

SCATT'S CRAG RIDGE

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FADE IN:

EXT. FIELD - DAY

The edge of a quiet forest looms in the distance. Steep, 1,000-foot cliffs wrap around, creating a mouth where the trees end and the field begins. Not a sound. Only dense, dark, frightening, SECRETIVE, HAUNTING -- OMINOUS --

A DRONE floats up, aimed toward the forest. We hear the hum of an approaching car. The Drone turns and zips away.

EXT. TEXAS BACKCOUNTRY ROAD - DAY - DRONE POV

Flying high -- following a BLACK JEEP WRANGLER. Dive down on a sign that reads "*Entering Scatt's Crag.*"

INT. JULIA'S JEEP - DAY

JULIA (30), athletic with dark hair and sharp eyes, drives with her hand relaxed on the wheel.

Sitting shotgun is MAX (30) thin with shaggy hair and a dorky face. He's piloting the drone on his phone. Julia smirks:

JULIA
God gave you two eyes for a reason.

MAX
(without looking up)
Gave me two thumbs, too. Can you pull over? The battery's dying.

Julia smirks and pulls over.

EXT. JULIA'S JEEP - DAY

Max lands the drone at his feet. Julia walks around the Jeep and unzips her pants to pee.

MAX
Really? What if someone sees?

Julia rolls her eyes then cups her hands around her mouth:

JULIA
Calling all perverts!

EXT. EMPTY TEXAS ROAD - DAY - CONTINUOUS

SUPER: Julia's Jeep is like an ant on the desolate road.

JULIA (O.C.)
 (echoing)
 I'm a pretty little thing with her
 pussy hanging out!

EXT. JULIA'S JEEP - DAY - CONTINUOUS

JULIA
 My boyfriend would appreciate it if
 y'all looked away!

MAX
 Three months in Texas and she's
 already saying "y'all."

Julia smirks, pulls her pants down, and squats to pee. Max puts his drone on a charger in Julia's Jeep.

MAX (CONT'D)
 Usually I'm the one that stops a
 million times to pee.

JULIA
 I'm just... staying hydrated. You
 should, too.

An approaching engine fades in. Julia zips up just as a SHERIFF'S CAR appears through the heat haze.

Max and Julia watch as it slows. They can tell the silhouetted driver is grilling them.

MAX
 We do something wrong?

Julia huffs.

JULIA
 (re. Sheriff's Car)
 You get a good look?!

She watches the Sheriff's car drive away.

JULIA (CONT'D)
 Asshole!

INT. JULIA'S JEEP - DAY

Julia driving. Her GPS starts glitching.

JULIA

Max, in the glovebox. I printed out directions.

Max opens the glovebox. Loose items spill onto his lap: wrapper scraps, packs of gum, tangled wires. The rest of her Jeep is equally messy. He holds up a half-eaten lolly pop:

MAX

Did you wanna finish this or...

Julia snatches it, rolls down her window, and tosses it out.

MAX (CONT'D)

Litterbug.

She playfully punches him and grabs the printed directions.

JULIA

Scatt's Crag doesn't show up on any apps.

Max looks out the window at the barren landscape.

MAX

Gee, I wonder why?

INT. JULIA'S JEEP - DAY

The road winds into the trees up ahead.

ON MAX'S PHONE: His SOCIAL MEDIA FEED is frozen.

Max locks his phone and puts it away.

MAX

There's no WiFi out here.

JULIA

Did you try holding your phone up really really high?

Max rolls his eyes.

JULIA (CONT'D)

It wouldn't kill you to look up from that thing once in a while.

MAX

I'm looking up now. You know what I see? Trees. Lots and lots of trees. Oh, oh, oh, J, look! Another--

The road bends. A rusted gate blocks the way. It's held together by a chain. A sign reads: **NO TRESPASSING.**

Julia slows... stops...

MAX (CONT'D)

I thought you said it was open.

She gets out, walks around, and opens the trunk, revealing: TWO LARGE BACKPACKS, BOLT CUTTERS and a HEAVY CHAIN.

Max twists and talks to her through the Jeep:

MAX (CONT'D)

J.

JULIA

I said it *should* be open.

Julia grabs the bolt cutters and heads toward the gate.

MAX

What are you-- You can't just--

Julia cuts the chain and pushes the gate open. She gets back in the car. Max is dumbfounded.

JULIA

Relax. I'll replace it when we leave. Nobody'll ever know.

ANGLE ON: The Chain as Julia drives away. It's quiet.

Tires approach. The Sheriff's Car rolls into frame. A MAN steps out, reaches down, and picks up the broken chain. He hocks a loogie and walks back to his car.

EXT. END OF ROAD - DAY

Julia's Jeep is parked at a dead end. Max is standing away from the car, flying his drone.

Julia watches him from the trunk as she straps herself into a PARAGLIDING BACKPACK. She clips here, tightens there, and puts a helmet on. She looks back at Max:

JULIA

You ready?

DRONE POV: It crashes into a tree.

Max hustles to grab and inspect it. He seems distant.

JULIA (CONT'D)

Is it okay?

MAX

It's fine.

Max puts the drone in her trunk. He stares at the other Paragliding Backpack.

JULIA

Hey. I'm proud of you.

MAX

I didn't even jump yet.

Julia grabs the other backpack and pushes it into his chest.

JULIA

Baby steps.

EXT. END OF ROAD - DAY

Julia helps Max into his backpack. She tightens the last few straps. She grabs a helmet from the trunk with a GOPRO attached to the top -- the kind with NO SCREEN. Julia puts it on Max's head, but realizes that the GoPro is loose.

JULIA

Ugh, stupid screw.

MAX

What? What's wrong?

JULIA

Nothing. It's fine. Here, switch with me.

Julia swaps their helmets and turns the GoPro on.

JULIA (CONT'D)

This too.

Julia attaches what looks like a FLASHLIGHT to Max's rig.

JULIA (CONT'D)

Give me your phone.

She takes it and opens an app.

MAX

I told you there's no WiFi.

JULIA

Don't need it. See?

ON MAX'S PHONE: A Satellite GPS of the area.

JULIA (CONT'D)

I installed the app last night. If, and I mean if, we get separated, this'll lead me right to you, okay? Just press this button.

Julia shows him how to press an EMERGENCY BUTTON on the flashlight. Max nods, understanding.

JULIA (CONT'D)

Hey, look at me...
(off his gaze)
...You're not gonna need it.

Julia pecks him on the lips and struts toward a path.

MAX

That's what someone who's about to need it would say!

Julia laughs and keeps walking. Max catches up, and they vanish into the dense forest. It's quiet... then... the sound of approaching tires... The Sheriff's car pulls up.

EXT. FOREST PATH - DAY

Max and Julia walk by a sign loosely nailed to a tree. It reads: "DANGER: BEARS." Julia ignores it; Max double-takes.

MAX

Bears?!

Julia keeps walking. Max hustles to catch up.

EXT. SCATT'S CRAG RIDGE - DAY

Max and Julia step through the trees. Together, they walk toward the edge of a cliff overlooking the forest below.

Max looks down -- it's 1,000 feet to the treetops. He steps back, heart racing, panicking slightly as Julia points toward the horizon.

JULIA

We fly down to your car and then come back for mine.

MAX

And then I never have to do this again?

JULIA

Never.

Max takes a deep breath. He spins and paces away from the cliff:

MAX

Next time we're going to a beach.

JULIA

Would you even go in the water?

MAX

I'm afraid, alright? I'm fucking terrified. Is that what you want me to say?

JULIA

I don't *want* you to say anything.

Julia catches her tone then takes a deep, calming breath.

JULIA (CONT'D)

It's just... it's a big part of my life and I wanted to share it with you. And I thought that if we're serious about spending the rest of our lives together...

MAX

Hey, I *am* serious. What are you always calling *me*?

JULIA

The dork who's desperate to marry me.

MAX

So desperate, but right now I'm just... I'm scared, J.

Julia steps up to him:

JULIA

You trust me, right?

MAX
Of course I do.

JULIA
Then listen. If you can do this...
If we can do it together...
Everything else'll be easy.

Max sighs.

JULIA (CONT'D)
It's just like we practiced. Run,
jump, count to three and pull.

He nods.

JULIA (CONT'D)
Say it.

MAX
Run. Jump. Count to three and pull!

JULIA
Again! Louder!

MAX
RUN! JUMP! COUNT TO THREE AND PULL!

Julia steps aside, presenting the ridge to Max:

JULIA
I'm right behind you.

MAX
You're kidding.

JULIA
I am right behind you.

Max takes a deep breath, closes his eyes, and mutters:

MAX
Run, jump, count to three and pull.
Run, jump, count to three and pull.
(opens his eyes)
RUN, JUMP, COUNT TO THREE AND PULL!

Max runs toward the edge and leaps off! 3...2...1...

JULIA
Pull!

Max pulls, jerking downward as his parachute opens. He sails over the forest. He starts giggling, laughing, wailing:

MAX

Wha-- Wha-- ahah-- I did it! J, I
did it! Whooooohooooooo!

His child-like screams echo over the trees. Julia smiles,
watching him from the ridge.

JULIA

I told you!

Julia gets a running start and leaps over the edge. She falls
for a moment, grabs her pull-string...

...It's stuck! She's falling fast, panicking now!

JULIA (CONT'D)

No, fuck! Shit! Shit! FUCK!

With one... last... YANK! She rips it loose! Her parachute
whooshes open, jolting her downward with tremendous force!

She turns and realizes she's way too low. Max is so high and
far ahead that his gleeful screams are faint echoes.

JULIA (CONT'D)

MAAAAAX! MAAAAAX!

Max looks back to see her falling toward the tree tops.

MAX

J! FUCK! I don't know how to turn
this thing!

JULIA

KEEP GOING! GET HELP! USE THE--

Julia crashes through the treetops, breaking several
branches. She's tumbling, falling fast. She JOLTS again as
her chute gets caught. The force knocks her GoPro off. It
lands in a clearing about 20 feet away, aiming at her.

EXT. CLEARING - DAY - GO-PRO POV

Julia dangles 10 feet off the ground as blood leaks down her
arm. She takes several deep, calming breaths. She tries
tugging at her parachute, but it's stuck.

JULIA

Shit! Okay... okay. Breathe.
Nothing's broken.

She checks her bleeding arm and hisses in pain.

Something stirs behind the GoPro. The camera shakes slightly. Julia doesn't notice. She's still wrestling with her straps.

JULIA (CONT'D)
Come on you stupid thing!

Then -- a realization! She grabs the Flashlight Tracker and turns it on. A green light starts flashing. She's overcome with relief.

Her eyes widen as she sees **something** looking right at her. She swallows intense fear:

JULIA (CONT'D)
Breathe. Stay calm. Don't move.

Whatever **IT** is, it kicks the GoPro forward as it approaches. The camera tumbles and lands right beneath Julia, pointed at the trees. HEAVY FOOTSTEPS approach as Julia loses her cool:

JULIA (O.C.) (CONT'D)
Get away from me! Get the fuck away from me!

Something pulls Julia down. Branches snap! Her head BOUNCES OFF THE GROUND! The blow knocks her out cold, and **Something** drags her away by her foot...

EXT. FIELD - DAY

Max lands hard and tumbles on the ground. He fights out of his chute and sprints toward the forest. He stumbles and trips and falls multiple times.

MAX
JULIA! JULIA! JULIA!

His last "*Julia*" echoes over the trees. The forest responds with ominous silence. Max stares at it. The trees stare back.

Pre-roll: A ringing phone fades in...

INT. SHERIFF'S OFFICE - DAY

Max slumps in a beat-up chair in front of an empty desk. He stares through a nameplate: "Sheriff W. Dixx." There's a half-smoked cigar in an ashtray. A phone rings in the BG.

DEPUTY MILLER (20s), a boy-faced cop, looks at Max with pity. He answers the phone, eyes on Max:

DEPUTY MILLER (O.C.)
 (answering phone)
 Scatt's Crag County Sheriff's
 Office. Deputy Miller speaking.

Max snaps out of his trance. He looks at his phone: he's been leaving a voicemail for "Julia <3" for 10 minutes.

He sees headlights out the window. Max runs to it... a TOW TRUCK stops with Julia's Jeep. The Sheriff's car pulls in behind it.

EXT. SHERIFF'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Max bursts out and runs up to SHERIFF WAYNE DIXX, a Full-Metal-Jacket-type man in his 50s.

MAX
 Anything?!

Sheriff Dixx walks by as if Max doesn't exist.

INT. SHERIFF'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Dixx enters. Max follows, hastily.

MAX
 Sheriff, wait a second!

Dixx falls into his chair and lights the cigar, holding it in his LEFT HAND. He leans back and puffs without a care in the world. Max walks over and slams his hands on the desk:

MAX (CONT'D)
 Please tell me you found something.

SHERIFF DIXX
 If I did, don't ya' think you'd know by now?

MAX
 You'll go back tomorrow, right?
 Isn't there a helicopter we can take or something?

SHERIFF DIXX
 Son, we barely got toilet paper.
 You think the county's payin' for a chopper?

MAX
 My girlfriend is out there!

SHERIFF DIXX

Your *girlfriend* ignored every no trespassin' sign, every off limits sign, every don't-go-nowhere-near-my-fuckin-woods sign between here and Hilton. Now there's 300 people in this county and five of 'em work for me. I don't have the manpower to comb the whole goddamn forest.

Max glares, fuming and biting his lip.

SHERIFF DIXX (CONT'D)

You got the keys to that Wrangler?

MAX

(through his teeth)
She does.

SHERIFF DIXX

Shame, looks like I'll have to impound her.

MAX

Oh come on!

DEPUTY SULLIVAN (30s) drops a cardboard box on Dixx's desk. Dixx reaches inside and pulls out a wallet.

MAX (CONT'D)

Hey, that's all our stuff!

Dixx thumbs through Max's wallet and pulls out \$40 in cash.

SHERIFF DIXX

This outa' buy you some time.

He hands the money to Sullivan.

SHERIFF DIXX (CONT'D)

Get to Nate's before he closes. And none of the cheap stuff, neither.

Dixx pulls out Max's COLORADO I.D.

SHERIFF DIXX (CONT'D)

Tell Mr. Denver here "thank you," Sully.

Sullivan takes the money, tips his hat to Max, and leaves.

MAX

(gritting his teeth)
We're from Austin.

SHERIFF DIXX

Then you mind explain' why you're
carryin' an expired Colorado I.D?

Dixx flicks the card at Max.

MAX

We moved here a few months ago.

SHERIFF DIXX

You and the rest of the yuppies.

Dixx keeps fishing around the box.

MAX

I still have it because I miss
Denver and I hate this goddamn
state.

SHERIFF DIXX

Feelin's mutual. Now... what do we
have here?

Dixx pulls something out. Whatever it is, it humanizes him.

SHERIFF DIXX (CONT'D)

Shit... when'd you plan on
mentionin' this?

Dixx reveals a POSITIVE PREGNANCY test. Max's eyes light up.

MAX

Wha-- What? Give me that!

Max snatches it and stares at the blue line. Sheriff Dixx
squirts some hand sanitizer and rubs it in.

SHERIFF DIXX

What kinda' mother does that with a
baby on board?

MAX

(to himself)

Wh... why wouldn't she tell me?

SHERIFF DIXX

Sure it's yours?

MAX

Of course it's mine! Please,
Sheriff...

Max eyes Dixx's LEFT HAND and the WEDDING RING on his finger.

MAX (CONT'D)

What if it were *your* wife or *your* kid in there?

Dixx sees Max staring at his ring. He hides his hand from view, leans back, puffs his cigar and thinks.

SHERIFF DIXX

I'll have my boys perform a cursory search of the tree line tomorrow.

MAX

A cursory search?

SHERIFF DIXX

That's right, a *cursory search*. Take it or leave it.

Max stands and heads for the door:

SHERIFF DIXX (CONT'D)

Where do you think you're goin'?

Dixx grabs the BROKEN CHAIN from under his desk.

SHERIFF DIXX (CONT'D)

(to Deputy Miller)

Deputy, escort Mr. Denver to his room for the evenin'.

Dixx nods toward an empty holding cell.

MAX

You're joking, right?

SHERIFF DIXX

Destruction of public property, trespassin', wastin' my goddamn time. I'll see you out at sunup.

Max rips his arm away as Miller tries to grab it.

SHERIFF DIXX (CONT'D)

Don't make me add assaultin' an officer.

Anger fills Max's face.

INT. SHERIFF'S OFFICE - HOLDING CELL - NIGHT

Deputy Miller shuts the door on Max.

DEPUTY MILLER
 It's Max, right?
 (off Max's nod)
 I'm Deputy Will Miller. I'll be
 helpin' with the search tomorrow.

MAX
 The *cursory* search, you mean?

DEPUTY MILLER
 Don't listen to Dixx. He's had a
 horn up his ass ever since...

Miller checks to ensure Dixx can't hear him:

DEPUTY MILLER (CONT'D)
 ...well ever since his boy passed.
 He would have been my age, I think.
 Sheriff says it was a huntin'
 accident but, people tell stories.

Max looks over at Dixx, who's enjoying his cigar.

MAX
 He doesn't seem too beat up.

DEPUTY MILLER
 No, he is. Just got a funny way of
 showin' it. Anyway, I'll be out
 first thing tomorrow mornin' and
 I'll be back last thing tomorrow
 night. We're gonna find her. I
 promise.

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

The light pitter-patter of rain on the forest floor.

Julia sprints through, flashlight in hand! It goes quiet...
 pitch black... **Something** heavy runs by.

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

Julia sprinting, hopping over obstacles, fear on her face,
 looking over her shoulder -- **something** is chasing her!

EXT. FOREST - STREAM - NIGHT

Julia stumbles into a shallow stream. She wades across,
 panting, on the verge of tears.

She emerges, sopping wet and slowing down. She stumbles, falls, and crawls behind a tree. She presses her back against it. She kills the flashlight and tries to slow her breathing.

TIGHT ON JULIA'S FACE: she hears splashing in the stream, followed by heavy footsteps and labored breathing. She bites her lip, trying her hardest to keep from screaming.

It's quiet... still... dark...

ON JULIA'S POCKET: Her phone lights up and starts vibrating.

JULIA

Fuck! Fuck!

She grabs her phone as quickly as she can and silences her "BIRTH CONTROL" alarm. It goes quiet again... she calms.

It vibrates again! It's her "DON'T FORGET!" alarm.

She throws her phone as far as she can. Something rushes by and stops where it landed. Julia stares at it, biting her lip. She slides down as low as she can, hoping it doesn't see her as the soft pitter-patter of rain...

INT. HOLDING CELL - NIGHT

...hits the roof. Droplets roll down a high glass window in the holding cell. Max sits in the corner, staring down at the pregnancy test. He reaches in his pocket and pulls out a RING BOX. He opens it, revealing an ENGAGEMENT RING.

MAX

Why wouldn't you tell me?

DEPUTY SULLIVAN (O.S.)

You say somethin'?

Max shakes his head at Sullivan, who's alone for the night shift. There are three empty beer bottles on his desk. He grabs another and opens it. Just then, his desk phone rings.

Max's eyes open -- a flicker of hope.

DEPUTY SULLIVAN (CONT'D)

(answering)

Scatt's Crag County Sheriff's Department. Deputy Sullivan.

(listening)

Uh-huh. Ma'am... Ma'am... this is an emergency line...

(listening)

I understand you're los--

(MORE)

DEPUTY SULLIVAN (CONT'D)

(sighs)

--how old is your GPS?

Max's eyes widen when Sullivan says "GPS." He puts the ring box back in his pocket.

MAX

Hey! Hey! Excuse me!

Sullivan signals him to wait.

DEPUTY SULLIVAN

(into phone)

Yeah, you're not the first one.
Scatt's Crag don't pop up for most
people. Just keep headed west down
88 'til you reach Hilton.

(listening)

Alright, good luck now. Stay safe.

He hangs up and turns toward Max.

MAX

Can I have my phone?

DEPUTY SULLIVAN

Sheriff said not to.

MAX

Please. I have to check something.

DEPUTY SULLIVAN

I think your Instagram can wait.

MAX

She has a tracker. If she turned it
on, it'll show where she is.

DEPUTY SULLIVAN

I just told this lady the same
thing. Scatt's Crag don't come up
on no--

MAX

Will you just let me try? I bought
you those beers, didn't I?

Sullivan sighs. He opens a drawer, removes Max's phone, and walks it over. Max takes it. His fingers fly as he keys in passcodes. He opens the GPS app. **No Service.**

MAX (CONT'D)

Come on, come on!

QUICK FLASH: Max and Julia in her Jeep:

JULIA
Did you try holding your phone up
really really high?

BACK TO SCENE:

Max walks to a corner and holds the phone up. He gets a signal. The app begins loading slowly...

MAX
Yes! Come on, J, come on...

Loading... loading... loading...

The app PINGS! A map of the area appears! Max zooms into A JAGGED YELLOW LINE THROUGH THE WOODS.

MAX (CONT'D)
Yes!
(to Sullivan)
She's alive!

INT. SHERIFF'S OFFICE - DAY

Max springs to his feet as Dixx enters the office.

MAX
Sheriff! Sheriff, please! You gotta
let me out.

SHERIFF DIXX
Now, if I had a dollar--

MAX
She's still alive! Please! Look!

Max holds out his phone.

SHERIFF DIXX
I told Sully not to let you--

MAX
Just look!

Dixx turns as Max shows him the GPS map through the bars.

MAX (CONT'D)
It's satellite. It shows where she
is on the map.

SHERIFF DIXX

I know how satellites work, son.

MAX

She's moving. She's trying to find her way out.

For once, Dixx seems interested. He unlocks the holding cell.

SHERIFF DIXX

Follow me.

INT. SHERIFF'S OFFICE - TABLE - DAY

Dixx unrolls a map of the area. With his finger, he points to where Julia's GPS was. Then, he traces a LONG LINE from that spot to the edge of the forest.

SHERIFF DIXX

This here's about 3,000 acres of godforsaken forest and bear country. It'd take my boys two days to get in there, and that's *if* she's still where your tracker puts her. What's the battery life on that thing?

MAX

I don't know. She might have said a day or two.

SHERIFF DIXX

Which is it, son? A day, or two?

Max takes a moment...

MAX

Two.

SHERIFF DIXX

It was fully charged?
(off Max's nod)
Then she's got about 30 hours left.

MAX

What are we waiting for then? Call another department. Call the FBI! Call somebody!

SHERIFF DIXX

It don't work like that. This is *my* county. Those are *my* woods. *My* responsibility.

(MORE)

SHERIFF DIXX (CONT'D)

And I don't want no one goin' in
there that I don't give explicit...

THE DOORS BURST OPEN! In runs Deputy Sullivan, HIS UNIFORM IS
STAINED WITH BLOOD!

DEPUTY SULLIVAN

Sheriff! Somethin' got Miller!

EXT. SHERIFF'S OFFICE - DAY

Dixx, Max, and Sullivan race outside. There's a rusted pick-
up in the parking lot. A stained tarp covers the bed.

JIM, a farmer in his 60s, stands beside the truck.

SHERIFF DIXX

Jim, what happened?

JIM

Bear musta' got him, Sheriff.

Jim pulls the tarp back, revealing Deputy Miller's body. It's
RAVAGED and covered in blood! His guts are hanging out! His
face is MAULED, hardly recognizable...

Dixx looks off as Max dry heaves, steps away, and vomits.

SHERIFF DIXX

Christ have mercy. Boy was barely
old enough to drink.

(to Jim)

You found him like this?

JIM

This mornin'. I heard squealin'
from my pens, went out with my
sawed off. Whole trail of blood
leadin' back to the forest, 'bout
200 yards. Looks like he made it
halfway. He was runnin' from
somethin'. Whatever got him got my
sheep, too. One was missin', two
more were gutted like a gold mine.

Max gathers himself, trying to avert his gaze from the gore.

SHERIFF DIXX

Poor kid musta' stumbled on some
babies--

(eying Max)

Out lookin' for *your* lady friend.

MAX

I didn't mean for him to get hurt!

SHERIFF DIXX

Nobody never *means* for nothin'!
Now, I don't want another one of
you goin' near those woods!

MAX

She's still alive! We only have
tonight, maybe tomorrow morn--

SHERIFF DIXX

What'd I tell you last night? I
don't have the man power! Now I'm
short one more thanks to you!

They lock eyes, both huffing... Max backs down. Dixx pulls
the tarp back, covering Miller's body.

SHERIFF DIXX (CONT'D)

(to Jim)

Anybody else know about this?

JIM

Reagan does.

SHERIFF DIXX

Goddamnit!

JIM

I don't know how, but his crew was
over like...

HONK! HONK! A SEMI-TRUCK/LUXURY RV pulls into the lot...

SHERIFF DIXX

...flies on shit.

The RV is adorned with patriotic decals and guns. Painted on
the side is "*Rachel & Reagan's Big Game Hunting.*" Pictured
are Rachel and Reagan, who *could* be father and daughter...

It stops. The door kicks open. Out walks REAGAN, a boisterous
man in his 50s. He's well-built, wearing tan cargo pants and
a black t-shirt that says "*Drill more oil.*"

REAGAN

Kubey, keep that camera rollin'!

Out steps KUBRICK (30s) heavy set, unattractive, greasy black
hair pulled back. He films everything with a HANDHELD camera.

SHERIFF DIXX

Reagan, I swear to Christ, you get
that camera outa' my sight.

Kubrick points the camera at Dixx, who swats it away.

KUBRICK

Break it, you buy it.

Dixx snarls at him.

REAGAN

C'mon, Wayne. Smile for the folks.

Out comes RACHEL, the 20-something-year-old bombshell blonde from the RV. She's holding a HUNTING RIFLE and wearing black short-shorts and a tight camouflage tank-top.

Kubrick puts the camera on her. Tight, sexy shots.

Atop the RV stands BULLSEYE, a no-nonsense COLUMBIAN WOMAN wearing a HUNTING VEST over a black tank top and camouflage pants. She's scanning the horizon with her SNIPER RIFLE.

SNIPER POV: Something stirs in the distant brush.

Bullseye pulls back and stares with her naked eyes.

SHERIFF DIXX

(re. Bullseye)

You better have papers for that!

REAGAN

What for? The girl or the gun?

Sheriff Dixx sees Kubrick moving the tarp and filming Miller. Rachel is posing next to the bloody mess.

SHERIFF DIXX

Show some goddamn respect!

Sheriff Dixx shoos them away and covers Miller's body.

REAGAN

Don't worry. We'll find your mama
bear for ya'.

MAX

You're going out there?

Reagan looks Max up and down:

REAGAN

You get lost runnin' a marathon,
friend?

BULLSEYE

(in Spanish)

*Those aren't running clothes, you
idiot.*

(in English)

They are skydiving clothes.

RACHEL

Babe! That's him! That's the fellah
from the radio. The one whose lady
gone missin' in Scatt's Crag!

REAGAN

Well I'll be fucked. Sheriff's got
a hard on for you like I've never
seen.

SHERIFF DIXX

I told you to stay off that damn
scanner!

REAGAN

It's a free country. Your waves are
my waves.

Sheriff Dixx grunts and stands down.

REAGAN (CONT'D)

(to Max)

Let me be the first to say how
truly sorry I am.

(looking at Rachel)

If I lost my Rachel, hell...

(extending his hand)

Reagan Calhoun of *Rachel & Reagan's
Big Game Huntin'*. That there's
Rachel. Maybe you've heard of us.

MAX

(shaking Reagan's hand)

Sorry, I haven't.

Kubrick moves the tarp again.

KUBRICK'S CAMERA POV: Miller's bloody body. Sheriff Dixx
chases him off.

SHERIFF DIXX

I said leave it!

Sheriff Dixx slams the back hatch.

SHERIFF DIXX (CONT'D)

(to Jim)

Take him to the doctor's, and not another word about it.

(to Kubrick)

Poor boy's mother don't even know.

Jim nods, gets in his truck, and drives away. Sheriff Dixx starts walking inside.

SHERIFF DIXX (CONT'D)

(to Reagan)

Go near those woods and I'll charge you with crimes you ain't even heard of!

REAGAN

You can put up all the signs you want, they don't make those woods any less public.

MAX

Public!? You said we were trespassing! You kept me in jail all night!

Kubrick zooms and follows Dixx as he walks inside.

SHERIFF DIXX

It was for your own good!

MAX

I'll... I'll sue you!

SHERIFF DIXX

Go ahead! Best you'll get outa' me is two ply.

Sheriff Dixx SLAMS the door shut.

END KUBRICK CAMERA POV

MAX

Asshole.

(to Reagan)

Can I show you something?

Max pulls up the GPS and shows Reagan:

MAX (CONT'D)

This updates every 15 minutes.

(zooming in)

(MORE)

MAX (CONT'D)

She hasn't moved from this spot,
not far from where we jumped.

Reagan ponders. He looks at Rachel.

RACHEL

Damsel in distress? Lazy sheriff
left her for dead? On top of...

Rachel looks at Reagan as if to say, "You know." He thinks...
He looks Max up and down.

MAX

Please... She's pregnant.

Reagan and Rachel's eyes pop open.

REAGAN

Well goddamn, Denver! Why didn't
you lead with that!?

Reagan whistles and signals for the team to get moving.

MAX

So you'll take me with you?

REAGAN

Easy, paratrooper.
(re. Max's jump outfit)
You stick out like shit in snow.

MAX

I won't get in the way. Please.
She's alone out there.

Rachel looks sympathetically at Max.

RACHEL

Let him come, Reagan. Guy jumps
outa' planes, he's gotta be a
little resourceful. What if it were
me?

Reagan huffs a laugh.

REAGAN

(to Max)
Are you? Resourceful?

Max holds a moment...

MAX

I can handle myself... And I'm good
with a drone.

Reagan looks to Rachel for her input:

RACHEL

You always said you wanted drone shots, babe. God knows Kubey'll throw up if he flies one.

KUBRICK

It's a condition!

Reagan cracks a wide smile and walks back toward the RV:

REAGAN

Kubey! Extra everything! Batteries, memory cards, charge packs. We're re-writin' the script. Gonna be a lotta' retakes.

(to Max)

If I give you lines, will you remember 'em?

MAX

Um...

REAGAN

Ah, never mind, just keep wearin' that look on your face.

(to Rachel)

Baby, find him somethin' to wear.

(up at Bullseye)

Bullseye, we're traveling fast and light. Water, bedrolls, flares.

Make sure the radios are charged.

And get the rappel gear ready.

We're hittin' this one from above.

Bullseye nods and climbs down through a hatch in the RV roof. Reagan turns back to Max.

REAGAN (CONT'D)

What'd you bring to play with?

MAX

Ah... I've got my drone, water, some granola, my parachute bag...

REAGAN

(imitating The Godfather)

Leave the bag, take the drone.

(normal voice)

Get it? Godfather?

Max pity-smiles. Reagan hops into the RV. Before he disappears, Max calls out:

MAX

Did you say *rappel gear*?

REAGAN

Yes I did. That a problem?

MAX

No, ah... no.

REAGAN

Good. Daredevil like you oughta' be just fine. Here--

Reagan tosses a pair of gloves into Max's chest.

REAGAN (CONT'D)

Take these. Rope burn bites like a rattlesnake.

Max nods, tucking the gloves into his waistband.

REAGAN (CONT'D)

Well, paratrooper, consider yourself the newest member of *Rachel & Reagan's Big Game Huntin'*. You ridin' with us, or followin' along?

Off Max, who's about to have the decision made for him.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

CLOSE ON Julia, still leaned against the tree, eyes wide open, breathing controlled. She hasn't moved in hours.

A CRACK to her left -- her eyes dart. She's on high alert. Her heart races. Slowly, she leans around the tree, her face inching out... a BUNNY hops by.

Julia relaxes. Then... deep guttural breathing behind her. Slowly, she turns to look. Her eyes pop with fear. The scream is stuck in her throat! Her fingers dig into the ground!

Something grabs and drags her away! Finally, she's able to scream, faintly, like she's trapped in a nightmare:

JULIA

(fading away)

Help! Let me go! LET ME GO!

CLOSE ON: Her GPS Flashlight still alive on the ground, laying atop marks from Julia's dragging fingernails.

INT. CAVE - DAY

Julia is tossed into the cave. She lands hard and rolls. As she pushes herself up, a MASSIVE ROCK rolls in front of the cave entrance.

JULIA
No, no, no! Wait!

She sprints for the entrance but crashes into the rock. She spins and slides down. She starts crying softly.

A sliver of sunlight slips through, illuminating the area a few feet in front of her.

She sees the BUTT OF A RIFLE in the light. She scrambles forward and grabs it, revealing a BROKEN HUNTING RIFLE, as if someone snapped it over their knee.

Julia hears something breathing in the back of the cave.

JULIA (CONT'D)
Who's there?

Crunch* *Squish -- a BLOODY SHEEP'S LEG comes flying from the back and lands in the sunlight.

Julia stares at it, then lets out a blood-curdling scream!

Something screams back at her. It's animalistic, shutting Julia up quicker than death.

EXT. RV - DAY - DRONE POV

SUPER on Reagan's RV driving down the same desolate road. Swoop down, flying beside it. Pull up to the driver-side window, where Kubrick looks and flips the bird. PAN BACK...

INT. RV - DAY

...from MAX'S PHONE -- Reagan watches the drone footage as Kubrick drives. Rachel touches up her makeup in the back while Bullseye readies their weapons.

Max has changed, fitting in better with the group. He uses a STURDY CLIP TO ATTACH HIS DRONE TO HIS BELT LOOP.

REAGAN
(re. Drone footage)
Not bad, Denver. Not bad at all.

Kubrick tightens his grip on the wheel.

REAGAN (CONT'D)
If you need work after all this,
we're hirein'.

KUBRICK
We already have four. Four is
perfect. Four is square. Four is
symmetrical. Five is too many.

Reagan raises an eyebrow at Kubrick.

MAX
Thanks... I'll think about it.

The RV hits a bump. Some of Rachel's things go flying.

RACHEL
Kubrick! Watch the road!

Kubrick raises an apologetic hand.

REAGAN
(to Max)
Go get acquainted with the girls.
Kubey and I have a script to write.

ON MAX as he nods and heads toward Bullseye and Rachel.

REAGAN (CONT'D)
(to Kubrick, fading)
So, when we find this fucker, I'm
thinkin' tight on me. I'm lookin'
down. I say something like...

On a table in front of Bullseye are FIVE handguns, THREE
hunting rifles, FOUR radios, FOUR flares, and plenty of AMMO.
She sheaths a SERRATED HUNTING KNIFE on her vest.

MAX
(off the guns)
There an army out there or
something?

Bullseye doesn't answer. She adjusts the sights on a HUNTING
RIFLE and leans it next to Rachel, who's eyes never come off
her make-up mirror.

RACHEL
Thank you, Bullseye.

Bullseye pays her little regard.

RACHEL (CONT'D)
So, Maxy, what do you do for work?

Max backs away from Bullseye, his eyes still on the guns. He pats his drone:

MAX

Video editing. I get footage for real estate companies and stuff.

RACHEL

You pretty good with that thing, then?

MAX

Yeah, I'd... I'd say so.

He nods to the rifle leaning on her table.

MAX (CONT'D)

I bet you're good with that, too.

Bullseye huffs a laugh. Max catches it, Rachel doesn't.

RACHEL

To tell the truth, Maxy? Not very.

BULLSEYE

(in Spanish)

She couldn't hit a bus if it was parked right in front of her.

RACHEL

Now, Bullseye, I don't know what you said, but that tone sounds the same in every language.

Bullseye laughs, cocks a pistol, and hands it to her.

RACHEL (CONT'D)

She don't like admittin' it, but Bullseye's always got my back.

MAX

Your name's not actually Bullseye... is it?

Bullseye smiles.

BULLSEYE

Carolina.

The RV hits another bump, causing Rachel to draw a jagged line on her face with her eyeliner pencil.

RACHEL

Christ, Kubey!

EXT. END OF ROAD - DAY

The RV arrives at the same dead end as before.

Reagan's team steps off, locked and loaded, with backpacks, bedrolls, and SHOULDER MOUNTED RADIOS.

Kubrick is the only one without a weapon. Instead, he's armed with cameras and bags.

Reagan grabs a heavy, BODY-SIZED BAG from a side compartment on the RV. Bullseye helps him carry it.

Max steps off last. He's wearing the parachute bag.

REAGAN
(to Max)
Lead the way.

Reagan eyes the jump bag as Max walks ahead. He says nothing.

EXT. PATH - DAY

Max leads the team up the path toward Scatt's Crag Ridge.

Kubrick stops to film the "DANGER: BEARS" sign.

REAGAN (O.S.)
Kubey! Keep up!

KUBRICK
Getting b-roll!

EXT. SCATT'S CRAG RIDGE - DAY

Max stands by the edge, looking down at the forest.

He hears the clanking of hammers on metal. He turns to see Reagan and Bullseye hammering TWO METAL STAKES into the ground, about 30 feet from the cliff's edge. Each stake has a MASSIVE ROPE COIL attached to it.

Rachel poses with her gun. Kubrick gets plenty of "sexy b-roll." Max sneaks a peak then quickly looks away.

REAGAN
Paratrooper! Gimme a hand with these.

EXT. SCATT'S CRAG RIDGE - DAY

Max and Reagan toss the rope coils over the edge, watching them unravel all the way to the trees. Reagan looks at Max's jump bag and starts taking it off.

REAGAN

I said leave the parachute.

Max pulls away.

MAX

She might need it. What if she's... stuck somewhere or...

REAGAN

Alright, let's say you get it to her, then what? You gonna flap your arms and fly?

MAX

I...

REAGAN

It's dead weight, and I got a rule about dead weight. I don't bring it. Leave it, or I leave you.

Max takes off and drops the parachute bag.

REAGAN (CONT'D)

Better. Now, when we're down there, you're gonna be inclined to start screamin' your lady's name. Remind me, what is it again?

MAX

Julia.

REAGAN

(softly)

Julia. Hear how I'm sayin' that? Julia. Soft, quiet, not screamin', not yellin', not tellin' every goddamn thing that breathes exactly where we are. Got it?

MAX

Got it.

REAGAN

Good. Now put this on.

Reagan presses a harness into Max's chest.

EXT. SCATT'S CRAG RIDGE - DAY

Reagan and Bullseye ready themselves near the edge. They grip the ropes with their GLOVED HANDS.

REAGAN
I'll call up when it's clear.
Kubrick, you come next. Rach, baby,
you help Maxy.

Rachel nods.

REAGAN (CONT'D)
(to Kubrick)
Make sure you get this.

KUBRICK
(filming)
Already rolling.

EXT. SCATT'S CRAG RIDGE - DAY

Max stands near the edge. He's trying to zoom into the GPS, but the gloves won't work with the touch screen.

Max removes the gloves, holding them IN HIS TEETH.

REAGAN (O.C.)
(over Rachel's radio)
Alright, baby. Kubey's clear. The
two of you now.

Rachel clips on and steps over the edge.

RACHEL
You comin'?

MAX
(muffled)
Yeah, just a second.

Rachel heads down. Max is about to put his phone away when he hears the *chick-chick* of a shotgun!

Max jumps. The gloves fall from his mouth and over the cliff, disappearing into the forest!

MAX (CONT'D)
Shit!

SHERIFF DIXX (O.C.)
What'd I tell you, son?

Max snaps around to see Dixx walking out of the trees, holding a shotgun.

MAX

So you can't look for her but you can follow us up here?

SHERIFF DIXX

You're gonna die in there, just like the rest of 'em. I'm done warnin' ya'.

MAX

She's alive! I'm not leaving this place without her!

Dixx steps forward. Max shuffles back, nearly over the edge.

SHERIFF DIXX

Nothin' survives in those woods that don't belong. I can't stop those crazy sons a bitches, but I can stop you.

MAX

So now you care all of a sudden?

SHERIFF DIXX

I've always cared... You have no idea what's down there.

A **RUSTLE** in the trees steals Dixx's attention. He spins and aims at the sound. Max quickly clips onto the rope and hops over the edge.

SHERIFF DIXX (CONT'D)

Damnit!

Dixx spins back toward the trees.

TREES POV: **Something** stares at Dixx...

SHERIFF DIXX (CONT'D)

You're long off from home, climbin' all the way up here.

Dixx stands ready to shoot the first thing that moves.

EXT. CLIFFSIDE - DAY

Max inches down the rope, teeming with fear. He's made it about halfway... then... A SHOTGUN BLAST!

He jumps and loses his footing. He slides 20 feet, kicking at the mountainside. He scrapes his knees and grabs the rope tightly. It burns his hands as he slows.

MAX

Ah, shit!

Max looks at each hand. His palms are bright red. His left is bleeding. He tries lowering himself, but it hurts like hell.

MAX (CONT'D)

Shit! Shit! Shit!

He looks down... only one way he can go. Slowly, he lowers himself, hand over hand, dealing with the pain.

EXT. FOREST - BOTTOM OF MOUNTAIN - DAY

Max falls the last few feet, collapsing to the ground, balling his hands into fists to quell the pain.

REAGAN

The hell happened up there?

MAX

It was Dixx. He was behind us the whole time.

Reagan looks up.

REAGAN

Tow that bus and you'll be hearin' from my lawyer!

(to Max)

Let me see.

Max's hands are bright red and bloody.

REAGAN (CONT'D)

Baby, get the kit. Take care of him, will ya'?

Rachel nods and starts going through her bag.

REAGAN (CONT'D)

(to Max)

You're in good hands... Trust me.

EXT. FOREST - BOTTOM OF MOUNTAIN - DAY

Rachel wraps BANDAGES around Max's hands. A paste oozes out.

RACHEL
Mint feels good, don't it?

MAX
Yeah. It does. Thanks.

Both look to Reagan and nod. He addresses the group:

REAGAN
Alright, we're a ways out from
where our lady landed. We get on
the trail, make camp, and then pick
it back up in the mornin'.

MAX
Her battery won't last that long.

REAGAN
It's gettin' dark and believe me, a
mama bear with a cactus up her ass
ain't the kinda' thing you wanna
stumble upon at night.

EXT. SCATT'S CRAG RIDGE - DAY

CLOSE ON: Blood. Guts. Fur. It's a gory mess.

We pull back to see Dixx standing over a twitching deer. Dixx
puts it out of its misery with the butt of his gun.

He walks over to the edge, picks up the rope, and tugs on it.
He scowls, drops it, then gazes over the forest.

INT. COUNTY HOSPITAL - EXAM ROOM - DAY

A DOCTOR leads Sheriff Dixx into the exam room. She motions
to unzip a BODY BAG on the table. Dixx waves her off.

SHERIFF DIXX
I just came for his things.
Mother'll want his badge.

The Doctor nods toward another table. On it are Miller's
Bloody badge, gun, and BODY CAMERA.

INT. DIXX'S MOBILE HOME - DAY

Dirty, cluttered, chaotic. There are REAMS OF NEWSPAPERS
under the couch, as if freshly stolen off a truck. Yellowing
pages suggest that some are older than others.

Dixx enters, hanging up his hat and jacket. We hear him grab a beer from the fridge as we PAN TO:

A cork board with A MAP OF THE AREA. The forest is circled and full of tacks. Below is a FRAMED IMAGE of Dixx and a YOUNG MAN. They're both wearing hunting clothes.

Next to the picture is A LARGE OBJECT COVERED BY A CLOTH.

CLOSE ON: A NEWSPAPER clipping: "*Hunters Missing in Scatt's Crag, Presumed Dead.*" Another reads: "*Sheriff Warns of Bears in Scatt's Crag.*" Dixx steps up and looks at everything.

SHERIFF DIXX

Been ten years and not a peep. Here
I was hopin' you were dead.

Dixx looks at Julia's picture next to EIGHT OTHER PEOPLE. They vary in age, race, gender, and appearance. However, everyone except Julia is DRESSED AND ARMED LIKE THEY'RE GOING HUNTING.

Beneath each image is a MONTH and YEAR. The earliest is MARCH 1998. Julia's picture is dated AUGUST 2025. The last picture before her is dated JANUARY 2015.

Dixx falls into his armchair. He lights a cigar from an ashtray on an end table.

He grabs a laptop and connects Miller's Body Camera. He opens the video and presses play. He sips his beer and puffs his cigar. We hear: ***Crunching leaves, swooshing wind, heavy breathing.***

DEPUTY MILLER (O.C.)

(on video)

Ms. Mayhugh? That you? I'm with the
Sheriff's department. Are you hurt?

Footsteps, crunching leaves, snapping branches. Dixx sips, puffs, watches.

DEPUTY MILLER (O.C.) (CONT'D)

(on video)

Hey! Hey, stop!

Approaching footsteps, heavy hulking breathing.

DEPUTY MILLER (O.C.) (CONT'D)

(on video)

Stop! Stop, goddamnit!

BANG! BANG! BANG! THWACK! MILLER LANDING HARD, ROLLING. BANG! BANG! BANG! Click... Click... Click... Heavy labored breathing. Then... ROOOOAAAAARRRRR!

Deputy Miller's gurgling, dying sounds fill the trailer. Dixx takes a deep breath. He's finally forced to look away.

INT. CAVE - DAY

Maggots and flies feast on the sheep leg. Julia is curled by a wall, her eyes sunken, staring at the leg... starving.

The rock moves. Julia scrambles away. She cowers and whimpers in the fetal position. Then... she peeks. Before her is a pile of NUTS and BERRIES. She scrambles forward and eats.

She looks up at TWO YELLOW EYES shrouded in shadow. She chokes out the words:

JULIA
Th... thank you.

The rock rolls. Trapping Julia in darkness once more.

EXT. FOREST - DRONE - DAY

Max's Drone hovers up. It zips forward, scanning the area.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Reagan and Bullseye look over Max's shoulder, watching the drone on his phone.

REAGAN
Kubey, get a load 'ah the picture on this thing.

Kubrick is unimpressed.

KUBRICK
My Sonys are better.

MAX
According to her GPS, the signal kicked in right... here.

EXT. FOREST - DRONE - DAY

The drone flies into the clearing where Julia fell. It looks up and sees the torn parachute pieces.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Max's eyes pop open. He takes off running.

REAGAN

Maxy!

EXT. FOREST - CLEARING WHERE JULIA FELL - DAY

Max scrambles out and looks frantically around the clearing. Reagan and Bullseye emerge behind him, weapons aimed, checking all angles. Their feet squish in the dry mud.

BULLSEYE

Clear.

REAGAN

Clear.

Reagan storms up to Max and grabs him by the shirt:

REAGAN (CONT'D)

Run off like that again and I'll
let whatever gets you lick the
bones clean.

Reagan shoves him and inspects the area. Max picks up his drone and starts looking around.

The others join. Kubrick first, filming everything he can:

KUBRICK POV: Close-up on Reagan. Broken twigs in the clearing. Sexy shot of Rachel as she exits the trees. Bullseye kneeling, examining the ground.

REAGAN (CONT'D)

(to Bullseye)
Work your magic.

Kubrick keeps his camera glued to Bullseye as she explains:

BULLSEYE

(off the scraps)
She got stuck here. It was too tall
to touch the ground.
(off the twigs)
She got free. She fell. Broke these
branches...
(off drag marks in the
mud)
Or maybe something... took her.
Pulled her down.

MAX
What do you mean *pulled her down*?

KUBRICK
Cut!

END POV.

KUBRICK (CONT'D)
(to Reagan)
He's in my shot.

MAX
Seriously?

REAGAN
Maxy, let the man work, will ya?

Max rolls his eyes. He walks toward the edge of the clearing, looking for anything helpful. Kubrick puts the camera back on Bullseye, who spots a thick branch that's snapped in half near the clearing's edge.

BULLSEYE
It watched her, snuck up on her.

MAX
What watched her!?

KUBRICK
Cut! Reagan!

BULLSEYE
(following drag marks)
It walked this way. It pulled her down. It dragged her back through there, north by north-west.

Max checks his phone. She's right. He takes off running in that direction. Reagan grabs him before he makes it near the trees. Max wants to yell, but Reagan covers his mouth.

REAGAN
What'd I tell you? Inside voices.

MAX
(muffled)
Julia! Julia! Julia!

REAGAN
Mmmn, mmmn, mmmn all you want. I'm not lettin' go 'til you promise to keep quiet and stay put!

Max takes a deep breath. He calms. Reagan gets the hint.

REAGAN (CONT'D)
 (letting go)
 Good.

MAX
 She's kidding, right? Those are...
 just her lines.
 (to Bullseye)
 You're just... hamming it up for
 the camera, right?

KUBRICK (O.C.)
 Ugh! Come on!

All look to Kubrick, who's gotten his foot stuck in the mud.
 He yanks it out, but sees something in the mud:

KUBRICK (CONT'D)
 What the--

Kubrick pulls JULIA'S GOPRO from the mud.

KUBRICK (CONT'D)
 (to Max)
 This yours?

Max hustles over. He grabs it and wipes the muck off.

MAX
 It was hers! It was loose! It must
 have fallen off when... I'd need a
 laptop to play it or...

Max pans to Kubrick's camera.

MAX (CONT'D)
 ...a camera.

KUBRICK
 No. Absolutely not. These are
 \$4,000 Sonys, and I'm not putting
 your cheap, water-logged SD card in
 any of them.

MAX
 It could have seen what happened.
 If something... took her...
 (to Reagan)
 ...Don't you wanna know what's out
 there?

Reagan and Kubrick exchange a look.

REAGAN

Tonight. Once we're settled. Kubey
and I'll take a look.

Kubrick nods.

REAGAN (CONT'D)

(to Max)

I'll let you know if it's somethin'
you wanna see. Might not be pretty.

Max looks between them, clearly frustrated. He stands down:

MAX

Fine. Thank you.

Reagan walks toward Bullseye, who's moved closer to the
clearing's edge.

REAGAN

Any tracks?

BULLSEYE

Only traces.

REAGAN

Well?

She sighs and shakes her head. Reagan is disappointed.

REAGAN (CONT'D)

(to the group)

Keep movin'. Get a little over
halfway and then settle for the
night. Keep some distance between
us and...

BULLSEYE

Shhh!

Bullseye puts a hand up. She creeps forward, her eyes trained
on the ground, following something.

Reagan signals Kubrick to keep filming. He calls Rachel over
too, making sure she's in the shot. He hikes up her shorts,
exposing her upper thigh. She laughs and slaps his hand away.

Bullseye pushes some branches aside, then turns her head in
disgust. Reagan appears behind her.

REAGAN

(stunned)

Well I'll be fucked.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

KUBRICK'S CAMERA POV: Rachel and Reagan pose next to a BLOODY BEAR CARCASS.

REAGAN

This sumbitch thought she could play dead on us! Ha! My baby's Remmy 7 had somethin' to say about that! Tell 'em sugar.

RACHEL

That's what she gets for messin' with Farmer Jim and his little bo peeps!

Rachel kicks the bear carcass, which is RAVAGED LIKE SOMETHING GUTTED IT. FAR MORE DAMAGE THAN A BULLET COULD DO.

Max joins Bullseye away from the shot. She's leaning against a tree and eating a Granola Bar.

REAGAN (O.C.)

(faint)

But don't worry, folks, I got a feeling this ain't the only thing hidin' in Scatt's Crag.

MAX

So you do all the work and they take all the credit?

Bullseye looks at him and smirks. She offers him a bite of her Granola. He waves her off. She takes another bite.

BULLSEYE

(chewing)

This is America? No?

Max huffs an awkward laugh.

MAX

You were just playing back there, right?

BULLSEYE

What did you call it? "Hamming it up for the camera?"

(off Max's nod)

Si.

Max exhales and looks toward Reagan and Rachel.

MAX

You think that's our bear?

Bullseye shakes her head.

MAX (CONT'D)

Did ours do that?

Bullseye smiles and pushes off the tree. She presses the half-eaten granola bar into Max's chest and walks away.

EXT. FOREST - CAMP - NIGHT

The crew has made camp in a smaller clearing. FIVE BEDROLLS are side-by-side. Bullseye keeps watch on the perimeter.

Reagan kneels behind Kubrick. They're watching Julia's GoPro footage on a laptop while sharing ear-bud headphones.

Max sits alone, shivering. His bandages are dirty and bleeding. He's watching Reagan and Kubrick, wondering. Kubrick and Reagan take out their buds.

MAX

Anything?

Kubrick looks to Reagan, who shakes his head:

REAGAN

Sorry Maxy. Must 'ah landed in the mud. Whole lotta' nothin'.

Max deflates. Kubrick glances off, uncomfortable with lying. Reagan walks by Max, patting him on the back as he says:

REAGAN (CONT'D)

But I'll tell ya' what. This drone shit? I ain't never seen anything like it. And to think Kubey wasted all that money on film school.

Kubrick snarls and focuses back on his laptop.

KUBRICK

(to himself)

It's a crime to call it film.

Rachel approaches and wraps a blanket around Max.

MAX

Thanks.

RACHEL
Let me change those. Infection'll
kill you before anything else.

MAX
Can't we light a fire?

REAGAN (O.C.)
No can do.

Reagan reaches the edge of camp and stares into the trees:

REAGAN (CONT'D)
We're sittin' on a thousand acres
of kindling. Even with the rain
last night, Texas heat'll dry her
right up. I wouldn't light a
cigarette unless I wanted to kill
everything in this place.

Rachel sits in front of Max, close enough to make him
slightly uncomfortable. She starts unwrapping his bandages.

RACHEL
So, you excited?

MAX
What for?

RACHEL
(mocking)
"What for?"
(normal voice)
For bein' a daddy, silly!

MAX
Oh... yeah. I ah... guess I'm not
really thinking about it right now.

RACHEL
Oh... sorry I asked... you must
really love her.

Max reaches in his pocket with his free hand. He pulls out
the RING BOX and opens it to show Rachel.

RACHEL (CONT'D)
Oh my god, Maxy!

Reagan whips around:

REAGAN
Shhh!

RACHEL
 (whispering)
 Sorry!
 (to Max, softly)
 It's beautiful... How'd y'all meet?

MAX
 College. U-Denver.

RACHEL
 What were y'all, Chemistry partners
 or somethin'?

MAX
 No, ah... Tinder, actually.

RACHEL
 No! Nothin' wrong with that! That's
 how my girlfriend met her husband.
 And now they're off and married!

MAX
 (nodding toward Reagan)
 Where'd you two meet?

RACHEL
 Outside a brothel in Bangkok.

Max looks up, *wait... what?*

RACHEL (CONT'D)
 Ain't like that! I was there for my
 friend's bachelorette... the one
 who met her husband on Tinder?

Max nods, following along as Rachel wraps his hands.

RACHEL (CONT'D)
 Reagan was goin' tiger huntin' with
 some locals. Very illegal, lots of
 money. And you've gotten to know
 him a little. You know how he likes
 to brag.

Max chuckles.

RACHEL (CONT'D)
 He must have taken a liking to me,
 'cause he's tellin' me all about
 these guys he's goin' with and how
 they've gotta travel at night so
 the police don't catch em'.

(MORE)

RACHEL (CONT'D)

And then, like, outa' nowhere, there's four, five, six cop cars swarming this brothel we're talkin' by. They're screamin' and yellin' and -- shit, we don't know what the hell they're sayin'. Next thing I know, Reagan's got my wrist and we're runnin' full sprint through this place. Naked girls everywhere. Naked boys everywhere. Hell, naked girl-boys everywhere. He pulled me into a bedroom, slammed the door, locked it. He looked right at me and the way he said, "*Trust me, beautiful. We're gonna be fine.*" I just did. Cops ran right by. The girls must have said we kept goin' out the back. They don't like police, you know. But they love Americans.

Rachel finishes wrapping Max's hands.

RACHEL (CONT'D)

You and... Julia, right? You two ever been out east?

MAX

Almost... when we first started dating. Japan is like her dream vacation, but, to tell you the truth, I'm not a good flyer.

RACHEL

How the hell you jump outa' planes but ain't no good at flyin'?

MAX

I never said I jump out of planes.

RACHEL

You get sick or something'? When we met Kubey he couldn't go 20 minutes without putting his head in a bag. Reagan started pumpin' him full of Xanax before takeoff? Now the little guy sleeps like my grandmama drank a bottle ah' whiskey.

MAX

It's more than that. It's a bunch of things. The language, the money, the planning...

(MORE)

MAX (CONT'D)

I keep telling her "next year."
"We'll do four nights instead of
five, five nights instead of six."
At this point I'm just telling her
what I think'll make her happy.

RACHEL

Word of advice? Quit thinkin' and
just damn do it. Us ladies ain't
waitin' 'round forever.

Kubrick walks past them, camera in hand.

RACHEL (CONT'D)

Kubey, where you off to?

KUBRICK

(eyeing Max)

I have a *film* to make. Moonlight
this good only comes... well...
well once in a blue moon.

MAX

Should you really go alone?

KUBRICK

Most artists work best on their
own.

Kubrick spins, only to run into Bullseye, who grabs his arm.
He pulls away; she tightens her grip.

KUBRICK (CONT'D)

Fine! I don't need a damn
babysitter.

EXT. FOREST - CAMP - NIGHT

Bullseye keeps watch, eyes glued to the moonlit forest.

Kubrick opens one eye. Bullseye has her back to him. Everyone
else is asleep. He grabs a rock, sits up quietly, and throws
it deep into the trees.

CRACK! Bullseye snaps to attention, rifle up.

Kubrick gets down and pretends to be asleep as Bullseye walks
toward the sound. When she's gone, he sneaks away from camp.

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

Kubrick keeps the camera rolling as he walks through the trees. Bugs hum, leaves crackle, most is still.

KUBRICK

You want a film? I'll show you a film.

A SNAP in the distance steals his attention.

Kubrick whips toward the sound. He switches his camera to a night-vision setting. He flips the side open and zooms in, his eyes bouncing between the screen and the forest.

Another SNAP! This time closer. Kubrick turns toward it. His night-vision catches something dart between the trees about 40 yards away.

KUBRICK (CONT'D)

Got you.

Kubrick tries to find it again. He backpedals, slowly rotating. He quickly pans left and right... nothing.

A branch cracks high in the trees and lands with a thud about 10 yards ahead of him.

Kubrick aims up to record the trees. Now, he seems concerned.

A blunt thud lands before him. Something stands in front of the camera. It's too close to tell what it is, but it's hairy and pissed off. It huffs those same labored breaths.

KUBRICK (CONT'D)

What the fu--

Thwack! Kubrick flies backward and slams into a tree, dropping his camera.

CAMERA POV: A massive foot -- hairy and ape-like -- steps across the frame. We hear Kubrick struggling, cowering:

KUBRICK (O.C.) (CONT'D)

(caught in his throat)

Reagan! Bullseye!

CRUNCH! SQUISH! *Gurgling sounds of Kubrick's painful death. Laborious breaths. Heavy footsteps fade into the forest.*

INT. DIXX'S MOBILE HOME - NIGHT

Several EMPTY BEER BOTTLES surround Dixx's chair. We can hear the footage from Miller's body camera. It's much louder now.

Dixx's fridge door slams. He pops a beer, chugs, then stomps by and slams his laptop shut. He shuffles up to the cork board, as if talking to it:

SHERIFF DIXX

We had a deal, you and me. You stay off my land, I keep folks away from yours. What changed?

We see more of the cork board and map now. There are photos of broken branches and animals torn to shreds. We see more newspaper clippings about "missing hikers and hunters."

SHERIFF DIXX (CONT'D)

(getting angry)

Why you been messin' 'round Jim's? This is our song and dance. You and me until one of us ends up dead!

Dixx winds up and CHUCKS the beer bottle at the cork board. It shatters. Beer goes everywhere.

He calms himself, then rips the cloth off the object, revealing a MASSIVE APE-LIKE SKULL... bigger than any human's... or any ape's...

SHERIFF DIXX (CONT'D)

I think it's time we finally settle our score, ole' boy.

BLACKNESS:

REAGAN (O.C.)	RACHEL (O.C.)
Kubrick, come in goddamnit!	Kubey! Kubey!

EXT. FOREST - CAMP - DAY

The sun shines on Max's sleeping face.

REAGAN (O.S.)

Kubrick!

Max jolts awake. He sits up, panting and disoriented.

MAX

Wha- What's going on?

REAGAN
Kubrick's AWOL.

EXT. FOREST CAMP - DAY

Max pilots his drone. He looks over his shoulder, then moves away from Reagan and Rachel, who are still calling:

REAGAN RACHEL
Kubrick! Kubrick, come in! Kubey! Kubey!

MAX
(mocking Reagan)
"Not screamin', not yellin', not
tellin' everything where I am."

EXT. FOREST - DAY - DRONE POV

Flying through trees, searching all around. Nothing... then... blood on the ground.

PAN UP from the blood... Bullseye stares into the lens.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Bullseye has a lead on Kubrick's footprints. She signals the others to stop.

She crouches and examines the ground, wiping her fingers through a small blotch of blood.

She looks around, trying to figure out where it came from. Nothing catches her eye... until she looks up.

Above them are several snapped branches. They match a few broken logs on the ground.

BULLSEYE
It dropped on him, like a tiger.

REAGAN
Ain't no tigers out here.

Bullseye spots another trail of blood. She follows it toward a tree, where she finds Kubrick's CAMERA. Reagan hustles over and grabs it. It's dirty, broken, and the battery is dead.

REAGAN (CONT'D)
Where the hell'd you go, Kubey?

Reagan takes the camera with him.

BULLSEYE
 (re. Blood Trail)
 This way.

Everyone follows. Max is the last to move, before he does, he notices something where Bullseye was crouched...

He brushes aside some dry leaves. About a half-inch deep in the ground, is a massive humanoid footprint.

MAX
 Ah, guys?

He looks up. They're gone.

MAX (CONT'D)
 Guys!?

INT. FOREST - DAY

Bullseye, Reagan, and Rachel emerge from the trees. All three recoil at the horrible sight before them:

Kubrick's body leans against a tree, his neck broken, head slumped, entrails spilling from his stomach. There's blood everywhere. Four long gashes rip across his face.

RACHEL
 (into Reagan's chest)
 Oh my god! Oh my god, Kubes!

Bullseye kneels near the body. She examines the claw marks, measuring them almost. She inspects Kubrick's arms and legs for any other markings. Max walks out of the trees.

MAX
 Hey, I think I--
 (seeing Kubrick)
 --Jesus! Wha--what happened?!

Max turns away and has to stop himself from vomiting.

BULLSEYE
 It didn't bite him. Whatever it was
 wasn't hungry. Probably scared.

REAGAN
 It fuck-well better be! This
 sumbitch knows we're here, now!

Max's eyes widen. He sucks in a breath:

MAX

Julia! Julia, where are you! Juli--

Reagan hustles to silence him. He puts a tight palm over Max's mouth, almost putting him in a chokehold.

REAGAN

What did I say?

Max bites Reagan's hand, forcing him to let go.

REAGAN (CONT'D)

Ow! You little--

MAX

Fuck your "element of surprise."
We're not the ones hunting anymore.

REAGAN

Oh yes we are. *I* do the huntin'
'round here. You got that?

Reagan throws the dead camera at Max's chest.

REAGAN (CONT'D)

Here, make yourself useful.

MAX

You're kidding, right?

REAGAN

Like hell I am. When I blow this
thing's brains out, you better have
that camera rollin'.

BULLSEYE

Kubrick was our friend. We can't
leave him here.

REAGAN

We will collect him *after* we find
what killed him.

With that, Reagan storms off toward camp. Rachel looks between Reagan and Max, sighs, then follows.

Bullseye stays stoic. She stands, stares at Max, then starts walking past him. Max puts a hand on her shoulder, stopping her in her tracks:

MAX

Wait.

EXT. FOREST - FOOTPRINT - DAY

Max and Bullseye crouch near the footprint.

MAX

It's impossible, right? Kubrick
must have made it himself.

Bullseye cautiously moves leaves and needles.

MAX (CONT'D)

It was... just part of the script.
Something must have snuck up on
him...

Bullseye uncovers another footprint. Deeper, well-defined.
She sucks a breath. Max looks between her and the footprint.

MAX (CONT'D)

Carolina... what killed him?

Reagan walks back to them:

REAGAN

Hey! What are you two pow-wowin'
about!? We're right near this
thing, I can feel it. Cue up that
GPS and lead on to your dead
girlfriend.

MAX

She's not dead!

REAGAN

You saw what it did to Kubey. For
your sake, I hope it didn't touch
her pretty face.

Max bites his tongue as Reagan marches away.

MAX

He's hiding something. You all are.
That look you've got right now? I
know that look. You're scared.

Bullseye stares into Max's eyes.

MAX (CONT'D)

You're scared, and you haven't been
scared in a long time.

Bullseye rips her arm away. She glares at Max and storms off.

EXT. FOREST - CAMP - DAY

Max and Bullseye arrive. The camp is ransacked! Their bedrolls are torn to pieces. Their food, supplies, and first aid are scattered everywhere.

Max hustles toward his bedroll and moves stuff around.

MAX

No, no, no!

He finds his drone, still in tact. He sighs, relieved.

Reagan kicks around, growing angrier by the second. Even Rachel seems afraid of him.

REAGAN

He's playin' with us now!

(to the woods)

Listen up, you no good goddamn animal! You didn't evolve for this world! You can't exist in po-lite society. *You think* you're at the top of the food chain? Ha! You're *lookin'* at the top of the--

ROOOOOOOAAAAARRRRR! It echoes through the forest, shutting Reagan up.

REAGAN (CONT'D)

Gather what's left. This thing don't live another 10 minutes.

EXT. FOREST - CAMP - DAY

Max grabs one of Kubrick's spare cameras. He swaps the SD card with the dead one. Then, he moves behind a tree on the outskirts of camp. He checks over his shoulder and sees the others gathering supplies.

He rewinds the tape on Kubrick's camera, stopping when he snuck away.

His face cringes and contorts as he watches Kubrick die. He pauses the video right when **something's** foot steps into frame. His eyes glue to the image.

Max sneaks over to Kubrick's things, grabs the laptop, and opens it.

He pulls up Julia's GoPro footage. He scrolls until he sees Julia struggling in the trees, screaming, crying for him. **Something** rips her down and drags her away.

MAX
 (under his breath)
 You son of a bitch.

Reagan appears, startling him. Max stands and gets in Reagan's face:

MAX (CONT'D)
 You son of a bitch! You said it didn't record anything!

REAGAN
 It didn't! At least nothin' worth usin'!

MAX
 That's all that matters to you, isn't it? You don't give a shit about me, or Julia, or anybody! Not even your own fucking team!

REAGAN
 Watch it, Maxy.

MAX
 What took her?

Reagan holds his tongue.

MAX (CONT'D)
 What. The Fuck. Took her?

INT. SHERIFF'S OFFICE - DAY

Dixx gathers supplies, gearing up for a hunt. He's got a HUNTING RIFLE and a SHOTGUN on a table.

DEPUTY SULLIVAN (O.C.)
 Need back-up, Sheriff?

Dixx sees Sullivan eyeing the guns.

SHERIFF DIXX
 Stay here, Sully. You're in charge 'til I get back.

DEPUTY SULLIVAN
 Yes sir.

SHERIFF DIXX
 And under no circumstances are you to come lookin' for me. This county can't afford to lose anyone else.

DEPUTY SULLIVAN
It can't afford to lose you,
neither, Sheriff.

Dixx pauses on those words. He grabs his guns and starts walking out.

SHERIFF DIXX
No circumstances, you hear?

DEPUTY SULLIVAN
Yes sir!

EXT. FOREST - DAY

ON MAX'S GPS: They're near Julia's last location. He stops and looks for signs of life. Reagan bumps him from behind.

REAGAN
Keep movin'. And keep that camera
rollin'.

Max snarls. He holds the camera up and hits record.

EXT. FOREST - STREAM - DAY

The team emerges from the trees.

MAX
She should be right here.

Reagan moves forward, followed by the others. Bullseye inspects the ground.

BULLSEYE
Here.

Max hustles over. Bullseye is holding JULIA'S TRACKER. Max nearly collapses.

MAX
No.

REAGAN
What'd you find?

Bullseye holds up the tracker.

REAGAN (CONT'D)
Guess bears do shit in the woods.

MAX

You know what, fuck you, asshole!

BULLSEYE

She could have dropped it. It could have fallen off. There is nothing else here. No bones, teeth, hair...

RACHEL

Hey! Hey, over here!

The team looks at Rachel, pointing to something upstream. Reagan aims his rifle where she's pointing.

SCOPE POV: a CAVE ENTRANCE -- perhaps 50 yards away.

REAGAN

Knock knock.

EXT. FOREST - CAVE ENTRANCE - DAY

The team crouches in the trees. They can see ravaged supplies, gear, and the REMAINS OF JULIA'S PARACHUTE. They notice several BROKEN GUNS and SCOPES on the ground.

There's a large boulder moved away from the cave entrance.

Max steps forward, but Reagan pulls him back.

INT. CAVE - DAY

Max's drone hovers inside.

DRONE POV: Bones, blood, debris, nuts, berries. The sunlight ends on a MID-SIZED BOULDER. The drone can't see behind it.

EXT. FOREST - CAVE ENTRANCE - DAY

Max lands the drone at his feet. Reagan stands and stares at the cave.

REAGAN

Let's see if someone's home. Maxy, be ready with that camera.

Reagan leads as Max starts recording.

EXT. CAVE ENTRANCE - DAY

Reagan signals them to halt. Bullseye readies her rifle. Rachel raises her slowly.

RACHEL

Reagan... babe... maybe we should wait out here, where it's light.

Reagan flips on a FLASHLIGHT attachment on his rifle and nods for them to follow.

INT. CAVE - DAY

A SQUISH under Reagan's foot draws his gun down. It's the maggot-covered sheep's leg. He signals the others to follow.

Max keeps filming as they creep forward.

CAMERA POV: Close behind Bullseye. Suddenly, the group stops... Reagan signals them to listen. Long, heavy breaths are coming from the back of the cave. Something's asleep.

MAX

(softly)

Julia?

Reagan whips around, aggressively motioning for silence.

JULIA (O.C.)

(faintly)

Run.

END CAMERA POV

Max perks up. A scream builds in his belly. He catches Reagan's eyes, signaling him to keep quiet.

Reagan scans the left side of the cave with his light. The walls are bone dry with sparse patches of dried blood.

He pans right, scanning the ground then coming up on the boulder, revealing...

Julia! Her head poking over the rock! Her skin is filthy. Her hair is matted. Sweat beads down her forehead and rolls off her nose. She's trembling and mouthing something... **"run."**

Reagan signals her to be quiet. He steps closer, as do the others, quiet like mice.

Julia's face scrunches. *No you fucking idiots!* She locks eyes with Max and mouths again, louder this time **"Run!"**

Max cocks his head, confused. He steps forward and kicks a BLOODY LEG BONE. The ECHO reverberates off the cave walls.

Julia mouths again - screaming without making a sound. "RUN!"

Something stirs.

JULIA (CONT'D)
RUUUUUUUNNNNNNN!

Hulking breaths hum behind her. Dust particles flutter as PIERCING YELLOW EYES rise seven feet into the darkness and glow like angry moons.

Reagan brings his light up revealing:

Mother. Fucking. **BIGFOOT!** A female. Slender and muscular, with bloodstained fur, sagging breasts, and a protruding belly. She's 70% ape, 30% human, and 100% pissed off.

ROOOOAAAAARRRR! Its deep scream deafens them! Reagan takes aim, finger on the trigger!

MAX
No! It's right behind her!

Max tackles him, pushing the gun away as he fires. **BANG!** The bullet ricochets off the walls.

JULIA
(screaming/crying)
RUN!

Bigfoot charges them, screaming, arms swinging. The team backpedals out of the cave as Reagan and Bullseye fire back.

EXT. CAVE ENTRANCE - DAY

All emerge and fan out. Rachel trembles in her boots as she takes aim next to Bullseye.

Max crouches behind Reagan and covers his ears.

MAX
Julia! GET DOWN!

Reagan and Bullseye empty their clips into the darkness. Smoke rises over the small clearing as gunshots ring over the forest. Rachel watches, building courage to pull the trigger.

Finally... all the guns CLICK empty.

Rachel FIRES once. The dust settles... silence... darkness...

Bigfoot LUNGES from the cave, fangs exposed. Reagan quick-draws his sidearm and fires, striking Bigfoot's leg.

It collapses and tumbles out of the cave, bleeding badly from multiple gunshot wounds, but still raving with rage.

Reagan and Bullseye pump a full clip into Bigfoot. She tries standing, but can't move under relentless gunfire.

The shooting stops. The echoes fade. Bigfoot tries standing, but collapses. Her breaths are labored. She's dying.

Reagan struts up and uses the toe of his boot to roll Bigfoot's head over. He looks the beast in the eyes.

Julia appears in the cave entrance. Her clothes are torn. Her skin is covered in dirt and blood. She's wearing a DIRTY BACKPACK. She sees Reagan standing over Bigfoot.

REAGAN
(re: Bigfoot)
You are one ugly mother--

JULIA
Stop!

BANG! Reagan blows Bigfoot's brains out.

REAGAN
Maxy, if you didn't have that camera rolling, I swear the next one's going right between your--

JULIA
What are you doing!? She was pregnant!

REAGAN
Not anymore, hon.

JULIA
No, you stupid bastard! What do you think got her pregnant!?

ROOOOOOOOAAAAARRRR! It's far, louder, angry as ever. The team looks all around as the sound echoes through the trees.

REAGAN
What the hell are you waitin' for!?
Reload!

He storms up to Max and rips the camera from his hands.

REAGAN (CONT'D)
Gimmie this goddamn thing if you
ain't gonna use it.

Reagan runs toward the trees. Rachel follows close behind,
then Bullseye, who locks eyes with Max as she passes.

BULLSEYE
Go. Get her out of here.

REAGAN (O.C.)
Bullseye, let's go!

Bullseye heads after them. Max turns toward Julia. They run
and leap into each other's arms. They collapse on the ground,
not wanting to let go.

MAX
I was so scared.

JULIA
Me too. Me too.

They sit up. Max pulls back and examines her.

MAX
Are you hurt? Can you walk?

JULIA
I'm okay. Max, your hands!

Max pulls her close again.

MAX
It's fine. It's nothing.

Julia looks at the dead female Bigfoot. She closes her eyes,
hating the sight.

MAX (CONT'D)
Come on, we can go while they've
got that thing distracted.

JULIA
Friends of yours?

MAX
I'll explain later.

Max helps Julia up. They're about to take off running when a
nearby CRACK in the forest steals Julia's breath. She grabs
Max and yanks him into the cave.

INT. CAVE - DAY - CONTINUOUS

Julia and Max press up against the wall.

MAX

What?

JULIA

SHHH!

The cave roof shakes. Dust flutters around them. Their eyes widen as another BLOODY SHEEP CARCASS splats in front of the cave entrance.

Max and Julia press harder against the wall. They watch in horror as something drops down in front of the cave entrance.

EXT. CAVE - DAY

ON DEAD FEMALE BIGFOOT: A MASSIVE SHADOW looms over her body. A HAIRY ARM reaches down and rolls the head over. It caresses the face.

Hulking breaths grow louder... LOUDER... **LOUDER!** Something takes off running into the trees.

Silence sets in... then... Max and Julia run from the cave, hand-in-hand, sprinting into the woods in the opposite direction of Reagan's crew.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Reagan sprints through the trees, camera in his left hand, rifle in his right. Rachel follows close, her head snapping in every direction.

Reagan slows as he spots branches and debris on the forest floor... then... footprints.

REAGAN

Take this.

He pushes the camera into Rachel's chest.

REAGAN (CONT'D)

This way!

He takes off, eager and excited. Rachel fumbles the camera. She holds it up and starts filming. Reagan's gone.

RACHEL

Reagan? Babe?

She lowers the camera and looks all around.

RACHEL (CONT'D)

Babe?

It's quiet... still. She raises her rifle, holding it feebly with one arm.

RACHEL (CONT'D)

B--- B--- Bullseye?

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Reagan moves slowly, gun up.

REAGAN

This is it, baby-girl. Two of 'em!
Can you believe it!? They're gonna
put us on the cover of...

He spins. Rachel is gone.

REAGAN (CONT'D)

Baby?

RACHEL (O.C.)

(distant)

Reagan!? Bullseye!?

Reagan sprints toward her voice.

REAGAN

I'm comin' baby! Hang tight,
alright! I'm comin'!

He skips over obstacles.

REAGAN (CONT'D)

Baby! Rachel! You hear me!?

A RUSTLE in the brush. Rachel runs out, crashing into Reagan!

REAGAN (CONT'D)

Oh sweet Jesus thank--

MALE BIGFOOT drops down behind Rachel. His massive frame takes up all the empty space behind her. She's frozen, shaking. Slowly, Reagan takes the camera from her.

RACHEL

Reagan?

Reagan locks eyes with Bigfoot and hits record.

REAGAN

Trust me, beautiful. You're gonna
be fine.

CAMERA POV: Pan up on Rachel. She's shaking as Bigfoot
growls. Saliva drips and lands on her head.

RACHEL

Babe? What's it doin'?

Bigfoot's massive right palm wraps around Rachel's head,
cracking it like a coconut. Blood pours through his fingers.

RACHEL (CONT'D)

(dying)

Reagan?

CRUNCH! Rachel's headless corpse falls to the ground.

END POV

REAGAN

Goddamn, that was perfect...

Bigfoot throws a handful of crushed skull and brain matter.
Reagan fires but misses! His face is covered in blood.

REAGAN (CONT'D)

(re. Skull and brains)

Wha... What the fuck!

Bigfoot backhands Reagan, sending him flying 20 feet. He
bounces off the ground and SLAMS into a tree. His gun lands
far away. He'll never reach it.

Reagan grabs his chest. The blow must have cracked a few
ribs. He struggles to stand. He sees Bigfoot approaching...

BANG! Bigfoot lurches forward, grabbing its left shoulder. He
twists to see Bullseye, aiming her rifle through the trees.
He growls and charges at her.

Bullseye cocks and aims, but Bigfoot has already moved. She
looks left, right... she can't find him!

She pulls away from her scope and sees Bigfoot hustling
through the trees! He's coming right for her!

She aims, fires -- clips a tree. She cocks, fires, and hits
another tree. She can't get a clean shot and Bigfoot is
closing the gap quickly!

REAGAN (CONT'D)

Kill it, Bullseye!

Bullseye takes off running with Bigfoot hot on her tail.

EXT. FOREST - STREAM - DAY

Max and Julia run hand-in-hand through the trees. They emerge near the stream. Julia's eyes light up. She runs for the water and slurps like she's dying of thirst.

MAX
Don't drink that!

JULIA
(through mouthfuls)
It's fine! They drink it.

She slurps, slurps, slurps... and keels over.

MAX
J!

He runs and slides to her side.

MAX (CONT'D)
I'm gonna get you outa' here, okay?
We're gonna go home, but you gotta
stick with me, J. Please.

JULIA
I didn't think I'd ever see you
again.

MAX
The tracker led me right to you,
just like you said. I haven't
stopped looking at it since...

The thought is too painful to finish. He changes the subject, looking at Julia's DIRTY BACKPACK.

MAX (CONT'D)
This is new.

JULIA
I found it in their cave. We're not
the first people they've met.

MAX
Yeah, well, let's hope we're the
last. Ready?

JULIA
Yeah.

Max helps her up. They get moving again, slower this time.
Still hand-in-hand.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

ON MAX'S PHONE: They're following the GPS back the way they
came. His phone dies.

MAX

Shit.

JULIA

What?

MAX

My phone's dead and I have no idea
where the fuck we are.

JULIA

Hold on...

She kneels, takes the bag off, and searches:

JULIA (CONT'D)

I've got a... ah! Here!

She pulls out a COMPASS.

MAX

God, I love you.

JULIA

Which way did you come in?

MAX

Where we jumped. We rappelled down.

JULIA

I'm sorry, you what?

MAX

It's how this happened.

Max holds up his hands.

JULIA

You didn't wear gloves?

MAX

Can we just--

JULIA

Okay, okay, we jumped from the south end. We want to go north, back toward the road.

She starts walking around, eyes on the compass, getting her bearings. It points NORTH.

JULIA (CONT'D)

Good thing I still have these.

She pulls her CAR KEYS from her pocket. Max's face sinks.

JULIA (CONT'D)

What?

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Reagan's in rough shape. He falls and catches himself on a tree. He clutches his chest, writhing in pain. The tree **CRACKS** -- rotten from the inside. It breaks under his weight! Reagan slides down a hill and into a...

EXT. FOREST - CIRCULAR CLEARING - DAY

...clearing. Reagan struggles to his feet. He looks around. The clearing resembles a natural arena. He picks up some leaves. They're dry... brittle. They crumble in his hands and blow away. A sly smile stretches across his face.

SERIES OF SHOTS:

-- Reagan walks around the perimeter of the clearing, forming A WALL OF DRY LEAVES like a large circle.

-- Reagan kicks a small gap in the wall.

-- Reagan mounts the CAMERA in a tree with a good view of the clearing. It's about 20 feet away.

-- Reagan places a FLARE in the middle of the circle.

-- CAMERA POV: Reagan fiddling. We see the clearing behind him. He presses record.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Max and Julia walk and talk.

MAX

It's like he couldn't be bothered.
Then that thing killed one of his
men, and that was it. He called off
the search. God, J, I... I can't
even begin to imagine...

Julia squeezes her eyes, thinking about her ordeal.

JULIA

It's easy to think you know how to
handle yourself, but then it
happens and... all that just...
I've never been so scared.

MAX

Your alive. That's all that
matters.

Max looks at Julia's belly. She doesn't notice.

JULIA

They never hurt me. They... fed me,
even. It was like... It was almost
like...

MAX

It was almost like they knew...

Julia looks up at him.

MAX (CONT'D)

...that we're gonna be parents.

Julia looks off, ashamed:

JULIA

I was going to tell you. I just...
I wasn't ready and... I didn't know
how you'd react--

Max grabs her and hugs her tight.

MAX

Jesus, J. We're gonna be parents!

He pulls back and looks her in the eyes.

MAX (CONT'D)

But first we gotta' get the fuck
outa' here.

JULIA

Who are you?

MAX

The dork who's desperate to marry
you.

A CRACK in the forest steals their attention. They spin
around to see Bullseye standing by the trees.

MAX (CONT'D)

Oh, thank god.

Bullseye scampers down to join them.

MAX (CONT'D)

(introducing them)

Julia, Bullseye. Bullseye, Julia.

Julia awkwardly extends her hand for a shake.

JULIA

Bullseye... thank you.

Bullseye ignores her and keeps moving, leaving Julia to
awkwardly lower her hand.

MAX

Where's Rachel? Where's--

Bullseye stops, turns, and shakes her head. Max deflates.

BULLSEYE

Reagan was alive when it turned on
me.

JULIA

He's chasing you?

BULLSEYE

I lost it.

JULIA

No, you don't understand. You don't
"lose it."

BULLSEYE

Trust me. I lost it.

Julia frantically examines the forest and trees.

JULIA

That doesn't mean--

About 200 feet away, perched in a tree, one arm hanging from
a branch, she locks eyes with Bigfoot!

JULIA (CONT'D)

--he lost you.

Bullseye spins and sees Bigfoot moving. She tracks it in the trees and FIRES, HITTING BIGFOOT IN THE TORSO! It falls from the trees and CRASHES ON THE GROUND!

Max grabs Bullseye and pulls her away.

MAX

Nice shot! Now, come on!

All three take off, full speed.

Max trips and falls. His drone comes off. He runs several feet before realizing. He turns back, but Julia grabs him:

JULIA

Leave it! I'll buy you a new one!

They keep running.

All is still... then... a moment later... those hulking, hairy legs storm through, crushing Max's drone like an ant!

EXT. FOREST - CIRCULAR CLEARING - DAY

Reagan is loading his rifle when he hears DISTANT GUNSHOTS.

EXT. FOREST - WIDER STREAM - DAY

Max, Julia, and Bullseye skip into a stream -- about 30 feet wide. The thigh-deep water slows them down.

Julia makes it across first. She turns to help Max while looking back the way they came. The coast is clear.

JULIA

Come on! I've got you!

Max stumbles and falls in the water. He starts drifting away!

JULIA (CONT'D)

Max!

She dives in and grabs him. They regain their footing and wade to the other side. They turn to see Bigfoot standing across the stream, staring, and breathing heavily.

Bullseye stays in the water, her rifle aimed at Bigfoot.

MAX
What are you doing?!

BULLSEYE
We can't outrun it. It is like a bear...

She cocks her rifle:

BULLSEYE (CONT'D)
(in Spanish)
...the kind you can't play dead with.

Bullseye and Bigfoot stare each other down, daring the other to flinch.

MAX
Don't be stupid! How many times have you shot that thing?!

Julia tugs at him to keep running.

JULIA
Max, let's go!

Max pulls away, not wanting to leave Bullseye.

MAX
Bullseye, come on!

Julia looks between them and blurts out:

JULIA
Put your gun down!

Bullseye laughs at the idea. Her aim hardens.

JULIA (CONT'D)
Their cave was full of broken weapons! He doesn't like them!

REAGAN (O.C.)
(over Bullseye's Radio)
Hold 'em there, Bullseye.

ZOOM TO Reagan about 100 yards downstream. He's knelt behind a rock, aiming his rifle with Bigfoot in his sights.

REAGAN (CONT'D)
(into Radio)
I've got a special somethin' planned for our friend here.

BACK ON Bullseye. She moves one hand to talk into her radio.

BULLSEYE
 (into radio)
 I have the shot.

REAGAN (O.C.)
 (over radio)
 It killed my baby girl. This
 sumbitch is mine, and he's goin'
 out in a blaze of fuckin' glory.

Reagan FIRES! Bullseye and Bigfoot look to see him standing by the water. Reagan STRIKES A FLARE and waves it.

REAGAN (CONT'D)
 Follow me, you stinkin' bi-pedite!

Bigfoot **SCREAMS** and lunges in Reagan's direction. Reagan tosses the flare in the water, dousing it. Then, he takes off running and shooting into the woods.

BULLSEYE
 (into her radio)
 What are you doing!?!... Reagan!
 (in Spanish)
Goddamn suicidal son of a bitch!

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Reagan limps and stumbles through the trees.

REAGAN
 (calling back)
 Heard stories you were faster than
 that!

He FIRES twice into the air as he runs.

EXT. FOREST - CIRCULAR CLEARING - DAY

Reagan slides through the short WALL OF LEAVES. He hustles to the center, grabs the flare, and spins.

Bigfoot swings off a branch and lands hard in the circle. His chest pulsates with each breath. He bares his teeth and growls at Reagan, never breaking eye contact.

REAGAN
 Just you and me now.

Reagan strikes the flare. He throws it toward the perimeter, IGNITING THE CIRCLE OF DRY LEAVES.

We follow the flames as they track around the arena, trapping Bigfoot and Reagan inside, albeit for the small gap Reagan left behind him.

Bigfoot watches the fire surround them. He growls at Reagan and charges forward!

Reagan FIRES, striking Bigfoot in the left hip. It hobbles but keeps coming. Reagan FIRES again, striking Bigfoot in the left breast. It gets closer... CLOSER... **CLOSER!**

REAGAN (CONT'D)

Die you hairy--

CAMERA POV: Bigfoot WHACKS the gun from Reagan's hands and swats him across the circle and toward the fire.

END POV.

Reagan strikes another flare and rolls over just as Bigfoot is about to pummel him. He waves it, forcing Bigfoot back.

REAGAN (CONT'D)

'Fraid of a little burn, huh?!

Reagan stands, taunting Bigfoot with the flare. The beast growls, swipes, and snarls, but never gets closer.

REAGAN (CONT'D)

You ain't meant for this world. You can't even stand man's second greatest invention.

Reagan backpedals toward his rifle. He kneels and picks it up, keeping Bigfoot at bay with the flare.

REAGAN (CONT'D)

Now, let me in-tro-duce you to man's first greatest invention.

Reagan throws the flare at Bigfoot's feet. It backs away, looks up and shows its angry teeth. Reagan takes aim:

REAGAN (CONT'D)

The Remmy 700.

Reagan fires with more confidence than he ever has before...

***Click*.**

REAGAN (CONT'D)

Well goddamn...

Bigfoot pounds Reagan to the ground with a powerful overhead swing, snapping his back like a toothpick. Bigfoot grabs Reagan's leg and flings him across the circle.

Reagan, bloody and crippled, tries to push himself up. He looks left to see Bigfoot picking up his rifle. Bigfoot crushes it in his hands, then glares at Reagan.

It grabs him, hoists him like a child, and stares deeply into Reagan's eyes.

REAGAN (CONT'D)

You think you're at the top of the
food chain--

Bigfoot opens wide and bites off Reagan's face! Half his brain falls out and SPLATS on the ground. His limp body falls and leaks blood. Skull fragments tumble from Bigfoot's mouth.

EXT. FOREST - CIRCULAR CLEARING - DAY

CAMERA POV: The fire is spreading. We can see Bigfoot standing across the clearing, still chewing. Suddenly, the camera SHAKES... somebody is grabbing it.

CUT TO BLACK

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Max stares as Bullseye loads her rifle, words caught in his throat... a heavy thought on his mind.

MAX

Hey--

Bullseye rolls her eyes toward him.

MAX (CONT'D)

Did you know?

Bullseye ignores him as she loads the last bullet.

MAX (CONT'D)

Did you know that thing was out
here?

Bullseye cocks her rifle -- an answer without words.

MAX (CONT'D)

Mother fucker! I knew there was something wrong with you people!

Bullseye stands and glares at him.

JULIA

(trying to calm him)

Max.

MAX

We could have brought backup! We could have brought bigger guns and... and... and more equipment!

Julia looks down at Max's hands. His bandages are wet and falling off. She can see his bloody burns.

JULIA

Max, your hands.

Max ignores her, staying on Bullseye:

MAX

But no! You wanted to find it yourselves. And for what? Subscribers? Fucking ad revenue!?

BULLSEYE

This is America... no?

MAX

You'll never kill it... That thing is gonna rip you to pieces.

Bullseye stands stoic.

BULLSEYE

Stay with me or go on your own.

Julia grabs Max, forcing him to look at her.

JULIA

Max. Your hands.

Max looks down at his bloody hands. Bullseye walks over, grabs his wrists, and examines his palms.

BULLSEYE

They will get infected.

She grunts, frustrated, then walks past them in the opposite direction. They lose her through the trees.

SHERIFF DIXX (CONT'D)

I tried to warn you 'bout goin'
near my forest.

JULIA

Your forest?

SHERIFF DIXX

My county, my forest. You must be
the girlfriend.

JULIA

That makes you the asshole sheriff
who wanted to let me die!

SHERIFF DIXX

Sweetheart, more people have died
on your behalf than needed.

(to Bullseye)

I found your greasy camera friend.
Found Reagan and Rachel too... at
least what's left of 'em.

Dixx tosses Kubrick's BURNT CAMERA at Bullseye's feet.

SHERIFF DIXX (CONT'D)

(re. Camera)

It's a little well done, but I
figure you might want it.

Bullseye snarls, never lowering her gun.

MAX

(to Sheriff Dixx)

We shouldn't be wasting time. You
have no idea what's out here!

SHERIFF DIXX

Boy, you think I don't know what
lives in my backyard?!

MAX

Are we the only people who didn't
know about this thing?!

SHERIFF DIXX

I told you to stay put.

MAX

It's been killing people, and
you're just letting it live here?!

SHERIFF DIXX

He wasn't killin' nobody... 'least nobody that didn't belong. Y'all come in here with your guns and your fancy gear. You think you're at the top of the food chain? You ain't nowhere near it.

Bullseye lowers her weapon and starts searching the camp. Dixx follows her, shotgun aimed.

BULLSEYE

Shoot. Tell it where we are.

Dixx grunts and lowers his gun. Bullseye finds bandages and the First Aid Kit.

BULLSEYE (CONT'D)

(to Max)

Go north. Stay ahead of the fire.

SHERIFF DIXX

You'll never make it. All that dry brush plus a northwestern wind, it'll be on you before you see it comin'.

MAX

Then we're stuck in here.

SHERIFF DIXX

It's lookin' so, son.

EXT. FOREST - CAMP - DAY

Bullseye wraps Max's left hand as he ejects the SD card from Kubrick's burnt camera. He shows it to Julia.

MAX

It's probably good to have, right?
Show people what's in here?
(loudly toward Dixx)
Maybe warn them.

Dixx, who's keeping watch by the trees, hears him clearly.

SHERIFF DIXX

I warned you plenty.
(sniffing)
Let's go. Fire's gettin' closer.

BULLSEYE

Almost done.

Max slips the SD card in his pocket as Bullseye secures the final bandage. Dixx leans over and looks at Max's hands.

SHERIFF DIXX

How'd it happen?

MAX

The ropes. Whatever you shot up top, I lost my grip and burned my hands when I grabbed back...

Max's eyes pop open:

MAX (CONT'D)

The ropes! We can go back up! They're south, right? Away from the fire?

BULLSEYE

Your hands. You will never make it.

He looks at Julia.

MAX

But you guys can.

JULIA

What? No!

MAX

(between Dixx and Julia)
You two go first. When you get to the top, call down then I'll follow. I'll try my best, but...

BULLSEYE

They could pull you.

JULIA

No! Out of the fucking question! Max, I know you're trying but please just think for a second.

MAX

It's our only way out until the fire dies, and we don't know how long that'll be.

JULIA

Maybe the fire trapped him on the other side.

Bullseye stands, staring at the trees.

BULLSEYE

Or maybe it trapped him in here
with us.

All stand to see Bigfoot lurking about 100 yards away.
Bullseye raises her rifle, but Sheriff Dixx forces it down,
signaling the group to be quiet and get low.

SHERIFF DIXX

(sniffing)

The smoke. It's all he can smell.

They watch Bigfoot stomp through the trees, looking for them.

SHERIFF DIXX (CONT'D)

Wait for it to go.

Bigfoot vanishes behind thicker trees.

SHERIFF DIXX (CONT'D)

Move. Quiet as a tumbleweed.

Max, Julia, and Dixx leave. Bullseye stays behind, eyes
locked onto where Bigfoot vanished. Max comes back.

MAX

Come on. It's gone.

EXT. FOREST - CLEARING WHERE JULIA FELL - DAY

A thin layer of smoke hovers over the clearing. Bullseye
steps out of the trees, followed by Max and Julia with Dixx
right behind them.

Bullseye looks up. The wind blows to their left. Max can tell
she's concerned.

MAX

What?

BULLSEYE

The wind. It's changing. Keep
moving.

Julia examines the area, clearly traumatized by it.

MAX

(consoling her)

Hey, hey. Don't think about it.
Just a little further, and we're
out of here. All of us.

JULIA
You're sure you can make it?

Max stares at her.

MAX
I promise.

JULIA
Good, because I'm not leaving
without you.

Dixx brushes passed them.

SHERIFF DIXX
Keep movin'. You heard her. Wind's
changin' course.

Dixx walks into the trees behind Bullseye. Max and Julia
follow after a moment.

PAN BACK into the forest. **Something** can see Max and Julia
leaving the clearing. **heavy breaths... getting louder....
LOUDER.... LOUDER!*

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Bullseye leads. Max and Julia are in the middle. Dixx watches
their rear. They hear a SQUEAL from deep in the woods.
Bullseye and Dixx take aim.

BULLSEYE
Maybe an animal. Afraid of the
fire.

Dixx lowers his weapon. The hair on his arm stands up. He can
tell **something** is looking at him.

He pans right, first his eyes, then his head. 50 yards away --
those soulless yellow orbs stare back at him.

SHERIFF DIXX
(softly)
Go.

BULLSEYE
Where is it?

SHERIFF DIXX
Don't panic. Don't run. Just go.

Bullseye, Max, and Julia see Bigfoot. He seems more
interested in Dixx.

SHERIFF DIXX (CONT'D)
It's me he wants. I'll keep him
busy as long as I can.

MAX
It'll kill you.

SHERIFF DIXX
I said go. This is between me and
him. Always has been.

Max, Julia, and Bullseye back away, keeping their eyes on
Bigfoot, who's still fixed on Dixx. After a few steps, they
turn and walk quickly, leaving Dixx alone.

SHERIFF DIXX (CONT'D)
He never did nothin' to you.

Bigfoot huffs and steps forward.

SHERIFF DIXX (CONT'D)
He was happy, even after Gin died.

Dixx slides the backpack off his shoulder.

SHERIFF DIXX (CONT'D)
I wasn't a good husband. And I know
I was a shit father, but that boy's
mother meant the world to him, and
I'd do anything to fill that pit in
his heart.

Bigfoot snarls and steps. Dixx signals, "easy now."

SHERIFF DIXX (CONT'D)
He finally came 'round. Three
years, and he finally called. Said,
"Hey, Pa, you still got them 'ole
rifles." I should have said "no."

Dixx kneels, slowly unzipping the bag.

SHERIFF DIXX (CONT'D)
I should have said I sold them or I
was busy or he was better off
chasin' jack rabbits then spendin'
another day with me. But I didn't.

Dixx and Bigfoot lock eyes. *Can it understand him?*

SHERIFF DIXX (CONT'D)
I said, "hell yes I do," and it was
the best I'd felt in years. The
happiest day of my life...
(MORE)

SHERIFF DIXX (CONT'D)
the same day I met you. The same
day you took everything from me.

Bigfoot walks closer, grunting, salivating.

SHERIFF DIXX (CONT'D)
So I found it fair that I come and
take everythin' from you. Back
then, I thought that meant your
life. I didn't know we were so...
similar.

Bigfoot snarls and grunts louder.

SHERIFF DIXX (CONT'D)
I say hello to him every day. Sits
right on my table. But the sight of
him... it got me thinkin'...

Dixx lowers the gun and puts his hands up as a sign of peace.
He removes a large, cloth-covered object from his bag.

Bigfoot glares as Dixx places the object on the ground. He
rips the cloth away, revealing the GIANT SKULL.

Bigfoot lights up with rage. It growls and screams and flails
in anger. Dixx stands, hands up, and backs away slowly.

SHERIFF DIXX (CONT'D)
Let's end this, this thing we've
got. Take him, never leave these
woods again, and I promise, I'll
hold up my end. This is your home.
I'll make sure it stays that way.

Bigfoot approaches as Dixx backs away. It arrives at the
skull, kneels down, and picks it up.

Bigfoot looks toward Dixx. Its eyes light up. Its lips curl,
showing its teeth. Dixx realizes the beast is looking behind
him! He turns to see Bullseye, aiming her rifle!

SHERIFF DIXX (CONT'D)
No!

Bullseye FIRES. Bigfoot lunges into the woods, evading the
bullet. The skull shatters on the ground!

SHERIFF DIXX (CONT'D)
What are you doing!

BULLSEYE
It took everything from me, too.

EXT. FOREST - BOTTOM OF MOUNTAIN - DAY

Max and Julia arrive to find the harnesses on the ground.

MAX

Come on! Come on! You first.

He helps Julia into her harness. BANG! A gunshot echoes.
BANG! Max and Julia work faster.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Bullseye races through the trees. Dixx is hot on her tail.

SHERIFF DIXX

Stop, goddamnit!

Dixx slows down, struggling to keep up with her.

He aims his rifle! He has Bullseye in his sights. BAM!
Bigfoot tackles her like a linebacker!

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Bullseye rolls, tumbles, and stops at the bottom of a tree.
She tries hoisting herself up, but she's hurt badly. Her
pants are torn and her leg is bleeding.

THUD! THUD! THUD! Bigfoot runs full speed, shoulder lowered.

Bullseye dodges at the last moment! Bigfoot BLASTS THROUGH
THE TREE, RENDERING IT TO SPLINTERS!

Bullseye limps away, using her rifle like a crutch. She
collapses under the pain and rolls over. Bigfoot is standing
30 feet away, grilling her, teeth exposed...

Bullseye climbs to her feet. She looks into Bigfoot's eyes
and lets out a blood-curdling WAR CRY!

Bigfoot **ROOOOAAAAAARS** back! Bullseye pulls up her rifle.
She's shaking. She can't aim. She fires but misses. The
recoil forces her to step back on her bad leg.

BULLSEYE

Ahhhhhhh!

She fights the pain. She aims, shaking and swaying. She fires
and grazes Bigfoot's arm. She cocks, aims, FIRES, but misses.

She cocks, aims, *CLICK*. Bullseye screams and throws her gun
away. She draws her hunting knife, gripping it tightly.

BULLSEYE (CONT'D)
 (in Spanish)
Come on!

Bigfoot steps toward her. She backpedals, egging it on:

BULLSEYE (CONT'D)
 (in Spanish)
COME ON!

Bigfoot reaches for her. Bullseye slashes and cuts its palm, causing it to recoil in pain. She goes on the attack, slashing and cutting Bigfoot's arm.

Bigfoot growls and SWINGS, swatting Bullseye into a tree!

She hits hard and rolls over, gripping her knife as Bigfoot stomps toward her. It grabs her ankle and drags her away from the tree. It looms over her, looking into her eyes.

BULLSEYE (CONT'D)
 (in Spanish)
I am not afraid to die.

Bullseye SCREAMS and DRIVES HER KNIFE INTO THE SIDE OF BIGFOOTS CALF! It wails, raises its mighty foot, and CRUSHES Bullseye's chest! It's like stepping on a rotten pumpkin.

SNIPER SCOPE POV: Bigfoot roars over Bullseye's body.

Dixx pulls back, the sight making him slightly sick.

EXT. FOREST - BOTTOM OF MOUNTAIN - DAY

Max fastens his harness.

MAX
 Ready?

JULIA
 Ready.

She grabs the rope and looks up at the mountain.

MAX
 One hand over the other. Feet on
 the mountain--

Julia starts climbing like a pro...

MAX (CONT'D)
 (muttering)
 Don't look down.

Max grabs his rope. It stings his palms.

He tightens his grip and fights the pain. One hand over the other, he PULLS himself up and starts climbing. Every inch leaves a trail of blood on the rope.

They climb... and climb... and climb...

PAN BACK to see the whole mountain. Julia emerges from the trees, just 900 more feet to go.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Dixx moves swiftly. He arrives at the spot where the Skull broke. He kneels to inspect the shards.

They're covered in a thin layer of soot. He brushes some off with his thumb, then sniffs the air and squints through the trees. The fire is getting closer.

EXT. MOUNTAIN - DAY

Julia is halfway up. She looks down at Max, who's 100 feet below her. She sees the fire getting closer.

JULIA

You good down there?

On Max, his face covered in pain.

MAX

I'm fine! Keep going!

He slips but catches himself, his body tightening.

JULIA

I didn't tell you sooner because I wasn't sure!

MAX

About what?!

JULIA

About us! I... I didn't know if--

MAX

J, is now really the best time!?

JULIA

Shut up and listen! You were always working! Always stuck inside!

(MORE)

JULIA (CONT'D)

And when you weren't, your eyes
were glued to that fucking drone!
But now look at you! You risked
everything for us! I've never been
so sure about anything in my life!

MAX

I really miss that drone right now!

JULIA

Then climb! If I make it, you make
it. I love you so fucking much!

Max grips the rope and scrunches his face--

MAX

I love you too!

He starts climbing, hand over hand, pain with each inch.

EXT. SCATT'S CRAG RIDGE - DAY

Smoke rises in the distance. The fire snaps and cracks.
Then... JULIA'S HAND grips the edge of the cliff.

She hoists herself up... arms... torso... legs... She rolls
to safety and breathes heavily, her eyes fixed on the sky.

She unclips from her rope, scrambles toward the ledge, and
looks over. Max has 100 feet left to climb.

JULIA

Keep going!

Max doesn't have an ounce of energy left. His hands and arms
are covered in blood.

MAX

I... J... J, I don't think I can.

JULIA

Bullshit!

Max slips and starts falling!

JULIA (CONT'D)

Max!

He grips the rope and wails:

MAX

AAAAAARRGGGHHHH!

JULIA
Don't let go!

She looks around, then grabs the rope. She tugs on it. With her eyes, she follows it toward the stake. She thinks...

JULIA (CONT'D)
(yelling down)
I have an idea!

Julia grabs the stake and rips it out of the ground! She holds tight as the weight pulls her forward. Her feet slide, but she catches herself. She walks backward, pulling.

Max feels himself rise.

JULIA (CONT'D)
Help me out! Use your feet!

Max plants his feet on the mountain and walks.

Julia walks backward as she pulls... one step... two steps... three! Her face turns beat red, her arms burn, the veins in her neck protrude. She yells as loud as she can!

One... last... pulllll! Max GRABS the ledge! Julia drops the rope and rushes to help him. She hoists him up and over to safety. He looks horrible, dirty, bloody. She kisses him.

MAX
Promised you, didn't I?

Julia smiles and undoes his harness. When she does, the rope starts sliding, the STAKE COMES FLYING TOWARD THEM!

Julia grabs Max and hoists him to his feet. The stake WHIPS by and flies over the mountain.

MAX (CONT'D)
Thanks. Now, put that on.

She looks to see the SINGLE PARACHUTE PACK.

JULIA
What for?

MAX
It'll take hours to get back on foot, and the fire is pushing that thing this way. Go, fly across and get help. I'll be fine.

JULIA

I am not leaving you! If I make it,
you make it.

Max takes her hands and looks down at her belly.

MAX

And if we stay here, none of us
make it.

Julia eyes the parachute bag. She walks over and starts putting it on, eyes on Max the whole time. She tightens this, checks that. She looks over the cliff and toward the fire.

MAX (CONT'D)

It'll be okay.

SHERIFF DIXX (O.C.)

(faintly)

Hey! A little help down here!

Max and Julia look over the cliff. They can't see Dixx, but the other rope is tugging.

EXT. SCATT'S CRAG RIDGE - DAY

Julia pulls the rope. Max uses his forearms to help.

MAX

Almost there!

The SHOTGUN flies up. Dixx grabs the ledge and pulls himself to safety. His rifle is draped across his back.

Max and Julia help him up. He grabs the shotgun and looks at the parachute bag on Julia's back.

SHERIFF DIXX

Goin' somewhere?

MAX

She's going for help. You and I can
walk down.

SHERIFF DIXX

You're lookin' at help, son. I gave
my men strict orders. Nobody sets
foot in these woods.

MAX

What about the fire?

SHERIFF DIXX
 Fire'll burn out, always does, and
 with it any trace of you or
 anything else.

MAX
 After all this, you're still hell
 bent on hiding some secret?

SHERIFF DIXX
 Word gets out, I'll have every
 asshole with a camera out lookin'
 for him. Those are a lotta dead
 bodies, son, and I'm sick 'ah
 playin' clean up.

MAX
 Then kill it.

SHERIFF DIXX
 Easier said than done.

Sheriff Dixx TURNS THE SHOTGUN ON MAX AND JULIA!

MAX
 Hey!

Max steps in front of her.

MAX (CONT'D)
 What's wrong with you?! She's
 pregnant!?

SHERIFF DIXX
 There's no leavin' this mountain,
 Denver. Not with what you've seen.

JULIA
 We won't tell anyone!

SHERIFF DIXX
 Believe me, sweetheart, I'm gonna'
 make sure of that.

MAX
 Jump, J.

JULIA
 I'm not leaving you!

SHERIFF DIXX
 Jump and I'll blow you outa the
 sky.

Dixx has them backed up to the cliff's edge. Max looks beyond him, eyes wide like he's scared of something...

MAX

Behind you.

Dixx turns his head slowly, gun still on Max and Julia. He talks as if Bigfoot is standing right behind him:

SHERIFF DIXX

(as he turns)

Can't you see I'm doing you a favor?

There's nothing there. Max charges Dixx and grabs the gun! They wrestle over it. Dixx FIRES into the air!

JULIA

Max!

MAX

Go! Jump!

SHERIFF DIXX

Let go of the damn gun, boy!

BANG! They wrestle. Dixx's RAPPEL ROPE slides through his harness and over the cliff. The STAKE gets closer...

Max's bloody hands make it hard to keep his grip. He starts slipping. Dixx HEAD BUTTS him:

JULIA

Max!

Max holds on. He KICKS Dixx in the knee, causing him to buckle. Max overpowers Dixx and climbs on top. BANG!

Their weight STOPS THE SLIDING ROPE.

Dixx bites Max's hand, forcing him to lose his grip.

MAX

Ahhhh!

He grabs back, but accidentally touches the hot barrel.

MAX (CONT'D)

FUCK!

Max pulls his hand back. Dixx turns the barrel on him, but Max rolls out of the way.

Dixx climbs on top and presses the barrel into Max's throat, choking him. The rope starts moving again.

JULIA
Get off of him!

Julia charges and grabs Dixx! She tries ripping him off, but she's exhausted from the climb. Dixx whips his head back and CRACKS HER IN THE MOUTH! Julia falls off, clenching her face.

MAX
(struggling)
You... son of a... bitch!

Julia notices the rope. She eyes the STAKE.

SHERIFF DIXX
I told you to stay outa' my goddamn forest! Now you're gonna die up here, just like everybody else!

MAX
(struggling)
Julia! Jump!

Julia grabs the rope and starts pulling. Dixx doesn't notice, but the stake is getting closer to him and Max.

SHERIFF DIXX
This is what happens--

The stake inches closer...

SHERIFF DIXX (CONT'D)
--when people don't follow--

Max reaches for anything, grabbing at dirt! The stake is inches from his hand...

SHERIFF DIXX (CONT'D)
My God. Damn. Directions!

Max GRABS the stake and PLUNGES it into Dixx's throat! Blood squirts like a fountain as the Sheriff slides off. He drops his gun and grips his neck.

Max breathes heavily. He's covered in blood. He looks between the stake and Dixx. He drops it. He's shaking. He backpedals away as Dixx gurgles and dies. Max stares down at the blood on his hands -- Dixx's mixing with his.

Julia runs to his side. Max is as white as a ghost.

JULIA

Hey, look at me. It's okay. He...
he would have killed us. He would
have killed our baby.

They hear a LOW GROWL behind them. Both turn to see Bigfoot standing there, eyeing them!

Max grabs the shotgun and aims at Bigfoot. He sees Bullseye's knife sticking out of Bigfoot's calf.

MAX

No...

Bigfoot growls and steps closer. Max yells and growls back:

MAX (CONT'D)

AAAARGGGGHHHHH!

Julia grabs the barrel and forces Max to lower the gun.

JULIA

Every person he's ever met has
tried to kill him.

Max looks between her and Bigfoot, confused:

MAX

J... it... he... it killed all of
them!

JULIA

But he never hurt me.

Bigfoot steps forward. Max raises the gun. Julia lowers it.

JULIA (CONT'D)

Trust me.

Max sighs and tosses the gun away. Both he and Julia stare at Bigfoot, who's looking between them, the gun, and Dixx.

It walks forward. Max and Julia step back. Its heavy steps rattle the ground.

MAX

Jump J. Please, just jump.

They're inches from the cliff's edge. Bigfoot gets closer, never taking its eyes off them...

It stops. Bigfoot grabs Dixx's leg, turns away, and heads into the forest, dragging Dixx's body like a child drags a blanket. Soon, there's nothing left but a trail of blood and 1,000 feet of rope snaking into the trees.

Julia walks forward, as if she's going after it.

MAX (CONT'D)

Where are you going?

JULIA

Run, jump, count to three and pull.

MAX

What?

JULIA

Run, jump, count to three and pull!

MAX

J?

JULIA

I hope you packed it right.

Julia spins on a dime and tackles Max off the cliff! They free fall, holding onto each other for dear life! Julia PULLS the string! The parachute opens and whooshes them upward! Max slips and loses his grip!

JULIA (CONT'D)

Max!

He clings onto her legs.

MAX

I'm alright!

He looks down at the burning forest as they soar overhead.

EXT. FIELD - DAY

Julia and Max land in a heap of parachute. She gets to her feet first. She can't find him.

JULIA

Max?! Max!

She pulls the parachute off his body and rolls him over.

MAX

You said I'd never have to do that again.

Julia laughs and helps him up. They face the flaming forest, covered in blood and dirt and sweat.

Max reaches in his pocket, pulls out the RING BOX, and opens it. Julia takes the ring and puts it on.

MAX (CONT'D)

So... that's a yes?

She smiles, grabs him, and holds him tight. They kiss, slowly pull apart, and walk away, hand-in-hand.

MAX (CONT'D)

Wait.

Max reaches in his other pocket and pulls out the SD CARD. He looks between it and Julia. She shakes her head. Max snaps it in half and throws the pieces into the field.

ON SD CARD PIECES: It lands in the grass -- Max and Julia walk away in the BG, talking:

MAX (O.C.) (CONT'D)

We should take that Japan trip.

JULIA (O.C.)

What made you think of that?

MAX (O.C.)

Just something someone said. "Quit thinkin' and just damn do it."

JULIA (O.C.)

One of your new friends?

MAX (O.C.)

Yeah... you could say that.

EXT. FIELD - DAY - NOT LONG AFTER

A metal detector sweeps the field. It pings on something. A MAN (40s) reaches down and picks up the SD Card pieces.

PAN BACK as the man shrugs and keeps scanning. Scatt's Crag Forest comes into frame. Far in the distance, atop the ridge, **something** moves away from the edge and walks into the woods.

CUT TO BLACK

THE END