

"Absolution"

By:

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Draft Eight

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EXT. DEEP IN THE WOODS - DAY

A man with a rifle slung over his shoulder leads two young boys as they meticulously make their way through the thick brushed woods.

The man stops and motions for the boys to do the same. He points out some grass that has been slightly flattened. They acknowledge they see it.

He points to his nose and takes a deep breath, smelling the environment. The boys do the same, taking in the scent.

Without talking, he points in a direction and the three quietly move on.

ABRAHAM (V.O.)

My Uncle came from a long line of trackers. He took me and my brother, Shane once. He said the key to being a good tracker is understanding why living things do what they do. With animals, it's very predictable...

The Uncle and boys are sitting behind a small mound. ABE, a nine year old boy, is behind the rifle lining up his shot at a deer in the distance. He's nervous and conflicted. A tear runs down his cheek. He can't do it. He puts the rifle down.

Without fear, SHANE, his eight year old younger brother, instantly picks up the gun, aims, and shoots without hesitation. Hitting the deer.

Abe stands over the wounded deer laying on the ground taking in its last breaths. Their eyes connect.

Younger Shane walks right up and raises the gun to the deer's head.

ABRAHAM (V.O.)

With humans... It's much more complicated.

Shane smirks at the helpless deer as he squeezes the trigger. Abe with a concerned glance looks at him. BANG!

INT. COURTROOM - DAY

BANG! The JUDGE slams the gavel down. The crowd quiets. ABRAHAM CONNORS, now a forty-three year old handsome man, has the same concerned look as he sits behind the defendants team of lawyers.

JUDGE
Order in the court!

The courtroom is filled with a loud silence awaiting the verdict of the controversial case. The head JUROR stands to read the verdict. Everyone's attention peaks.

JUROR
For the first degree murder. In
the account of the defendant. We
the jurors... find the
defendant... Innocent of all
charges.

The courtroom explodes with both anger and celebrations throughout. He is congratulated along with the lawyers.

Handshakes are plentiful as the courtroom starts to make their way out of the room.

EXT. COURTHOUSE FRONT STAIRS - DAY

The stairs are swarming with media. Abraham and the team of lawyers, along with the Client push themselves through the mass. A NEWSCASTER is doing an interview as they push through.

Abe and the team of lawyers duck into one limo, as the client splits off into another.

INT. UPSCALE RESTAURANT - LATER

Abraham and a few of his COLLEAGUES are having some celebratory scotches and a nice meal. A PRETTY GIRL walks up to the group and recognizes the lawyers.

PRETTY GIRL
Hey... you're the lawyers that
were on TV.

She smiles at Abe and walks over to her group of pretty friends sitting at the upscale bar.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LAWYER #1

I just have to say thank you to
the best Legal investigator in the
country.

He raises his glass looking at Abe.

LAWYER #1 (CONT'D)

If you didn't pull that one out of
a hat I'm afraid we wouldn't be
having this dinner.

ABRAHAM

Don't thank me just yet. Wait till
you get my bill.

They smile and clank their expensive scotches together.
Abe's phone vibrates on the table. He looks down at the
call and hits the button to ignore it.

ABRAHAM (CONT'D)

Yeah... I should be heading soon.

The WAITRESS comes over to Abe.

WAITRESS

The ladies over there bought you a
your friends a drink, sir. They
said congratulations.

Abe looks over to the table of attractive women and nods.
They smile at him.

LAWYER #3

You gotta to stay now. One more.

LAWYER #1

Just one more.

Abe gives in.

INT. UPSCALE RESTAURANT - TWO HOURS LATER

Abe and two of his colleagues are at the bar with the
three girls. The same Pretty Girl is standing very close
to Abe.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LAWYER #1

(pointing to Abe)

So, that's when this guy, like an action hero in a movie says to the president of the whole corporation. Take it, or it suck it. It's your choice Mr. President.

Everyone starts laughing loudly at the punch line. Abe's phone starts to vibrate again. He reluctantly hits the button and gets up.

ABRAHAM

Sorry gents and ladies... I have other engagements to attend too.

Everyone hoots and hollers at his decision to leave. The Pretty Girl gives him a disappointed look. He smiles and points to his wedding ring.

He waves and starts to make his way out. One of the lawyers follows him and pulls him to the side.

LAWYER #1

Abe, I can't thank you enough for what you did for this firm. Actually, I can. We would like to make you an offer for you to come on board full time with us. As a partner.

ABRAHAM

A partner?

LAWYER #1

As a full time investigator and maybe even be the lead on some cases.

ABRAHAM

Wow... that's an amazing offer. I don't know what to say.

LAWYER #1

Say yes.

ABRAHAM

(confident and cocky)

I'll let you know.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LAWYER #1

(shocked)

You'll let me know? This is a once
in a lifetime opportunity.

ABRAHAM

I know. I'll let you know.

Abe starts to walk away.

LAWYER #1

(projecting)

It's only going to be on the table
for a limited time.

Abe smirks as he walks away and the Lawyer stands there
in awe.

INT. ABE CONNOR'S HOME- - NIGHT

DINING ROOM

Abe walks in. It's set up with candles and one nice meal
left on a plate. The other two plates have been eaten and
only scraps remain.

He looks at the meals and walks through to the living
room.

His wife, WENDY, and his twelve year old son, ISAAC, sit
on the couch watching TV. Isaac has a black eye on his
left side.

ABRAHAM

(announcing)

I'm home. Sorry...

They don't acknowledge him. A silence remains in the
living room. Abe walks out.

DINING ROOM

Abe sits at the dining room table by himself eating his
cold filet mignon and double mash.

LIVING ROOM

Abe walks in with three big ice cream sundaes.

ABRAHAM (CONT'D)

(enthusiastically)

It's desert time.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

He hands off the sundaes. His son looks at the sundae and then at his mom. His mom nods her head that it's okay for him to take it.

They all eat their sundaes on the couch and watch TV together.

ABRAHAM (CONT'D)

Isaac, I know I haven't been around a lot. But, I promise I'm going to make it up to you. Did you watch your dad on the TV today?

Isaac nods his head yes.

ABRAHAM (CONT'D)

I looked extremely handsome didn't I?

Isaac smiles and nods his head yes.

Abe's cell phone starts buzzing. He checks the number doesn't recognize it. Hits the ignore button.

ABRAHAM (CONT'D)

Well, if your mom doesn't disagree. I'd like to take you on a man trip. Just the two of us. Spring Training to watch the Phillies. Would you want to do a man trip with me?

A big smile plasters across Isaac's face as he jumps with joy into his dad's lap.

ISAAC

I do want to do a man trip!

ABRAHAM

Because we're men. And that's what men do.

ISAAC

Yeah... men.

Wendy stares at Abe and shakes her head at his antics.

Again, Abe's cell phone starts buzzing. Hits the ignore button.

WENDY CONNORS

You're pathetic.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Abe shrugs his shoulders.

Abe smiles and eats his sundae with his family.

He grabs the remote and starts flipping through the channels.

ABRAHAM

Let's see if we can find your
handsome dad on the TV again.

He stops on the channel with him coming out of the court house. Him and his son watch smiling as his wife shakes her head.

His phone rings again. He answers it.

MAN ON THE PHONE

Do you know Luke Milser?

The life in Abe's eye's quickly diminishes. He's silent for a few seconds then slowly gets up and walks out of the room.

The phone remains silent.

MAN ON THE PHONE

Do you know Luke Milser?

ABRAHAM

(reluctant)

Yeah, yeah I do.

MAN ON THE PHONE

He needs your help.

The man hangs up.

Abe just sits listening to nothing for a few seconds all the color runs from his face.

He hastily makes his way to the bathroom.

He looks at himself in the mirror. He's sweating and breathing heavy like he's going to have a panic attack. He pulls out a little pill container and pops a few pills.

His wife is on the other side of the door.

WENDY CONNORS

Is everything okay? Abe?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

Abe stares at himself shaking in the mirror.

WENDY CONNORS

Abe?

FADE TO BLACK.

EXT. ABE CONNOR'S HOUSE - DRIVEWAY - DAY

Abe packs up the rest of the car as his son sits in the passenger seat.

WENDY CONNORS

I'm not really sure what's gotten into you. Can't this trip wait?

ABRAHAM

It really can't. I know it sounds crazy. But, I'll explain when I can.

Abe leans and kisses her.

ABRAHAM (CONT'D)

Besides it's a man trip. Girls wouldn't understand.

ISAAC

Mans trip. Sorry mom.

Wendy shakes here head at him. Abe jumps in the car and they take off.

INT. ABE'S CAR - LATER

Abe and Isaac drive silently down the road together as the sun illuminates their faces. They struggle to find words.

ABRAHAM

We can pull over in a bit and have a catch?

Isaac agrees.

ABRAHAM (CONT'D)

So, what happened to your eye bud?

Isaac is reluctant to tell him.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ISAAC

Some boys at school were teasing me and he punched me.

ABRAHAM

He punched you?

ISAAC

Yeah, he said I was weirdo with no friends.

ABRAHAM

What happened after he punched you?

ISAAC

He got suspended.

ABRAHAM

How come I didn't know about this?

ISAAC

I don't know.

ABRAHAM

(sort of joking)

I got to be a better parent don't I?

ISAAC

I think your okay.

ABRAHAM

Are you okay?

ISAAC

Yeah...

ABRAHAM

Hey bud, do you have a hard time making friends at school?

Isaac nods his head yes.

Abe pats him on the shoulder trying to comfort him.

ABRAHAM (CONT'D)

It will get better buddy. Pretty soon you'll have more friends than you'll know what to do with.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Isaac agrees with his dad but doesn't really believe it. They sit silently driving again. Abe feels he must say something to break up the silence.

ABRAHAM (CONT'D)

How you think the Phillies are going to do this year?

Isaac just shrugs his shoulders.

ISAAC

Where you any good at baseball?

ABRAHAM

Well, I guess I was pretty good. My brother was better.

ISAAC

What was he like?

ABRAHAM

My brother?

Abe thinks about his brother.

EXT. EMPTY LOT - DAY - FLASHBACK

A fourteen year old Abe, and his thirteen year old brother, Shane, are playing sandlot baseball with a bunch of kids. Abe is pitching on the mound. The bases are loaded. Shane is behind the plate catching.

Shane runs out to talk to his brother.

SHANE

What are you doing?

Shane lights up a cigarette and takes a puff and passes the cigarette to his brother. Abe takes a puff.

SHANE (CONT'D)

Strike this son of a bitch out, will ya?

ABRAHAM

I think my arms had it.

They trade the cigarette back and forth.

SHANE

I've seen you strike out way better guys with less.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The BOY batting, a much bigger boy, overhears what they are saying.

BIGGER BOY

What did you say?

Shane walks back to home.

SHANE

I said he's gonna make you look like a horse's ass.

BIGGER BOY

Watch it, Williams.

Shane goes behind the plate still smoking his cigarette.

SHANE

(to his brother)

Come on. Throw it right past this bum.

Abe winds up and throws it high and outside, way off the plate.

BIGGER BOY

(to Shane)

Looks like he doesn't have anything left in the oven.

SHANE

Come on Abe. Right by him.

Abe winds up and delivers a pitch right down the middle. The kid clobbers it. It's way over the left fielder's head.

The kid smiles at Shane and starts to do a home run trot. He only gets a few feet before Shane comes from behind him and sucker punches him in the back of the head.

The kid falls to the ground. Abe looks at Shane, Shane smiles and starts to run away from the field. He motions for his brother to follow.

SHANE (CONT'D)

Let's get out of here!

The two run away as fast as they can as the other boys just stand in awe.

INT. ABE'S CAR - DAY - BACK TO PRESENT

ABRAHAM

Yeah, what could I say. He was my brother. He was a handful.

ISAAC

That's all?

ABRAHAM

Well, he was a good ball player. I don't know what else to say.

Abe quiets up.

ISAAC

Oh yeah, the Phillies are going to stink this year.

ABRAHAM

I hope not.

ISAAC

Me too...

They laugh about it.

EXT. REST STOP - LATER

Abe and Isaac sit out in the grass eating their sandwiches and enjoying the sun.

They pull out baseball mitts and the two start having a catch. All is good in the world between father and son.

The ball gets away from Isaac and gets lodged under the fence. Abe watches his son as he's trying to get the ball out from underneath the fence.

HARD CUT TO:

EXT. BACKYARD - DAY - FLASHBACK

A fourteen year old Abraham and his younger brother, Shane, are playing catch in the backyard.

Another boy, LUKE, around the same age, stands with his dog watching them from the side. His hair is ratty, and his clothes have several patches covering the worn holes. The ball gets away from Abe and it gets lodged under the fence.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SHANE

(to Luke)

Hey, can you get that ball?

Luke looks enthused that they are even acknowledging him. He bends down and tries to get the lodged ball from under the fence. He's struggling.

Shane gives Abe a disturbing smirk, similar to the one he made when he shot the deer when they were younger.

EXT. REST STOP - DAY - BACK TO PRESENT

Abe is standing in the field gazing off.

ISAAC

Dad? Dad!

Abe snaps out of his trance. Isaac is waiting for him. He throws the ball back to him.

They continue to have a catch as the dusk sets in.

INT. ABE'S CAR - DUSK

Abe and Isaac happily drive down the road together.

INT. WEST VIRGINIA STATE PRISON WAITING ROOM - MORNING

Abe and Isaac sit in a crowded waiting area. A LADY calls out Abe's name. Abe gets up and bends down to Isaac.

ABRAHAM

I'll be right back.

ISAAC

Can't I go with you? I don't like it in here.

Abe waves to the lady at the desk across the way. She waves back at them.

ABRAHAM

I already talked to Joyce over there. She's going to be watching you when I'm gone. If you have any problems just go to her.

Isaac reluctantly waves back at Joyce.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ISAAC

Okay.

Abe follows a lady through a door. He looks back and sees Isaac watching him as the heavy door locks behind him.

He follows the lady through several dark bleak hallways and rooms.

INT. WEST VIRGINIA STATE PRISON HOLDING CELL - DAY

He's led to a holding cell. A man sits in the cell.

A guard escorts him in and closes the door. The man sits chained to a chair with his head down. He has visible burns mark scars on the left side of his body on his face, neck, and arm. Abe cautiously and nervously sits down in the chair across from him.

ABRAHAM

...My name is Abraham Connors. I'm a legal investigator. I get hired by law firms to look at their cases and see if I can discover or acquire some new evidence to help their clients. I've talked to your lawyer, and I'd like to volunteer my service to see if I can help you.

The man just sits there. Abe anxiously waits for a response for a good minute. Abe slides his business card across the table.

ABRAHAM (CONT'D)

Here's my card if you change your mind.

Abe slowly gets up.

The man never moves. Abe watches him and meanders out.

INT. WEST VIRGINIA STATE PRISON WAITING ROOM - DAY

Abe gets back in the waiting room. He sees his son sleeping with a magazine laying across his lap. He smiles and goes over and picks him up. Isaac awakes while over his shoulder.

ISAAC

Is everything okay?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ABRAHAM

You ready to go to Spring
Training?

ISAAC

(smiling)

Yes...

He carries him out of the prison.

INT. ABE'S CAR - DAY

The two drive down the road together. This time Isaac is smiling at his father. And his father fakes a smile back. His concern shines right through. They continue down the road.

EXT. SPRING TRAINING BASEBALL PARK - NEXT DAY

Abe and Isaac are sitting in the bleachers. Isaac already has on a Phillies shirt and hat and is eating a big ice cream cone that is dripping all over himself. Abe pulls out his phone and dials.

ABRAHAM

(on the phone)

Hey babe. We got here.

Isaac tugs on his shirt.

ISAAC

Look who's coming up to the plate.

ABRAHAM

(to Isaac)

Give me a minute.

(on the phone)

He's so excited to be here.

(pause)

Look, I wanted to say I'm sorry
for leaving like that. I love you.

He hangs up the phone.

Isaac tugs at his shirt again. Abe smiles at him.

ABRAHAM (CONT'D)

Okay, okay...

He looks at the field

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Abe's phone rings. He pulls it out, it says, "Restricted Number". He answers it.

ABRAHAM (CONT'D)
(on the phone)
Hello...

MAN ON THE PHONE
I want you to help me.

Abe just stands there holding his phone not answering.
The air is silent.

ABRAHAM
(on the phone)
I'll be there on Friday.

Abe hangs up the phone. He slouches on the bench and just sits stoically staring ahead. All the life and energy leaves his body. Isaac smiles at him, he doesn't even see him.

ISAAC
Are you okay dad? Dad?

The hitter loudly cracks a baseball. Abe flinches at the noise.

EXT. BACKYARD - DAY - FLASHBACK

30 YEARS AGO - CONTINUOUS FROM LAST FLASHBACK

Luke bends down and tries to get the lodged ball from under the fence. He's struggling as it's really lodged. Shane gives Abe a disturbing smirk.

Shane runs up to Luke, who is kneeling close to the ground and kicks his face like he's punting a football. Luke collapses to the ground and breaks into hysterics.

Shane crawls next to him and maniacally starts laughing at the helpless boy.

Abe steps back and distances himself.

Shane starts to take dirt and grass and stuffs it in Luke's orifices.

Luke's dog gets close to Shane and barks, trying to protect Luke. Shane punches the dog in the nose. The dog yipes and runs away.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Shane continues. Luke tries to gasp for air as his mouth, nose and ears are being filled with pieces of earth.

Abe stands frightened and helpless as an observer.

Shane quickly stops and grabs the ball and acts as if nothing has happened.

SHANE

Abe, come on.

Shane throws the ball to Abe. It whizzes right by him. They continue to have a catch as the boy cries laying next to the fence.

EXT. PHILLIES SPRING TRAINING BASEBALL PARK - DAY

Abe is sitting on the bench as Isaac shakes him.

ISAAC

Dad? You watching?

Abe snaps out of it. He looks at his son and shakes his head yes. He goes back to watching the game.

EXT. WEST VIRGINIA STATE PRISON PARKING LOT

Abe sits in his car and takes some big breaths. He takes a hand full of pills and throws them back. He gets himself together and exits.

INT. WEST VIRGINIA STATE PRISON WAITING ROOM - A FEW DAYS LATER

Abraham waits. The lady calls his name. Abe follows a lady through a door. He looks back and looks for where Isaac was sitting the time before. He's not there. The heavy door locks behind him.

He follows the lady through several dark bleak hallways and rooms. He's led to a holding cell. Luke sits in the cell. A guard escorts Abe in and closes the door.

INT. WEST VIRGINIA STATE PRISON VISITATION ROOM - MORNING

A man sits chained to a chair with his head down. Abe sits down in the chair across from him.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

This time Luke lifts his head and stares at Abe for a few moments.

LUKE

I never thought I would see you again.

ABRAHAM

Me neither.

LUKE

Why are you here?

ABRAHAM

Somebody called me and told me you needed help. Do you know who it was?

LUKE

No... Why you really here?

ABRAHAM

I don't know. I though... I thought I could do some good.

LUKE

Do some good for what?

ABRAHAM

You know. To make up for the bad that happened.

LUKE

What happened was a long time ago. We were just kids.

A look of relief comes over Abe's face.

ABRAHAM

Okay... I'd still like to take an extensive look into your case and see if I can find anything to break it open.

Luke stares intensely at him.

LUKE

Okay then.

ABRAHAM

Okay then... I'm going to go see the detectives who handled the case tomorrow. And, I'll be back.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LUKE

Thank you.

ABRAHAM

Your welcome.

Abe leaves the room.

HALLWAY

Abe stops and leans back against the wall and takes a few breaths.

INT. CHARLES TOWN DETECTIVES OFFICE - NEXT DAY

Abe walks into a police office that looks like it's from the seventies. Everything, including the people working there are a flash from the past. He walks up to a SECRETARY who is sporting big hair and way too much makeup.

ABRAHAM

I'm looking for Detective Briggs.

SECRETARY

(nonchalantly points)
He's in the interrogation office
taking a hangover nap. Just walk
right in and shake him.

Abe looks strangely at the response. He walks over to the office and opens the door.

Sleeping on the table is DETECTIVE BRIGGS, a disheveled man in his sixties. He looks to have had a rough paper route. He's wearing an older suit, big bags under his eyes, and is slightly out of shape.

Abe stands in the doorway not sure if he should really shake the man.

SECRETARY (CONT'D)

(yelling a matter of
fact)

You gotta just shake him to get
him up.

Abe reluctantly walks up to him, and slowly shakes him. Nothing. He then shakes him harder. He doesn't move. Abe goes to shake him again. But, the man grabs his hand.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DETECTIVE BRIGGS
If you shake me again I'll break
your fucking digits.

Abe pulls away. Brigg's eyes slowly open as he stretches his body.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS (CONT'D)
Maryann, get me some jet fuel
please.

He still takes a few seconds to get himself together. He completely ignores Abe's presence.

ABRAHAM
I've left you six messages over
the last two days.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS
(holding his finger
up)
Not yet!

Maryann comes in with two cups of coffee and hands him one and puts one on the table.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS (CONT'D)
Thank you sweet heart.

He gulps down the cup of coffee likes it's a cold glass of lemonade on a hot day. He takes a deep breath of relief.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS (CONT'D)
(overly sarcastic)
So, you're that big douche
investigator that wants to waste
my time?

ABRAHAM
(a matter of fact)
Yup, that's me, douche. You ready
to go?

The other cup of coffee sits steaming on the desk. He throws it back.

Briggs stands up and walks out of the room.

INT. POLICE STATION STORAGE ROOM

Briggs and Abe stand in a room filled head to toe with boxes.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS

This is all of em. Didn't get put
in the computer yet.

(walking away)

I'll be looking at the back of my
eye lids in the other room.

Briggs leaves.

EXT. POLICE OFFICE PARKING LOT - DAY- LATER

Abe finishes up loading his boxes in his car. Briggs
leans against a car and watches as he sips coffee and
smokes a butt.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS

We're driving your car. I just got
mine detailed three months ago.

ABRAHAM

How far is it?

DETECTIVE BRIGGS

(deadpan)

Bout an hour of the biggest piece
of shit roads you'll ever drive.
Then, you got about twenty minutes
of the muddiest son of a bitch
dirt roads, and about an hour of
walking... The walk's pretty nice.

Abe takes out an envelope and hands it to him.

Briggs looks though the envelope. There's a stack of
hundreds in it. He thumbs through them.

ABRAHAM

If you could just extend me a
little more of your patience. I'll
make worth it.

Briggs thumbs through the money again.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS

Well, we better get started then.

Abe smirks as he gets in the car.

INT. ABE'S CAR - DAY

They drive through the mountains filled with small poverty stricken towns that are falling apart. Stray dogs roaming the streets and plenty of closed down businesses and boarded up houses.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS
Pull over at this convenience
store.

He pulls over at a little general store.

EXT. GENERAL STORE - CONTINUOUS

Briggs goes inside. As he does two shirtless strung out men come strolling up to the store and sit against the wall and start drinking pounders.

Briggs comes strolling out with a plastic bag. He gets into the car. Briggs takes out a tall boy beer and cracks it. He offers another to Abe.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS
A little eye opener?

ABRAHAM
No thank you.

One of the guys leaning against the wall vomits on himself.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS
Welcome to the Appalachians.

They pull back on to the road and keep driving for a bit.

They pull off the paved road and start to drive on dirt roads. The area is even more poverty stricken. Occasional shacks in the woods with hillbilly families congregating on the porches.

INT. ABE'S CAR - LATER

DETECTIVE BRIGGS
(small talk)
It's a shit hole isn't it?

ABRAHAM
Didn't you have a partner on the
case?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DETECTIVE BRIGGS

He got tired of dealing with the animals.

(pointing)

Pull over here. Time to get to walking.

ABRAHAM

I thought he had a nervous breakdown?

DETECTIVE BRIGGS

That too...

Abe pulls the car over.

EXT. WEST VIRGINIA APPALACIAN MOUNTAINS - DAY

They get out of the car and start walking down small paths through the woods.

They come up on an old shack.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS

Let's go see if my Auntie is home?

Abe looks at him weirdly as they go up to the shack. He knocks on the door. A woman with a pistol opens the door.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS (CONT'D)

(pleading and
laughing)

It's just me, Bobby, Auntie B.

AUNTIE B, is very old and weathered, holding up a pistol trying to make out who is at her door. She finally recognizes him.

AUNTEE B.

(laughing)

I almost blew your head off. You want some sweet tea?

DETECTIVE BRIGGS

You're damn right we want some sweet tea.

AUNTEE B.

Who's this handsome fellow?

They sit down and she places sweet tea in front of them.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DETECTIVE BRIGGS
Another prick wasting my time on
the Olsen boys murders.

AUNTEE B.
That was a sin.

ABRAHAM
You knew them?

AUNTEE B.
I sure did.

Abe's attention perks up.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS
See, everybody in these parts
stops at Auntee B's for sweet tea.
And everybody always has.

AUNTEE B.
It's not like it used to be.
Couldn't keep enough sweet tea
around this place.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS
(intentionally loudly
whispers)
She's the gossip queen of the West
Virginia Appalachians.

AUNTEE B.
(proudly smiling)
I am not.

ABRAHAM
Can you tell me about Luke Milser?

DETECTIVE BRIGGS
Not this time. We gotta get
moving.

He reaches into the bag and hands her a bag of sugar, a
box of 100 tea bags, and a can of beer. She takes them.

She feels the beer.

AUNTEE B.
Still cold.

She cracks it open and gulps it down.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

DETECTIVE BRIGGS

All right auntie. Heading over to
the Olsen's old place.

AUNTEE B.

Don't know why you're doing it
when you got the guy already.

Briggs agrees as they leave.

EXT. OLD HOUSE. LATER

They walk up to an old abandoned house.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS

This is where they lived. Husband
and wife, and two boys. They were
decent. Drunks... but decent.

They walk in. An old dead dog carcass is in the middle of
the room.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS (CONT'D)

After it happened. The husband
hung himself right up in the tree
out front.

They leave.

EXT. OLD SCHOOL BUS IN THE WOODS. LATER

They walk up to an old school bus with blacked out
windows.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS

You want a beer?

ABRAHAM

(stern)

I'm here to look at the crime
scene.

Briggs ignores him and walks in the bus. Abe stands
briefly objecting. Then follows him in.

INT. SCHOOL BUS IN THE WOODS - DAY

Abe's speed changes once he realizes what he's walking
into.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The handful of people sitting at the make shift bar appear as if they have been sitting on their stools for forty years. Not a tooth exist among the five people.

The one armed bartender slides two dirty beer filled mugs in front of them and gives Abe the stink eye.

ABRAHAM

(calmer)

I'd really like to go see the crime scene.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS

This is where your boy Luke spent the entire day, two days before the murders. And that was his bartender.

Abe quiets his tongue and looks around investigating the bar, the patrons, and the one armed bartender named, STUMPY.

ABRAHAM

Will he talk to us?

DETECTIVE BRIGGS

He'll talk to me. I can arrange something for you. How much money you got on you?

ABRAHAM

What?

DETECTIVE BRIGGS

How much cash you got an ya big slick?

ABRAHAM

Like, a thousand dollars.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS

A thousand dollars? You're going to get us killed with that kind of money. Take out fifty and discreetly pass it to me with out showing everyone your wad.

Abe takes a fifty out of his wallet and passes it beneath the bar to Briggs.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS (CONT'D)

(shaking his head)

A thousand bucks...

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

DETECTIVE BRIGGS (CONT'D)
(to the bartender)
Stumpy, two more.

He slides the fifty across the bar.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS (CONT'D)
Keep it. I want to introduce you
to somebody. This is Abe Connors.
He's gonna wanta talk to you
sometime.

Stumpy takes the money and snarls at Abe.

ABRAHAM
Nice fella.

Briggs throws back his beer.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS
Let's get out of here.

ABRAHAM
I thought we were gonna talk to
that guy?

DETECTIVE BRIGGS
Patience city boy.

They exit.

EXT. WATERFALL STREAM - LATER

They walk up on a small waterfall that falls into a
little pool and then makes it's way down a small stream.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS
It was a real hot night. The boys'
parents had left them for three
days alone. They were partiers.

Abe has his phone out and is doing some stuff on an app.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS (CONT'D)
What are you doing?

ABRAHAM
Tracking all of our moments with
my new navigation app.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS
I hate fucking technology.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Abe smirks at him. Briggs shakes his head.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS (CONT'D)

(he continues)

The two boys in the middle of the night had come down here to cool off. Johnny was eight, and his older brother, Tommy, was ten. It happened over here.

He takes him to the side where a tree sits. Abe takes out the case photos.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS (CONT'D)

They had been raped several times. Then the son of a bitch cut off both their penises and scrotums and kept em. Kept their clothes as well. Then pushed em in the water.

Abe walks around and starts snapping photos of all the places where the actions took place and comparing them to the files.

Briggs shakes his head at him.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS (CONT'D)

You getting what you need?

ABRAHAM

Just making sure everything adds up.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS

(defensive)

It's all there.

Abe finishes up snapping photos and they leave.

EXT. DEEP WOODS - LATER

They walk deep into the woods.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS

This is what they call the speed zone. Cookers set up booby traps; old bear traps, explosives, and shit like that.

Abe slows down his pace and starts really observing his path. Briggs smirks, and takes the lead.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DETECTIVE BRIGGS (CONT'D)
It's right up here.

ABRAHAM
Where?

DETECTIVE BRIGGS
I thought it was right here.

Abe looks at his phone app. Briggs takes a step and falls through the ground.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS (CONT'D)
(from below)
Ouch... fuck! I found it.

INT. UNDERGROUND ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Abe and Briggs are down in a makeshift hole. Briggs is holding his back and pointing a flash light around an underground room. Remnants of a man living there occupy the room; clothes, a TV, an old mattress.

ABRAHAM
Where the hell are we?

DETECTIVE BRIGGS
(laughs)
We're in the asshole of West Virginia, son.

ABRAHAM
You're not kidding.

Briggs shines his flashlight at the mattress.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS
That's where they found him sleeping. He had been up weeks partying.

Abe snaps some pictures.

ABRAHAM
Where did they find his shoes?

Points to the corner.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS
Over there.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ABRAHAM

You don't think it's odd that they only found blood on his shoes? And no other hard evidence?

DETECTIVE BRIGGS

I don't. He must have stopped somewhere and cleaned up and ditched the clothes.

ABRAHAM

The big question is if he had the common sense to ditch the clothes, why not the shoes too?

DETECTIVE BRIGGS

(sarcastic)

He just chopped off two kids' pricks. Maybe his MIND wasn't in a good place.

ABRAHAM

Shh...

DETECTIVE BRIGGS

(defensive)

You shh...

He puts his finger to his mouth motioning to be quiet, then points up. Up above you hear some rustling. It's sounds big and is getting closer. Briggs takes out his gun and points it above. They stand waiting.

A big ratty dog comes sticking his head over the hole. He pants and wags his tail at the new visitors. Briggs laughs and puts his gun down.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS (CONT'D)

God damn jungle mutts.

A Man wearing a clown mask peaks his head over the hole and points a shotgun at the two.

MAN IN MASK

Call my dog a mutt again old man.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS

All right, put it down. I'm a homicide detective. You don't want that kind of heat around here. I'm just showing this man here where the Olsen murderer was found. We will be on our way soon, son.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

MAN IN MASK

Don't come back.

The Man in the mask pretends like he's going to shoot the two men. Then quickly runs away. Abe quickly goes up the ladder and gets ready to poke his head up.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS

(under his breath)

Are you trying to get us killed?

ABRAHAM

Just trying to get a new lead.

Abe pokes his head out and sees the man run through the woods.

EXT. ABOVE THE UNDERGROUND ROOM

Abe starts to climb out.

ABRAHAM

Let's follow him.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS

Nope... This old man doesn't want to get shot today.

Briggs heads in the opposite direction then the man had went. Abe reluctantly follows Briggs.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Abe has a luggage cart full of evidence boxes. He unloads them into his room. Abe opens a box and starts going through the evidence.

He stays up into the wee hours looking through the boxes.

INT. WEST VIRGINIA STATE PRISON VISITATION ROOM - NEXT DAY

Abe sits in the room. He has rings around his eyes and looks a bit less polished than before. The guards bring in Luke.

ABRAHAM

Morning...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LUKE

You look like shit.

ABRAHAM

Thanks... I stayed up all night trying to take a dent out of the case files.

LUKE

What did you think?

ABRAHAM

I think there's a lot of holes that I can peak my head into and see what comes up. They really don't have anything on you besides the blood on the bottom of your shoes.

LUKE

The way I see it was I just happened to walk through a bloody stream.

ABRAHAM

I need you to go over exactly what you did the three days leading up to murders. I need the exact accounts.

LUKE

I've thought about the three days leading up to those boys murders for the last three years.

ABRAHAM

Hopefully we will find something.

LUKE

Here we go. I was on maybe day seven or day eight of a tweak, maybe it was twelve. I never really know once you get pass six.

INT. LUKE'S HOLE IN THE GROUND - DAY - FLASHBACK

We see Luke scrummaging around looking for food. He looks in a cooler, nothing. Looks through empty boxes, nothing.

The room is only lit by a small lantern. He has a few car batteries that are hooked up to a small TV. He stops and does a line of meth.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

He continues to walk around his hole and look through everything in search of food. Nothing. He climbs out of his hole above ground.

EXT. OUTSIDE OF HOLE IN THE GROUND - DAY - FLASHBACK

Luke readjusts to the sunlight. He takes a few seconds, then he starts looking all around his hole.

He checks his animal traps that he had set. Nothing. He ducks back into the hole and pulls out a backpack. Puts it on his shoulders and pops back up and starts walking.

LUKE (V.O.)

I ran out of food, and my traps
were empty, because I never set
them. So, I decided to visit the
town of Standard.

He continues to walk and walk for hours. He nervously looks behind himself for anyone following him. He walks through bushes, over streams, around ponds, and thick trees.

LUKE (V.O.)

Standard is one of the small towns
I could walk to if I get hard up,
or bored. I didn't like to visit
the same place twice in a row.

He arrives in a small town. The sight of people makes him even more skittish.

EXT. BURGER JOINT - DAY - FLASHBACK

He goes up to a small burger joint and orders a few burgers and cokes.

He sits down on a bench and, like an animal, devours the burgers and drinks without even blinking. He constantly looks around nervously. A group of little kids eyeball him in amazement.

LUKE (V.O.)

Ordered a couple sodas and
burgers. Scarfed them down. Felt
turbocharged again.

INT. SUPERMARKET - DAY - FLASHBACK

He's at the super market stocking up on canned goods, and cookies.

LUKE (V.O.)

Stocked up on canned goods and double stuffed Oreo cookies. I'm telling you. They're the real crack.

EXT. SUPERMARKET - DAY - FLASHBACK

He steps out of the market and opens a box of cookies and starts scarfing them down. He washes them down with a gallon of milk. The milk spills all down his shirt as he gulps it down. He loads all the food in his backpack.

LUKE (V.O.)

I ate a whole package of those son of a bitches in the parking lot. Man, I loved them cookies. Washed em down with a half gallon of milk. That's how I always did it.

INT. HOLE IN THE WALL BAR - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

He sits at the bar drinking beers with whiskey in em' for hours. The day turns into night. He pays OLD PEG, an older trashy woman and they exit out the back.

LUKE (V.O.)

I drank at the bar called the Hole in the Wall for about... a quite a few hours. That's the place to go if you don't want to be seen.

EXT. BEHIND THE HOLE IN THE WALL BAR - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

Luke has sex with the older women against a wall. The air conditioning is humming and leaking right next to them as they moan and pant.

LUKE (V.O.)

I paid a girl they call Old Peg to screw me. We went out back and I bent her over the wall.

He finishes and leaves the girl bent over.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

OLD PEG

Where's the rest of my money? You
owed me from last time.

Luke gives her a little baggy and splits into the night.

EXT. WOODS - MORNING - FLASHBACK

Luke stumbles through the woods. It changes from night to day as he walks home. He finally gets to his hole and goes in.

LUKE (V.O.)

Then I walked home. I was pretty
drunk. Took a bit longer.

INT. UNDER GROUND METH LAB HOLE - DAY - FLASHBACK

Like a mad scientist, Luke wears a fireman's mask and mixes chemicals into bottles, and cans.

Liquids bubble, tubes go from one bottle to another, a Bunsen burner cooks a batch. Luke just keeps pouring, mixing, and testing, for hours.

LUKE (V.O.)

Day two. I spent almost the entire
day cooking a new batch up. Every
pour, every mix had to be perfect.
It was a beautiful thing when done
right.

(beat)

Toward the end of my cook I
realized I ran out of a cutting
agent. So I had to go to my
cousin's house.

Luke starts walking through the woods for countless hours.

INT. COUSINS TRAILER IN THE WOODS - DAY - FLASHBACK

Luke and his cousin, a big fat toothless man sit at the kitchen table blowing lines of meth, shooting heroine, and pounding beers. Luke grabs some Drano, and heads back into the woods.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LUKE (V.O.)

I finally get to my cousin's. See, my cousin was the only one I dealt with to sell my product.

(long beat)

He recently killed himself. Well, we partied for a bit. He always had an assortment of goodies. After that, I got my Drano and walked back to the lab and cooked up for the rest of the night.

EXT. STREAM IN THE WOODS - NEXT MORNING - FLASHBACK

Luke runs up and down a stream diving into and snatching little Crawdads out by the hand.

He puts them in a plastic bag and continues running and diving.

LUKE (VOICE OVER)

The next day I got a hankering for some crawdads. So, I ran up and down the stream for a couple of hours snagging a few dozen of em.

INT. BUS STOP BAR - DAY - FLASHBACK

Luke sits in the Bus bar drinking a beer with some homemade moonshine, and eating some crawdads. He sits for the day. A couple people come and go in the seats around him.

LUKE (V.O.)

I had to go to the bus stop. It's off the grid, just cookers and pushers. He's got this little steamer thingy that he will let you cook something up in. I sat there for most of the day. Then I got the urge again.

Luke gets up and leaves.

EXT. LITTLE SHACK - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

Luke and a bearded man with no shirt on, and four little kids all sit on a front porch. Luke and the bearded man are playing a game of chess and drinking moonshine.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The kids throw rocks in a can. In the background you hear his wife loudly yelling and a banging noise.

LUKE (V.O.)

A few hour walk, and I was at Betsy Sues. She was just about the only hooker in the Appalachians. And man was she busy. Her husband was a good sport about it. He would always entertain you with some homemade shine and a crappy game of chess. You would think for a man who plays so much chess he would have gained a little skill. Not Vernon.

Luke moves his piece, and takes Vernon's queen. He checks his watch. It's getting late. Vernon pours him multiple refills of moonshine as he continues to wait.

Finally, a man walks out and Luke walks in.

EXT. LITTLE SHACK - NIGHT - ONE MINUTE LATER - FLASHBACK

Luke walks out of the shack. Vernon hands him a jug of shine for the road. Luke, with a drunk swagger heads back into the woods.

EXT. WOODS - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

LUKE (V.O.)

By the time I got to go in I was so drunk, I couldn't get it up. Vernon being a good host gave me a jug for the road and I was on my way. I have no recollection of getting home nor passing out.

Luke makes his way through the dark woods falling and stumbling badly. Navigating only by the moon light. Luke finally gets to the stream by the waterfall. In the water blood runs through it. A puddle of blood lies on the dirt next to the stream. Luke's foot steps right into that puddle.

LUKE (V.O.)

I'm assuming on my way home that night I walked through the stream by the waterfall where they found the boys. I didn't see any boys. It was just another walk.

INT. WEST VIRGINIA STATE PRISON VISITATION ROOM - DAY

BACK TO PRESENT

Luke sits talking to Abe.

LUKE

Slept for three days straight
until the cops woke me. Said they
went through three smelling salts.
Never even heard em coming.

ABRAHAM

Were those three days leading up
ordinary for you?

LUKE

Nothing was ordinary for me.

ABRAHAM

If you were me. Where would you
start. How do I find who did this?

LUKE

That spot is a known cooling hole
for locals and tweakers. Who knows
who stumbled across those boys.

ABRAHAM

I had a pretty interesting day
with Detective Briggs yesterday.
He's a character.

LUKE

That old prick. I'm sure he had
great things to say about me.

ABRAHAM

When we were in your hole, a man
in a mask came up on us with a
shotgun.

LUKE

You must have been pretty close to
his kitchen if he showed his face.
I'd say that's a man you want to
get to know.

ABRAHAM

Okay, I'm going to see what I can
stir up. I'll be back in a day or
so.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LUKE

(smiling)

I'll be here.

Abe gets up and starts to leave. As he does he looks back and sees Luke, who's suddenly seems so vulnerable. He asks Abe one more question before leaving.

LUKE (CONT'D)

(softly)

Do you think there's a chance?

ABRAHAM

If there's hope, there's a chance.

Luke lightly smiles through Abe's little white lie.

INT. A SMALL FORT IN THE WOODS - DAY

Isaac, Abe's son, is playing in his fort with hundreds of small war figurines and vehicles on several man made mounds of dirt acting as mountains, and a small little puddle acting like a lake.

It's very neat and tidy in the fort, with lot's of details. His soldiers and vehicles are placed all around the fort in a meticulous fashion.

He's playing out loud talking as if he were the general.

ISAAC

General... we're out numbered I recommend we pull back to high ground.

(changing voices)

I will not retreat. We will stand our grounds, and we will fight.

(changing back)

Yes, sir.

He starts to move some of the soldiers and then stops. He here's something. It's his cell phone vibrating.

He ignores it and continues to play as it keeps going off.

He picks it up and looks at it. It's a long list of texts bullying him: "Your a fucking freak, I hope you die."
"Your not worth living on this planet. You're worthless."
"Go kill yourself, you are a piece of shit."

ISAAC looks at the messages and cringes.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

He continues to play by himself as tears form in his eyes.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Abe sits on his bed looking through case files. He picks up his phone and dials. No answers. He leaves a message.

ABRAHAM

(on the phone)

Detective Briggs. This is Abe again. I'm starting to think that maybe your too old to know how to use a phone. Wanted to go out in the field tomorrow and ask some questions. Please give me a call back.

He hangs up the phone. His laptop starts making a noise. Abe goes over to it and hits a button. His wife is on the screen.

ABRAHAM (CONT'D)

Hey honey.

WENDY CONNORS

(on screen)

How you doing?

ABRAHAM

It's a whole different world down here. It's scary.

WENDY CONNORS

(on screen)

(whispering)

I think something happened to Isaac. He's been acting really weird. Even more distant than normal. I'm afraid for him.

ABRAHAM

(concerned)

Put him on.

WENDY CONNORS

(on screen)

I hope you hurry up and find what your looking for Abe.

A moment of silence goes over the screen on both sides.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

WENDY CONNORS (CONT'D)
(calling out)
Isaac? Isaac, honey?

ISAAC (O.S.)
Is that dad?

WENDY CONNORS
(on screen)
Yeah...

Isaac comes running over to the screen.

ISAAC
(on screen)
Hey dad.

ABRAHAM
Hey buddy. How's everything going?

ISAAC
The Phillies still suck. Other
than that, nothing new.

ABRAHAM
Your mom told me you have been
acting a little different. Is
everything okay?

ISAAC
No, everything is fine.

ABRAHAM
You sure?

ISAAC
(lying)
Yeah, I've just been tired lately.

ABRAHAM
But, you're okay? Nothing happened
with those boys again did it?

ISAAC
Nope, I'm going to go now.

Isaac clicks off.

Abe sits in the room quietly reflecting on the situation.
He gets up and starts packing his stuff.

INT. ABE'S CAR - NIGHT

Abe pulls up to the "Hole in the Wall" bar. He sees there is a small dirty motel across the street. He pulls the car up to the motel and goes in.

INT. MOTEL LOBBY - NIGHT

Abe walks up to the front desk.

ABRAHAM

I'm gonna need a room for a few weeks.

The front desk guy looks him up and down wearing his shirt and tie.

FRONT DESK GUY

(confused)

You wanta stay here?

Abe's phone buzzes. He hits it to voice mail.

INT. HOLE IN THE WALL BAR - COUPLE MINUTES LATER

A dressed down version of Abe parks himself up to the bar. A few characters are also there. The bartender is checking out Abe trying to figure out his deal.

Abe checks his voice mail.

LAWYER #1

(voicemail on phone)

Hey Abe, we're all a little surprised we haven't gotten a yes from you on our offer. It's only going to be on the table for a few more days.

(pause)

Abe, just say yes.

Abe smirks, he hangs the phone up and turns it off.

The bartender comes up to him.

BARTENDER

What can I get ya?

ABRAHAM

Um... I'll have a beer.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The bartender sets him up and he starts drinking.

He drinks for most of the night, putting back several.
Finally the bartender gives in and approaches him.

BARTENDER

What do you want?

ABRAHAM

I'm just here to drink and mind my
business.

BARTENDER

Bullshit... Your not from around
here. And sure as hell don't want
to be here.

ABRAHAM

That obvious, huh?

Abe slips a fifty across the bar.

ABRAHAM

I'm here looking into those
murdered boys, Olsens. You know
anything?

The bartender takes the fifty.

BARTENDER

(laughing)

I might...

Abe slides another fifty across the bar.

BARTENDER (CONT'D)

Milser was here a few nights
before it happened. He took old
Peg out back. I remember her not
being very happy with him. They
had a love hate relationship.

ABRAHAM

Did he come here often?

BARTENDER

See him every couple of weeks or
so.

ABRAHAM

He ever here with anybody?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

BARTENDER

Hmmm.... He's mostly a loner
tweaker. But, once or twice I
think he was here with another
guy. That's the only time I ever
seen that guy.

ABRAHAM

His cousin, a big fat toothless
guy?

BARTENDER

That's hard to say. That's about
ninety percent of my clientele.
But, no, he was a little creepy
guy. I remember he had pretty big
birth mark around the bottom of
his neck.

ABRAHAM

You know where I can find old Peg?

BARTENDER

If you're here enough. She'll be
around.

Abe slides another fifty across the bar with his card.

ABRAHAM

Can you keep your ear to the track
if anything comes shaking?

Bartender shakes his head and takes the fifty.

BARTENDER

Watch yourself. If you go poking
around too much. People are likely
to poke back.

Abe nods and gets up. He stumbles a bit. He's not usually
a drinker. He practically falls out the bar.

EXT. HOLE IN THE WALL BAR - NIGHT

As Abe walks across the parking lot, he sees some of the
guys that were in the bar come out.

They start yelling at Abe.

GUYS

We don't like strangers snooping
around. Could get yourself hurt!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

They throw a beer bottle at Abe just missing him.

One of the guys revs his motorcycle engine as Abe scurries across the street and quickly unlocks his door and locks it behind him.

INT. MOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Abe looks out the window to see if everything is clear. He sits on the bed in the disgusting motel room that hasn't been remodeled since the sixties.

Drunk, he just sits and reflects on how he got himself into this situation. He throws back a few pills. He can still hear the REVVING of the bike.

EXT. NEAR WOODS - DAY - FLASHBACK

30 YEARS AGO

REVVING of a big yellow school bus as Abe and Shane get off of it and walk home. They stop off in the woods across from their house and light cigarettes.

SHANE

Haven't seen our friend in a while.

ABRAHAM

Maybe he's sick.

SHANE

Yeah maybe.

ABRAHAM

Did you hear that Todd ate a fly today?

SHANE

Again?

ABRAHAM

Took it right down with a carton of milk. Mitch lost a dollar on it.

SHANE

(laughing)
Dumb Mitch...

They finish up their cigs and start walking toward home.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Abe starts to go into their drive way. Shane turns toward Luke's house.

ABRAHAM

Where are you going?

SHANE

It's a surprise.

Abe follows Shane.

EXT. LUKE'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

They walk past a shed where Luke's grandma sits smoking a cigarette. She doesn't even notice them. They get to Luke's front door. It's a really dilapidated little old house. Everything about it is falling apart.

Shane knocks. Nobody answers. Shane starts knocking again even louder.

He's picking paint off the house as he waits. He smiles at Abe. Abe wants to run away.

Finally, the GRANDMOM, an old shriveled lady hobbles over to the door smoking a cigarette.

GRANDMOM

Yes.

SHANE

Is Luke home? We want to play with him.

The Grandmom is senile.

GRANDMOM

What do you want?

SHANE

(laughing)

We're here for Lucas. We want to play with him.

Grandmom opens the door and yells.

GRANDMOM

(calling for)

Lucas? Lucas...?

Luke, looking ill mopes to the door. His dog is by his side walking with him.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

GRANDMOM (CONT'D)

These boys are here to play with you.

LUKE

I can't go out mum mum. I'm sick.

SHANE

(overly nice)

We really want him to come out and play. It's so nice out today.

Grandmom, oblivious to what the boys are up to.

GRANDMOM

Lucas, go out and play with the boys.

LUKE

I can't grandmom.

Shane pushes his way through the door and pulls Abe with him.

SHANE

That's okay. We can come in and play with him.

GRANDMOM

That's nice.

Shane grabs Luke as well and drags him with them.

SHANE

Let's go play Lucas.

They go into Luke's bedroom.

INT. LUKE'S BEDROOM - DAY

Shane throws Luke onto the bed. His dog sits next to him.

Shane looks around the room. There's not more than an old mattress on the ground and some dirty clothes on the floor. No toys or anything that would suggest it was a kids room.

Luke sits on the bed afraid as Shane circles him like a vulture. Abe stands in the corner.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SHANE

Are you that poor you don't even
have any toys?

LUKE

(cowering)
I'm not feeling well. I don't want
to play.

SHANE

You don't want to play with us?

LUKE

I don't feel well.

SHANE

(imitating)
I don't feel well.
(changes tone)
What's wrong with you?

LUKE

I have bronchitis. I can't
breathe. You should leave.

Shane walks up to him and stands over top of him.

SHANE

You don't tell me when to leave
you little faggot. I tell you what
to do. You got that?

Shane slaps him across the face.

SHANE (CONT'D)

I couldn't hear you.

He slaps him again across the face harder.

LUKE

(quietly)
Yes.

SHANE

Louder!

He smacks him very hard. Luke grabs his face and cries.

LUKE

Yes...

Luke's dog starts barking at Shane. Shane kicks the dog
in the head. It yipes and backs off.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Shane jumps on top of Luke and grabs a pillow and holds it over his face, suffocating him. Luke's body is squirming, fighting for his life. He tries to pull the pillow off his face.

Shane finally pulls it off. Luke is gasping for air.

SHANE

Are you having a problem breathing now?

Shane puts the pillow back over his face, once again suffocating him. As he does the Grandmother comes in and brings lemonade.

GRANDMOM

I brought your friends some
Lemonade.

She puts the lemonade down and looks at Shane suffocating Luke, and just walks out. Once again, Luke fights for his life. Shane finally pulls the pillow from his face. Luke gasps for air.

Shane gets up off of Luke. He unzips his pants and starts peeing on him. Luke just sits there and takes it.

Shane leaves. Abe stands in the corner like a statue staring at Luke.

SHANE

Let's go.

Shane hits the wall next to him. BANG!

INT. MOTEL ROOM - NIGHT - BACK TO PRESENT

BANG! A KNOCK on the door.

Abe wakes up in his bed. Someone just knocked on the door. He's afraid. He gets up and looks out the window.

The guys from across the street are now parked out front hanging.

GUYS

(yelling)
Why don't you come out here big
shot!

Abe ducks down in his room against the door. They knock again. BANG! BANG!

INT. GUN STORE - NEXT MORNING

ABRAHAM

I need to protect myself.

The employee pulls up a couple of handguns. Abe picks one up. It feels awkward.

ABRAHAM (CONT'D)

I've never liked guns.

He holds it in front of him pointing and looking at himself in the mirror.

EMPLOYEE

Have you ever used one before?

ABRAHAM

No...

INT. CHARLES TOWN DETECTIVE OFFICE - LATER

Abe walks up to the secretary.

ABRAHAM

I've been trying to get a hold of Detective Briggs. He hasn't returned my calls.

The secretary doesn't even look up at him.

SECRETARY

Yeah... he must be on a binge.

ABRAHAM

Do you know when he will be back?

SECRETARY

(nonchalantly)

They usually don't last for more than a few days.

ABRAHAM

I'm gonna need his home address.

SECRETARY

Yeah... I can't do that.

ABRAHAM

You look very pretty today. Is that a new haircut?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

He slides a fifty across the table. She stuffs it in her blouse.

SECRETARY

It's in the book.

EXT. DETECTIVE BRIGG'S HOUSE - LATER

Abraham is knocking on the front door. Nothing. He knocks again.

He tries the front door knob. It's unlocked.

He slowly pushes the door in.

INT. DETECTIVE BRIGG'S HOUSE - DAY

Abraham steps into the house. It's a bachelor pad. Pizza boxes and empty booze bottles every where.

He hears some yelling in the distance.

ABRAHAM

(yelling)

Detective Briggs? Your door was open. I'm coming in. Don't shoot me.

He waits. No response. He slowly starts walking toward the noise. He keeps walking. The bedroom door is open. The yelling is getting louder.

He walks in the bedroom.

Detective Briggs is naked laying on the floor with a small blanket covering him. His eyes are glazed over, and there doesn't seem to be anyone behind them. He has a bottle of booze next to him and is yelling into the air.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS

(yelling
hysterically)

You too good for your father? I'm your father for fucking sakes! Too good for me. Fuck you! Fuck you!

He starts crying hysterically. Abe just stands there watching this.

ABRAHAM

I'm going to go now.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DETECTIVE BRIGGS
Yeah, you all go. Just fucking
leave. I'm sorry. I'm fucking
sorry!

Abraham slowly backs out of the room. He stops. More
yelling is heard.

INT. ABE'S CAR - LATER

Abe is driving along the same route as before with
Detective Briggs. He's dressed down. Wearing clothes so
he can fit in with the locals. He stops at the same
convenience store that Briggs did before.

EXT. GENERAL STORE - CONTINUOUS

He goes in and purchases some things. Jumps back in the
car and goes.

INT. AUNTIE B'S HOUSE - DAY

Abe is being invited into Auntie B's house. He pulls some
stuff out of a bag and shows it to her.

ABRAHAM
I got you some stuff.

He pulls out a six pack of tallboy beers, a box of tea,
and a couple peanut chew candy bars.

She takes them and smiles. She cracks open the beer and
takes a few gulps.

ABRAHAM (CONT'D)
I didn't know what kind of candy
you liked. But, my sons loves
peanut chews.

AUNTEE B.
They're my favorite. He has good
taste.

ABRAHAM
Yes he does.

AUNTEE B.
What can I help you with handsome?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ABRAHAM

Well, I'm trying to find anything on Luke Milser that I can. He's claiming he didn't kill those boys. And the more that I look at the case. I'm starting to believe him.

AUNTEE B.

He was a nice boy. Him and his cousin came out here to live with his uncle when he was teenager. His uncle was a bootlegger in these parts for years. When he died the boys went on their own. The little fat one would never stop by and see me. But, Luke stopped by for years.

Auntee B pours Abe some sweet tea. He sips it and smiles.

ABRAHAM

Your reputation of the best sweet tea of the Appalachians is an understatement.

(pause)

Could Luke have killed those boys?

AUNTEE B.

That's a hard question to answer. He was a sweet boy. But, I always could tell he was broken inside.

ABRAHAM

I just came from Briggs house. He was intoxicated and crying for his son on the floor. Not pretty.

AUNTEE B.

Detective Briggs like many men, has got some demons. When he was young. He stayed out all night on his wife and kid. When he finally got too old to run around and realized what he missed. They didn't want nothing to do with him. Never forgave him, and he can't forgive himself.

(pause)

AUNTEE B. (CONT'D)

Now let me ask you something. What can't you forgive?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ABRAHAM

You're a smart woman. I do have
some demons myself.

AUNTEE B.

Women are emotional, but that's
how they deal with it. Men, they
just hold all so close and never
let it go.

Abe shakes his head agreeing, hugs and thanks Auntie B
and then exits.

INT. SCHOOL BUS IN THE WOODS - LATER

Abe sits in the school bus with an old toothless lady
MARY JO, whom won't shut up. Stumpy quietly avoids Mary
Jo at the other side of the bar cleaning.

MARY JO

(rambling)

I never did like dolls growing up.
We couldn't afford em. I played
with what the boys played with. I
had five brothers. If they played
in the mud. I played in the mud. I
guess I thought I was a boy. We
wrestled all the time. I didn't
care. Half of them couldn't beat
me.

ABRAHAM

(can't take it)

If I give you twenty dollars, will
you not say one more word and
leave for fifteen minutes?

Abe slides twenty dollars over to the lady. She quickly
takes the twenty and leaves. Stumpy walks over.

STUMPY

I see your friend left.

Abe slides a hundred dollar bill across the bar.

ABRAHAM

I want to talk.

Stumpy goes around the bar and locks the front door.

STUMPY

What can I help you with?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ABRAHAM

You think Luke Milser killed those boys?

STUMPY

Look, I've known Luke since he was a young man. Him and his uncle use to come here and we had good times. I personally never thought he could have done it.

ABRAHAM

If he didn't do it. Who did?

STUMPY

I told the cops before that I liked Harrison Towns for it.

ABRAHAM

Who?

STUMPY

He's a convicted child molester. Raped a little ten year old boy twenty years back.

ABRAHAM

Did they look at him?

STUMPY

Briggs looked at him. Didn't like him for it.

ABRAHAM

You ever see Milser with anybody?

STUMPY

Besides his uncle and his fat cousin. No...

ABRAHAM

Where can I find this Harrison Towns?

STUMPY

He lives about five miles west from where they found Milser. You keep following the stream. There's an old Black Van parked in front of a long driveway.

ABRAHAM

Thanks...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Abe gets up. Stumpy walks him over to the door and unlocks it for him. Abe starts to leave.

STUMPY

Hey... I do remember him with a guy once. A little guy scrawny guy. Had a big birth mark on his neck. He was a Strange bird.

Abe exits.

EXT. SCHOOL BUS IN THE WOODS - DAY

Abe walks out.

Mary Jo is sitting outside on a stump. She approaches Abe.

MARY JO

Mister, I'll do anything you want for another twenty.

Abe is disgusted, he keeps walking. As he does two shifty looking CHARACTERS the guys from the "Hole in the Wall" bar start following him. He looks back.

SHIFTY CHARACTER #1

What are you doing out here boy?

Abe keeps walking.

SHIFTY CHARACTER #2

Get yourself killed out here snooping around into people's business.

One of the guys shoots a gun off into the air. Abe goes into a full on sprint into the forest.

SHIFTY CHARACTER #1

(yelling)

Leave now, or you won't ever leave.

Out of breath he leans up against a tree and looks back. He lost them.

EXT. WOODS - LATER

Abe is quietly walking by the hole in the ground from the last time. He starts looking at the ground.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

He pulls out his phone and starts using his navigation program on it that he has set all his coordinates on. He pulls his gun out and keeps it by his side. He continues at this for quite some time.

Very meticulously, he stops, and bends down for several minutes and observes the ground and the settings. He keeps looking on his phone reading the map. He quickly realizes that he doesn't know where he's going or what he's doing. Frustrated, he takes a seat on a log and starts going over everything on his phone.

He hears something. He stops. It's slowly coming toward him. He raises his gun. He waits in anticipation. It's coming right at him. He points the gun.

The ratty dog comes jumping at him. His tail is going and is as happy as could be. He lowers the gun down and pets him and smiles. After petting him for a few minutes, the dog starts leading him in a different direction. Abe follows cautiously behind him.

The dog leads him through many paths through the deep woods until he comes to a steep hill. The dog slips through some brush into a hole in the side of the hill. Abe checks his phone and marks his coordinates.

Abe stands back perplexed. He goes up to the hill. There's a small entrance hole that is covered with brush.

He pulls out his gun and climbs through the small hole.

INT. SIDE OF HILL - DAY

Abe crawls through to the other side. There's just a few beams of light illuminating the room. It appears to be an old coal mine.

The dog comes back up to him and starts rubbing his head against his leg. He starts leading Abe through the tunnels. It's completely dark, Abe takes out his cell phone and uses it to see.

They come up to an area where an old TV and VCR is playing bugs bunny cartoons, a small bed, and a make shift bucket toilet fill the room. There's playboy magazines laying all across the foot of the bed. Canned foods, mac & cheese and Gatorade sit on make shift shelves.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The dog keeps leading him down another tunnel. Small lights line the tunnel every few feet or so. This time a loud noise radiates from the distance.

As Abe gets closer he starts to distinguish there's two noises coming from the tunnel. One, is a loud industrial noise, the other sounds like someone screaming.

Abe pulls the gun up in a shoot first mode as he slowly walks into the room. There's plastic hanging through out the room with fans spinning omitting weird lights patterns moving across. Making it very hard to see what's going on.

The screaming gets louder. The dog runs ahead. A voice can be heard through the noise.

MAN IN MASK

Is that you Porky?

Abe follows the voice. He's passing by all types of lab equipment that is bubbling and boiling. The big fans appear to be a ventilation set up. A constant light is shining through the plastic where the man is.

Finally just one more piece to push through. The yelling sounds very violent.

He pushes through the final piece, he sees a man wearing a welding helmet and protective gear hovered over top of what looks to be another person. It's hard to make out what he's doing. He is violently smashing down on something with a hammer as the screaming continues.

The man turns around and takes his welding helmet off and wipes his brow.

He's just a boy, maybe fourteen. He looks up at Abe holding the gun at him. He raises his hands in the air.

Abe realizes that the person he thought the man was torturing was just a pile of clothes that he was doing some work next too. And the screaming was coming from a boombox that was blasting some heavy metal filed with violent yelling.

ABRAHAM

Keep your hands up...

KID

Fuck you pig!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

The kid isn't sure what to do. Panic crosses his body language. Abe points the gun walking forward trembling and yelling trying to take control.

ABRAHAM

(yelling)

Why did you murder those boys?

KID

What? What boys?

ABRAHAM

(yelling)

The Olsen boys! I know you did it!

KID

You think I did that?

ABRAHAM

(yelling)

Why did you do it?

KID

(realizing)

You're not the cops are you?

The kid looks at him holding the gun and shaking.

KID (CONT'D)

I don't think you have it in you
to shoot me.

The kid quickly glances over at his gun sitting on the table a few feet away from him. Abe sees him.

ABRAHAM

Don't do it.

The kid starts slowly moving toward the gun.

Abe takes a shot purposely missing him. The kid stops.

Abe makes his way over to the gun and grabs it. Now pointing two guns at him.

The kid is looking at him trying to figure him out. The kid has been forced to grow up fast and has a certain swagger about him when he talks.

KID

What do you want?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

ABRAHAM
How old are you kid?

KID
(confidently)
Fourteen...

ABRAHAM
(shocked)
Damn...

KID
Are you going to turn me in?

ABRAHAM
I'm not here for you. I'm here for
the man who killed those boys.
Help me find the guy who did it.

Abe goes through his wallet and pulls out a bunch of
hundreds. He lays them on the table.

ABRAHAM (CONT'D)
There's fourteen hundred dollars
as a down payment. And I'll have
another two thousand if you help
me find my man.

KID
(dealing)
Five thousand.

ABRAHAM
Okay, if you help me find him.
Five thousand.

The kid thinks about it.

KID
(testing)
How do you know I didn't do it?

ABRAHAM
It's my job to read people. You
didn't do it.
(beat)
Deal?

KID
Deal.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

ABRAHAM

Tell me what you know about Luke Milser?

KID

He taught me how to cook.

ABRAHAM

(shocked)

What did you say?

KID

He use to hang with my moms. When my mom asked me to start cooking to support the family. She set me up with him.

ABRAHAM

How long ago was this?

KID

Four years ago.

ABRAHAM

You learned to cook when you were ten?

(beat)

Did he... ever...

KID

(grossed out)

No... He was always good with me.

ABRAHAM

On a scale from one to ten. Do you think Luke Milser killed those kids?

KID

I'd say a two.

ABRAHAM

Why do you say that?

KID

I can tell about a person.

ABRAHAM

(smiling)

Then why the two and not a one?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

KID

He was always tweaked out of his mind.

ABRAHAM

What can you tell me about a Harrison Towns?

KID

He starved two dogs close to death, then cut both their stomachs open just to watch them eat each other intestines.

ABRAHAM

What about him on the same scale?

KID

Maybe nine, nine and a half.

The kids done with the questions. He picks up his helmet.

KID (CONT'D)

I got to get back to work. I have an idea of where a couple of cookers are stashed out around here. I'll check around tomorrow.

The kid puts his helmet on. Abe puts his card on the table next to the cash.

ABRAHAM

(talking loudly)

I'm going to leave my card next to the cash.

Abe pulls out his phone and takes a picture of the kid and then hits a few buttons on his cell phone.

The kid pulls up his helmet.

KID

What was that for?

ABRAHAM

I just sent a picture of you, and your current GPS location to my e-mail. If you shoot me in the back when I'm leaving. They will know where to find you.

Abe puts down the kids gun next to his card and cash.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

The kid shakes his head and puts his helmet back on.

Abe stares at the fourteen year old kid working then leaves.

INT. ABE'S HOME - NIGHT

Isaac is in bed under the cover playing a video game on his tablet. The lights are off. It's a nerdy role playing game where he's knight fighting wizards and dragons. He's really into his own little world as he designs his new Knight. All while he's suppose to be sleeping.

As he's playing a message pops up stating someone has inboxed him. He hits pause on his game and clicks on to the message.

It's on a social media platform. It's a message sent out to dozens of other kids. It's a picture of Isaac that has been doctored.

He naked and having sex with a man. Next to the photo it says, "Freak, Isaac Connor's is a faggot." Below that is dozens of comments from other kids talking about the post laughing and making fun of him. A few videos of kids saying nasty things about him pop up and play.

The insults and bullying just keeps going and going from multiple kids one after another.

Isaac turns off his Tablet and crying can be heard in the dark.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Abe sits on his bed on the phone. He throws back a bigger hand full of pills.

ABRAHAM

(on the phone)

Briggs, It's Abe. I'm heading out in the morning to check out this Harrison Towns guy.

He hangs up. A glass shattering noise is heard outside accompanied by motorcycles screeching away.

Abe grabs his gun and heads out. Someone threw a brick through his driver side window of his car.

He takes the brick out. Abe, worried, goes back in.

INT. ABE'S CAR - MORNING

Abe is on the phone driving.

ABRAHAM

Briggs, it's the douche again. I'm heading in to check out this Barnes character. Hope your not dead.

EXT. DEEP WOODS - NEXT DAY

Abe makes his way through the woods. He gets to the stream where the boys were found. He pulls out his phone and looks at his compass app. He sees what direction is west and heads that way.

He walks and walks until he comes to an old black van at what looks to be a driveway.

Abe ducks off into the woods following the path of the driveway through the brush.

He gets up close to an old house. He sits there for awhile waiting to see if anyone is around.

After dosing off for a bit. He comes too to see an older guy tinkering around the back of the house.

The old guy grabs a sling blade and heads out toward the woods where Abe is hiding in the brush.

Abe takes out his gun and holds it out front of him as the man comes closer and closer.

The man walks right by him and keeps going. Abe drops his gun and takes a deep breath.

Abe slowly starts to follow the man through the brush.

The man walks and walks until he gets to a big old barn out in the middle of the woods. He goes in.

Abe looses sight of him. Abe moves in closer to see what is going on.

The man comes out dragging what looks to be a sack with a dead body in it. He pulls it around to the other side of the building. Once again out of sight.

Abe repositions himself through the woods to the other side of the barn.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

He gets to where he can see the other side. He sees a bunch of big metal contraptions and tubes in the woods. But, the man has disappeared.

Abe waits for awhile looking around for him. Can't see him anywhere. Lost him.

Suddenly, he hears something behind him. He turns around. WHACK! He's hit across the face with a shovel and knocked unconscious.

CUT TO BLACK

EXT. WOODS - DAY - FLASHBACK

28 YEARS AGO

A little bit older Abe and Shane walk through the woods. Shane has a pellet gun clutched in his hands. A few stray cats follow behind.

SHANE

Did you see what Krista was wearing today? Wow...

ABRAHAM

Yeah, she's hot.

SHANE

I asked her out.

ABRAHAM

What did she say?

SHANE

Next week.

ABRAHAM

Sweet.

Quickly, Shane stops. He sees a cardinal in a tree in the distance. He quickly pumps the gun five times. Then shoots. The cardinal falls out of the tree dead. The cats run over to the dead bird and start feasting.

SHANE

Man... I'm too good. Maybe I'll be a sniper. Get paid to kill shit.

ABRAHAM

You think you could kill a person?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SHANE

Easy...

They keep walking as Shane pumps his gun several times. He stops and pushes the pellet gun up against Abe's temple.

SHANE (CONT'D)

You couldn't kill somebody?

ABRAHAM

No. I don't think so.

Abe stops and barely moves. Shane smiles as he keeps the gun on his temple.

ABRAHAM

Stop... please. It's not funny.

Shane pulls the gun away laughing.

SHANE

Stop being such a pussy.

Something else grabs his attention. He sees two squirrels running around playing and chasing each other in a tree. He takes aim. Shoots, the one squirrel falls to the ground. Leaving the other confused. Once again the cats pounce on the carnage.

Shane laughs.

They keep walking. They come up to a playground sitting next to a lake. They see.

A shirtless Luke smoking a cig and playing fetch with his dog. He's listening to some heavy metal on a small radio.

He throws a tennis ball into the lake, his dog jumps in the water and brings it back to him.

Luke pets the excited dog as he drops the ball in front of him.

LUKE

(to the dog)

Good boy.

Shane excitedly quietly pumps his gun.

ABRAHAM

No, don't do it.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Shane eyes up his shot.

SHANE

He deserves it.

Shane pulls the trigger. He hits Luke in the stomach. He goes down to the ground holding his midsection.

Shane and Abe walk out of the woods down to him and his dog. Shane pumps his gun as he walks down.

Luke looks up and see it's him. Shane shoots him in the arm. Blood instantly comes out from the small puncture.

Luke is in extreme pain as he holds his stomach and arm. His dog comes up to him and starts to lick and try to comfort him.

Shane pumps his gun.

SHANE (CONT'D)

You, or the dog? Pick one.

LUKE

What?

SHANE

Pick one!

Luke doesn't say anything.

SHANE (CONT'D)

I'll pick for you. Dog.

Shane shoots the dog. It yipes and runs around. Shane pumps the gun several times.

LUKE

Please stop.

SHANE

You... or dog?

LUKE

Don't...

SHANE

Dog.

Shane shoots the dog again. The dog stumbles to the ground in pain. It sits panting.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

SHANE (CONT'D)

You're making this really hard.

Shane starts pumping the gun.

SHANE (CONT'D)

It's really easy.

He pumps it even more.

SHANE (CONT'D)

It's either you...

Pumps it some more.

SHANE (CONT'D)

Or... the dog.

Shane points the gun at the dog and gets ready to pull the trigger.

LUKE

Me!

SHANE

Oh, you do know how to play.

He shoots Luke in the stomach. Blood pours out from a very small hole.

Shane pumps the gun again. While he's doing it, Luke yells out in the middle.

LUKE

Me!

Abe just stands off to the side not doing anything.

Shane gets down on a knee and really takes aim. He is aiming at Luke's eye.

SHANE

Your eye. Or your dogs eye?

Shane switches and aims at the dogs eye. Who is still sitting down and panting.

SHANE (CONT'D)

Not so quick this time, huh?

He points back at Luke's eye.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

SHANE (CONT'D)

You got til three to tell me. One,
two, three.

Luke says nothing.

Shane shoots the gun up into the air. He laughs at Luke's helplessness.

INT. DARK ROOM - DAY - BACK TO PRESENT

Abe comes too. He is blindfolded. He can see a little bit below the blindfold. He's tied up in a dark room. All is quiet. He passes out.

He comes too again.

He hears people arguing and walking around.

He passes out again.

He comes too. He hears voices talking.

VOICE #1

I'm gonna get rid of him. He's
seen too much.

VOICE #2

Then just do it. Get rid of him.

Abe hearing this starts rustling around trying to get free. He struggles for awhile, he can't manage. He stops.

He passes out again.

He comes too. He listens for awhile as the people walk around the space and talk. Can't make out what they are saying.

The voices stop. They start walking toward him.

Abe fighting for his life tries as hard as he can to break free from the chains.

The two men walk into the room.

VOICE #2 (CONT'D)

Look at this sorry son of a bitch.

Abe looks up trying to see through the bottom of the blindfold. Can't really make out anything.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

They take the blindfold off.

There's an old guy next to Detective Briggs who is holding an axe in his hands.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS

You had to go putting your nose
into other peoples business didn't
you?

ABRAHAM

(freaks out)

No, no, no! I'll give you whatever
you want!

DETECTIVE BRIGGS

Sorry kid. It's too late.

Briggs raises the axe in the air. Abe cowers in a ball.

Briggs starts cracking up laughing. Abe slowly pulls his
head back up realizing he is still alive.

Briggs almost falls to the floor because he's laughing so
hard.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS (CONT'D)

You should have seen your face!

Abe, vulnerable and confused.

ABRAHAM

What's happening?

Briggs unlocks Abe's chains.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS

We got the guy already. Remember?
Get yourself together and lets get
out of here buckaroo.

Abe gets himself together and slowly gets up. He grabs
his head which has been split open and has dried blood
across it. He walks out the door with Briggs.

Abe looks back at the old man standing in the doorway. He
snarls at Abe.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS (CONT'D)

(laughing)

He REALLY wanted to kill you.

Briggs waves at the old man.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

DETECTIVE BRIGGS (CONT'D)

See you next week Old Man.

They walk through the woods. Abe mostly stumbles.

ABRAHAM

So what just happened? How do you know Harrison Towns?

DETECTIVE BRIGGS

He's my cousin. After Vietnam he didn't want to be around people. So, I set him up out here. We set up a fifty/fifty shine business. Then I started rumors that he killed a bunch a kids in Vietnam, starved dogs and makes em eat each other, shit like that. See, people out here don't fuck with crazy.

ABRAHAM

So, it was all just rumors?

DETECTIVE BRIGGS

I mean... he did kill a lot of people in Nam.

ABRAHAM

You think I'm crazy?

DETECTIVE BRIGGS

Crazy? No son, you're just plain stupid.

(pause)

Look... whatever you did in the past, just leave it there and get back to your family.

Briggs hands him his gun back.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS (CONT'D)

And where did you get a damn gun?
Your gonna get yourself hurt.

They get to the cars. Abe's car has a big branch smashed through the windshield. Carved in the hood is, "Get the fuck out!"

DETECTIVE BRIGGS (CONT'D)

You sure know how to make friends
don't ya?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

ABRAHAM

(deadpan)

Little did they know... it's a rental.

Abe pulls the branch out of the windshield.

As they get into their cars.

ABRAHAM (CONT'D)

(yelling over)

You really think he did it?

DETECTIVE BRIGGS

I know he did.

Briggs gets in his car. Abe stands ingesting his confidence in his words.

INT. ABE'S CAR - DAY

Abe drives down old country roads with the warm sun shining on his battered face. He's very conflicted with what his next move should be.

He reaches into his pocket looking for his pills. He doesn't have them. He panics, he pulls over and starts ripping through his pockets and car. Nothing.

He jumps in the car and speeds off.

INT. DOCTORS OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

Abe sits in the patient room with a bloodied face.

The doctor walks in.

DOCTOR

Well, all your prescriptions checked out. I'm amazed... Your taking enough xanax and aderol to kill and revive three horses.

ABRAHAM

(taking it)

Can I get my script?

DOCTOR

I can't condone that kind of abuse.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ABRAHAM

It was a mistake. I lost it in the woods investigating a murder case in which I got hit over the head with a fuckin shovel. I need you to give me another script. Thank you.

DOCTOR

I'm not going to write it. And you should probably go to the hospital and get stitches.

Abe stands up and gets in his face. He visibly going through some with drawl rage.

ABRAHAM

If you don't give me my fucking script I'm going to sit in your lobby and take note of every pain subscription you write. I heard that's a real problem down here in the shit hole south.

DOCTOR

I know where you come from you can push people around. But, not in my practice you won't.

Abe pulls out some cash and tries to put it in his pocket.

The Doctor refuses.

DOCTOR

You need to get out. Leave, now!

Abe with his tail between his legs leaves the office, he knocks over the trash can as he does.

EXT. MOTEL ROOM - DAY

Abe's car pulls up to the front of the Motel. He notices his door is cracked open. He gets out of the car and pulls his gun out and walks up to the door. He opens the door.

ABRAHAM

(projecting)
I've got a gun.

He doesn't hear anything. He enters the room.

INT. MOTEL ROOM - DAY

The whole room has been ransacked. All of his clothes are out, his paperwork is all over the floor. His computer is missing. On the wall, in what looks to be blood, it says, "Fucking Die!"

Abe closes the door and sits on the bed contemplating his situation. He puts down his gun on the dresser.

Two men, the same biker guys from before come barging into the room.

They continue to punch Abe while he's on the bed. He tries to protect himself but they get a few good punches in. He goes unconscious.

FADE TO BLACK.

FADE IN:

INT. MOTEL ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Abe comes too as his phone is buzzing on the bed next to him. He grabs his face and grimaces in pain as he touches it.

The phone stops. A few moments later it buzzes again. Someone left a message.

He picks up the phone and listens to the message. The phone is blinking, "Low Battery".

LAWYER #1

(message on phone)

Hey Abe, tomorrow morning is the last time you will have to accept our offer. If your not in my office by 10 am, the deals off. I can't believe you would pass up this once in a life time opportunity. Not like you.

Abe hangs up. He's had enough. The phone dies and goes dead.

Abe starts pulling his clothes off the floor and throwing them into his suit cases. He hears a loud knock on his hotel door. He grabs his gun and goes to the door and looks into the hole. Nothing is out there.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ABRAHAM
(calling out)
Who's there?

Long pause.

WOMAN
I heard you were looking for me.
It's me, old Peg.

Abe opens the door. It's the prostitute.

Abe out of sympathy hands her a twenty dollar bill to leave.

ABRAHAM
I'm done with the case. I'm going home.

The lady happily takes the money and starts to walk away.

OLD PEG
That's a shame with Luke having an alibi and all.

Abe walks back over to his suitcase. He stops and rushes for the door and swings it open.

ABRAHAM
(yelling)
Excuse me. What did you mean by having a alibi?

The lady walks back.

OLD PEG
I thought you were done with the case?

She holds out her hand. Abe pulls out his wallet and grabs a few twenties and hands them over.

OLD PEG (CONT'D)
Well, when Skippy across the street had said you were looking for me. I remembered some stuff. See, I'm on a new anti-depressant. The old ones made me real foggy. So, when I started thinking around that time. I was pretty sure he spent that night with me. He came stumbling in stinking like shine. Couldn't barely talk.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

OLD PEG (CONT'D)

But he was horny as hell. Got here around 2 am, left around 5 am. Stumbled out just as belligerent as he came in.

ABRAHAM

How sure are you that it was that night.

OLD PEG

It would have been my little boys ninth birthday that day. I don't forget it, got a cake and all.

ABRAHAM

Those boys were murdered before 2 am. It was a couple hour walk. That would mean he had an alibi. Would you testify that you were with him that night?

OLD PEG

(defeated)

They would tare me apart.

ABRAHAM

(new interest)

I appreciate you stopping by.

OLD PEG

Sorry, I couldn't help more.

Abe continues to pack. He looks concerned as he packs but is still set on leaving.

INT. ABE'S CAR - LATER

Abe drives as the day turns to night. Worry is heavy on his face.

INT. AIRPORT - A FEW HOURS LATER

Abe is sitting in airport waiting area. He's very jittery and uneasy. He looks at his phone. It's still dead. He sees a place to plug in his phone. He plugs it in and eats a pastry and reads a mindless magazine he bought.

A few minutes later his phone charges up and comes back on. When it does, several voicemail messages pop up.

As he finishes up his pastry listens to his messages.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

VOICE MALE #1

(on phone)

Hey Abe, it's... the kid you met the other day. Just wanted to let you know. I found a guy yesterday. I followed him back to his hole. He's in the Old Creek Run Coal Mines. He opened up one of the holes on the west side. Could be our guy.

VOICE MAIL #2

(on phone)

Abe, holy shit. I think we got our guy. I went back and had perfect timing. He was leaving when I got there. I went in. I saw some shit man. Some gnarly demonic shit. Bloody kids clothes on the ground. I got out of there quick.

VOICEMAIL #3

(on phone)

Abe, why aren't you getting back to me? I gotta make that money! I have to admit man. I'm a little spooked with the shit I saw. Give me a ring, man.

The message ends. Abe sits there for a few seconds. The airlines announcement starts.

AIRLINE ANNOUNCEMENT

Section A can now board flight 426, Philadelphia. Section A can now board flight 426, Philadelphia.

Abe looks at his airline ticket. It says, "Philadelphia, Flight 426, Section A".

He looks over at the people boarding.

He takes out his phone and calls the number back. No answer. Tries it again. No answer.

He contemplates what he should do.

INT. ABE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

28 YEARS AGO

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Abe wakes up in bed. The window is wide open and the wind is blowing whipping the curtains around.

He looks over at his brothers bed. It's empty. He throws on some slippers and crawls out the window.

EXT. OUTSIDE OF THE HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Abe walks around looking for his brother. He walks over to Luke's house. He here's something in the back.

He walks to the back.

Shane is kneeling down next to the shed that's only a few feet from the house. He's lighting some leaves on top of a bucket full of cigarette butts. It goes out.

ABRAHAM

What are you doing?

SHANE

I'm gonna burn Lukes barn down. It will look like the grandmom's butts caught on fire.

ABRAHAM

Are you out of your mind?

He lights another bunch of leaves on the butts.

Abe walks over and knocks the matches out of his hand.

ABRAHAM (CONT'D)

Stop it.

Shane stands up and punches Abe in the stomach. Abe goes down gasping for air. Shane starts kicking Abe repeatedly in the side when he's on the ground.

SHANE

Don't you ever tell me what to do.

Shane stands back grinning at Abe whom is holding his side trying to catch his breath.

Abe looks up at Shane and finally see him for the monster that he is. He's turned on his own brother.

Abe backs away. He's afraid of what he might do to him.

Shane goes back to lighting some more dry leaves. This time the bucket of butts catches on fire.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The fire goes up big and quickly out of the bucket. It quickly spreads to the shed as the wind whips through.

The little shed goes up quickly. The wind gusts. The flames soar even higher.

Shane smirks as his face glows red. Abe pulls himself off of the ground and moves away from the quickly burning shed.

The leaves piled next to the shed go up in flames, the trail of leaves lead to Luke's house. The house catches on fire as the winds gust even larger. The house goes up.

Shane stands proudly watching the beautiful catastrophe he has created.

Abe goes over to Shane and tries to pull him away. Shane doesn't budge.

ABRAHAM (CONT'D)
(shouting)
Come one. Let's get out of here!

INT. LUKE'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Luke is in bed. The shouting wakes him up. He sits up in bed rubbing his eyes.

EXT. LUKE'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Abe is pulling Shane's arm. Finally Shane gives in and runs with him.

ABRAHAM
Come on!

They run by Luke's window and duck into the woods.

INT. LUKE'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Luke sees two people run by his window. He wipes his eyes not sure if he really saw someone.

He shrugs it off and goes back to bed.

EXT. IN THE WOODS - CONTINUOUS

Abe and Shane lay in the woods watching the house erupt with huge flames. It's suddenly engulfed.

SHANE

(crazy eyed)

If you tell anyone. I'll kill you.

Fear grows in Abe's eyes.

INT. AIRPORT - NIGHT - BACK TO PRESENT

Abe snaps out of his memory. He hears the announcement.

AIRLINE ANNOUNCEMENT

Section B can now board flight
426, Philadelphia. Section B can
now board flight 426,
Philadelphia.

Abe again looks at his airline ticket, then throws it on the ground and scurries off.

INT. ABE'S CAR - NIGHT

Abe is speeding down the highway in his car.

He dials his phone. Goes to voicemail.

ABRAHAM

(message)

Briggs... I was just about to
follow your advice and get on a
plane. But, I got a lead from a
guy. It's a long story. Heading to
meet with him now. I'm sending you
the GPS location.

Abe hits a few buttons on his phone then hangs up.

EXT. WOODS - NIGHT

Abe is quickly making his way through the dark woods with a flashlight and his phone. He gets to the hole to enter the kids lab. He crawls through.

When he enters. The same crazy sounds that he heard before are going on. He slowly makes his way through the tunnels getting closer to the sounds.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ABRAHAM

(yelling)

Hey, It's me. Abe! Sorry for the
delay. Hello?

Abe keeps walking. Like before there's all types of
moving mechanics and plastic creating weird lighting
through out.

He passes the room with the TV playing the cartoons. The
music grows louder. This time he hears a different noise.
A grinding noise of sorts. He decides to pull out his gun
along with his flashlight.

ABRAHAM (CONT'D)

Hello? It's me Abe. Is anybody
here?

He finally makes it to the room where he found the boy
last time. He sees him laying down in the same spot. His
dog sits next to him. The music is blaring and he is
bobbing his head back and forth to it.

Abe is relieved. He puts the gun down.

ABRAHAM (CONT'D)

You scared me. It's Abe!

He walks right up on the boy. When he does, he discovers
that the grinding noise is the boys head caught in an
industrial metal fan. The fan is grinding against his
half blown away head.

The dog has a taken a bullet to the head as well.

Abe bends over and gags at the sight.

A noise comes from the distance. Abe stops. He raises his
gun .

Whatever it is slowly walks toward him. It sounds
massive.

Abe positions himself on the ground behind some metal
equipment pointing the gun at the entrance.

The noise creeps closer and closer. Abe braces himself.
The gun is shaking in his hands.

Finally it makes it's way around the corner. He sees a
gun leading the way.

Following the gun is Detective Briggs. Abe is relieved.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ABRAHAM (CONT'D)
(calling out)
Briggs it's me.

Briggs takes a shot right next to where Abe is hiding.

ABRAHAM (CONT'D)
(yelling out)
It's me Abe, stop shooting.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS
Damn you scared the shit out of
me.

Briggs walks around the corner. He sees the dead kid and
his head stuck in the fan.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS (CONT'D)
Shit... you could have warned me.

ABRAHAM
(defensive)
YOU just shot at me.

He walks over and unplugs the fan so it's not grinding
into the kids head any more.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS
This is how you found him?

ABRAHAM
Yeah...

DETECTIVE BRIGGS
You touch anything?

ABRAHAM
No.

Briggs walks around and investigates the scene.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS
Looks like somebody snuck up on
him. Shot him from the back.
(beat)
He's just a kid.

ABRAHAM
Only fourteen.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS
Fourteen? Damn.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

ABRAHAM

It could be our guy.

Briggs looks at the dead kid. He notices his hand is missing three fingers.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS

He cut off three of his fingers.

ABRAHAM

Our guy collects trophies.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS

I'm gonna call it in. Could take them a couple of hours to get out here.

Abe pulls out his navigation app on his phone.

ABRAHAM

He said he found the guy hole at the Old Creek Run Mine. On the west side. He could have been spooked and got out of dodge.

Briggs looks at the map on the phone.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS

Let's make sure either way.

They head out.

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

Abe and Briggs make their way through the woods. It starts raining. Briggs stops Abe and turns off his flashlight.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS

Let's move slow and decisive from this point on.

Briggs grabs a long branch and starts running it in front of them as they walk. The two start to methodically move through the woods.

They get to a hill and start to go down. SLAP, the stick gets broken in half by a big modified bear trap with big spikes on the teeth.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

They hear a noise. They both stop. Something is walking up to them around the tree. They drawl their guns. It finally shows itself.

It's a deer. It looks at them and takes off. They continue walking.

They continue to walk again. Briggs is still scanning the area with a new big branch.

Briggs leads them to the side of a hill. The only thing that is there is an old fridge laying on the ground.

Abe looks confused and defeated.

ABRAHAM
(whispering)
Nothing here.

Briggs walks over to the fridge and opens the door. There is an entrance way underneath of it.

ABRAHAM (CONT'D)
I'll be damn.

They look down the hole.

Briggs takes out his flashlight.

Abe nervously grips his gun. They enter.

INT. ABE'S HOME - KITCHEN

Isaac, Abe's son, sits at the kitchen table with a crazy look on his face. Something has snapped in him.

He has a bottle of vodka in front of him. And a bottle of pills.

His phone keeps buzzing and buzzing. There's dozens of nasty messages and pictures piling up.

Isaac takes a swig from the bottle. He opens up the bottle of pills.

He looks at his phone, more messages popping up. He takes the pills and starts swallowing them by the handful.

Tears form in his glazed over eyes.

INT. ABE'S HOME - KITCHEN - LATER

The liquor bottle and pills are spilled through out the floor.

Isaac lays amongst them as he goes unconscious.

INT. MINE SHAFT - NIGHT

They walk through the entrance way. Four old rusty mine cars sit next to each other untouched for years. Part of the entrance way has fallen down. Making it very tight and unsafe.

They walk through the tight space to the new room. On the floor is piles and piles of little kids clothes with blood stains on them. Some broken toys lie in between them. Blood stains cover the walls.

They wade their way through the clothes to a long mine shaft hallway. The hallway is lined with taxidermy projects. There's all types of animals with switched body parts.

They pass through that area.

They come to a room that looks like a science lab gone wrong. There's hundreds of mason jars of all sizes with different types of animal body parts in formaldehyde. One has an entire Chihuahua in it.

They slowly walk around and observe the surroundings.

Briggs is staring at two jars with something in them. There's something underneath of them. He moves the jars over.

There's a stack of polaroids. He looks through them. It's pictures of an animal being tortured step by step. The pictures show the dismantling of the animal, and what body pieces are in the jars.

He looks down over the line of jars. All of them have pictures under them.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS

(trembling)

Fuck me...

Abe comes over and Briggs shows him the polaroids and body parts.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ABRAHAM

He keeps memories with trophies.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS

The boys might be here.

The two start intensely searching through the hundreds of jars. One by one they look at the jar, then push it over, and look at the pictures underneath. They do this for several minutes.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS (CONT'D)

I got something.

Abraham walks over. Briggs shows him polaroids of the two boys being mutilated step by step. It shows him cutting off their scrotums and putting them in the jars. None of the killers faces are in the pictures, just arms.

They look at the jars and realize the contents. Abe bends over and loses his lunch.

ABRAHAM

Sick fucker...

Briggs pats him on the back and then spots something in the far corner. He walks over to it.

There's a makeshift operating table and tools. And what looks to be a person. Then Briggs looks closer.

It's a starved to death woman attached to the wall. All of her fingers are cut off besides the middle ones on each hand. One leg is cut off, and all the toes on the other are gone. She has stitching running all over her body. Her lips are stitched together. She's dusty and dirty. Looks like she's been dead for awhile.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS

God have mercy.

Abe shines the light on her face observing for a few seconds. The woman's eyes violently open and she starts loudly screeching through her stitched lips.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS (CONT'D)

Shh... quiet!

She keeps screeching. It radiates through the halls. Briggs holds his gun to her head.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

DETECTIVE BRIGGS (CONT'D)

If you don't shut the fuck up now
I swear to god I will put a bullet
in your skull.

The girl quickly quiets down.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS (CONT'D)

I'm gonna get you out of here. I
promise. Police are on their way.
I just need you to have a little
more patience.

Briggs walks over to Abe.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS (CONT'D)

Let's get the fuck out of here and
wait for back up.

Abe agrees. He gets off his knees and starts to get up as three gun shots sound off. The first two hit Briggs. One in his arm, one in his abdomen. Briggs goes down holding his stomach as blood pours out through his fingers.

Abe goes to pull his gun up.

A third bullet hits him in the shoulder. Abe drops the gun and it slides away from him. He goes for the gun as a fourth and fifth bullet fire off missing him and pushing him to the other direction. Abe makes a break for it as bullets whiz by him. Another bullet hits him in the back of his leg as he runs. He feels the sting but keeps moving. He hears the man reloading as he scurries away.

He runs through long dark tunnels heading deeper and deeper into the ground. He continues to run and run. He enters a dark room and suddenly trips over something and falls.

He hits his head when he goes down. Everything goes black for a few seconds. As he comes too. He picks up his flashlight and points it at what tripped him.

It's a small dead little girl chained to the floor. She has her legs sewn where her arms should be, and arms where legs should be. He shines the flashlight all around the room. Several dead little kids are chained to the floors and walls. All have been altered physically in some way. He shines the light on one little boy whom has not been altered. His eyes slowly open. Complete fear fills the little boys face.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

Abe crawls to the barely alive boy. He holds the boy and protects him.

A noise is heard coming down the hallway. Abe looks around the room. He sees a brick size rock on the ground. He picks it up and hides it behind his back.

A light shines in his face.

It's a small creepy man holding a flashlight.

SMALL CREEPY MAN

You couldn't just let things be.
Could you?

The man steps up into Abe's face.

He holds the gun up to Abe's head.

Abe squeezes the rock and is about hit him with it.

The man squeezes the trigger, as he does.

BANG, a bullet goes through the mans head. He falls onto the ground. A bloody Briggs stands behind the man holding a smoking gun.

Briggs leans up against the wall and slides himself down on the ground next to Abe. He holds his bloody stomach and starts panting while turning white.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS (CONT'D)

(he smiles)

We got your guy.
Congratulations...

ABRAHAM

YOU got your guy. Thank you.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS

Don't get all sappy on me douche bag.

(pause)

Tell my kid I' sorry for being a horses ass.

ABRAHAM

You do it.

Briggs starts heavily panting and then stops breathing.

In the distance you hear police officers entering.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

ABRAHAM (CONT'D)

(yelling)

We're down here! Officer down! We
need a bus!

The police officers finally make it in. Abe starts to go in and out of consciousness. As he going in and out he sees the Officers picking up the killer off the ground. Abe passes out. As they lift the creepy little man we see he has big birth mark on his neck.

EXT. IN THE WOODS - NIGHT

28 YEARS AGO

Abe and Shane lay in the brush as the fire glows against there faces.

A body bag with a human is pulled from the burning house, as well as dead dog. Only Luke has made it out alive, he's being taken out on a stretcher badly burned.

The two boys lays silently in the brush watching in fear.

INT. COURTROOM - DAY

Abe with an arm cast sits behind the defendant desk in the courtroom with his wife, and his son. Luke and his lawyer sit waiting to hear the judge. The entire room is quiet. The judge clears his throat before speaking.

JUDGE

With the new evidence found. The
court of West Virginia, has no
other choice but to drop all
charges against Lucas Milser. I
apologize for the State of West
Virginia's wrongful charges that
were brought upon you. Mr. Milser,
you are free to go.

Abe and Luke stand up and smile at each other. Luke hugs Abe for a few seconds and they share a moment.

They walk through the courtroom, Abe limps along. As they do they see Briggs stand up in the audience. He has bandages around his stomach and a arm cast on. He sits next to a man in his thirties.

DETECTIVE BRIGGS

Abe, this is my son, John.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Abe shakes his hand.

ABRAHAM

Did he tell you he's a horse's
ass?

John looks confused as Abe and Briggs share a smile.

Abe and Luke continue to walk side by side smiling at each other out of the court room as the media surrounds them asking questions. The two push through the reporters.

Abe smiles at Luke. Luke smiles back. All is forgiven.

EXT. ABE'S BACKYARD - DAY - ONE YEAR LATER

Abe and Isaac are playing in the pool. Abe has Isaac raised over his head. He spins him around and then throws him. Isaac's head pops up out of the water smiling and laughing as he jumps on his dad's back.

Mom comes out and pulls some burgers off the grill.

WENDY CONNORS

Come on you two. You gotta eat.
Isaac you're gonna be late for
practice. Tim's mom's gonna be
here in like five minutes.

ISAAC

I don't want to get out mom.

ABRAHAM

Yeah we don't want to get out.

Abe picks up Isaac and throws him again.

WENDY CONNORS

You two are gonna turn into fish
if you're in there any longer.

They both get out and sit at the picnic tables and destroy their burgers. Isaac finishes his and grabs another one. Wendy stops him.

WENDY CONNORS (CONT'D)

(to Isaac)

They are gonna be here any minute.
You gotta go get changed. I'll
wrap it for you to take.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ISAAC

Okay...

Isaac runs inside the house. Abe and Wendy look to make sure he's gone.

WENDY CONNORS

You haven't said anything right?

ABRAHAM

(smirking)

He honestly thinks we forgot his birthday.

Wendy cracks up.

WENDY CONNORS

We are so evil.

BEEP, BEEP, a car horn is heard. Isaac runs outside with a baseball bag over his shoulder and practice clothes on. His mom hands him the burger wrapped in a paper towel.

ABRAHAM

I'll pick you up at six. Then your gonna help with the back yard like you promised. Okay?

Isaac looks a bit disappointed as he agrees.

ISAAC

Okay...

He starts to run off.

ABRAHAM

Woh!!! You forgetting something?

Abe motions for a hug. ISAAC comes over and hugs him.

ABRAHAM (CONT'D)

Love you buddy.

ISAAC

Love you dad.

BEEP, BEEP. Isaac runs off.

Abe and Wendy crack up.

WENDY CONNORS

I thought you were gonna crack.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ABRAHAM

Me, I thought YOU were gonna crack. What's next?

WENDY CONNORS

Moonbounce gets here in about twenty minutes. Caterer gets here in thirty. Make sure when you pick him up. Take your time. I don't want you to beat the kids from the baseball team back here.

ABRAHAM

Is the magician still coming?

WENDY CONNORS

He's coming.

Abe jumps on top of Wendy and starts kissing her neck.

ABRAHAM

If we got twenty minutes I can make some magic happen.

He keeps kissing her as she laughs.

WENDY CONNORS

Twenty minutes. That WOULD be magic.

He starts tickling her and she cracks up.

INT. ABE'S CAR DAY - LATER

Abe drives his car on a sunny day. He looks happier than he's ever looked. Loads of guilt has been lifted off of his soul.

He's got a baseball game just finishing up on the radio. The announcers state that Phillies just won, that's ten wins in a row. He smiles.

He pulls up to a beautiful baseball field with kids tossing balls around and green grass every where. It's an absolute gorgeous day to be alive.

He parks the car and gets out. He surveys the field. He sees a couple of kids and the coach getting some extra hitting in. He doesn't see Isaac. He looks all around the surrounding area for him. He's expecting to see him running up to him any second. The coach nods at him.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

We walks over to the coach.

ABRAHAM

You know where Isaac is?

The coach looks confused.

COACH

Your brother just came by and
picked him up.

Abe freezes.

ABRAHAM

My brother?

Everything goes into slow motion. It hits him like a ton
of bricks. His heart drops right from his body and hits
the floor.

COACH

Is something wrong?

Abe looks at the coach and frantically makes for his car
and jumps in. The cars peels off.

He dials his phone. We see on the phone he's calling
Luke.

It rings and rings. No one answers. It goes to voicemail.

Abe hangs up the phone. Suddenly he gets a text from
Luke. It says, "426 Route One Thirty, Pennsville, NJ,
Room 106".

Abe slams his foot on the gas.

EXT. CRAPPY MOTEL. MINUTES LATER

Abe's car barrels into crappy motel parking lot and skids
into a spot.

He jumps out and scurries around to see what rooms are
where. He runs up the flight of stairs and goes to the
left searching for numbers on the doors. He's sees room
106 up ahead.

He runs up to a door and busts in.

Lucas sits in the dark motel room with an old gun sitting
on his lap and blood all over his shirt.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

His son's baseball glove lays on the bed with a blood all over it.

Abe goes into hysterics.

ABRAHAM

Where is he? Where is he?

Blood drops lead from the bed to the bathroom, getting bigger as they grow closer to the open door.

Abe takes a few more steps being able to look in the bathroom door. His son is lying face down naked on the floor, with just his baseball cap on, beaten to death with a baseball bat that lies next to him. Hundred of bruises fill his small body. Abe looks at his son Isaac and looses it.

Abe collapses down to his knees.

ABRAHAM

No, no, no...

Luke is as cool an calm as could be.

ABRAHAM (CONT'D)

(pleading)

It was my brother. We were just kids.

LUKE

You know what the worse thing is?

(beat)

As much as you and your brother tortured me almost every day of my pathetic childhood. You were the only ones who even paid attention to me. And in some sick demented childish way. Sometimes, I actually saw you and your brother as my friends...

(laughing)

As my friends! And sometimes I looked forward to you beating me. It made me feel loved.

(yelling)

Made-me-feel-loved!

Luke walks over and kneels down in front of Abe. He extends the gun out to him.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LUKE (CONT'D)

I put what you and your brother did to me in the past until you walked into my cell that day. Then it all came back. You killed my mom, my dog, and left me without a home. How could I ever forgive you.

Luke puts the gun on the ground.

He slides the gun over in front of Abe. Abe looks at it and finally picks up the gun and points it at Luke's head. Abe is shaking and crying.

LUKE (CONT'D)

Now, can you forgive me?

Abe's hands tremble as he continues to point the gun at Luke's head, he looks over at his son lying on the floor and pulls the trigger shooting Luke in the head. Blood splatters all over Abe's face.

Abe sits for a few seconds as blood drips from his face. He crawls over to his son and turns his body over and takes off his hat. He looks at him closely through the blood and bruises on him. He looks at him even closer.

It's not his son.

He drops him from his arms and frantically takes in what just happened. He stands up and looks at Luke now dead on the floor, and back at the dead boy on the ground. He keeps looking back and forth.

What has he done. He's killed the only person who knows where his son is.

He screams at the top of his lungs.

EXT. ABE'S BACKYARD - DAY

The backyard is full with young teenagers running around. A bunch of kids jump in the moonbounce. Others splash and wrestle in the pool. A magician does tricks for a group of others.

A big banner hangs across the yard saying, "Happy 14th Birthday Isaac".

Wendy looks at the kids playing and then at her watch.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Her phone rings, she sees it's Abe calling, she smiles and answers it. Her happiness quickly leaves. She listens for a few seconds then instantly falls to the ground on her knees in hysterics.

She screams and yells in agony as the entire party stops around her.

FADE TO BLACK

THE END.