

JAGGED

by
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Story by
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FADE IN:

EXT. PARK - DAY

ALEX TREVALIEN, an undernourished-looking kid of about 17, lies on the ground defending himself from kicks from unseen assailants around him. Finally, the kicks cease.

BRAD ROCKER, a well-built kid of about 18, leans in to him as the attackers' feet disperse. An expensive WATCH gleams on his wrist.

BRAD

Let's go over this again. I want the homework assignment. You're going to give it to me.

Alex groans and rolls over.

BRAD

Do you need more persuasion?

ALEX

No.

Alex rises to his knees. He rifles through his backpack.

ALEX

Hang on, Brad.

He pulls out a sheet of paper and hands it to Brad. Brad scans it over. He taps it with a smile.

BRAD

That's what I like to see. You know, that teacher just doesn't seem to understand that I'm too important to be stuck at home doing this crap.

Alex gets to his feet.

ALEX

If you didn't talk through class, you'd get it done like I do.

Brad reaches over and grabs Alex's collar.

BRAD

What did you say?

ALEX

Be sure and put it in my mailbox
when you're done.

BRAD

That's what I thought.

Brad folds the paper and puts it in his pocket. Alex walks
away from him. Brad stops him.

BRAD

Hey, you got any stuff on you?

ALEX

What are you? Nuts? I can't take
that to school.

BRAD

Need a little relaxation.

Alex rolls his eyes and makes to walk away. Brad stops him.

BRAD

Hey, you're not sore over that
whole beating thing, are you? I got
a reputation to uphold, and I can't
be seen making nice with someone
like you.

Alex sighs.

ALEX

That wasn't a problem before you
were popular.

BRAD

Well, life changes.

ALEX

When you bring my homework back,
bring the cash. You know how much.

BRAD

My hero again. Call you later.

Alex looks at him, surprised.

ALEX

You still have my number?

BRAD

Student Directory.

ALEX

Oh, I see.

Brad leaves. Alex limps his way over to a park bench and sits. He exhales a sigh of relief.

LAURA (O.S.)

Hey.

Alex whips around to find LAURA DURHAM, a girl of about 17, standing behind him.

ALEX

Hey.

Laura moves around Alex and sits.

LAURA

I saw what happened.

ALEX

Saw? Everything?

LAURA

Brad Rocker's really stuck on himself. I can't stand him. Why was he beating you up?

ALEX

Homework. Brad refuses to do it. I'm not one to cheat, but after some of his persuasion, I hand it over. It's hard when the odds are stacked against you all the time. But hey, when I give in at least I get home in one piece.

LAURA

Someone really needs to teach him a lesson, in my opinion. I actually see him quite a bit. I'm in cheerleading with his girlfriend, Jenna.

ALEX

His public girlfriend, you mean.

LAURA

True. She's really nice. He doesn't deserve her.

ALEX

So what about you? Do you have first hand experience with Brad?

LAURA

Oh God, no! I know some people who have regretted it, though.

Alex nods. She looks at him.

LAURA

I've seen you before at school.

ALEX

You have?

LAURA

Sure. You're one of the smart ones. I'm sorry. Laura Durham.

She puts out her hand. He shakes it.

ALEX

Alex Trevalien. And I've seen you too. Who doesn't know Laura Durham?

Their hands hang in mid-air. They stare into each others' eyes.

LAURA

So, do you walk this way often?

ALEX

Uh, yeah. Mostly. I live close to here. You?

LAURA

I do sometimes.

ALEX

Maybe meet here on this bench tomorrow?

LAURA

Are you asking me out?

ALEX

Oh no, I'd be too frightened to ask you out.

Laura laughs.

ALEX
I said that out loud, didn't I?

Laura laughs again. She nods.

EXT. ALEX'S HOUSE - DAY

Alex walks down a sidewalk towards his house. Sitting on the porch is COLIN REED, 16, who is dressed very darkly, waiting for Alex. Colin looks up.

COLIN
Hey, Alex.

ALEX
Colin. Am I really that late?

COLIN
No, I just didn't have anything better to do, so I thought I'd wait.

ALEX
What do we need to cover today?

COLIN
I don't care, really. Just help me pass this grade.

ALEX
I'll do what I can, but that won't be much if I don't know where you're having trouble.

COLIN
Pre-Algebra, I guess.

ALEX
Come on inside.

Alex opens the door and walks in. Colin follows.

INT. ALEX'S ROOM - DAY

Alex's room is sparsely decorated with mostly books and electronic stuff. A video camera sits on its side near his bed. Both guys have books open in front of them.

COLIN

I just can't get my head used to this. 'X' is a letter, not a number.

ALEX

You have to figure out what X is.

COLIN

Come on, when are we ever going to use this stuff?

ALEX

My dad says he uses it all the time.

COLIN

Your dad is an accountant. That just sounds...math-ish.

Colin closes the book and drops it on the floor.

COLIN

I'm done with this for now. My head is hurting.

ALEX

That's fine. I wanted to talk to you anyway.

COLIN

Oh, I knew this was coming.

ALEX

What? You never minded.

COLIN

No, but you were acting like something was bothering you the whole time I was here. I'll bet I didn't even learn anything.

ALEX

Now, I have no control over whether you learn or not.

COLIN

What's bothering you?

ALEX

Brad is bothering me.

COLIN

He still beating you up over the homework?

ALEX

Well, yeah. But if you say don't give it to him one more time, I'll kick your ass.

COLIN

No, clearly that's not an option.

Colin leans back and closes his eyes for a moment. He opens them back up and leans forward.

COLIN

I think I really don't care about this enough to want to think about it.

ALEX

Come on. That was the deal. My book smarts for your life smarts. I'm a social idiot. I don't know how to handle someone like Brad. We were friends before he got into football. He was normal then.

COLIN

Look, it's simple. If you don't want him to take your homework, do the next assignment wrong. Or at least the one you give him. Act like the beatings are fun. Maybe you're secretly a masochist.

ALEX

Masso-what?

COLIN

Oh, come on dictionary boy. Surely, you know what a masochist is.

ALEX

No, it's never come up.

COLIN

A masochist is someone who likes to feel pain. They sometimes inflict pain on themselves. The opposite is a sadist. Sadists like inflicting pain on other people. Gets them off and stuff.

(MORE)

COLIN (cont'd)
If you like giving pain and
receiving pain, then you're a sado-
masochist.

ALEX
Weird.

COLIN
Not really. We all tend to be one
or the other. Either we torture
others or we torture ourselves.
Brad is obviously sadistic. He gets
off on hurting other people, but
doesn't want to take it himself.

ALEX
Yeah, no kidding. I heard he's had
almost every girl in school.

COLIN
Well, the ones he wants anyway.

ALEX
Speaking of girls, do you know who
Laura Durham is?

COLIN
Laura Durham? Yeah.

ALEX
I talked to her today. We're
meeting at the park bench tomorrow.

COLIN
Park bench? Oh, that's romantic.

ALEX
Do you think I have a chance?

COLIN
You and Laura Durham? That, my
friend, clearly makes you a
masochist. Going out with a girl of
her status and you being...well,
you. It's asking for trouble.
Brad's got his eye on her, I
understand.

ALEX
Well, he can't have her.

COLIN
Oh, you are hung up. How long did
you talk?

ALEX

I don't know. A few minutes.

COLIN

Oh no. Between Brad's beating and meeting you here?

Alex nods.

COLIN

I'll be surprised if she shows tomorrow. Probably felt sorry for you.

ALEX

She'll show up. You'll see.

INT. ALEX'S ROOM - LATER

Alex enters. He walks to his bed and reaches under the mattress. He retrieves a bag stuffed with marijuana. He also pulls out a package containing cigarette rolling papers.

He puts down one of the papers, and pinches out some of the weed. He rolls the cigarette very tightly until the ends are rolled as well into a small joint.

He lights the end and drags deeply. He carries it over to where his video camera sits. He picks up his video camera and turns it on. He walks to his window and leans out, taking another drag.

He watches the world go by in his video screen. He looks at a variety of mundane things before he notices Brad walking down the street.

ALEX

Gotcha.

He presses the record button on the camera. Brad takes out his phone and dials.

ALEX

3... 2... 1...

The phone rings in Alex's room. Alex puts down the video camera and answers.

ALEX

Hello, Brad.

BRAD (V.O.)
How did you know it was me?

Alex smiles.

ALEX
I'm psychic.

EXT. ALEX'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Brad gives Alex some money and the homework. Alex hands over a bag of weed.

BRAD
Thanks, man. You're a life saver.

ALEX
Don't mention it, and I mean that.

BRAD
I've gotta run. Jenna's expecting me.

ALEX
I'll bet.

Brad runs off. Alex rolls his eyes, and goes back inside.

EXT. PORTMAN HOUSE - NIGHT

A suburban house stands quietly in the early evening.

INT. PORTMAN HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

JENNA PORTMAN, a cute girl of about 17, sit on a couch. On one side of her is her younger sister, KELSEY PORTMAN, who is 16 and just as cute.

On her other side is Laura, who is as she was earlier.

JENNA
So, I was thinking we could change the end of our fight song cheer from "Let's go, team" to "Hey, you guys, let's move that ball." You like it? I like it. I really do.

KELSEY
Oh, it's wonderful.

LAURA

I don't know. We have a lot of newer cheers, but that cheer is a school tradition. I think some of the teachers might get upset.

JENNA

Oh, get over it. This is, like, the twenty-first century and stuff. They need to get with the present.

KELSEY

Jenna's right, you know.

LAURA

Kelsey, you always think Jenna's right.

KELSEY

She can't help it if she always is.

LAURA

Jenna, I think your sister's lost in your shadow somewhere. We need to get her out.

JENNA

She recognizes greatness. I mean, I have to be all that if Brad Rucker calls me his girl.

LAURA

Yeah, Brad Rucker calls everyone his girl. Did I tell you he was hitting on me again today? I'm like, I don't think so.

JENNA

Brad loves me, and he would never do anything unfaithful.

KELSEY

Yeah, Brad rocks.

JENNA

You keep your paws to yourself, little sister. Brad's mine.

LAURA

Jenna, everyone knows Brad calls you his girl because you help his reputation.

(MORE)

LAURA (cont'd)

That makes all the sluts in school want him more, and most of them have already had him. Or he's had them would be closer to the truth.

JENNA

You're just jealous. You all are. Brad has always been my man. Besides, Kelsey, you've got your own little friend.

KELSEY

Colin is cool and quiet and mysterious and just kind of a rebel. Knows a lot of stuff.

LAURA

Nice guy?

KELSEY

Oh yeah. I like him.

LAURA

Is he from around here?

KELSEY

Oh yeah, but he won't talk about himself much. I still think he's sweet.

LAURA

Speaking of sweet, I did run into someone interesting.

JENNA

Really, who?

LAURA

Alex Trevalien?

JENNA

Where have I heard that name?

LAURA

Well, Brad beats him up on a daily basis.

JENNA

Oh, he must be that nerd. Brad used to be friends with him or something before he grew up. Dating a nerd won't help your social status, Laura. Brad saw that right off. I wouldn't ever talk to him again. It

(MORE)

JENNA (cont'd)
wouldn't be smart. Where the heck
is Brad? He should be here by now.

KNOCK, KNOCK.

KELSEY
Spooky.

LAURA
Well, that's my cue to leave.

Laura walks to the door.

JENNA
See you tomorrow, Laura.

LAURA
Bye.

Laura opens the door. Brad stands on the porch. He smiles at her.

BRAD
Wow, I didn't know this would be a
threesome.

LAURA
Keep dreaming, Brad. I've gotta go.

Laura walks out, but Brad blocks her way.

BRAD
You know, I can arrange a private
evening for two later. Just us and
some personal time with the most
popular guy in school.

LAURA
Yeah, not interested.

She pushes past him. He turns.

BRAD
You know I get what I want. You'll
give in, and I'll have you any way
I want to.

Brad walks inside and closes the door behind him. He walks into the living room. Jenna jumps up and gives him a big hug.

JENNA
Brad!

They kiss.

JENNA
Hi honey. How was practice?

BRAD
Good. It was a workout.

Brad looks down at Kelsey, who is gazing at him.

BRAD
Hey, Kelsey.

He gives her a wink. She blushes.

KELSEY
Hi, Brad.

JENNA
Ok, you've totally gotta see what
I've planned for us. I've got Basic
Instinct.

BRAD
All right. I love that movie.

JENNA
I just like how you are when it's
over.

She laughs and kisses him again.

BRAD
I just wish you'd let me really get
into you.

JENNA
You silly thing. You know your
options.

She winks at him.

JENNA
Anyway, I'm gonna pop some popcorn,
and send Kelsey to bed-

KELSEY
Hey, I never get to watch Basic
Instinct.

JENNA
That's a big person movie, Kelsey,
and you're a little person.

KELSEY

I'm sixteen! You're only a year older.

JENNA

Almost means not quite. Look at the rating:

Jenna holds out the case showing the MPAA 'R' Box on the back.

JENNA

No one under 17 admitted without parent or guardian. Do you see a parent or guardian? You know how mom is about ratings.

KELSEY

Give me a break. You just want to be alone with Brad.

JENNA

So? I didn't get any R rated movies until I was 17, so there.

(to Brad)

Anyway, after the movie, I thought we'd-

The phone rings. Jenna bounds over to it and answers.

JENNA

Hello? ... Oh, hi Mr. Stamper.

Jenna sits up, as if alarmed.

JENNA

That was tonight?

A very angry voice is heard muffled over the phone line.

JENNA

Yes, Mr. Stamper. I'm sorry. I'll be right there.

She hangs up the phone.

JENNA

Oh, fizziepooh.

BRAD

Fizziewhat?

KELSEY

She just made it up.

JENNA

It's impolite for a good girl to swear.

BRAD

So whatever you just said doesn't count?

JENNA

No.

BRAD

Anyway, what's wrong?

JENNA

Oh, Mr. and Mrs. Stamper were going to this thing and wanted me to babysit. I said I would, and then forgot it was tonight. Pooh, pooh, pooh.

BRAD

It's endearing, anyway.

Jenna slips on some shoes that slip on. She goes to Brad.

JENNA

I'm sorry, honey.

She kisses him.

JENNA

I guess we'll have to wait for another night.

BRAD

Can I just wait?

JENNA

Oh, I don't know how late they'll be. If you want to, it's ok, but you can feel free to go if you want.

BRAD

I might hang for a little bit.

JENNA

Okay.

She kisses him again.

JENNA
Bye. I love you.

BRAD
Bye.

Jenna exits. Brad turns to Kelsey. She blushes, nervous. Brad smiles.

BRAD
Hi.

KELSEY
Hi.

INT. PORTMAN HOUSE - LATER

The lights are on. The table in the living room has a bottle and two glasses on it. The phone rings.

IN KELSEY'S ROOM

she lies on her side in her bed, curled into a fetal position.

[Optionally, she could have a sheet or blanket wrapped around her to her bare shoulders or neck giving an illusion of nudity; been done forever and ever in censored environments.]

The phone rings again. An answering machine picks up. Kelsey shakes as if she is crying.

COLIN (V.O.)
Hey, Kelsey, this is Colin. Um, I was just calling like I usually do. Um, I guess you're busy or something. I'll talk to you later. Bye.

Click. The machine beeps. Kelsey's sobs escalate slowly into a full blown wail of agony and sadness. Tears pour out of her eyes as she curls tighter.

INT. COLIN'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Colin stands over the phone, looking at it. His room is sparsely decorated, except for pictures of a lot of different people, most of them only he could identify.

He walks to his desk and sits. He pulls a photo album out of the desk, and looks at it. At this point, the pictures are for his eyes only. He lays the book open on the desk, its contents remaining a secret.

He reaches into another drawer and takes out a pocketknife. He uses a small sharpening stone to give the knife a nice razor edge. He retrieves a towel from under the desk and lays it on his lap.

He raises a sleeve, revealing several scars and cuts on his arm. He makes a small incision across his arm drawing blood. He winces from the pain, but his face reveals pleasure behind it.

INT. ALEX'S ROOM - DAY

SUPER: Two Days Later

Alex enters. He reaches behind him and attached to his hand is Laura who walks in. She looks around.

LAURA

Nice.

ALEX

You're just saying that. My room sucks.

LAURA

Yes, but that just wouldn't be a very polite thing to say, would it?

ALEX

No, I guess not.

She smiles at him. She walks to his video camera and looks at it.

LAURA

So what do you like to do?

ALEX

I just kind of watch people outside the window.

LAURA

Oh, I see.

She puts the camera down and looks at him, smiling.

LAURA

You know, meeting you after school these last couple days has been fun. A real break from the snobs I usually hang out with. I didn't exactly pick my own group, but you know, popularity has its price.

ALEX

Yeah, you've got it rough.

LAURA

I'll show you rough.

She reaches over and tickles his ribs. He jumps and stumbles. She continues attacking him until they fall onto the bed. She inadvertently ends up on top of him.

Their eyes meet for a moment, and a very nervous moment it is. Finally, she gets to her feet. He sits up.

LAURA

Sorry.

ALEX

It's ok. You can do that anytime.

She laughs. She looks at her watch.

LAURA

Hey, I gotta go. Jenna wants the squad to practice before the game tonight.

ALEX

Sure, no problem.

He leads her out of the room. They walk through the house towards the front door as they talk.

LAURA

I want to see you after the game tonight.

ALEX

Where?

LAURA

Well, I don't want any crap from anyone, and I don't want you to have any either, so if it's ok, how about our park bench?

ALEX
Sounds good.

LAURA
Thanks for showing me your room.
It's cool.

ALEX
You're lying again.

LAURA
But I'll never admit it.

Alex opens the front door for her. She stands at it and looks at him.

LAURA
See you later then?

ALEX
I wouldn't miss it.

They stand still for an awkward moment. She bites her lip and then leans forward to give him a quick kiss.

LAURA
Bye.

She exits. Alex closes the door, stunned. He leans against the door and with a big sigh, he smiles.

INT. PORTMAN HOUSE - DAY

Jenna sits in front of a vanity working on her makeup. An array of beauty products are laid out in front of her. Jenna looks up to find Kelsey walking in behind her.

JENNA
There you are. Where have you been hiding?

KELSEY
No where.

JENNA
But I've hardly seen you.

KELSEY
I know.

JENNA
Everything ok?

KELSEY

Jenna, do you really like Brad?

Jenna stops and turns to Kelsey, curious.

JENNA

Why?

KELSEY

I'm just wondering.

JENNA

But why are you wondering? I mean, like, are you trying to be sweet on my Brad?

KELSEY

No, I wouldn't.

JENNA

Were you trying your stupid little kid moves on him when he was here?

KELSEY

No. I wouldn't ever do that to you. Do you think he would?

JENNA

Brad would never cheat on me.

KELSEY

How do you know that?

JENNA

Kelsey, if you're trying to take my man away from me, I'm not going to be a very happy woman.

KELSEY

You've got to see-

JENNA

No, you've got to see this. Brad is mine, and no one else's. If I find out that you so much as laid a hand on him to get with him, I swear I will never speak to you again.

Kelsey stares at Jenna, stunned. Jenna turns back to her vanity.

JENNA

Do you need something?

KELSEY

No. I guess not.

JENNA

I didn't think so.

Kelsey exits. Jenna continues her primping.

EXT. FOOTBALL STADIUM - NIGHT

A game is in progress. Ball passing, big tackles, big cheers. Rah-rah-rah. It's all very nice for those who like to play and watch.

EXT. STADIUM PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Alex walks through the lot between the cars away from the stadium. Colin joins him.

COLIN

Mind if I walk with you?

ALEX

Sure, no problem. Any reason in particular?

COLIN

Not really. Your house is on the way.

ALEX

Oh.

COLIN

And, well, have I ever told you about Kelsey?

ALEX

No. Anyone I should know?

COLIN

Well, we're kind of going out, and I haven't heard from her. I was hoping you might have heard something.

ALEX

No, if anyone is out of the loop of the goings on, it's me.

COLIN

Me too. Did you ever see Laura Durham again?

ALEX

Oh yeah. I saw her yesterday and earlier today and I'm meeting her in the park. She kissed me earlier.

COLIN

No way!

ALEX

Yes way! It's going to be a good night.

A voice drifts across the lot.

KELSEY (O.S.)

Colin!

Colin turns and finds Kelsey running to him.

COLIN

Kelsey. Where have you been? I've been calling you.

Kelsey runs to him and hugs him. Colin holds his hands out in surprise before finally bringing them in to hold her.

KELSEY

I'm sorry.

COLIN

It's ok. Is everything all right?

She breaks the hug and nods with a forced smile.

KELSEY

Sure.

Colin holds her to his side and looks at Alex.

COLIN

Alex, this is Kelsey Portman.
Kelsey, Alex.

ALEX

Portman? As in Jenna Portman?

KELSEY

She's my big sister. Are you the same Alex that Laura knows?

ALEX

I am.

Kelsey nods. Alex backs away.

ALEX

I'll leave you two alone. I've gotta meet Laura.

Alex walks away. Colin calls after him.

COLIN

I'll catch up in a bit.

Alex waves and disappears into the darkness. Colin turns to Kelsey.

COLIN

You're sure everything is all right? You don't look so good.

KELSEY

No, I'm fine. I promise. Just had a fight with Jenna before the game, that's all. I was hoping you'd be here.

COLIN

Well, I'm glad you showed up then.

KELSEY

Me too.

She hugs him again.

FLASH INSERT: Brad's form silhouetted against Kelsey's bedroom ceiling.

She gasps and steps back.

COLIN

What is it?

KELSEY

Nothing... It's nothing.

EXT. PARK - NIGHT

Laura sits on the park bench where she met Alex. She sits back on the bench.

Suddenly, a pair of hands covers her eyes. She smiles with a gasp.

BRAD (O.S.)
Guess who?

Laura's expression changes to disgust. She rips the hands away from her face and stands.

LAURA
What do you want?

BRAD
You know what I want.

LAURA
I'm not interested.

BRAD
Then why are you waiting for me?

LAURA
I'm not waiting for you.

BRAD
Then who? Who could possibly be better than me?

LAURA
I think what you're doing to Jenna is horrible.

BRAD
You didn't answer me.

LAURA
I don't need to.

Brad grabs her and pulls her close to him.

BRAD
You listen to me, you little slut. When I set my sights on something, I get it.

Laura slaps him.

LAURA
Don't you dare call me a slut.

Brad grabs her by the wrists. She tries to pull away, but he drags her into the park near some bushes.

BRAD

No one says no to me. I have anyone
I want once I want them. Who are
you waiting for?

She spits in his face. He slaps her. She goes down, but he
picks her back up.

BRAD

Who are you waiting for?

LAURA

Alex Trevalien.

BRAD

Alex? Little Alex?

She nods. Brad laughs.

BRAD

So let me get this straight: you're
turning me down for geek Alex
Trevalien?

LAURA

I'm turning you down because I'm
not that kind of girl.

BRAD

Then I need to make you one.

Brad pushes her into the bushes. He stands over her
unbuttoning his pants.

LAURA

What are you doing? You can't.

BRAD

You can't stop me.

He disappears inside the bushes. Laura screams.

EXT. PARK - LATER

Alex walks into the park, his hands in his pockets. He looks
to the bench. No one there.

ALEX

Laura?

He walks around the bench and then looks across the park.

ALEX

Laura!

Brad emerges from the bushes, tucking in his shirt.

BRAD

Hey, Alex.

Alex walks towards him.

ALEX

Brad, what are you doing here?

BRAD

Public park. Why not?

ALEX

Have you seen-

Alex looks into the bushes.

ALEX

Laura!

He crawls into the bushes and looks at her. Her clothes are a mess. Her face is bruised. She is unconscious. Alex looks at Brad.

ALEX

What did you do to her?

BRAD

Showed her what a real man can do for her.

Alex lunges at Brad. He knocks Brad to the ground. Alex's fists fly, but Brad throws him off easily.

ALEX

What did you do? Rape her?

Colin runs up to them.

COLIN

Alex! What's going on?

Brad jumps to his feet.

BRAD

He's messed up, man. I came walking by the park, and he was crawling out of the bushes. Look!

ALEX
Colin, he's lying!

Colin walks to the bushes and looks in on Laura. He turns to them.

COLIN
What's going on?

BRAD
Look, I heard Laura was going to break up with him tonight and I guess he couldn't take it.

Alex lunges at Brad again. Brad stops him. Colin pulls Alex away. Alex snaps away from Colin.

ALEX
Colin, you know me. I came up here, and Brad walked out of the bushes.

COLIN
I saw you coming out.

ALEX
Colin, you've got to believe me.

COLIN
I don't know.

Suddenly, sirens sound and red and blue flashing lights are everywhere.

POLICE (O.S.)
Stay where you are!

Alex looks at Laura. He notices Brad's watch in her hand. He looks at Brad's wrist. No watch. He moves toward Laura.

POLICE (O.S.)
Don't move!

ALEX
I just have to-

POLICE (O.S.)
Quiet! All of you. Walk this way.

Brad, Alex, and Colin walk toward the lights.

DARKNESS

WARDEN (V.O.)
Your parents have been notified.
They're all coming to pick you up.

CLANG! A heavy door slams.

INT. JAIL CELL - NIGHT

Alex, Brad, and Colin all sit in a dark cell.

ALEX
Colin, listen to me. When I left
you at the parking lot, I walked to
the park. You know I wouldn't've
had had enough time to do anything
to her.

BRAD
He's lying. When I got there, he
was done with her.

COLIN
Why were you there, Brad?

BRAD
Oh, I heard screaming.

ALEX
Colin, he's lying.

BRAD
Come on, if I bagged her, you know
I'd tell.

COLIN
Normally.

ALEX
I didn't do it.

COLIN
I heard you, Alex.

BRAD
So what do you think?

COLIN
I don't know. I have no idea what
went on there tonight, and I don't
want to have you guys hounding me
to decide. I'll tell the police
what I saw, and that's it. I'm not
(MORE)

COLIN (cont'd)
getting into this with either one
of you.

ALEX
But-!

COLIN
No!

Colin walks to a far corner of the cell and sits.

ALEX
You're a maniac. You deserve to be
locked up.

BRAD
What would they find if they gave
you a drug test?

ALEX
It's been a couple days.

BRAD
(whispered)
But it's still in your system.

ALEX
Yours too.

BRAD
How about if I tell them all about
your little side business?

Alex's mouth drops open. His shoulders slump.

ALEX
What do you want to do?

Brad leans in close.

BRAD
Forget about it. We found her like
that. She's not talking, so it
doesn't matter.

ALEX
You want me to lie to them?

BRAD
I want you to back me up. I got
there and saw her in the bushes.
(MORE)

BRAD (cont'd)

You came in behind me and saw me coming out, and you checked her out too, and misunderstood. It's easy as that. Someone else did it.

ALEX

They could DNA you.

BRAD

I'll tell them that Laura gave me a little something special before the game. My dad has some big time lawyers. I'll be fine.

Alex walks away from Brad and slumps against a wall away from Brad and Colin.

INT. PORTMAN HOUSE - NIGHT

A phone rings in Jenna's bedroom. Jenna is in bed, covered and asleep. She reaches over, feeling for the phone. It rings again. She picks it up.

JENNA

Hello? ... Slow down Emma, what? ... Who did you hear that from? ... And who did they hear it from? ... And who-

EMMA (V.O.)

Look, Brad's little brother told his girlfriend who told her sister who told her friend who told Kara who told me.

JENNA

How long ago was this?

EMMA (V.O.)

Brad got home from jail ten minutes ago.

JENNA

Ten minutes? Why am I the last to know? I thought they got a phone call in jail.

EMMA (V.O.)

Well, I called you first. Can you believe it, though? Laura Durham, raped.

JENNA

Yeah.

EMMA (V.O.)

Um, can I take her place in the pyramid?

Jenna brings the phone down from her ear.

EMMA (V.O.)

Hello?

Jenna hangs up. She sits on the edge of her bed, staring at nothing in particular.

BLACK SCREEN

KNOCK, KNOCK.

INT. PORTMAN HOUSE - DAY

Jenna opens the door to Brad's smiling face.

BRAD

Morning.

JENNA

Brad. What brings you here?

BRAD

Thought you might want to go to lunch.

JENNA

Why? You never took me to lunch before.

BRAD

Are you okay?

JENNA

I heard about last night.

BRAD

Damn, that was fast.

JENNA

I want to know what happened.

BRAD

Are you doubting me, honey?

JENNA

Come in.

She steps out of the way. He enters. She leads him into the living room.

Brad looks around.

BRAD

Where's Kelsey?

ON THE STAIRS

Kelsey comes down and sits, listening.

JENNA (O.S.)

She's still asleep. I'm a little worried about her. She's not herself lately.

IN THE LIVING ROOM

Brad sits on the couch. Jenna sits next to him.

JENNA

I don't want to doubt you, but you know, people talk about you.

BRAD

Right, the stories about my other women.

JENNA

Yeah.

BRAD

Well, I can't say anything about you. I know you want to be known as pure.

JENNA

As I should be. But why can't you be known as the same way.

BRAD

It's different with guys.

JENNA

Please...

BRAD

It's all locker room talk. Some people take it too seriously. I mean, I'm captain of the football team. People expect certain things, and you know I would never do anything to hurt you, but you know what they wanna hear.

JENNA

But why lie about it? People respect how I am.

BRAD

It's the other guys making it up.

JENNA

But you agree with it.

BRAD

Look, you have to trust me. Ok?

JENNA

What happened last night?

BRAD

The truth?

JENNA

What do you think I want?

BRAD

Okay, it's this Alex guy that Laura was sweet on, right?

JENNA

Yeah.

BRAD

Well, I was walking by the park and they were arguing. I ran over to see what was going on, and they were gone. Next thing I saw was Alex coming out of the bushes. He saw me standing there and attacked me. That Colin guy saw him do it.

JENNA

Colin? Kelsey's Colin?

BRAD

Yeah, I guess.

JENNA
So Alex raped her?

BRAD
Probably. I mean, I didn't watch or anything.

JENNA
Oh, I told her not to get mixed up with him.

BRAD
I heard she was trying to break it off.

JENNA
And he hurt her. I'm going to have a word with him.

BRAD
Don't worry about that. The police are taking care of it.

Brad pulls her close to him.

BRAD
So are we okay now?

JENNA
Yeah, we're good.

They kiss.

ON THE STAIRS

Kelsey stares at the floor. Tears stain her face as she stands and walks silently up the stairs.

INT. PORTMAN HOUSE - KELSEY'S ROOM - DAY

Kelsey enters. She sits on her bed and picks up the phone receiver. She dials. It rings.

COLIN (V.O.)
Hello?

KELSEY
Colin?

COLIN (V.O.)
Yeah?

KELSEY

I heard about last night.

COLIN (V.O.)

What about it?

KELSEY

Brad did it didn't he? I know he did.

COLIN (V.O.)

I don't know, ok? I didn't see anything. I don't know what happened. I just wish everyone would let it go. So don't ask me again.

Kelsey jerks away from the phone for a moment, as if struck.

KELSEY

Are you mad at me?

COLIN (V.O.)

What do you want?

Kelsey sits speechless for a moment.

KELSEY

Nothing.

The line goes dead. Kelsey hangs it up slowly.

INT. ALEX'S ROOM - DAY

Alex sits at his desk chair. He has a joint in his hand, and a bottle of Vodka on the desk. He takes a drag followed by a swig straight out of the bottle.

He coughs a bit. His eyes water.

He picks up his video camera and looks out his window through it. All is calm and normal. He sees Colin walking towards his house.

Alex puts down the camera and scoffs.

ALEX

God, why?

A knocking sounds from downstairs. Alex closes his eyes, as if praying.

ALEX
(quietly, to himself)
Don't answer it. Don't answer it.

The door opens.

ALEX
Dammit!

The voice of Alex's mom drifts through the window from the front door.

ALEX'S MOM (O.S.)
Oh, hi Colin.

COLIN (O.S.)
Hey, is Alex here?

ALEX
Don't let him in. Don't let him in.

ALEX'S MOM (O.S.)
Sure, come on in.

The door closes.

ALEX
Dammit!

Alex puts out the joint and puts away the vodka. He waves the smoke out the window. The door opens. Colin enters.

ALEX
What do you want?

COLIN
I was wondering if we were going to go over the last assignment.

ALEX
Hm, let me think about that a moment. No.

COLIN
Why not?

ALEX
Check this out. I was in trouble. It was me versus the bad guy, and you decided to not vouch for anyone. Does my character mean anything to you at all?

COLIN

I guess.

ALEX

So you think I'm capable of this thing, and Brad is completely innocent?

COLIN

Everyone knows how Brad is, and it's possible that he did it.

ALEX

But? So now you side with Mr. Popularity?

COLIN

What can I say? I didn't see anything. Actually, I saw him standing near the bushes as you crawled out.

ALEX

So? I told you what happened.

COLIN

And so did Brad.

ALEX

So who do you believe?

COLIN

I didn't come here to argue over this. I wanted to talk about school.

ALEX

Forget about school. Who cares? I know Brad will spread rumors that everyone will believe just because he is the "Almighty Brad." I know how people will treat me. As if it wasn't bad enough already.

COLIN

Look, whatever. I really don't care about this. If all you want to do is sit here and feel sorry for yourself, that's your business.

ALEX

For myself? Who cares about me? Laura is in the hospital.

(MORE)

ALEX (cont'd)

She's in some kind of a coma. She passed out after he- After what he did to her. You know, Brad got to go see her, and I didn't? Where is the justice in that?

COLIN

I'm going to go. You clearly need time alone.

ALEX

Fine. Get out of here.

Colin gets up and with a final glance to Alex, he exits. Alex retrieves his bottle from the drawer. He takes another drink.

He glances at a clock on the wall. A thought crosses his face. He exits.

INT. PORTMAN HOUSE - DAY

Kelsey walks down the stairs. As she does, Jenna and Brad walk to the door. She freezes.

JENNA (O.S.)

Thanks for coming to see me. I'm sorry I doubted you.

BRAD (O.S.)

Forget it. You're my only girl.

The front door opens and closes. Jenna walks to the stairs. She stops when she sees Kelsey. Kelsey runs back up the stairs and into her room.

Jenna follows and stops outside Kelsey's door. She knocks gently.

JENNA

Kelsey?

No answer.

JENNA

Kelsey, what's wrong?

KELSEY (O.S.)

Nothing.

JENNA

Come on, don't be this way. Is this about the other night? I'm sorry if I yelled at you.

(MORE)

JENNA (cont'd)
I was freakin' out a little, that's
all. I'm not mad at you.

KELSEY (O.S.)
I know.

JENNA
Can we talk?

No answer.

JENNA
Come on, we used to talk all the
time. What's wrong?

No answer.

JENNA
Kelsey?

KELSEY
(choked, as if crying)
Go away.

Jenna tries the door, but it is locked.

JENNA
Hey, if you want to talk, I'm
always here for you.

Jenna leaves Kelsey alone. She walks down the stairs and sits
in the living room. He props her head in her hand. Her eyes
tear up.

KNOCK, KNOCK.

Jenna wipes her eyes and walks to the door. She opens it to
find Colin.

JENNA
Hi. Colin, right?

COLIN
Yeah. Is Kelsey here?

JENNA
Yeah. Come in.

Colin enters.

JENNA
Maybe she'll talk to you. She's
been acting weird for a few days
now.

COLIN

She called me last night, and I was pretty mean to her. She didn't deserve it.

JENNA

Please talk to her.

Colin nods and walks up the stairs. He goes to Kelsey's room and knocks.

KELSEY (O.S.)

Jenna, please go away.

COLIN

Kelsey, it's Colin.

The lock turns. The door opens. Kelsey looks out. Her face is a mess.

KELSEY

Hi.

COLIN

Hi.

KELSEY

What are you doing here?

COLIN

I wanted to say I'm sorry about how I talked to you last night.

KELSEY

Oh.

COLIN

Yeah, I had just gotten home, and I was still pretty upset. I shouldn't have talked to you like that. You didn't need that.

KELSEY

It's ok. I shouldn't've called.

COLIN

I don't mind.

She opens the door and gives him a hug. He holds her. Kelsey's eyes shoot open.

SERIES OF IMAGES: Brad holds Kelsey's arms...a bare back...a zipper unzipping...bodies moving under covers...Brad's face, smiling...tears rolling down Kelsey's face...Kelsey's hand grasping the side of her bed.

Kelsey backs away from Colin, hyperventilating. Colin looks at her, confused.

COLIN

What?

Kelsey holds up her hand, catching her breath.

COLIN

Are you ok?

Colin steps forward and touches her hand. She looks at him.

FLASH INSERT: Brad reaches out (from where Colin stands) and strokes Kelsey's hair.

She jerks away from him. Colin draws his hand back.

KELSEY

I'm sorry, Colin. I...I can't do this right now.

COLIN

Is this about last night?

KELSEY

No! No. Just...I need to be alone.

Kelsey shuts her door in Colin's face. Colin backs away. He walks down the stairs. As he emerges from the stairwell, Jenna stands.

JENNA

Well?

COLIN

I don't know, Jenna. I tried to hold her, and she freaked out on me.

JENNA

(to herself)

Oh God, what's wrong with her?

COLIN

I'll see you around.

JENNA

Sure. Thanks.

Colin exits.

IN KELSEY'S ROOM

Kelsey lies on her bed. Tears roll down her face. She pounds her bed with her fist. She stuffs her face into her pillow and pounds her bed repeatedly, screaming into the pillow, muffling the sound.

Finally, she stops and just sobs.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Alex walks down the sidewalk. He stops at the bench where he and Laura sat together only 3 days before. He touches it gently.

He turns to the park and walks to the bushes where it happened. He crawls around on the ground where Laura was lying. He looks under the bushes and on the ground all around where she was.

ALEX

Where is it?

He sits on the ground, still looking around. Alex leans his head back.

ALEX

Think.

SERIES OF IMAGES: The watch on Brad's wrist...the watch in Laura's open hand...Brad's clean wrist.

Alex looks around.

ALEX

What could have happened to it?

Alex exits the bushes and looks around the outside of the bushes.

BRAD (O.S.)

So the criminal returns to the scene of the crime.

Alex looks up. His eyes narrow.

ALEX
Apparently.

BRAD
What are you doing here?

ALEX
Looking for what I need to bust
you.

BRAD
Oh, are you talking about this?

Brad holds up his wrist. A watch glistens upon it. Alex looks at it closely.

ALEX
That's a new watch.

BRAD
Yup.

ALEX
Where's the old one? The one Laura
was holding in her hand that night?

BRAD
Laura was holding it?

ALEX
I saw it.

Brad looks over to the bushes.

SERIES OF IMAGES: Laura leans her head back and screams...
Brad's hand with the watch hits the ground next to her...
Brad's hand in the air, Laura's hand tears the watch off his
wrist...the watch in Laura's hand as she lies unconscious on
the ground.

Brad blinks and looks at Alex.

BRAD
I lost my watch at the game. I took
it off to shower, and it
disappeared.

ALEX
You're lying.

BRAD
You can't prove it. Where's the
evidence?

ALEX
I'll find it.

BRAD
I don't think so. It was probably
in the grass and someone found it.
It's a pretty expensive watch.

ALEX
I'll expose you. I promise.

BRAD
You've got nothing on me. Don't
forget our little agreement. You're
a drug dealer.

ALEX
I don't care. I'll get rid of it.
I'll have something on you.

BRAD
Whatever. You watch your step.

Brad looks at his watch.

BRAD
Now, if you'll excuse me, I have a
girl waiting for the night of her
life.

ALEX
And I'll bet it's not Jenna.

BRAD
Jenna? Jenna brought this on
herself. You know she's a virgin? I
swear to God, a bona fide, card
carrying, love-waits virgin. She
says she is trying to undo the slut
reputation associated with
cheerleaders. I started going out
with her because I thought she put
out. I wanted her to have that
reputation, but she didn't, and
while I have her as a public
girlfriend, I have my fun on the
side and can tell all these girls,
"Sorry, I have a girlfriend, but it
was fun." It's great.

ALEX
You're a lunatic.

BRAD

We're all crazy. Some more than others. Now, if you'll excuse me, I have an easy piece of ass waiting for me.

Brad pushes Alex down as he walks away. Alex climbs back to his feet, brushing himself off.

ALEX

Jerk.

INT. COLIN'S ROOM - DAY

Colin enters. He goes to his desk and pulls out the photo album. He opens it revealing pictures of a young girl of about 13, TIFFANY. He pages through the album, looking at each page.

He leaves the album open on an 8x10 professional portrait of her. He takes out his pocket knife and sharpens it.

COLIN

Hi, Tiffany. I'm sorry I haven't had much to talk about. You remember that girl, Kelsey? You know I'll always love you, but ever since you died, I've wanted to be with someone. Well, I thought things were going well until the other night. I think I upset her.

Colin puts away the stone. He holds the knife before him.

COLIN

And now, she's pulling away. I didn't think I hurt her that bad. I shouldn't've been so mean. I deserve to lose her.

Colin cuts his arm. He winces.

COLIN

I deserve the pain.

Colin cuts again. Blood drops to the floor.

COLIN

Why did you have to leave me, Tiff?

He cuts again.

COLIN

Why couldn't you just stay here? I would have protected you.

He cuts again. Blood drops to the floor.

COLIN

I loved you and lost you. I feel like I'm falling for Kelsey, and I'm losing her too. Why must I always be alone?

He cuts again. He falls out of his chair and collapses to the floor. He drops the knife and shuffles around for his towel.

He finds it and wraps it around his arm. He breathes heavily. He squeezes the towel hard.

COLIN

Tiffany, I don't want to live alone. I don't want to lose her too. I don't want her to die.

Colin continues staring at the ceiling.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Kelsey walks by the park. Her arms are folded tightly in front of her. A tear runs down her face. She shakes her head. She stops for a moment and looks at it. She sighs.

KELSEY

So this is where it happened...

She sniffles and wipes the tears from her eyes.

FLASH INSERT: Brad's face close to hers.

She shakes her head violently. She walks away from the park. Voices pass through Kelsey's mind.

JENNA (V.O.)

What happened last night?

BRAD (V.O.)

You want the truth?

JENNA (V.O.)

What do you think I want?

Kelsey scoffs.

KELSEY

The truth...

KELSEY (V.O.)

Are you mad at me?

COLIN (V.O.)

What do you want?

KELSEY

I just want you to listen.

JENNA (V.O.)

Kelsey, what's wrong? Can we talk?

KELSEY

You wouldn't believe me.

LAURA (V.O.)

I did run into someone interesting.
Alex Trevalien?

Kelsey shakes her head.

KELSEY

Poor Laura...

KELSEY (V.O.)

Are you the same Alex that Laura
knows?

ALEX (V.O.)

I'll leave you two alone. I've
gotta meet Laura.

JENNA (V.O.)

Alex raped her?

Kelsey shakes her head.

KELSEY

No, he didn't.

INT. ALEX'S ROOM - DAY

Alex sits at his desk. He turns to his bed and stares at it.
He gets up and reaches under the mattress, retrieving his bag
of weed. He returns to the desk. He stares at the bag.

KNOCK, KNOCK.

Alex runs his hands through his hair. The front door opens
O.S.

ALEX'S MOM (O.S.)

Yes?

KELSEY (O.S.)

Hi, is Alex in?

ALEX'S MOM (O.S.)

Are you a friend of his?

KELSEY (O.S.)

I'm a friend of Colin's.

ALEX'S MOM (O.S.)

Come in.

Alex quickly drops the bag of weed into a drawer of the desk.
He turns to the door, curious. Kelsey enters.

KELSEY

Hi.

ALEX

I haven't seen Colin.

KELSEY

I don't want to talk to Colin.

ALEX

You want to talk to me?

KELSEY

I don't have anyone else to talk
to.

ALEX

I find that hard to believe.

KELSEY

Give me a chance. I just feel like
you're the only one who would...
understand.

ALEX

Make it quick.

Kelsey sits on Alex's bed. He turns to her.

KELSEY

Brad raped Laura, didn't he?

ALEX
No one believes that.

KELSEY
I do. I know Brad.

ALEX
What do you mean, you know Brad?

Kelsey looks away for a moment. She takes a deep breath.

KELSEY
Brad...well...he had come over to
see my sister...and she had to
leave...Brad stayed for awhile...

Alex leans forward, suddenly very interested. Kelsey takes another deep breath. Tears form in her eyes.

KELSEY
I love my sister. I would never do
anything to hurt her. I tried to
tell her what he did, but she said
she'd hate me if I did anything
with him.

ALEX
Did he...?

Kelsey nods.

INT. PORTMAN HOUSE - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

Jenna exits. Brad turns to Kelsey. She blushes, nervous. Brad smiles.

BRAD
Hi.

KELSEY
Hi.

Brad sits next to her on the couch. She still looks very nervous and bites her lip with a smile.

BRAD
So, tell me. Do you have a cute
little boyfriend?

KELSEY
Um, I don't know.

BRAD
You don't know?

KELSEY
No.

BRAD
Say, do you want to have some drinks and watch Basic Instinct with me?

KELSEY
Really?

BRAD
Oh yes. I think you're big enough for anything.

Brad runs his eyes up and down her. He takes the DVD of Basic Instinct and puts it in the player. He looks at her while he does.

BRAD
You're very cute.

KELSEY
Really? I don't think Jenna thinks so.

BRAD
Oh, she's blind. How can she miss you? How could anyone? I'll bet you have guys banging down the door for you.

KELSEY
Jenna does.

BRAD
No, I bet they're supposed to be yours.

KELSEY
Really?

BRAD
Yeah.

Brad sits back down next to her. He puts his arm around her and takes the remote in his hand.

BRAD
You ever see this before?

KELSEY

No.

BRAD

Oh, it's good. Gets me all revved
up, if you know what I mean.

Kelsey giggles. Brad looks at her. He brushes his hand
through her hair. She stares at him.

BRAD

You are very beautiful.

Kelsey bites her lip and looks quickly forward with a smile.
Brad keeps his arm behind her on the couch. She sits with her
palms together between her knees, as if trying not to touch
him with her elbows.

He glances at her again and smiles as the movie begins.

INT. PORTMAN HOUSE - LATER

Brad is in the bathroom. He looks at himself in the mirror,
checking his teeth and general looks.

BRAD

Looking good, Brad.

BRAD IN MIRROR

Thank you, Brad. You gonna do the
little sister?

BRAD

Why not? It'll make up for not
having the big sister.

BRAD IN MIRROR

Go get her, tiger.

Brad winks at himself and exits the bathroom. He walks
through the house and

INTO THE LIVING ROOM

where Kelsey sits on the couch in front of the TV. Kelsey
holds a glass with a clear liquid in it. Brad sits and picks
up his own glass. Kelsey looks at him.

KELSEY

I never had vodka before.

BRAD

Good huh?

KELSEY

Smells like rubbing alcohol.

BRAD

Drink up.

He reaches his hand under her glass and tips the contents into her mouth.

BRAD

More?

KELSEY

MmHm.

He pours more of the clear liquid into her glass.

BRAD

Drink up.

Kelsey takes a deep drink. Brad touches her face as she brings the glass down. He kisses her gently. She melts for a moment before giggling.

KELSEY

I don't think we should have done that.

She stands and turns away from him.

BRAD

No?

KELSEY

No.

Brad kisses her again.

KELSEY

Wow.

Her legs turn to jelly under her. Brad catches her and lifts her to a carry position. She wraps her arms around his neck.

KELSEY

Sorry.

BRAD

Don't worry about it.

INT. PORTMAN HOUSE - KELSEY'S ROOM - NIGHT

Brad carries Kelsey into her room and lays her down on the bed. With drowsy eyes she turns her head to look at him. She smiles.

KELSEY
(slurred)
Thanks. You're such a gentleman.

BRAD
Oh, Kelsey. How could I leave
without a goodbye kiss?

Kelsey smiles. Brad kisses her. He doesn't stop. Kelsey wraps her arms around his neck. Brad takes Kelsey's hands in his and holds them on the bed over her head.

FADE TO BLACK SCREEN

KELSEY (V.O.)
(lucid)
What are you doing?

BRAD (V.O.)
Just relax. It's your lucky night.

END FLASHBACK

INT. ALEX'S ROOM - DAY

She wipes the tears from her eyes, but they keep coming. Alex moves over and puts his arm around her. She leans into him.

KELSEY
I'm just so...ashamed. I wanted to
be like my sister, but he ruined it
for me.

ALEX
Don't think of it that way. However
that works, I think it only counts
if you're in love.

KELSEY
You think so?

ALEX
I think. Who else knows about this?

KELSEY

No one. Just you...and Brad, of course.

ALEX

I'm getting sick of this. Jenna needs to know what he did to you. She needs to know how he is.

KELSEY

I can't tell her. She'll hate me.

ALEX

No one will hate you for what happened. It wasn't your fault.

Kelsey nods.

ALEX

You need to tell Colin too.

Kelsey nods.

KELSEY

When?

ALEX

I have to do something. I'm going to catch him in the act.

Alex picks up his video camera.

ALEX

Stay here and rest. I'll be back in a little bit.

KELSEY

Okay.

Alex walks toward the door. He stops, and then turns back to his desk. He pulls the bag of weed out and takes it with him. Alex exits.

EXT. BRAD'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Outside the window to Brad's room, voices waft out the open window.

BRAD (O.S.)

I don't think I've ever been with anyone as beautiful as you are.

GIRL (O.S.)
Really?

BRAD (O.S.)
Of course. You have enough to
drink?

GIRL (O.S.)
I think I had too much. Whoa!

BRAD (O.S.)
I got you.

GIRL (O.S.)
Thanks.

Alex ducks below the window line and holds his camera close to him as he leans against the wall of the house.

BRAD (O.S.)
Come here.

Kissing sounds.

GIRL (O.S.)
Mm. What about Jenna?

BRAD (O.S.)
What about us?

GIRL (O.S.)
Ok. Are your mom and dad going to
be gone long enough?

BRAD (O.S.)
They're out. We have lots of time
to get to know each other.

More kissing. Alex rolls his eyes. The lights go out in Brad's room. Alex walks around to the front of the house and walks in the door.

INT. BRAD'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Alex creeps through the house. He pauses in the living room to stuff the bag of weed in between the couch cushions. He moves on.

He finds the door to Brad's room in the darkened home. Moaning sounds come from behind it.

Alex breathes. He gently pushes the door open. There is considerable movement on the bed in the darkened room. The girl giggles. She moans again.

Alex puts the camera to his face and records what the camera can see on the bed. He stands and reaches for the light switch.

ALEX
(quietly to himself)
It's show time!

Alex turns on the light. The girl screams O.S.

BRAD (O.S.)
What the hell are you doing here?

ALEX
So Brad, you've been caught with your pants down... literally. How do you feel?

BRAD (O.S.)
Give me that camera.

Alex opens the door and steps back out of the doorway, still taping.

ALEX
I don't think so. This was very revealing. I think Jenna will like it too. You'd better come clean or she'll get the full view, if you know what I mean.

BRAD (O.S.)
You wouldn't dare. I'll turn you in.

Alex keeps backing away from the room.

ALEX
I would stay where you are unless you want your ass shining in the moonlight. Wait, you've already done that.
(to the girl)
Hope you liked him. Laura Durham wasn't too happy with the performance.

GIRL (O.S.)
You did that to her?

BRAD (O.S.)
No, that freak there did.

ALEX
Think about it, but not too long.
Oh yes, had a chat with Kelsey too.
She makes a great character
witness. Did you tell your date you
got her drunk and screwed her too?

GIRL (O.S.)
You bastard!

BRAD (O.S.)
He's lying!

ALEX
Am I?

Alex brings the camera down.

ALEX
Oh, and I'm totally clean, Brad. No
evidence. You've got nothing on me.
The stuff's totally gone. It's like
I never had it.

BRAD (O.S.)
They'll still believe me.

ALEX
But Brad, you have it. The whole
stash. It's in your house.

BRAD (O.S.)
I'll ruin you, Alex.

ALEX
Ruin me? You can't ruin me. No one
cares what I do, Brad, I'm not
popular. You never wanted me in
your group. And now, it will all
come crashing down around you. Have
a great evening.

EXT. BRAD'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Alex exits and laughs. He runs off into the night.

INT. BRAD'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Brad sits on his bed rubbing his face, as if he had just been slapped. He is shirtless in lounge pants. He walks across his room and stands in front of a hutch atop which sets a mirror.

He looks into the mirror.

BRAD
We have a problem.

BRAD IN MIRROR
Yes, we do.

BRAD
Do we have any kind of leverage or anything we can use to get around it?

BRAD IN MIRROR
I don't know. That tape would convince Jenna in a heartbeat.

BRAD
And if she thinks I've lied to her, it won't look good for our other situation.

BRAD IN MIRROR
What about Colin?

BRAD
What about him? He won't help me.

BRAD IN MIRROR
He will if...

Brad's eyes light up.

BRAD
If I have a way to pin Laura's condition on him.

BRAD IN MIRROR
Right.

Brad reaches into the hutch and retrieves a staple bound book with the title "Student Directory" on the cover. He lays it out on the hutch.

INT. COLIN'S ROOM - NIGHT

The phone rings. Colin lies on the floor. The towel, soaked with blood, is wrapped around his arm. The phone rings again.

Colin pulls himself off the floor. His arm has stopped bleeding, but it is stained with blood. The phone rings again.

Colin picks it up.

COLIN
Hello?

BRAD (V.O.)
Hey, Colin.

COLIN
Brad?

BRAD (V.O.)
Yeah, it's me.

COLIN
What the hell do you want?

INTERCUT COLIN'S ROOM / BRAD'S ROOM

BRAD
It's Alex. He's gone crazy.

COLIN
What do you mean?

BRAD
He came over to my house waiving this videotape he had to have made on his computer using a porn movie or something.

COLIN
What?

BRAD
Listen, he's trying to say that I'm sleeping with this girl, and plans on showing Jenna to prove I raped Laura.

COLIN
I really don't care about this.

BRAD

Really? Are you sure?

COLIN

This is between you and Alex. It has nothing to do with me.

BRAD

What about your frustrations over Kelsey and Tiffany?

Colin's eyes blaze.

COLIN

What are you talking about?

BRAD

Maybe you raped Laura because of your own frustrations over losing the love of your life, and finding a girl who can't compare to her.

COLIN

You can't be serious. That doesn't even make sense.

BRAD

I'll make it make sense. Don't you blame yourself for Tiffany's suicide? Aren't haunted by the thoughts of leaving her alone on that fateful night to - oh, what was it? - have a video game marathon?

COLIN

Stop this.

BRAD

And she needed you so badly. That's what you said she said to you right before she died.

COLIN

Why are you bringing her into this? Haven't I gone through enough?

BRAD

Sounds like a motive to me.

COLIN

You are a bastard. No one will believe that load of crap.

BRAD

Really? You just happened to arrive right after Alex and I found her? That was awful coincidental, wasn't it?

COLIN

That's crazy, and you know it.

BRAD

Oh, I know it, but will anyone else? What if that rumor spreads, hm? People believe me. Do you really want to revisit those memories?

Colin sighs. He rolls his eyes.

COLIN

What do you want, Brad?

BRAD

Go to Alex and get that tape.

COLIN

It's real, isn't it?

BRAD

Of course not! I told you: he edited it on his computer using some porn movie or something. I just don't want it spreading around. It's bad for me. If it spreads, it will be bad for you, too.

COLIN

Ok, I'll talk to him.

END INTERCUT

Colin hangs up. He sighs. He looks at his bloodstained arm.

COLIN

Dammit.

INT. BRAD'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Brad stands in front of the mirror as he hangs up the phone. Closes the Student Directory. Looks at himself in the mirror.

BRAD

What do we do if this doesn't work?

BRAD IN MIRROR

I think we may be out of options.

BRAD

I don't want to be out of options.

BRAD IN MIRROR

Well, there is always that one option.

BRAD

I don't want to use that option.

INT. ALEX'S ROOM - NIGHT

Kelsey rests on Alex's bed. A sound of someone running up steps brings her to. Alex bursts in laughing.

KELSEY

What?

ALEX

Oh my God, that was so funny. You should see what- Oh wait, I don't even think this tape is legal.

KELSEY

What?

ALEX

I caught him in the act. It was quite an eyeful.

KELSEY

Seriously?

ALEX

Oh, you should have seen the look on his face. Oh wait, you can.

He laughs. Kelsey smiles and lets out a light chuckle.

ALEX

Kelsey, he'll have to come clean. There is no way he can get out of this. If you are afraid of talking to Jenna or Colin, we can go together.

Kelsey smiles and nods.

KNOCK, KNOCK.

Alex and Kelsey turn.

ALEX
Hide in the closet.

Kelsey nods and enters the closet, closing the door behind her.

Alex walks through the house to the door and looks out. Colin stands on the porch. Alex opens the door.

ALEX
Colin.

COLIN
Can I come in?

ALEX
Sure, come on up.

Colin enters and walks upstairs. Alex follows until they find themselves in Alex's room. Alex sits on the bed and smiles at Colin.

ALEX
What can I do for you?

COLIN
Is that the camera?

Alex looks at the camera. His eyes grow wide. He gets up, but Colin is closer and takes it. He looks at Alex as he turns the camera on and presses play.

He watches the screen for a moment and then stops it.

COLIN
You know this won't help.

ALEX
I think it will. It's actually for Jenna, so she can know what he does.

COLIN
Brad says you made this on your computer.

ALEX

You can believe whatever you want to believe, Colin, but I guarantee that tape is untouched. Any crime lab could tell.

COLIN

He'll just turn it around somehow. You know how he is.

ALEX

Colin, why are you here?

COLIN

To talk about this.

ALEX

He put you up to it, though, didn't he?

COLIN

He asked me.

ALEX

What did he hold over you? He seems to know everyone's secrets and makes up what he doesn't know.

COLIN

It doesn't matter. I'll take this with me.

He ejects the tape.

ALEX

Colin, wait! Don't do this. Don't let him win. How long are we going to go through this? How many people are going to get hurt? If he wins this round there will be another Laura. There will be others that he rapes or seduces or...gets drunk enough to have sex with.

COLIN

What are you talking about?

ALEX

Do you like Kelsey?

COLIN

Don't change the subject.

ALEX

I'm not. Answer me. Do you like her?

COLIN

Yes. I wish I knew what was wrong with her, but right now, I can't get through. I do like her. She's really special. I just wish I could have her back. What does this have to do with Brad?

ALEX

Why don't you ask her?

Colin watches as Alex walks to his closet door and opens it to reveal Kelsey. Colin looks very confused.

COLIN

Kelsey? What are you doing in Alex's closet?

KELSEY

I had to tell someone. He wants me to tell you.

COLIN

Tell me what?

Kelsey runs out of the closet and throw her arms around Colin. As always, Colin is stunned but returns the hug in kind.

LATER

Colin sits on the bed, staring at the floor. Kelsey looks at him. Alex stands against the wall.

KELSEY

I'm sorry.

COLIN

Don't be.

KELSEY

I didn't even know what was going on until it was over. He hurt me so bad.

COLIN

Oh my God, Kelsey. You should have told someone. Did you?

She shakes her head.

KELSEY

I told Alex just a little while ago. I've been a wreck ever since it happened.

COLIN

That's what was bothering you?

She nods. He holds her tightly. She bawls on his shirt.

KELSEY

I'm sorry. I'm so sorry. I didn't mean to.

COLIN

Stop it. This wasn't your fault. That bastard!

Colin hands the tape to Alex.

COLIN

Here. Show everyone. He deserves to be ruined.

ALEX

I only want to show one person.

INT. PORTMAN HOUSE - NIGHT

KNOCK, KNOCK.

Jenna runs to the door and opens it to find Kelsey, Colin, and Alex standing there.

JENNA

Kelsey. Are you okay?

KELSEY

I'm getting better.

Kelsey steps and throws her arms around Jenna. Jenna hugs her back.

JENNA

I've been so worried about you.

KELSEY

I know. I'm sorry. We have something we need to talk about.

JENNA

What?

KELSEY

You might want to sit down.

Jenna steps back and everyone enters. Alex and Colin sit apart from Kelsey and Jenna.

KELSEY

You remember how I asked you about Brad a couple days ago?

JENNA

Yes, and I know I overreacted.

KELSEY

I wasn't asking to go out with him. I didn't want to.

JENNA

Then what?

KELSEY

Well, you know when Brad came over a few nights ago, and you had to go babysit the Stampers' kids?

JENNA

Yeah.

Kelsey pauses. She looks like she is going to cry again. She sniffles, takes a deep breath, and then continues.

KELSEY

Well, Brad wanted to watch Basic Instinct anyway, and he wanted me to watch it with him.

Jenna's eyes grow wide.

KELSEY

And while we were watching, he got some vodka out of the cabinets, and he gave me a lot to drink.

Jenna sits back on the couch. She covers her face with her hands.

KELSEY

I couldn't walk. He carried me to my room.

(MORE)

KELSEY (cont'd)
 When he got me there, he...did what
 he wanted to. I couldn't stop him.

Jenna leans forward, her face still buried. She takes a deep
 breath, and it is revealed that she is crying. She takes a
 few more breaths to try and recover her composure.

JENNA
 Tell me...this is not true. Tell
 me...you're lying.

ALEX
 She didn't think she could tell you
 or Colin, so she told me. I saw
 Brad first that night with Laura.
 He was coming out of the bushes
 fixing his pants. I was supposed to
 meet her at the park. He denies it
 all.

Jenna looks dumbstruck. Alex stands and walks to the TV with
 his camera.

ALEX
 There's more. This is something you
 don't want to see but need to.

He plugs the camera into the A/V ports in the front (or back)
 of the set. He turns on the camera.

INSERT THE TV

Brad's darkened bedroom dominates the picture. Voices are
 heard and some kind of movement is on the bed.

ALEX (V.O.)
 (whispered)
 It's show time!

END INSERT
 The girl screams.

Jenna stands wide-eyed. Her mouth drops open.

BRAD (V.O.)
 What the hell are you doing here?

ALEX (V.O.)
 So Brad, you've been caught with
 your pants down... literally. How
 do you feel?

BRAD (V.O.)
Give me that tape.

Jenna turns from the set. She looks like she is going to be sick. Kelsey and Colin stare at the screen, equally stunned. Jenna stumbles to her knees as it continues to play.

ALEX (V.O.)
I don't think so. This was very revealing. I think Jenna will like it too. You'd better come clean or she'll get the full view, if you know what I mean.

BRAD (V.O.)
You wouldn't dare. I'll turn you in.

ALEX (V.O.)
I would stay where you are unless you want your ass shining in the moonlight. Wait, you've already done that. Hope you liked him. Laura Durham wasn't too happy with the performance.

GIRL (V.O.)
You did that to her?

BRAD (V.O.)
No, that freak there did.

ALEX (V.O.)
Think about it, but not too long. Oh yes, had a chat with Kelsey too. She makes a great character witness. Did you tell your date you got her drunk and screwed her too?

Jenna looks at Kelsey, who has her eyes closed, leaning in her lap. Jenna sits next to her.

GIRL (V.O.)
You bastard!

BRAD (V.O.)
He's lying!

ALEX (V.O.)
Am I?

The video ends. Alex stops it. Kelsey looks at Jenna.

KELSEY

Are you mad at me?

Jenna gives Kelsey a hug.

JENNA

No. I'm not mad at you. I'm furious that you didn't tell me what happened. I love you. Don't you understand that I would believe you over any guy that comes through here? You're my sister. I'm so sorry.

They hug again. Jenna walks over to Alex. She gives him a hug.

ALEX

What was that for?

JENNA

Talking some sense into her, and knocking some into me.

COLIN

What are you going to do?

JENNA

Only thing I can do.

She walks over to the phone and dials.

JENNA

(sweetly)

Hi, Brad? ... Yeah, I was wondering if you were doing anything ... Well, I just watched Basic Instinct without you, and I really need you right now, if you know what I mean ... Great.

She hangs up.

JENNA

(to group)

He'll be right over.

EXT. PORTMAN HOUSE - LATER

Brad whistles as he walks up to the house. He knocks cheerfully. Jenna answers with a forced smile.

JENNA

Hi honey.

Brad walks in with his arms partially out to hold her, but she backs away.

INT. PORTMAN HOUSE - NIGHT

Jenna backs into the living room. Brad follows her with a smile, stopping hard when he sees Kelsey, Alex, and Colin in the room. He looks at Jenna.

BRAD

What did-

She slaps him.

JENNA

That's for Kelsey!

She slaps him again.

JENNA

That's for Laura!

She slugs him, knocking him to the floor.

JENNA

And that's for whoever you were screwing on that video!

BRAD

What did they tell you? That video's a fake.

JENNA

Really? It looked a lot like your house. How'd he fake that?

BRAD

I don't know, but-

JENNA

You know what, Brad, I've heard the stories, and I always trusted you. I never believed them no matter how much I thought I should.

Jenna stops a moment. She holds her hand over her mouth, fighting back the tears.

JENNA

But my baby sister...my baby
sister?!

She slaps him repeatedly until he holds her hands.

BRAD

Hey, calm down!

Jenna knees him in the crotch. He goes down. She spits on
him.

JENNA

Fuck your calm down! You're
nothing, Brad. You know that?
You're going to be nothing, too.
I'm going to tell the police what
you've done. My sister is going to
tell them what you've done. You're
going to spend a long time in jail.

BRAD

You can't do that. I'm the star of
the football team. Youngest ever.
I've got scholarships. Good
schools. You'll ruin my life!

JENNA

You ruined your life, Brad. You did
it yourself. You didn't need my
help.

Jenna sits next to Kelsey and puts her arm around her.

JENNA

She did. I was so hung up on you
that when she came to me to tell me
what you had done, I yelled at her.
I believe her over everyone else on
this planet. If there is anyone who
would not lie to me or betray me,
it is my baby sister. She looks up
to me, Brad. She is a good girl,
too.

BRAD

Jenna-

JENNA

Get out of here, Brad. I never want
to see you again...except maybe in
court.

BRAD

Please don't do this.

Jenna holds Kelsey again. She ignores Brad. Alex and Colin stand. Brad looks at them. They stare back expressionless. Brad looks around the room one last time. He rises to his feet and leaves.

Jenna breaks down and cries on Kelsey's shoulders this time.

INT. BRAD'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Brad walks into his house. He walks through the darkened house. He rummages through some drawers and unseen things hit the ground in the darkness.

Brad walks into the bathroom and turns on the light. He looks at himself in the mirror. Tears streak down his face.

BRAD

What have you done, Brad? What have you done?

BRAD IN MIRROR

What we always do. We get what we want.

BRAD

But we lost everything.

BRAD IN MIRROR

True. No hope for scholarships to a convicted rapist.

BRAD

Maybe they'll make an exception. I am that good, right?

BRAD IN MIRROR

I doubt it. They're really sticky about the whole "wrap sheet" issue. You can only be a criminal after you get in.

BRAD

I'm out of options.
(despairing)
What have I done?

BRAD IN MIRROR

You've ruined your life.

BRAD
But I can't lose. I am a winner.

BRAD IN MIRROR
Not this time.

BRAD
How did I lose?

BRAD IN MIRROR
I guess you took too much.

BRAD
But I deserve it. It should be mine.

BRAD IN MIRROR
Apparently not.

BRAD
I can still hope for my future.

BRAD IN MIRROR
You have no future.

BRAD
It can't be.

BRAD IN MIRROR
You'll get turned in and go to jail
and lose all the fame and dreams of
an NFL career.

BRAD
What do I have left to live for?

BRAD IN MIRROR
Nothing.

BRAD
Are you sure?

BRAD IN MIRROR
Are you?

Brad stares at himself in the mirror, mouth open -- speechless. He reaches down to what he brought with him. It is a RUN OF THE MILL PISTOL. He picks it up and looks at it. He looks back at himself in the mirror.

BRAD
Is this it? Is it?

His reflection only stares back at him. Brad looks back at the pistol.

BRAD
I was going to famous. I wanted to be the greatest player ever.

BRAD IN MIRROR
Life sucks, dude.

BRAD
Yeah, I guess it does.

Brad holds the pistol ready in his hand. He looks at the mirror.

BRAD
Well, been nice knowing you, Brad.

BRAD IN MIRROR
You too, Brad.

Brad puts the gun in his mouth and fires.

CUT TO BLACK.

The sound of the gunshot echoes across the darkness.

INT. LAURA'S BEDROOM - DAY

SUPER: One Week Later

Alex walks into Laura's room. She sits up in her bed, waiting for him. As he walks in, she smiles.

LAURA
Hi.

ALEX
Hi, Laura. How are you feeling?

LAURA
I'm good. It's good to be home.

Alex nods.

LAURA
I heard about Brad.

ALEX
Yeah. We were all kind of surprised.

LAURA
You heard what he did to me?

ALEX
I helped to expose him for it.

Laura nods. She reaches under her pillow and draws out something in her hand.

LAURA
I didn't know if he would get away with it or not, so before I passed out, I took this.

She opens her hand to reveal Brad's watch. Alex smiles in wonder.

ALEX
You have it.

LAURA
I was surprised I still did. I guess they thought it was mine.

ALEX
I saw you had it, but I didn't know what happened after that. They took us away.

LAURA
I heard.

They look at each other for a moment.

LAURA
Do you know why I wanted to see you that night?

ALEX
Not completely.

She smiles.

LAURA
Any ideas?

ALEX
I don't want to seem too hopeful.

LAURA
Come here.

Alex leans close to her. She leans forward and kisses him.

LAURA

I really like you. I wanted to know
if you liked me.

Alex nods. Laura looks at him. She smiles and leans forward
with a whisper.

LAURA

This is the part where you ask me
out...unless you're still too
frightened.

She leans back and looks at him. He smiles.

ALEX

Would you like to go out sometime?
You know, when you're able to.

LAURA

I'd love to.

They both smile at each other and share a final kiss.

THE END