine and runs to it.

ARIAS
No...no no no no no! I, I thought I could handle it.

Arias gets shocked by the machine. Lina goes to help him.

The sparks consume the machine exerting a force that repels everything near it. All of the lights go out. The machine glows purple. A large portal emerges from the machine.

LINA

Woah, what's happening?

ARIAS

Do you think....

Carmen enters.

CARMEN

Arias?

ARIAS

You have to go!

CARMEN

What's going on?

Lina goes to grab the laser gun. Arias attempts to pull down the lever down but it won't budge. Carmen goes over to help to no avail. The sparks hit every part of the lab.

Carmen goes for the lever trying to push it down. Bin runs to Arias and jumps on the lever attempting to help. Near the portal a BLACK FIGURE with large wings emerges.

Ria helps Arias tug on the lever.

RIA

Dad!

CARMEN

Ria?

ARIAS

Ria! Get out of here!

The black figure takes form. MOZ(cunning, maniacal but oddly calm) is a disfigured creature surrounded by a pitch black fog. His eyes are a bright and vibrant red compared to the rest of him.

He takes a deep breath in and sighs in delight.

MOZ

Air... you never realize how much fresh air is taken for granted.

(pause)

Until, it's taken away.

Lina presses a button on the gun and it revs. Moz exerts a force of energy taking everyone off of their feet.

MOZ (CONT'D)

But enough about me... how have you been? Lina, you haven't aged a day. How's your husband?

Moz sets eyes on Ria.

MOZ (CONT'D)

Who does this one belong to?
(he notices the diary)
And is that what I think it is?

ARIAS

Ria, get behind me!

RIA

Dad? What's going on?

MOZ

I'll tell you little one. Your parents are traitors. And today is their reckoning.

Moz puts out his hand.

CARMEN

Ria, run!

Carmen slides Ria under a table and Bin follows. Then room is engulfed in darkness.

After a few seconds, we can see the room again but the lights are off. Ria crawls out from under the table.

RIA

Dad!? Mom!? Lina!?

Bin screams.

MOZ

(sing song-y)
Little human.

Ria and Bin quickly return to hiding behind a crate of boxes.

Moz flies around the shed. He sets his hand out to the crate of boxes but nothing happens. He tries again and its futile.

MOZ (CONT'D)

Alright little one. Let's make a deal. Give me the diary and i'll return the heathens you call a family back to you.

The figure turns. Ria puts her hand around her mouth. She eyes the door. Ria and Bin go from clutter to clutter hiding.

Ria attempts to run for the door and trips on a hunk of metal. Moz looks at Ria and flies after her.

Ria and Bin crawl to -

EXT. SHED - CONTINUOUS

Moz follows them outside and is about to pounce until a blinding light shines on Moz and he dissipates.

MARCO (O.S.)

Ria!

Marco is behind Ria holding a Dazzler. Elena and Jordan run to them in their pajamas.

ELENA

What just happened?

MARCO

I don't know! Where's Mom and Dad?

Ria starts to tear up.

RIA

They're gone! They're gone! I didn't mean to -

Marco hugs Ria.

Jordan starts to cry and Bin jumps on him for comfort.

INT. RIA AND MARCO'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Ria, Jordan and Bin are sitting on the couch. Marco is laying on the floor. Elena is pacing in front of them.

ELENA

(thinking)

I got it. They're invisible.

RIA

Our parents are invisible?

ELENA
You have a better theory?

Bin screams at Ria.

MARCO
I mean who do we even call about
this? The police? Tell them that
our parents were evaporated?

Ria curls her knees to her chest.

JORDAN
They're not dead!

MARCO
I didn't say that they're dead but
Mom and Tio are scientists so they
probably have their molecules
floating around or something,
right? Maybe we can call NASA to
put them back together.

ELENA
NASA?

MARCO
Yeah, they're science people they
can find whatever that creature is.

Beat. Elena stops pacing.

ELENA
Creature?

MARCO
It was too dark outside. I didn't
get a good look at it.

ELENA
Ria what happened in there?

RIA
I...I don't know.

Bin screams and smacks Ria over the head.

RIA (CONT'D)
Ow!

Marco kneels in front of Ria.

MARCO

(softly)

Ria please, you can tell us. We're here to support you.

RIA

Okay...I, destroyed Dad's machine.

MARCO

(loudly)

You what!?

RIA

What happened to the support?

Marco stands and paces trying to rationalize the anger.

MARCO

What were you... how did... why!?
You hate him that much?

RIA

It was an accident and I don't hate him. He just...whatever.

MARCO

No! You can't whatever this! Our parents are missing. What were you doing in there in the first place?

RIA

Nothing... After the machine broke -

MARCO

(interrupts)

After you broke it.

Elena puts her hand on Marco's shoulder.

RIA

After *I* broke the machine, it started going crazy. It opened something. Like it ripped through the air. And something came out.

The gang is fixated on Ria.

RIA (CONT'D)

He had a... He was really boney and um... looked like he had... wings.

Marco and Elena look at each other.

MARCO AND ELENA

The Moth-Man.

RIA

No. No!

JORDAN

(inappropriately excited)
He's real!?

RIA

A lot happened in there. It could have been anything. It could have been just a really really skinny dude.

MARCO

You said wings. Humans don't have wings.

RIA

He said that they were traitors. And he was after something.

(to Marco)

Don't get mad...

Ria presents Arias' diary.

MARCO

(angrily)

You stole his diary too!?

RIA

What did I just say?

MARCO

I made no promises.

ELENA

Guys, don't you realize what this means. If moth-man is real, then the stories they told us as kids... they're all true.

RIA

And if we find him, we find them.

ELENA

We? What do you mean we? We need to call the police.

RIA

And tell them what? Moth-man took out parents?

ELENA
 (pleading)
 Marco..

MARCO
 Sorry El, Ria's right.

ELENA
 How would you even find them?

JORDAN
 What about the diary. If Moth-man
 wanted it so bad it could have
 something.

Ria opens to the first page of the diary. The gang crowds
 around her. The diary has a two page spread of a map with
 varying symbols.

MARCO
 A map.

RIA
 That was easy.

MARCO
 Not that easy, It doesn't say where
 to.

Elena narrows here eyes. She takes the diary.

ELENA
 Wait. This looks familiar. I
 think... I've been there before.

Elena takes out her phone. After a few seconds of tapping,
 she shows a picture to the group.

INSERT: Young Lina and Young Elena in a park.

MARCO
 How can you tell from that?

ELENA
 Mom used to take me on these trips
 when I was a kid.

Elena turns to the map.

ELENA (CONT'D)
 See these symbols. I think that's
 the park. And then over here, these
 symbols are the boardwalk. I know
 exactly where this is.

The lights start to flicker.

MARCO

Is he...

ELENA

I don't know. But if he's after then it needs to leave.

JORDAN

So we're going!

ELENA

I never said that. We don't know what's happening and we have the most information here.

RIA

Cool, have fun.

Ria goes to leave but Marco grabs her arm.

MARCO

Woah woah wait.

(to Elena)

You're right. We don't know what's happening. That's why we should stick together. We need you guys.

RIA

(under her breath)

Speak for yourself.

Beat. Elena thinks.

ELENA

Fine. But if we can't do this. We go to the cops. Agreed?

MARCO

Agreed.

JORDAN

YES!

INT. MARCO'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Marco packs his 'necessities' into a his backpack, including the 'Sas-squash' comic series, a handheld gaming system, and some clothes. He exits the room.

INT. RIA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Ria packs a small amount of her belongings into her bag. She takes a moment to look at her room. We hear a KNOCK and Marco peeks his head into her room.

MARCO
Hey, you ready?

RIA
Yeah I'll be out in a minute. And Marco...

MARCO
Yeah?

RIA
It really was an accident.

Marco sighs and exits. Ria follows him.

EXT. HOUSE - NIGHT

Marco and Ria exit the house. Elena and Jordan are already outside with their backpacks on.

INT. GARAGE - NIGHT

The garage door opens to reveal a black car.

INT. CAR - NIGHT

Marco enters the driver's seat with Elena in the passenger seat. The back seats have Ria, Jordan and Bin.

MARCO
Wow. I was never allowed to drive this car. Good thing Dad isn't here or -

The gang shoots Marco a look.

MARCO (CONT'D)
My bad.

INT. CAR - DAY

Elena and Marco look exhausted. Ria, Jordan and Bin are sleeping in the back.

Elena looks at the GPS, then at the window.

ELENA

Marco, you were supposed to take a right.

Marco points at the GPS.

MARCO

Then why is it pointing left?

Elena looks closely at the phone realizing it's upside down.

ELENA

Marco, It's upside down!

Elena adjusts the GPS. Ria opens her eyes.

Elena and Jordan are fidgeting with the diary.

MARCO

How was I supposed to know? It's a bunch of squiggly lines.

ELENA

It's fine. If we take the next exit, we can get back. Oh! There's a diner nearby. We can get breakfast.

Ria sits up.

MARCO

(to Ria)

Morning, sleepy head.

RIA

How close are we?

ELENA

Two hours. Would have been a hour and a half but Marco doesn't know how directions work.

MARCO

(to Elena)

There are literally no directions on the diary's map!

RIA

Let me see it.

Elena passes the diary to Ria.

ELENA

Whatever, just exit now.

EXT. DINER - DAY

The gang pull into the diner and load themselves out. Ria is reading the diary.

The gang enters the diner.

INT. DINER - DAY

The diner is slightly dingy and is mostly empty with a television by the bar.

Marco, Elena, Ria, Jordan, and Bin are sitting in a booth Ria is still nose deep in the diary.

A WAITRESS (mid twenties and unenthusiastic) approaches them noticing Bin.

WAITRESS

Excuse me but pets aren't allowed in here.

MARCO

What pet?

Beat. The waitress rolls her eyes.

WAITRESS

Whatever. What can I get you?

ELENA

Three orders of pancakes, two orders of eggs and bacon and fries for the monkey.

WAITRESS

Any drinks?

RIA

(not looking up)
Just water.

WAITRESS

Coming right up.

The waitress exits.

RIA

Hey, guys. Have you read any of this?

Ria lays down the diary.

RIA (CONT'D)

Remember that house symbol on the map? Dad and Lina used to live there like 20 years ago.

MARCO

That's how you know they're old. As if we could afford a house now in this economy.

RIA

But it wasn't just them. They keep talking about this guy named Moz.

ELENA

Moz? That doesn't even sound like a real name.

RIA

Well whoever he was, he helped them with a lot of their research. Dad talks really highly of him in the diary. Or he does in whatever I can read from this. The rest is just a bunch of symbols.

ELENA

He encrypted a diary? Sounds like he really wanted to hide something.

MARCO

Maybe they were researching the moth -

Marco is interrupted by the entrance of the waitress. There is a awkward silence. She gives each of the group (including Bin) a glass of water. The waitress exits.

MARCO (CONT'D)

(whispering)

The moth man.

RIA

Or they were just roommates.

MARCO

How do you still not believe in him?

RIA

There has to be more than this.

JORDAN

Denial.

RIA
 It's not...
 (conceding)
 Let's just go to the house.

ELENA
 Its been twenty years. How do we
 know he's still there.

MARCO
 Or if the house is still there.

RIA
 Hey guys... it's all we got.

We hear NEWS INTRO MUSIC play on the tv.

INSERT: TV

TOM (40's, anchor man, charismatic and completely unprofessional) wearing an annoying yellow neon suit, is in a newscaster set sitting at a rounded desk.

TOM
 You're watching What Up, USA! It's
 Tom. Just Tom with breaking News. A
 house in Philadelphia is in flames.

CUE DRAMATIC MUSIC

Insert: A burning house on TV that goes from color to black and white.

TOM (CONT'D)
 A family missing.

Insert: Miller - Gonzalez family picture that goes from color to black and white.

TOM (CONT'D)
 Their car was found missing and
 there is no sight of any of them.
 Did the family disappear. Or were
 they murdered by someone they know.
 The biggest mystery of a century.
 If you find any of them call now.

BACK TO SCENE.

Ria notices the wait staff in the diner look at the group and whisper among themselves.

RIA
We should go. People are looking
for us!

ELENA
Why? We're not fugitives. Maybe the
police can help.

MARCO
No, Elena. Ria is right. They won't
believe what we saw.

RIA
I don't even believe what I saw. We
don't know what we're doing.

MARCO
I know that we're the only ones who
knows what happened in that lab.
The only one's with the information
to find them.

ELENA
(pleading)
Jordan...

JORDAN
I don't see any other option.

Beat. The gang stare at Elena.

ELENA
Okay.

The waitress enters with a dolly of plates starting to place
them.

WAITRESS
All right here you all go.

MARCO
Ma'am we would like all of this to
go.

Pause. The waitress starts to collect the plates.

WAITRESS
I hate this job.

EXT. DINER - DAY

The group exits the diner and files into the car. The trench coat man is watching them from afar.

Ria feels eyes on her but when she looks around nothing is there, she enters the car.

INT. CAR - DAY

The gang is on the road and in their respective seats. Elena is on her phone and holding the diary at the same time.

ELENA

Okay. Turn right here.

Marco turns the wheel to a long empty road.

ELENA (CONT'D)

Okay and stop here.

Marco pulls over.

ELENA (CONT'D)

So according to the map...we're...here.

MARCO

That's it?

Marco takes the diary examining the map.

ELENA

So much for our only option.

MARCO

No no no. There has to be something.

Marco exits the car to -

EXT. ROAD - CONTINUOUS

Bin jumps on Marco's back. Marco looks at the diary then looks at the woods. The gang follows him out of the car.

JORDAN

Maybe it's somewhere in the woods?

ELENA

But the trail stops here.

RIA
It's my dad. Why would he ever make something easy.

ELENA
Ugh, I did not wear the right shoes for this.

Elena begins to enter the woods.

ELENA (CONT'D)
Well...are You guys coming?

RIA
Are you sure this is safe?

ELENA
Do we have a choice?

Ria groans.

MARCO
(to Ria)
Hey dude, as long as we're together, we're gonna be fine.

Marco takes Jordan's hand and follows Elena into the woods. Ria sighs audibly and follows.

EXT. WOODS - DAY

The gang walks over rocks and between trees, the only one having fun in this new environment is Jordan who is jumping from rock to rock hiding behind trees and then running again.

Marco tries to catch up with him.

ELENA
Jordan! Be careful!

RIA
Don't worry, El, Marco will take care of him.

ELENA
Yeah but he's still my little brother.
(pause)
It's pretty cold out here. Did you bring a jacket.

RIA
Uh... no...

ELENA
You can have mine if you want.

RIA
(annoyed)
Elena, i'm fine.

ELENA
You might get sick. I'm responsible
for you guys so -

RIA
(interrupts)
No one is asking you to be! I
already have a mom, Elena!

ELENA
What did I do to you? Why are you
always so angry at me?

RIA
I'm not angry at you. I just...

ELENA
You just what?

Pause.

RIA
Never mind.

Ria walks ahead. Elena gives an exasperated sigh.

ELENA
(under her breath)
Teenagers.

Ria and Elena catch up with Marco and Bin who look frantic.

RIA
Hey Marco, what's up?

MARCO
(nervously)
Hey...

ELENA
What's wrong? Where's Jordan?

MARCO
(nervously)
So don't freak out...

Elena freaks out.

ELENA
 (loudly)
 JORDAN! JORDAN!

RIA
 You lost Jordan!?

MARCO
 He's slippery!

ELENA
 And this is why I need to be the
 responsible one.

MARCO
 El, I'm sorry.

RIA
 We'll find him.

The gang calls out for Jordan. They all walk in (and yell) in
 different directions.

Bin sniffs the air and bolts further into the woods.

RIA (CONT'D)
 Bin!

Ria runs after Bin. Elena and Marco follow.

EXT. THE COMMUNITY MANOR - DAY

Bin and Jordan look uphill at a dilapidated mansion consumed
 with vines. Ria, Elena and Marco run up to them.

ELENA
 Jordan! Don't run off like that.

The gang notice the mansion.

RIA
 Woah.

MARCO
 There she is.

Beat. Ria looks at her surroundings.

RIA
 This is it. This is the place where
 we die.

ELENA
Is this even the place?

Marco consults the diary.

MARCO
Yeah, it is. Maybe they rebuilt it.

ELENA
Rebuilt what? This place looks awful.

JORDAN
Guys... I have a bad feeling.

RIA
I mean, we got this far.

Everyone except Jordan and Bin walk uphill. Jordan looks around suspiciously.

JORDAN
Okay, Bin. You're gonna have to keep lookout. I don't trust this place.

Bin screeches and puffs up his chest walking back and forth like a guard. Jordan giggles and runs after the others.

INT. THE COMMUNITY MANOR LOBBY - CONTINUOUS

We hear two KNOCKS on the door. Silence. We hear two more KNOCKS. The door opens and we see the gang all peep their heads.

They all enter the manor slowly. The lobby is large with a set of stairs centerfold.

ELENA
(loudly)
Hello?

Marco immediately puts his hand around Elena's mouth.

MARCO
(to Elena)
Shh! Seriously, have you not seen any horror movies?

Elena smacks his hand away from her mouth.

RIA
Guess it's abandoned.

MARCO
Or everyone is sleeping?

RIA
At four in the afternoon?

Marco shrugs.

MARCO
They're living their best life.

Ria goes forward to the stairs climbing near the top. She looks around, sighs, then turns to the gang.

RIA
There's nothing here.

Marco, Elena, Jordan and Bin all look paralyzed and wide eyed.

RIA (CONT'D)
What?

Ria turns around to see a black cloaked man with a black mask.

RIA (CONT'D)
AH!

Ria stumbles down the stairs. There is a stare off between the gang and the cloaked man.

The man mumbles something incoherently.

RIA (CONT'D)
What?

The mask is removed to reveal ZIDION CIPHERSON (fourties, insanely cheery like Rob Lowe in Parks and Rec).

ZIDION
Oh, I'm sorry. This mask isn't the best to talk in. Hello, my name is Zidion, Zidion Cipherson.

RIA
Wow, that's definitely a name.

ZIDION
Thanks, I picked it myself. I'm the owner of this fine establishment and the Supreme of The Community of The True Believers.

MARCO
What do you believe?

ZIDION
The facts that society tries to
conceal.

MARCO
That doesn't answer...

ZIDION
So children, what have you come
here looking for?

RIA
How do you know we're looking for
something?

ZIDION
Most are when they enter here. They
come looking, for the -

JORDAN
(interrupts)
Truth.

ZIDION
Such an intelligent child.

RIA
Well... we're looking for someone
named Moz.

ZIDION
Moz?

MARCO
M.O.Z

ZIDION
Nope. No 'M.O.Z' here.

The gang deflates.

ZIDION (CONT'D)
Need anything else?

ELENA
We're looking for answers about...
well... this may sound weird... but
we're looking for a tall man...
with wings.

Zidion gasps excitedly. His eyes widen.

ZIDION
I knew this day would come!

Zidion appears behind them hugging all of them. The gang is startled.

ZIDION (CONT'D)
Come, let me introduce you to everyone.

Zidion pushes them to a door.

MARCO
How does he do that?

INT. THE COMMUNITY MANOR LOUNGE - DAY

Zidion pushes the gang inside a well furnished room with lush couches.

A table is in the center of the room with tea and cookies on it. There are multiple community members wearing black masks and cloaks chatting and giggling.

The gang looks extremely out of place.

ZIDION
Hello, everyone!

The crowd quiets.

ZIDION (CONT'D)
I would like to welcome our new recruits!

The community members are in awe.

RIA
Oh... no...

ZIDION
Xavian!

A cloaked being turns around to face the gang. The mask is removed to reveal XAVIAN (mid thirties, serious).

ZIDION (CONT'D)
Everyone, this is Xavian. Xavian, this is... Oh. How rude of me I was so excited I forgot to ask for your names.

XAVIAN

Unimportant, I already gave them names.

(points at Elena)

Curly,

(points at Marco)

Ripped jeans,

(points at Ria)

Short one.

Xavian looks at Jordan for while.

XAVIAN (CONT'D)

(points at Jordan)

Jordan.

JORDAN

Woah, he's good.

ZIDION

He really is! Xavian is our resident expert and preacher on Lepidoptera Tenebris. We just call him The Winged God. The man you described is the god of death and destruction. He will one day come to this realm of existence bringing his followers to his home and destroy this retched world.

XAVIAN

The dark lord will rise again.

Awkward beat.

ZIDION

Isn't he lovely? I'm gonna find the spare cloaks for you. What sizes are you? I'll just guess. You kids are in very capable hands. Oh, this is so exciting! Have fun!

Zidion practically skips away and the gang is left with Xavian.

XAVIAN

Before we begin, do you have any questions?

MARCO

Yeah, why -

XAVIAN
(interrupts)
Rule one of The Community! Don't
ask why! Follow me.

Xavian exits. The gang follows him reluctantly.

INT. THE COMMUNITY MANOR HALLWAY - DAY

Xavian and the gang are walking down a corridor with many doors.

XAVIAN
The manor was purchased in the
sixties by our very first Supreme.
The first man who saw the winged
god with his own eyes.

MARCO
Wasn't it a couple that saw him?

XAVIAN
Yes. Except, after seeing him, the
Supreme was dedicated to finding
hime once again. His wife left him
because of it.

RIA
So what is it that you do here?

XAVIAN
Our brethren have different
purposes. Mine is to educate the
masses in to find this god. And
maybe we can be saved.

MARCO
So this entire group was created
just to find Moth-man. Do you have
any leads, do you know where he's
based?

Xavian pauses. He slowly turns to the gang.

XAVIAN
We have an idea...

Pause.

RIA
So can you tell us.

Xavian 'tsks'.

XAVIAN
Not until you're ready. You're not
even part of the community yet.

MARCO
Xavian, you don't understand...

XAVIAN
Many come here searching but none
are prepared for the answers.

ELENA
We get it! You're cryptic! We don't
have time for this! Our parents/

Ria nudges Elena, interrupting her. Xavian looks at the eager
group.

XAVIAN
Follow me.

ELENA
(whispering to Ria)
What was that?

RIA
(whispering to Elena)
We're wanted by the police, shut
up.

Xavian opens a door. He gestures to the gang and they walk
through it to -

INT. SHRINE OF MOTH - CONTINUOUS

The room is filled with statues, stained glass windows and
idols of Mothman. Some people in cloaks and black masks are
sprinkled around the room, standing ominously.

XAVIAN
Welcome to the Shrine of Moth.

ELENA
Woah. This should be a museum.

XAVIAN
This is the place where we store
the most important of artifacts and
information we have on... him.

Xavian looks up at the statue. He sheds a small tear.

GIRL VOICE

Father.

INGRID (15, soft spoken) walks to the group meekly.

XAVIAN

Oh, Ingrid! Perfect timing.
Everyone, I would like you to meet
my daughter, Ingrid. She helps me
the shrine's upkeep.

Marco looks at Ingrid with wide eyes. Ingrid looks back.

MARCO

(stuttering)

H-Hi. I'm Marco.

Marco puts his hand out. Ingrid shakes it.

INGRID

It's nice to meet you.

Ingrid and Marco looks deeply into each others eyes
continuing to shake each others hands for a very long time.

ELENA

Sooooo, Xavian what are we doing
here exactly?

Xavian walks to a large statue in the back of the room, the
others follow.

XAVIAN

I can give you the information you
seek. But I have to know if this is
really a dedication of yours. If
this is something you will fight
for.

ELENA

I'm sorry?

XAVIAN

You will have to face... THE
TRIALS. Do you accept?

RIA

Can we have more details?

XAVIAN

Those who know the truth of Mothman
must go through the trials to
retrieve the truth.

(MORE)

XAVIAN (CONT'D)

First is the trial of strength,
second is the trial of loyalty, and
finally the trial of wisdom. The
trials have only been passed by the
most elite members of our community
has passed this trial.

(sarcastically)

But if mere children are sooooo
confident they can pass trails.

The gang thinks for a moment then ad libs "yeah, sure" and "I mean, it seems simple". Xavian sighs.

XAVIAN (CONT'D)

Alright. I'll prepare the trials.

(to Ingrid)

Will you take them to their room?
They should rest before the trials.

Ingrid nods. Xavian pulls a masked person to the side and starts talking to them.

MARCO

Alright, Mothman here we come.

Marco does a little dance causing the diary to fall from his back pocket. Xavian goes to pick it up.

XAVIAN

Ripped jeans, you forgot...

Xavian notices the symbols on the book. His eyes widen.
Xavian picks it up slowly.

MARCO

Oh, thanks man!

XAVIAN

Where did you get this?

MARCO

(nervous)

Oh, it's just a present from my
father.

Xavian narrows his eyes.

XAVIAN

Who's your father?

ELENA (O.C.)

Marco?

XAVIAN
I... gotta go.

Marco and the gang walk away. As their walking Jordan taps Ria.

JORDAN
Ria. Maybe we should go.

RIA
Why?

JORDAN
I don't trust this place.

RIA
We're not trusting them. We just need information. Don't worry as long as we stick together we'll be fine.

Xavian takes out a phone and types.

Insert: Phone

We see the message 'CODE RED' written. Xavian sends it.

EXT. COMMUNITY MANOR - LATER THAT EVENING

Bin is laying on top of a tree. RUSTLING is heard. Bin jolts up. He looks around and sees something move in the bushes. Bin squints his eyes. Two MEMBERS emerge from the bushes with large bags and Bin jumps off.

MEMBER 1
Why do we always have to do the dumb jobs?

MEMBER 2
This isn't dumb. This is important.

MEMBER 1
Don't you feel like they treat us as interns?

MEMBER 2
We just have to stand guard. I'll call more reinforcements.

The members place down the bags take out a rolled up barbed fence.

MEMBER 1

Ow. It poked me.

MEMBER 2

Don't be a baby. That's a lot less damage than these kids will do.

Bin's ears perk up. The members start to place down pegs of the fence.

MEMBER 1

The twins left twenty years ago.

MEMBER 2

Maybe they came back to finish the job.

MEMBER 1

You know it use to be different when I joined.

MEMBER 2

Oh, here we go.

Bin quietly starts to sneak past the members.

MEMBER 1

They said that I was an important part of the community. Now they treat us like we're in kindergarten.

MEMBER 2

Shhh! If you keep talking like that we're not gonna get ice cream for dessert.

Bin rushes toward the building.

INT. THE COMMUNITY MANOR BEDROOM - EVENING

Marco is in front of a mirror with a black cloak on that doesn't quite fit him right. He jostles around in it and pulls the edges to get it straight. Ingrid appears in the reflection.

INGRID

Need help.

Marco screams and turns around.

INGRID (CONT'D)
Oh, I'm sorry I didn't mean to
scare you.

MARCO
(voice cracking)
No problem.

Marco clears his throat.

MARCO (CONT'D)
(deep voice)
Nah, it's chill.

Ingrid helps him adjust the cloak. Marco blushes.

MARCO (CONT'D)
So what do you do?

INGRID
Pardon.

MARCO
I mean... what do you like to do...
here.

INGRID
Well, I take care of the shrines
for the Winged God, I lead studies
for the Winged God...

MARCO
No, I mean, what do you do for fun?

INGRID
Oh, I read books.

MARCO
Cool.

INGRID
About the Winged God.

MARCO
Oh. Well, I'm not a big reader but
I like comics.

INGRID
Comics?

Marco goes into his bag and takes out the "Sas-squash"
series.

MARCO
Comics, they're like books but most
of it is pictures.

INGRID
Incredible!

MARCO
You can borrow them if you want.

INGRID
Thank you.

Marco and Ingrid look at each other for a very long time.

INGRID (CONT'D)
I think I'm going through puberty.

MARCO
Pardon?

The door opens and Elena, Ria and Jordan enter all wearing
black cloaks.

ELENA
Marco, you ready?

MARCO
Yeah.
(to Ingrid)
Thank for the help, Ingrid.

RIA
Ingrid, are you sure you can't help
us?

INGRID
I would if I could. The trials are
different for everyone who takes it
so that no one can cheat.

ELENA
Well can you tell us anything thing
about mothma- I mean, the winged
god?

Ingrid lights up.

INGRID
CAN I?!

Ingrid goes to a curtain in the room pushing it aside to
reveal a wall filled with red string, post it notes and
article.

MARCO

Woah!

INGRID

I've been studying the Lepidoptera Tenebris my whole life. I know where he came from, what his purpose is, his favorite food. It's potatoes.

ELENA

His purpose?

INGRID

According to my studies, the Winged One appears in the end days to unite his realm of beasts with our world. Everything will be destroyed, but the saved will be a part of the royal court of the Winged God.

MARCO

That sounds awful.

INGRID

No no no, it's not. It's not too late for you guys either, you can be saved. The end of the world is next Friday so you still have time.

RIA

Next Friday?

INGRID

That was the only time the Town Hall was available for events..

Beat.

RIA

Geez, that sounds ridicu-

Marco nudges Ria.

RIA (CONT'D)

Ow!

JORDAN

So how do we beat him?

INGRID

Beat him?

Ingrid laughs hysterically. She sees the gang isn't laughing.

INGRID (CONT'D)

Oh, you're serious. Impossible.
Everyone who has tried to take him
down has been desecrated. There is
one way... but mere mortals
wouldn't be able to...

RIA

(interrupts)
Spit it out.

INGRID

A pure and divine light. But
getting a relic to emit that kind
of energy is almost hopeless.

RIA

The dazzler...

MARCO

What about it?

RIA

It had an effect on it.

MARCO

To be fair it was a military grade
weapon, it would have had an effect
on anyone.

RIA

It's the only think we have.

JORDAN

So, if he took something. Or
captured someone where would he
take them.

INGRID

I don't know. They may be in the
room of archives but access is only
given to those who complete the
trials.

Marco goes into a power stance.

MARCO

Then we have to work our hardest to
win. When we find Moth-Man we're
gonna take him down!

INGRID

Wow!

Ingrid takes Marco's hand.

INGRID (CONT'D)

Marco. When you die, and you will,
I'll never forget you!

MARCO

Thanks, Ingrid.

A masked figure is seen looking through a crack in the door.
We see their eyes squint and they disappear.

INT. THE COMMUNITY MANOR HALLWAY - NIGHT

Bin is running through an empty hallway. He turns a corner to see a group of Community members talking including Member 1 and 2. They stare at each other for a moment and Bin bolts past them. The group begins to chase him.

INT. THE COMMUNITY MANOR TRIAL ROOM - NIGHT

The room is bare and dimly lit. A group of members in black cloaks and masks are against the wall. The gang stands in the center of the room. Ingrid is against the wall waving at Marco. Marco waves back.

Jordan tugs on Ria's cloak.

JORDAN

Ria. Something doesn't feel right.

RIA

It's okay. I'm scared too.

JORDAN

Ria...

A spotlight appears on Zidion who enters flourishing his cape.

ZIDION

Today, we are here to experience the rise in factions of four new comers. These brave children have decided to go through the Community's most daring trials to obtain the truths of our gods. If they win will be the youngest winners of the trials.

Member 1 and Member 2 enter holding Bin. Zidion notices this.

ZIDION (CONT'D)
 Usurping the past winners, the
 infamous traitors of the community,
 Arias and Lina Gonzalez.

The gang is shocked.

ZIDION (CONT'D)
 But you know them well don't you.

Members appear and grab the gang. Bin screams.

JORDAN
 Bin!

ZIDION
 Unfortunately due to your heritage,
 you are disqualified by default
 from competing in the trials.
 (to members)
 Take them away.

The gang is taken away. Ingrid disappears in the crowd.

INT. ZIDION'S OFFICE - NIGHT

The office is incredibly modernized compared to the rest of the manor.

Elena, Marco, Jordan and Ria are pushed into a room. Xavian is already there. Zidion walks in.

ZIDION
 You know when I took you kids in.
 You were lost. And I help the lost.
 That's The Community's purpose. But
 maybe I was naive. I ended up
 learning a few things about you
 kids. A brother saw something on
 the TV. The two wretched scientist
 who spent decades trying to profit
 off of our hospitality. Stole
 everything we worked hard for!

RIA
 Our parents came here?

ZIDION
 They didn't just come here. They
 lived here. Until one day they
 betrayed us.

(MORE)

ZIDION (CONT'D)

All your selfish parents wanted was our Moth deity to themselves. And now their children, here today, twenty years later, to once again reek havoc. And I spent hours finding cloaks for you.

ELENA

Sir, I think this is a big misunderstanding.

JORDAN

We just want to find our parents. We think the moth man took them.

ZIDION

Serves them right. For the sins your bloodline has caused I sentence you to rot in the dungeons for the rest of your days.

XAVIAN

(to Zidion)

My supreme, they are only children. Should they really be punished for the sins of their parents?

ZIDION

Do you know what they have done!?

A BANG is heard. The room falls silent. Another BANG is heard. Member 1 and Member 2 enter.

MEMBER 1

Supreme! The Shrine -

MEMBER 2

(interrupts)

The Shrine is on Fire!

MEMBER 1

I was gonna say that!

MEMBER 2

You were talking to slow!

Xavian, Zidion, Member 1, Member 2 and the masked man run out the room. Bin bites the hand of the cage holder. The cage holder screams and he drops Bin. Jordan runs after the cage.

Marco runs and air kicks the cage holder.

MARCO

Run!

Jordan unlocks the cage to set Bin free and the gang runs out of the door.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

The gang runs past the hallway and sees the door to the shrine releasing smoke. They look inside to see the Shrine in flames. They continue running. Elena frantically opens every door in the hallway.

ELENA

Come on! There has to be a faster way out of here!

Elena opens a door and sees a group of Community Members flapping their arms as if they were Moths. The members spot the gang and stop. Disturbed beat. Marco closes the door.

They run past a door with a few symbols. Bin stops and screams.

RIA

Bin! What are you doing?

The gang stops and goes to Bin.

MARCO

Woah. Check out that door.

JORDAN

Hey... aren't those the symbols in the diary?

Elena opens the door.

INT. ARCHIVE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The room is filled with stocked filing cabinets and bookshelves.

RIA

This must be the archive room.

ELENA

Isn't this the place Xavian told us not to go in.

The gang looks around looking sorting through files.

Marco takes out a hefty file with the label "GONZALEZ".

Marco opens the file and takes out a photograph.

INSERT: Photograph

A younger Lina and Arias are wearing black cloaks.

MARCO
Guys. I found something.

The gang huddles around Marco.

RIA
Dad?

Marco goes through a bunch of pictures of Lina and Arias with Community members. Marco takes out a tape called with the label 'EVIDENCE'.

RIA (CONT'D)
What's that?

MARCO
It's a tape for a VCR. So back in
90's-

RIA
(interrupts)
I know what a VCR is!

ELENA
Guys.

Elena gestures to a old television. Marco puts the tape in and rewinds the footage. It plays.

Insert: Television

A young Arias and Lina are in the archive room. They take a trash pail and set it on fire. They take the files from the cabinets and burned them.

JORDAN
Why are they burning the archives?

RIA
I don't know. But maybe that's why they hate them. I just don't understand. Why would they burn something so important to the Community if they were a part of it.

MARCO
There has to be an explanation.

ELENA

Well... my Mom and your Dad were scientists... Moth-man was being researched by them and the Community....

RIA

They wanted Moth-man to themselves?

MARCO

No. Our parents wouldn't destroy their sacred works *just* for science....,right?

TALKING and FOOTSTEPS are heard, becoming louder. Bin screams.

ELENA

We have to go.

The gang goes for the door. Ria stays behind shoveling files into boxes.

ELENA (CONT'D)

What are you doing. We have to go!

RIA (O.S.)

Not without this.

RIA (CONT'D)

Marco, take one.

Marco holds a box.

ELENA

Ria, that's gonna slow us down. Our parents already took something from them.

RIA

How will they even know?

ELENA

Don't underestimate them. They found out who we were. We don't know what else they know.

RIA

Listen, we have no leads. Do you really want to make this trip a waste? Let's go.

Elena rolls her eyes. The gang starts moving again.

EXT. THE COMMUNITY MANOR - NIGHT

The gang goes down a hill. They see the barrier and the some members standing guard.

JORDAN
What do we do!?

MARCO
Duck!

The gang ducks as an arrow is flung at them. Zidion is at the entrance with a crossbow loading up another arrow.

ELENA
Is that a crossbow!?

MARCO
There's a hole in that part of the fence! Let's go!

The gang runs to a broken part of the fence dodging arrows. Bin and Jordan crawls their way in and Elena follows. Ria tries to push the box through the hole to no avail.

ELENA
Ria! Just leave it!

RIA
Help me push it through!

A group of community members start to go after them. Zidion lines up a shot at Ria and goes to release the bow, but is interrupted by Ingrid pushing him down the hill. Marco gives Ingrid a smile.

Marco grabs the boxes and throws it at some of the members charging.

RIA (CONT'D)
What are you doing!?

MARCO
We don't have a choice!

Ria and Marco go through the hole and the book it into the woods. The members break down the fence.

EXT. WOODS - CONTINUOUS

The gang runs as the angry mob of members chase them.

RIA
Where do we go!?

ELENA
Turn right!

The gang turns right and runs to -

EXT. ROAD - CONTINUOUS

The gang rushes to the car and shuffles in.

INT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

The gang is in their seats.

RIA
Drive!

Marco tries to start up the car but it refuses to rev.

MARCO
(sarcastically)
Oh perfect! This isn't cliché at
all!

The members approach with rocks and twigs. Marco attempts to start the car again and it revs. He drives off. Leaving the mob behind.

The gang is silent and deflated.

EXT. GAS STATION - DAWN

The car pulls into the gas station.

CUT TO:

INT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

The gang is sleeping except for Marco who is exhausted. Marco exits the car and closes the door waking the gang up.

JORDAN
Where are we?

ELENA
Gas station.

Beat.

ELENA (CONT'D)
Is everyone okay?

RIA
As much as I can be. Who knew they
were gonna attack us like that?

JORDAN
I did. I told you. I said I didn't
trust them. I said we should leave.
You didn't listen to me!

RIA
Jordan, it's too early for this.

Marco enters the car with a bag.

MARCO
I got a gas tank just incase. I got
you guys sandwiches.

Ria takes the bag.

RIA
Good, I'm starved.

ELENA
You know what. Jordan is right. You
put us all in danger Ria.

RIA
I put you guys in danger? I'm the
reason we got this far.

ELENA
Are you kidding me!? You're the
reason we're here in the first
place!

MARCO
Guys, please, this isn't the
time...

RIA
What about instead of blaming me we
talk about our parents instead. I
mean they stole from those people.
They were messing with things they
shouldn't have.

ELENA
But they were handling it! You
broke the machine, you ignored our
warnings...

MARCO

ENOUGH!

The gang is shocked. There is a short silence.

MARCO (CONT'D)

It doesn't matter who's wrong.
That's not gonna fix anything. You
guys are different. That's okay.
Just respect it instead of trying
to change each other.

Marco starts up the car. Exhales and collapses his head on
the wheel.

ELENA

So... what now?

MARCO

I don't know. Maybe we *should* call
the police.

JORDAN

We can't.

MARCO

Well I don't know what else to do.

Bin goes to the front of the car and picks up the diary
flipping through the pages.

RIA

Maybe our parents said something
that we don't remember?

MARCO

They didn't say anything at all.
Why didn't they tell us about the
community? Why is any important
information in this stupid diary
encrypted? Why did they commit
arson?!

Elena puts a hand on Marco's shoulder.

ELENA

Maybe they tried to leave it
behind.

MARCO

They saved people. Why would they
put them in danger.

Bin screams holding out the diary. The gang focuses they're attention on him.

Marco takes the diary.

ELENA
What is it?

MARCO
A bunch of numbers.

Ria leans in.

Insert: Diary

There is a page filled with numbers. The top page is a coordinate, the rest is encrypted with various symbols and numbers.

RIA
I think it's coordinates.

MARCO
What about the rest?

RIA
Encrypted I guess.

MARCO
Go figure.

Marco pulls out of the gas station.

ELENA
Wait, we're going? We don't even know where it leads?

MARCO
We got nothing else.

EXT. WOODS - MORNING

Ria and Jordan are walking through trees, mud covered. Jordan is holding a pile of papers while Ria scans a map.

RIA
So, someone circled a location on the map in these woods. Okay. So maybe if we go...wait. Okay, lets go past those trees.

JORDAN
It's all trees.

Ria points to the right.

RIA
Lets go that way.

They begin walking.

JORDAN
What about Elena and Marco?

RIA
You heard them. We need to go on.

JORDAN
So we're just gonna leave them?

RIA
No. I promise we'll go back for them.

Jordan looks the map.

JORDAN
We have to go left.

RIA
What are you talking about?

JORDAN
Right looks like a dead end.

RIA
It's probably a hill. We'll just go over it. It's faster.

JORDAN
But -

RIA
Come on.

EXT. WOODS - DAY

The car is parked on the side of the road. The gang is already out and about. Elena has her phone in hand.

ELENA
Okay so we have to go straight.

RIA
(sarcastically)
Fantastic. More woods.

ELENA

Well we learned our lesson from
last time.

The gang (once again) heads into the woods.

EXT. WOODS - LATE AFTERNOON

The gang is walking through an endless amount of trees. Elena
is leading the way.

RIA

Are we almost there?

ELENA

Well it's kind of glitchy but,
according to the map, we're here.

RIA

What? Are you sure?

JORDAN

Did you put them in correctly?

ELENA

Of course I did.

MARCO

Maybe if we wait here. Something
will happen.

Marco sits on a rock the gang is silent.

RIA

I don't think anything's gonna -

JORDAN

Shh.

It is silence again. We hear WIND and the sounds of FLAPPING.
Ria follows the sounds and sees a branch with a thin black
veil stuck on it.

RIA

Guys, check this out.

The gang follows. Jordan walks to the branch then to the
ground.

JORDAN

Look, there's more over there.

A trail of pieces of a black veil are scattered on the ground. They follow it to an open area with no veil pieces where they all stop.

RIA

Welp. That was short lived.

Bin sniffs the area.

ELENA

Maybe we should head back?

Bin runs full speed into the open space and then disappears behind an invisible barrier.

RIA

Bin?

Bin's head pokes out of an invisible barrier with no body in sight. The gang yelps. Bin squeaks and his head disappears again.

Ria slowly approaches the open area and stick her hand out. As she moves closer to the area her hand disappears in an invisible wall.

RIA (CONT'D)

Woah.

MARCO

Ria? Ria, don't go -

Marco's words become muffled as she passes through the barrier. Ria looks down at Bin. Ria turns around to see Elena, Marco and Jordan horrified.

RIA

Guys! I'm okay!

They can't hear her. Ria explores the area a bit and finds a small cave.

Marco enters the barrier.

MARCO

Woah. This is sick. Ria!

Marco runs to Ria. Meanwhile, Elena and Jordan enter.

EXT. CAVE - CONTINUOUS

A trail of the black veil enters an odd looking cave. The gang stops a few feet away from it. Jordan attempts to approach it but Ria grabs his arm.

RIA
What are you doing?

JORDAN
Going inside?

RIA
I don't think that's a good idea.

JORDAN
Ria. Can you just trust me?

Ria releases Jordan's arm. He enters. The gang follows.

INT. CAVE - AFTERNOON

Ria takes out her phone and turn on her phone light. The cave is filled with random junk from cutlery, to coats, to toys.

ELENA
It's just trash.

Amongst the trash Ria spots food.

RIA
I... I think someone lives here.

MARCO
And I thought dad was a hoarder.

Elena sees a lab coat and approaches it. A shadow passes behind her. Elena is paralyzed.

ELENA
(whispering)
Oh my gosh...

JORDAN
(whispering)
What?

Ria approaches the food. There's a variety, but there's a large amount of potatoes scattered. Ria picks one up.

RIA
Guys, we should leave.

A shadow envelops the room. Ria drops her phone and the light goes out.

MARCO
(whispering)
I can't see!

RIA
Shh!

Ria turns on the light. Moz is towering over her.

RIA (CONT'D)
AHHHHHH!

Moz charges for Ria. Ria throws whatever junk is available but he evades it. Moz beckons. Marco shouts a battle cry and attempts to jump on his back. Moz becomes incorporeal and Marco falls on his face.

Moz lifts his hand and Marco is lifted in the air.

MOZ
What's funny is that I had a whole
plan to find you, yet here you are.

Ria takes out diary.

RIA
Put him down!

Moz notices the diary and groans. He drops Marco in the trash.

MARCO
Ow!

MOZ
So... what is it you want?

RIA
Where are our parents!?

MOZ
That's your game plan?

Ria takes a broken bat and swings at Moth-Man and he becomes incorporeal again and she misses.

RIA
I'm not playing around!

JORDAN

Maybe we should give him a chance
to talk.

Ria lowers the bat.

RIA

Talk.

MOZ

Humans were always so rude.

RIA

What are you doing here?

MOZ

I live here.

(pause)

Yeah, it's not that great but I
didn't have a choice.

MARCO

What do you mean?

MOZ

Well, It all started on a cold
night in '62.

RIA

Actually, you don't have -

MOZ

(interrupts)

I was exploring the earth as a
usually do.

EXT. WOODS - FLASHBACK

We see Moz in a tree eating an apple.

MOZ (V.O.)

A small moth in a medium size city.

Flies from tree to tree smiling. He overlooks a a car on the
side of the road.

MOZ (V.O.)

I was young, and fascinated by the
human world. Until, that fateful
day.

Moz looks at the car with wide eyes. A MAN and WOMAN see him
and scream. Moz disappears back into the trees.

MOZ (V.O.)
I was then given the name you call
me now, Moth-man.

CUT TO:

EXT. WOODS - NIGHT A FEW DAYS LATER

The man is in the woods with a group looking around with
flashlights. Moz lurks in the trees.

MOZ (V.O.)
I quickly realized that humans
don't take kindly to people who are
different.

Moz is captured by a net and taken down from the tree.

MOZ (V.O.)
Many people have tried to find me
and capture me...

Moz releases an energy surge and blasts the group away along
with some trees. The ground he stands on fissures.

MOZ
...but fortunately I still have
some power left.

END FLASHBACK

INT. CAVE - AFTERNOON - BACK SCENE

MOZ
But it becomes

RIA
Where do they go?

MOZ
Who?

ELENA
So where are our parents?

MOZ
Tell me this, if I tell you where
they are, how will you get to them?
Because I can assure you it won't
be easy.

ELENA

What do you want with them anyway?

Pause.

MOZ

You really know nothing do you?

Pause. The gang looks at each other in confusion.

MOZ (CONT'D)

Your parents are back in the same place I was for 20 years.

MARCO

Why did they put you there?

MOZ

Because I stopped being useful. Back home I was tasked to research this world for centuries before I was stuck. I know things about this earth that you humans will not learn for another 200 years and the twin scientists were very eager for that information.

MARCO

So... all of the problems Dad fixed, all of the inventions he made...

MOZ

They were made with the answers I gave him. And I complied as they were helping me come home. But once they were finished with me. The trapped me. I just want to return to my world. I'm tired of you humans with your yelling and your smallness and your mee mees.

MARCO

What... but I don't understand...

MOZ

I needed the diary because it has the formula to get me home. I'll tell you what you get me back and i'll gladly return your parents.

RIA

How do we know we can trust you?

MOZ

Ah, you humans. You fleshy, fragile beings. You simply don't.

The gang looks at each other.

ELENA

I mean, what choice do we have?

MOZ

That's what I thought.

RIA

What do we need to do?

Moz digs in the trash and pulls out a poorly hand-drawn map.

RIA (CONT'D)

(sarcastic)

Oh great. Another map.

ELENA

It *is* getting redundant.

MOZ

The machine I came out of was a portal device. It's broken now but there is a beta version that was built twenty years ago in this location. If you scrap it for supplies I can build a more advanced version.

Moz points on the map with a large circle.

RIA

If it's that close why don't you just get it.

Moz feigns fragility.

MOZ

It's just hard to explore in the morning cause I might get spotted. And I can't go out at night because these darn teenagers try to search for me with their flash phones and smart cameras and I might get spotted. And afternoon is lunch. Plus, why go out when I have you. Or you can stay orphans. Your choice.

JORDAN
And you'll bring our parents back.

MOZ
I will.

RIA
You promise?

MOZ
Small humans, when I get the chance
to go home, I promise I will bring
your cretins back.

RIA
Okay we have a deal... uh...

MOZ
Call me, Moz.

Ria puts her hand out. Moz shakes it.

EXT. CABIN - EVENING

Ria and Jordan crouch behind bushes spying on a lit cabin.

RIA
This is it.

JORDAN
It looks like someone's in there.
What do we do?

RIA
We could just knock. I mean we look
like harmless kids.

JORDAN
I don't that's a good thing.

RIA
Shh. Get down! They're leaving.

A figure exits the cabin. Ria and Jordan go around back. They approach the cabin and find a slightly ajar window. Ria lifts it, and enters -

INT. CABIN - EVENING

Ria lifts Jordan inside. They both quietly roam inside the cabin. There are shelves with terrariums filled with Moths. Racks filled with animal samples.

They run into a desk filled with lab equipment and surgical tools.

RIA
Seriously? Is the theme of this week 'places to be killed in'?

JORDAN
Ria, wait, doesn't this set up look familiar to you.

RIA
No...

LINA (O.S.)
Jordan?

Jordan turns around. Lina is standing disheveled holding a bag. Jordan's eyes fill with tears and so does Lina's.

JORDAN
Mom!

Jordan runs to Lina and they hug. Ria joins the hug.

LINA
Ria! Oh my... How did you both find me? Where's your sister?

RIA
Don't worry, they're safe. Is anybody else here?

LINA
No, honey, I'm sorry. It's just me.

RIA
But how did you escape?

LINA
Let's just say, I was prepared for this. Your dad and I... we had a tricky past. The creature you saw in the lab... we kind of made a deal with him a while ago. But we didn't know what we were getting into until it was too late.

RIA
What is this place?

LINA

It's the place your father and I built the first prototype of the inter-realm portal.

RIA

Inter-realm? Like traveling to them?

LINA

More or less. We repurposed it to... keep us safe. It's just a prototype so I've been trying to upgrade it but I'm not as good as Arias is at machines.

Ria rolls her eyes.

RIA

More or less? Do you really think this is the time to be cryptic?

JORDAN

Ria!

RIA

No, I'm tired, Jordan. You're gonna tell us what's going on!

Lina sighs.

LINA

We kind of have a history. We kept a close eye on Moz... Moth-man for years. SO much so we were actually friends. We thought we were helping him when we built this. We thought he just wanted to go home but, that was never his plan. I never knew exactly what his plan was but I knew no one was going to be alive to see it. So we repurposed this machine to keep him away.

JORDAN

So it wasn't made in the sixties?

LINA

It was made 15 years ago. Why?

JORDAN

Nothing.

LINA
Oh, you must be hungry. I'll get
you something to eat.

Lina exits the room.

RIA
Something doesn't add up.

JORDAN
Moz lied to us. He said he was
trapped here since the sixties.

RIA
I know. But...

RIA (CONT'D)
We have to destroy the
machine.

JORDAN
We have to destroy Moz.

Beat.

RIA (CONT'D)
What?

JORDAN (CONT'D)
What?

JORDAN (CONT'D)
He's lying to us.

RIA
Yeah, I know. But he has my
parents. Even if he is lying, he
can still free them.

JORDAN
If he's lied about everything else,
he could lie about that.

RIA
Can we take that chance?

Lina enters with a tray with two soup bowls on it.

LINA
All I have is cream of broccoli.
You guys okay?

RIA
Yup.

JORDAN
Okey dokey.

INT. CAVE - EVENING

Elena and Bin are walking around, exploring the cave. Marco is working on a smaller machine with Moz. Moz is tenderly messing with the wires.

MOZ

Hmm. Is it the white wire? Or the green wire?

MARCO

Don't ask me.

MOZ

Well the apple falls far from the tree I guess?

MARCO

Hey Moz... can you tell me about my dad?

MOZ

What makes you believe I know more about him than you?

MARCO

Please. I'm just really confused. I never realized how much he hid. I... I thought he was a good person.

Beat.

MOZ

I knew your father as the scientist who did anything he could to achieve the next big thing. People like him are the reason I'm hiding.

MARCO

What was his plan for you?

MOZ

Hid me. Keep me away. If that machine hadn't broken I would have been imprisoned forever.

INT. CABIN - NIGHT

Lina, Jordan and Ria are all sleeping on the floor. Ria opens her eyes. She looks to Lina and Jordan and then quietly slips away.

Ria goes down stairs to the machine. We hear WHIRING.

Ria opens the control panel.

INT. CAVE - CONTINUOUS

Elena is assisting Moz. Marco is next to Bin decoding the diary.

Ria enters with an array of materials.

RIA

I got them.

Moth-man laughs sinisterly and evilly. He clears his throat and coughs.

MOZ

Sorry. Ignore that. There was something in my throat.

Ria hands the materials to Moth-man. He gets to work.

ELENA

Ria, where's Jordan.

RIA

Believe it or not. He's with your, Mom.

ELENA

Ria, that's not funny.

RIA

I'm not joking.

ELENA

But he said he took *all* of our parents.

RIA

Does that matter right now when they're still missing?

Marco looks up to see Moz put the finishing touch on the machine.

MARCO

Guys!

The machine starts up. It whirs and pulsates.

INT. CABIN - CONTINUOUS

There is a shaking.

Lina and Jordan jolt up and go downstairs.

JORDAN

Mom!

LINA

Where's Ria?

Lina goes to the machine to see a part of it ripped out.

INT. CAVE - NIGHT

The small machine shakes violently. The shaking stops. Everything is deathly silent. The machine then emits a purple light and shoots it into the air crashing the roof. The gang runs outside of the cave.

EXT. CAVE - CONTINUOUS

Elena and Marco see the light through the trees in the sky. It rips through the sky and opens a portal.

Lina and Jordan run to the gang. Lina is holding a small and rough looking ray gun.

JORDAN

Guys!

LINA

Marco! Elena!

ELENA

Mom!

Moz moves like a shadow and has morphed into a stronger and scarier entity.

MOZ

Finally! I can go home. And make your home my own.

MARCO

Uh...

Moz opens a portal in the sky.

LINA

So this is what you wanted the machine for. You wanted to use our machinery to take over the world.

Moz pats Ria's head.

MOZ

And I didn't even need you. Good job, kid.

Lina goes in front of Ria.

LINA

Stay away from my family.

Moz chuckles.

MOZ

Speaking of family, our brother says hi.

Lina shoots but Moth-man deflects it with ease.

MOZ (CONT'D)

It's been so long since i've had my full strength back. I would love to mess around more. But i've got a job to do.

EXT. CABIN - CONTINUOUS

A giant monster begins to squeeze out of the portal. Everyone exits the house. Moth-man flies out.

MOZ

Behold Armageddon.

The monster swings his arms and a bunch of trees collapse. The group all scatter to avoid the debris.

MOZ (CONT'D)

The human and monster dimensions will finally be merged! Since you'll all be dead within the next hour. I guess, this is goodbye.

The portal spreads throughout the sky. Trees are destroyed and become an unnatural purple color. Rocks appear from the ground. The group has to dodge them.

Ria is being cornered by rocks. She runs but they keep coming fast.

She is about to be trapped but is pushed out of the way. When Ria opens her eyes. She sees Arias with Carmen close behind.

RIA
Dad...

RIA (CONT'D)
Mom!

Carmen looks down and floats to Ria. Carmen goes to give her a hug but is jumped by Marco.

CARMEN
I missed you both so much!

Lina, Elena and Jordan are all hugging. Ria's smile fade.

RIA
Hey... Dad.

ARIAS
Ria...

RIA
I'm... I'm sorry.

ARIAS
Ria, it's okay. I forgive you.

MARCO
You forgive *her*?

RIA
Marco...

MARCO
You lied to us.

Arias recoils in shock.

ARIAS
Marco, what are you talking about?

MARCO
This wasn't Ria's fault. Ria didn't betray a group of people for her own personal gain. Ria didn't help a monster trying to take over the world for science. That was you!

(pause)
All this time I thought you were a good person. I thought you helped because you cared!

(MORE)

MARCO (CONT'D)

But you were just trying to make yourself feel better for putting everyone in danger!

Beat.

ARIAS

I'm sorry. To all of you. I didn't mean to cause you all this much harm.

MARCO

It's a little to late.

Beat.

JORDAN

So... is the world gonna end?

ELENA

Marco, I know you're hurt but right now, we need to fix that. But how?

MARCO

Guys, we have the best team anyone can ask for. Elena, our voice of logic and reason, Jordan, an amazing intuition. I'm a natural born leader with my devilishly good looks, and Ria, you're a fighter who would do anything for family. And I *really* took that for granted.

RIA

I think *I* took you guys for granted. You're a lot more important to me than I let you know. So, what do ya got?

EXT. WOODS - NIGHT

The monster continues to destroy trees and has it's sights set for the main city. A rock hits the monsters head.

Marco, and Elena are throwing random foliage at the monster.

ELENA

Come here you big goof!

The monster roars and follows them. Moth-man is in the air going toward the monster.

MOZ

No! You idiot, forget them.

A light shines at Moth-Man. He screams.

Carmen and Lina are all shining large heated uv lights at him.

INT. CAVE - NIGHT

Arias is working fast on the machine. Ria and Jordan are helping.

ARIAS

Jordan. Give me that wrench.

Jordan passes the wrench to Arias. Arias tightens a bolt and presses a button. Nothing happens. He continues to press it.

ARIAS (CONT'D)

I can't reroute it. It's stuck.

Ria looks outside. She sees Marco, Elena and the officers running for dear life and the parents with the heated light on Moth-Man.

RIA

Wait, dad. Maybe you don't need to re route it.

EXT. WOODS - CONTINUOUS

Carmen, Elliot and Lina are closing in on Moth-Man.

MOTHMAN

Enough!

Moth-man destroys all of the lights with a flick of the wrist.

MOTHMAN (CONT'D)

You know. I was gonna let the destruction of the world kill you, but I guess, I'm gonna have to get rid of you myself.

Moth-man's body is surrounded by purple light. He faces his hand toward Elliot.

INT. CAVE - CONTINUOUS

A bunch of wires are plugged in to the machine that cover the floor.

ARIAS
Are you ready?

Ria and Jordan nod their head.

ARIAS (CONT'D)
Now!

Arias pushes all of the buttons. Ria turns on all of the switches. They all rush to exit the cabin. The machine WHIRS VIOLENTLY.

EXT. WOODS - CONTINUOUS

The ground once again starts shaking. The purple aura around Moth-man fades. He gasps.

MOTHMAN
No!

Ria, Jordan and Arias exit the cabin. The machine goes from emitting a purple light to a warm yellow light. The portal begins to close.

The monster starts to weaken and falls. The portal fully closes and the cabin explodes. The entire city blacks out.

RIA
Did we...

MARCO
We're alive!!!!

The group cheers. More rumbling occurs. The remnants of the beat world begin to crumble. Dangerous debris falls.

MOZ
Oh, you think this is over. You may have stopped my plans. But you won't get out of this alive.

Moz flies away.

ARIAS
Oh no you don't.

Arias takes a smaller laser and attacks Moth-man. Moth-man screams and begins to weaken.

The gang runs, dodging debris. Ria falls over the rubble and twist her ankle. A large tree is falling toward her.

RIA

Help!

Arias looks at Ria. He looks at Moz. Moz falls to the ground but is still fighting. The tree gets closer to Ria. Arias throws the laser down and goes to Ria. He jumps and dodges until he reaches her and pushes out of the way of the tree.

ARIAS

Ria! Are you okay!?

RIA

But, Moz...

Arias tears up.

ARIAS

Who cares? I'm tired of choosing him over you.

Arias and Ria give each other a big hug. Arias looks up. Mothman is gone.

INT. LINA'S HOUSE - A FEW DAYS LATER

Elena and Jordan are watching TV. Lina enters with two plates of pancakes. Elena and Jordan dig in.

Insert: Television

TOM

What Up! USA. It's Tom. Just Tom. And today we talk about news on the family who's mysterious disappearance, wasn't so mysterious at all. According, to Carmen Gonzalez, mother of two of the children shown. The family was on vacation and didn't hear about the burning of their shed until they arrived home. Thank goodness they're all safe.

EXT. BURNED SHED - DAY

Arias sighs as he looks at the remains of his lab. Marco and Ria enter.

RIA
(to Lina)
I'm sorry about your shed.

ARIAS
It's alright. I can make another
lab.

Arias faces them.

ARIAS (CONT'D)
What I can't make are other kids.

Beat.

RIA
I mean technically...

ARIAS
(to Ria)
You know what I mean.

Marco remains emotionless.

ARIAS (CONT'D)
(to Marco)
I'm sorry. Really I am. I was just
so paranoid about Moz, about him
hurting you... I thought I was
keeping you safe.

MARCO
I know but... I can't just...

ARIAS
I'm gonna earn back your trust,
Marco. One day...

Marco smiles.

ARIAS (CONT'D)
I love you, both.

MARCO
I love you, too.

Marco and Arias look at Ria.

RIA
You're cool I guess.

MARCO
Ria...

ARIAS
Honestly, I'll take it.

MARCO
So what are we gonna do about moth-
man. He's still out there and we
don't have the machine anymore.

ARIAS
Yeah, but he won't bother us for a
while. Next time, we'll be ready.

Ria goes the shed, pulls up her sleeves and starts to put the
burnt pieces in one pile.

ARIAS (CONT'D)
What are you doing?

RIA
The lab isn't gonna rebuild itself.

Marco and Arias go in to help her.

END.