

SUMMERS END

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TITLE CARD:

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IN THE GUIZHOU PROVINCE OF CHINA, A SEVENTY THREE YEAR OLD
MAN CHECKS INTO A GOVERNMENT CLINIC, EXHIBITING SYMPTOMS
SIMILAR TO AVIAN FLU H5N1.

FADE TO:

WITHIN A WEEK, THOUSANDS ARE INFECTED.

ALL OF THEM OVER THE AGE OF EIGHTEEN.

SCIENTISTS CANNOT EXPLAIN HOW YOUNG CHILDREN, WHOSE IMMUNE
SYSTEMS HAVE NOT YET FULLY DEVELOPED, REMAIN UNAFFECTED.

FADE TO:

EXT. OCEAN - DAY

SEPTEMBER 5, 2014

DANNY-- 17, sensitive skater type-- sits on a surfboard
LOOKING DIRECTLY INTO CAMERA as he cleans off the lens.

A LOW WHISTLE grabs his attention and he quickly whips the
camera around-- to reveal TWO OTHER SURFERS now paddling
furiously toward a SET OF WAVES moving in--

DANNY

KENNY!

He whips the camera back toward KENNY-- 17, with a thin
frame, wearing GLASSES even as he treads water--

DANNY (CONT'D)

HERE COMES ANOTHER SET!

KENNY

ROLLING!

FOOTAGE FROM KENNY'S CAMERA: at water level as he bobs up and
down on the waves--

BACK TO FOOTAGE FROM DANNY'S CAMERA: as he attaches it to a
SHOULDER MOUNT and paddles out into deeper water, joining the
other TWO SURFERS:

JAKE-- 17, athletic girl magnet, and SNAGGLETOOTH-- 17,
blonde afro with crazy looking eyes and messed up teeth.

JAKE
THIS ONE'S MINE!

ADDITIONAL CAMERAS ATTACHED TO JAKE'S SURFBOARD capture him turning around and dropping down the face of the wave--

Jake WHOOPS with JOY as he cuts back and forth across the wave, passing just inches away from Kenny's camera.

DANNY
Kenny! Let the wave roll over you
next time!

KENNY
WHAT?!

DANNY
GET IT FROM UNDERWATER!

WE CUT IN BETWEEN THE VARIOUS CAMERAS as Snaggletooth drops in on the next wave-- giving Kenny an awesome underwater shot as he passes by.

And then it's Danny's turn--

DANNY (O.S.) (CONT'D)
Whoa...

He paddles into deeper water as fast as he can-- a MONSTER WAVE bearing down on him--

Danny flips his board around, WHOOPING EXCITEDLY as the DEAFENING WALL OF WATER RISES UP--

And then he's dropping down the face. He executes a flawless bottom turn, then PLUNGES his hand into the wall of water, slowing down just enough that the lip shoots out over his head...

HOLD ON the perfect shot from inside the wave...

And then Danny's flying out of it and off the backside as the wave closes out. He lands on his back, giving us a view of nothing but the beautiful sky above.

DANNY (O.S.) (CONT'D)
And that, my friends, is what's
known in the business as the Wave
of the Fucking Day.

CUT TO:

EXT. CAMPGROUND - DUSK

KENNY CONTINUES TO FILM as the four boys sit at a picnic table, chowing down on sandwiches and swilling BEER.

DANNY

Quentin Tarrantino.

JAKE

Guns. No doubt that motherfucker's strapped. I'll bet you he's got one stashed in every room... just in case.

(thinks for a second)

Zoe Saldana.

DANNY

Good one.

KENNY (O.S.)

I say "no guns".

JAKE

You don't think Saldana's packing heat? *Columbiana*? Come on!

SNAGGLETOOTH

Speaking of hatchet wounds...

Snaggletooth nods toward a group of TEENAGE GIRLS walking toward them.

DANNY

You can't say stuff like that, bro. It's disrespectful.

JAKE

At least not on camera. It makes us look like degenerates.

SNAGGLETOOTH

(to Kenny)

What are you still filming for, anyway? Put that thing away.

DANNY

He's filming because the best footage we got on our last trip wasn't from out on the water, it was from when you kept trying to smash that bottle over your head and it wouldn't break!

They all laugh at the memory--

JAKE

Classic!

KENNY (O.S.)

Shit knocked you out cold, as I recall.

Snaggletooth eyes the bottle in his hand--

SNAGGLETOOTH

Perhaps it's time for a re-match...

MOLLY-- cute but mopey alterna-chick-- shakes her head as the group of TEENAGE GIRLS finally arrives.

MOLLY

Sorry we're late. My mom got all freaky when she found out there were gonna be guys here.

SNAGGLETOOTH

You should've brought her. I'd totally bang your moms.

MOLLY

Thanks, Snag. I'll be sure to pass that on.

Molly's younger brother PETE-- 13, tiny-- peeks his head out from behind the girls--

PETE

'Sup?

ALL THE GUYS IN UNISON

PETE!!!!

The greeting is obviously "a thing" and Pete smiles, enjoying the attention from the older kids.

Molly gestures toward SARAH-- a tough/sexy girl with patchily dyed hair--

MOLLY

Guys. This is my cousin Sarah from Portland. She's gonna be living with me and Petey for a while.

SARAH

Hey...

The boys stare at her, immediately taken.

MOLLY

That's Jake, Kenny, Snaggletooth...

Snaggletooth smiles, giving her a perfect view of his obscenely crooked teeth.

MOLLY (CONT'D)

...and Danny.

Sarah smiles at Danny, who awkwardly smiles back.

SARAH

So. Where can a girl get one of those beers?

EXT. BEACH - NIGHT

DANNY'S MINI-CAM ROLLS as he shows it to Sarah. They sit slightly apart from the others, who have gathered around a campfire.

DANNY

...waterproof, shockproof, and look how small it is. Sometimes you forget it's even there.

SARAH

Yeah, Molly showed me your site a while back. It's all like surf videos and stuff, right?

DANNY

Mostly. It's not just mine, though, Kenny helps out a lot too. He's like the main camera guy...

Sarah turns the camera on Danny, interview style--

SARAH (O.S.)

You guys got a lot of followers?

DANNY

Yeah. Kinda...

He smiles, trying to be casual, but we can see he's proud--

DANNY (CONT'D)

The thing is, most of the content out there kinda sucks. Even the pros are always putting the camera in the wrong spot...

He gets excited as he talks--

DANNY (CONT'D)

Like when some guy's dropping a cliff on a snowboard... People always shoot that in a wide, where you can see everything. And that looks cool, but it doesn't capture how it actually feels when you're the one doing it...

Sarah slowly ZOOMS IN on his face--

DANNY (CONT'D)

When you're coming up on something like that, something so big you can't even see the landing... when all you see are the tips of fifty foot trees peaking up from the other side...

(shakes his head)

It's a rush...

SARAH (O.S.)

Sounds intense...

Danny looks over at her. Smiles.

DANNY

You sound intense.

Beat.

SARAH (O.S.)

Your mom sounds intense.

They both crack up.

KA-BAM! A BOTTLE ROCKET EXPLODES IN DANNY'S LAP!

DANNY

HOLY SHIT!

Snaggletooth-- obviously the culprit-- busts up LAUGHING as Danny and Sarah scramble to their feet--

DANNY (CONT'D)

It's on now, Snag! IT IS ON!!!

SERIES OF SHOTS:

FROM DANNY'S SHOULDER CAM-- as he chases Snaggletooth down the beach, FIRING a roman candle at him.

The kids hiding behind rocks, shooting BOTTLE ROCKETS at one another.

Some massive firework EXPLODING in the sand, sending up a BLINDING SHOWER OF SPARKS.

CUT TO:

INT. JAKE'S SUV - DAY

KENNY FILMS as Jake drops Danny off at his house. The neighborhood is typical Pacific Northwest-- streets lined with trees, pickup trucks and hybrids.

DANNY

See you guys tomorrow...

GROANS from everyone except Snaggletooth, who looks blankly at the others.

SNAGGLETOOTH

What's tomorrow?

JAKE

There's this thing starting up, maybe you've heard of it... it's called school?

SNAGGLETOOTH

(realizing)

Shitty.

INT. DANNY'S BEDROOM - EARLY EVENING

Danny sits at his desk, speaking carefully into the microphone on his camera:

DANNY

...that southern swell never materialized, but there were still some fun waves to be had. All in all, not a bad way to wrap up the summer...

MARCELLA (O.S.)

Danny?

MARCELLA-- 40s hipster mom-- knocks gently on the door, then sticks her head into the room.

MARCELLA (CONT'D)

So, how was the epic getaway?
(re: his computer screen)
Did you get some good stuff?

Danny nods.

DANNY

I've just gotta lay down some voice over, but I'll show it to you when I'm done.

Then, noticing--

DANNY (CONT'D)

Are you okay? You don't so good.

MARCELLA

It's just a cold. I think I picked it up at the conference.

DANNY

Oh yeah, how was Vancouver?

MARCELLA

Well, let's see... it was freezing cold, it rained the entire weekend and I blew a flat on the drive home... But I did get to meet a lot of interesting and colorful sales-reps.

Marcella lets out a nasty COUGH.

DANNY

Mom, you sound horrible. You should go lie down or something...

MARCELLA

I'm fine...

She clears her throat.

MARCELLA (CONT'D)

Now. Tell me about your weekend.

DANNY

You know... we pretty much just surfed the whole time... and hung out...

MARCELLA

Was there any drinking going on?

DANNY

A little.
(off her look)
I wasn't drinking.

MARCELLA
Were there girls there?

DANNY
Just Molly... and a couple of her
friends.

Marcella looks at Danny, sensing that there might be more to
the story.

MARCELLA
You met someone, didn't you?

DANNY
Mom...

MARCELLA
What's her name?

DANNY
Mom!

MARCELLA
Okay, okay...
(beat)
Come on Danny, just give me a name.

Danny sighs.

DANNY
Sarah. But it's not like we're
going out or anything.

INT. VOLVO - MORNING

DANNY FILMS out the window as his father, BERNARD-- 40s neo-
hippie-- drives.

DANNY (O.S.)
Whoa. Check out the kook...

Danny focuses in on a WOMAN walking along the side of the
road wearing a DUST MASK over her mouth.

BERNARD
Can't say I blame her, with
everything going on...

DANNY (O.S.)
Dad, if you start wearing one of
those, I swear, I'll totally disown
you.

(MORE)

DANNY (O.S.) (CONT'D)
 It'd be like that time we took
 uncle Ross surfing and he showed up
 wearing a speedo.

Bernard laughs, but it seems slightly forced and Danny picks
 up on it:

DANNY (O.S.) (CONT'D)
 You're worried that virus thing is
 gonna spread to the States, aren't
 you?

Bernard doesn't answer.

DANNY (O.S.) (CONT'D)
 I'm telling you, you've gotta stop
 getting your news from those
 conspiracy bloggers.

BERNARD
 Everyone's worried about it, Danny.
 And if they're not, they should be.

DANNY (O.S.)
 Why don't they just ban all flights
 coming out of Asia or something?

BERNARD
 They did.
 (off his look)
 It was on the news this morning.

DANNY (O.S.)
 Damn...

Bernard looks at him for a moment, then makes a crappy
 attempt at changing the subject:

BERNARD
 So. Tell me about this new
 girlfriend of yours...

DANNY (O.S.)
 Jesus! She's not my girlfriend!

I/E. SCHOOL - MORNING

Danny rides his skateboard into the front entrance of his
 school, keeping the camera low, creating a dramatic angle as
 he weaves in and out of the other kids.

He makes his way over to Kenny, who sits on a bench, staring
 down at his phone.

DANNY (O.S.)
Hey, Ken-bo. What're you watching?

KENNY
The shit's going down, man...

*ON THE SCREEN: a Chinese man lies in a hospital bed, his
faced covered in bloody gauze.*

REPORTER (O.S.)
*...as the internal organs liquefy,
resulting in lesions on the skin
and bleeding from the eyes and
nose...*

DANNY (O.S.)
Okay. I didn't need to see that
first thing in the morning.

SARAH (O.S.)
Danny...

CAMERA PANS OVER-- to reveal Sarah walking toward them.

SARAH (CONT'D)
Jake said something about ditching
fifth period for a session in the
park. Are you going?

DANNY (O.S.)
I don't know... are you?

EXT. PARK - DUSK

VARIOUS SHOTS-- of Danny and his friends SKATEBOARDING.

At one point, Danny affixes a CAMERA at a unique angle so
that the kids are GRINDING just in front of the lens.

Later, from the same vantage point, we see Danny standing by
himself, filming the others skate.

Jake coasts over to him, sees that he's filming Sarah.

JAKE
What's the deal with you two
anyway?

DANNY
Nothing, really... why?

JAKE
Well, if you're not interested...

DANNY

Oh...

Danny looks at Sarah, then back at Jake.

DANNY (CONT'D)

I mean, I am interested, I just haven't... You know, we're not...

JAKE

Relax. Bro. I'm not here to step on your game. Just let me know if the situation changes.

They bump fists.

JAKE (CONT'D)

Word of advice though, D. You wanna be careful with chicks like that...

DANNY

What do you mean?

JAKE

I'm just saying... don't let yourself get too emotionally involved. That's all.

DANNY

Do you know something I don't?

JAKE

A girl doesn't just suddenly move in with her cousin for no reason, Danny. A girl moves in with her cousin when there's a bunch of foul shit going on at home. And girls who have that kind of foul shit going on at home... they can be mad fun for a while... but they're always messed up in the head. And you don't wanna get all tangled up in that craziness.

DANNY

Thirty seconds ago you were interested in dating her yourself.

JAKE

That's different. If I thought you were just gonna bang her for a while and not get too attached, then I wouldn't even say anything. But I know you.

(MORE)

JAKE (CONT'D)
 You're all sensitive and deep...
 and a girl like that...

DANNY
 What?

JAKE
 A girl like that is just gonna eat
 you alive.

I/E. DANNY'S HOUSE - EARLY EVENING

KENNY FILMS Danny as they skateboard down the street,
 arriving at Danny's house.

KENNY (O.S.)
 This new lens is sick, bro. I'm
 totally gonna heist it from you...

Kenny tests out the zoom as he hops off his board and follows
 Danny into the house, where we hear snippets of the NEWS
 playing on the TV--

REPORTER (O.S.)
*The official death toll now sits at
 over two hundred thousand. All
 adults...*

DANNY
 Hey, dad. Is it okay if Kenny stays
 for dinner?

Bernard looks up from the couch, his color slightly off.

BERNARD
 Of course. Anytime.

KENNY (O.S.)
 Thanks, Mr. P.

ON THE TV SCREEN: *images of doctors inspecting patients.*

REPORTER (O.S.)
*...growing exponentially with
 isolated cases now being reported
 in India, France and the United
 Kingdom...*

Bernard switches it off.

BERNARD
 So. How was it? Any good classes?

DANNY
You know, the usual...

Kenny follows Danny as they continue through the living room.

DANNY (CONT'D)
Where's mom?

BERNARD
She's in bed. This cold's really
taken it out of her...

Danny pauses outside the entrance to his room.

DANNY
She never gets sick. Not like this.
You think she's okay?

BERNARD
(unconvincing)
I'm sure she's fine.

DANNY
Alright... We're just gonna edit
some stuff together and then we'll
be right out.

As Kenny follows Danny into his room, we hear Bernard
COUGHING off screen.

EXT. SCHOOL, COURTYARD - DAY

KENNY FILMS as Danny and his friends sit at a picnic table in
the middle of the courtyard, eating lunch.

Snaggletooth faces camera, holding a HUGE ORANGE PEPPER
between his fingers.

DANNY
A million scovilles. That means
it's four hundred times hotter than
Tabasco sauce.

Snaggletooth shrugs, pops the pepper into his mouth--

MOLLY
You're such an idiot.

The kids stare at Snaggletooth, waiting for something to
happen as he chews the pepper... but he simply shrugs.

SNAGGLETTOOTH
I think I got a dud...

He swallows, makes a theatrical display of showing them his open mouth, then chomps into a SECOND PEPPER.

MOLLY

Seriously. What's wrong with you?

After a moment, Snaggletooth slowly stops chewing...

SNAGGLETOOTH

Shit...

JAKE

What?

SNAGGLETOOTH

...it's hot...

The kids CRACK UP as Snaggletooth starts writhing around like he's going into cardiac arrest--

SNAGGLETOOTH (CONT'D)

It's REALLY hot!

He grabs the milks off their lunch trays, pounding them down, one after the other--

SNAGGLETOOTH (CONT'D)

SHIT! SHIT! SHIT! SHIT!

He bolts away from the table, HEAVING into some nearby bushes, causing a group of GIRLS walking by to scatter--

Everyone LAUGHS even harder, oblivious to the fact that the PRINCIPAL has come on over the school's PA system-- until a passing TEACHER makes them quiet down, forcing them to listen:

PRINCIPAL (O.S.)

...As you know, these are serious times. The viral outbreak in Asia appears to be spreading and we in the United States are not immune...

Smiles fade as our kids all turn toward the intercom.

PRINCIPAL (O.S.) (CONT'D)

We have just received word from our governor that a few isolated cases have been confirmed in the U.S., one of them right here in town.

A frightened MURMUR goes through the courtyard. Danny and his friends all look at each other.

PRINCIPAL (O.S.) (CONT'D)

I want to remind you, that we are the most powerful nation on Earth. We have the best scientific minds on the planet working on this problem and they will get this situation under control. But until that happens, all non-essential government agencies in the state have been ordered to shut down. I regret to inform you, that this school will be closed, temporarily, until further notice.

EXT. DANNY'S HOUSE - DAY

A camera mounted on the deck of Danny's skateboard catches beautiful SLOW MOTION SHOTS of him practicing a new trick--everything BLURRING as the board spins in the air.

BERNARD (O.S.)

The world's ending... and you're out skateboarding?

Danny picks up his board, so that the camera is now mostly on Bernard.

BERNARD (CONT'D)

This is serious, Danny. They've ordered in the National Guard. They're setting up barricades all around town. You shouldn't even be outside.

DANNY (O.S.)

It doesn't affect kids.

BERNARD

We don't know what it does. Not yet, anyway. Now c'mon. Let's go inside...

Bernard walks toward the house, but Danny doesn't move.

DANNY (O.S.)

Dad...

Bernard stops, looking back.

DANNY (O.S.) (CONT'D)

You think mom has it. Don't you?

Bernard shakes his head-- but we see the strain and the fear in his eyes--

BERNARD
I'm not a doctor, Danny...

Not what Danny wanted to hear--

DANNY (O.S.)
Jesus... We've gotta do something...

The camera starts to lose Bernard as Danny panics, moving about uncertainly--

DANNY (O.S.) (CONT'D)
We've gotta get her to the hospital...

BERNARD
We can't take her to the hospital. Even if she had it, they wouldn't be able to do anything for her.

DANNY (O.S.)
At least we'd know for sure if that's what it is.

BERNARD
Danny, think about it. Everyone in town who has it, where do you think they are right now? They're at the hospital. And we don't wanna be around them.

DANNY (O.S.)
(trying to calm himself)
Okay... Okay... So, then what do we do?

Bernard shakes his head, about to say something-- when suddenly he DOUBLES OVER, COUGHING VIOLENTLY--

DANNY (O.S.) (CONT'D)
DAD! DAD!

Danny drops the skateboard-- and we catch a glimpse of BLOOD EXPLODING out of Bernard's mouth as the camera falls to the ground--

DANNY (CONT'D)
DAD!

The last thing we see is Danny running to his side--

CUT TO:

INT. DANNY'S BEDROOM - MORNING

Danny speaks directly into camera. He looks scared, even though he's doing his best to hide it.

DANNY

My parents are sick. Whatever this thing is, they have it.

Beat.

DANNY (CONT'D)

My dad spent the last couple of days running around town with all my gear, trying to document everything. They're not letting any media in, and he thinks it's important for the rest of world to know what's happening here...

Danny shakes his head.

DANNY (CONT'D)

Thing is... it's hard for him to get out of bed now... And his camera work pretty much sucks anyway, so Kenny and I are gonna help him out...

Danny chokes up a little, fighting back emotion--

DANNY (CONT'D)

Besides, if my parents have it, then what's the point of staying inside?

EXT. COUNTRY ROAD - DAY

FOOTAGE FROM THE EDGE OF THE QUARANTINE: WARNING SIGNS, CONCRETE BARRIERS, etc...

KENNY FILMS as Danny looks into camera, reporter style--

DANNY

Here we are at the edge of Slater road...

CAMERA ZOOMS IN on SEVERAL SOLDIERS in BIOHAZARD GEAR holding assault rifles.

DANNY (CONT'D)

Supposedly they have orders to shoot anybody who crosses those yellow markers.

CAMERA PANS over the markers, halfway between us and the soldiers.

EXT. PARK - DAY

The CAMERA IS LOCKED OFF as Danny interviews Kenny:

KENNY

Yesterday my dad came into my room with all these books from the library... The titles were all like "Principles of Animal Husbandry" and "How to Build a Solar Hot Water System" and so on...

DANNY

Great. It's like The Idiots Guide to Rebuilding Civilization...

Kenny shakes his head.

KENNY

There's something about seeing your parents try to be helpful that just makes it worse...

INT. DANNY'S BEDROOM - MORNING

The CAMERA IS LOCKED OFF AGAIN as Danny interviews his dad. Bernard's physical appearance has deteriorated since we last saw him. His face is now RED and SPLOTCHY.

DANNY

They were just saying on the news there's some kind of experimental vaccine...

BERNARD

They're only saying that so people will stop rioting. The important thing is... it's still not affecting you guys. Young people just aren't getting sick..

DANNY

It's not me I'm worried about...

BERNARD

I know. That's what I wanted to talk to you about...

(off his look)

Danny, you need to start thinking about what you're going to do after we're gone.

DANNY

Dad...

DANNY (CONT'D)

There hasn't been any news out of Asia in over a week. Not a word. There are fires burning in Shanghai... fires so big that we can see them from outer space.

DANNY (CONT'D)

I know.

BERNARD

If this quarantine doesn't hold and this thing gets out... the United States as we know it will cease to exist.

DANNY

What's your point?

EXT. DESERTED PLAYGROUND - DAY

KENNY FILMS as Danny unzips a small leather pouch and pulls out a REVOLVER, holding up to camera.

KENNY (O.S.)

Holy shit! Your dad gave you a gun?
Your dad?!

Danny shakes his head, can't believe it himself:

DANNY

My whole life he's been telling me guns are bad... now he's telling me the world's changed.

KENNY (O.S.)

We're fucked. If your dad's doing shit like this... we're just fucked. End of story.

DANNY

He says things are only gonna get worse here in town, with the soldiers and the looting... and that we should get out.

KENNY (O.S.)

And go where? The whole place is sealed off!

DANNY

The woods. Technically, there are places we could go up there without breaking quarantine...

KENNY (O.S.)

Yeah, but then what?

DANNY

According to him... we just lie low until this thing runs its course... Then move on to one of the islands or something. Someplace "easy to defend."

KENNY (O.S.)

Those were his words? "Easy to defend"?

DANNY

(nods)
His words.

KENNY (O.S.)

Jesus... What'd you say?

INT. DANNY'S BEDROOM - MORNING

BACK TO Danny's earlier conversation with Bernard:

DANNY

That's crazy. I'm not gonna just leave you and mom.

BERNARD

Danny, you're a better son than I ever could've hoped for. But there are things we should've done differently raising you... You're always putting other peoples' needs before your own.

(then)

(MORE)

BERNARD (CONT'D)
 You've gotta stop worrying about
 everyone else all the time and
 start thinking about what's best
 for you.

DANNY
 Dad. I'm not going.

INT. DANNY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Danny once again faces camera:

DANNY
 I turned on the TV last night and
 all the channels were the same...

His voice continues as NARRATION as we CUT TO:

EXT. RESIDENTIAL STREET - DAY

FOOTAGE FROM ACROSS THE STREET: as a GARBAGE TRUCK pulls up
 in front of a nice, suburban house.

DANNY (V.O.)
 It's this message that just keeps
 repeating, about a number you're
 supposed to call if someone dies...

THREE SOLDIERS in biohazard suits climb out. One stays
 behind, guarding the truck with a MACHINE GUN as the others
 go into the house.

DANNY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 The thing that got me about that
 message, was you could tell by the
 words they were using that it was
 aimed at kids, you know?

The SOLDIERS return to the truck, carrying a DEAD WOMAN out
 on a stretcher.

DANNY (V.O.) (CONTINUED) (CONT'D)
 Young kids...

The soldiers load the woman's body into the back of the
 garbage truck and drive away.

EXT. PARK - DUSK

KENNY FILMS as Danny interviews Jake:

JAKE

Earlier this morning... Snag and I went out to where they put those barricades across the freeway. Just to check it out.

DANNY

I hear there were a lot of people out there...

Jake nods.

JAKE

It was like that time we drove down to Coachella... only without the music. The soldiers were even passing out water...

DANNY

So, what happened?

Jake shakes his head, still can't wrap his head around it--

JAKE

This one kid... he just lost his shit and tried to make a run for it... I mean, they must've called out at least three warnings but he wouldn't stop. He just kept running... As soon as he reached the yellow markers, they opened fire... just gunned him down right there in front of everyone.

INT. PARENT'S BEDROOM - MORNING

Marcella and Bernard lie in bed, sleeping, their faces covered in RED LESIONS. Danny walks into the room, setting down a tray of ice water. As he moves to leave again, Marcella opens her eyes.

MARCELLA

(whispering)

Danny... is that you?

DANNY

Yeah. I brought you guys some ice water.

Beat.

MARCELLA

How are you holding up?

DANNY

I'm okay.

Marcella reaches out for Danny's hand.

MARCELLA

How's... how's your girlfriend...
I'm sorry... I can't... I forgot
her name...

DANNY

Sarah...

Marcella lies in the darkness, smiling.

MARCELLA

(faintly)
...How's Sarah?

DANNY

(choking up)
I don't know... I haven't seen her
in a while.

MARCELLA

(drifting off again)
I love you Danny...

Danny-- overcome with emotion-- reaches out, blocking camera.

EXT. WATERFRONT - NIGHT

DANNY FILMS Sarah as they walk along the waterfront:

SARAH

I don't understand why they won't
just let us out of here. We're not
the ones who are sick.

DANNY (O.S.)

It doesn't matter. We could still
be carriers.

SARAH

How?

DANNY (O.S.)

It's like people who have HIV but
never get AIDS. Or at least that's
what my dad told me...

Sarah nods as Danny moves on--

DANNY (O.S.) (CONT'D)
 So. Your parents... are they still
 back in Portland?

SARAH
 My mom's dead. She died in a car
 accident when I was five.

DANNY LOWERS THE CAMERA, so that all we see is a cockeyed
 view of the water--

DANNY (O.S.)
 ...I'm sorry.

SARAH (O.S.)
 It's alright. At least it was
 quick, you know?

JUMP CUT forward a few seconds, to Sarah flashing a fake
 smile toward camera:

SARAH (CONT'D)
 Hey, mom's dead and dad's an a-
 hole, but the whole world might be
 ending so who gives a shit?

EXT. WATERFRONT RESTAURANT - MOMENTS LATER

Danny and Sarah sit in front of an abandoned restaurant,
 staring out at the ocean.

SARAH
 It's weird... everything looks so
 normal from here.

DANNY (O.S.)
 Except for the Coast Guard ships.
 See the lights? They've set up a
 blockade.

SARAH
 I don't see anything...

As Sarah peers out at the water, Danny SETS THE CAMERA DOWN:
 in such a way that WE CAN STILL SEE THE TWO OF THEM reflected
 in the windows of the restaurant.

He moves in close to her, pointing--

DANNY
 Right there... all the way around.

SARAH
Dude. There's nothing there!

Danny moves in even closer.

DANNY
Are you messing with me or do you
honestly not see that?

A handful of lights twinkle faintly in the distance.

SARAH
I don't know. Maybe I see
something...

Sarah turns toward him, closing her eyes expectantly, as he leans in, kissing her.

EXT. CITY STREET - NIGHT

KENNY FILMS, documenting a FULL-ON PARTY raging in the middle of the street. The crowd CHEERS WILDLY as Jake does a BURNOUT in a FERRARI.

SARAH
Where'd he get that thing, anyway?

DANNY
Some house up on the hill.
Apparently the guy had a whole
garage full of them.

Suddenly, a POLICE CAR pulls up with a SCREECH, its LIGHTS FLASHING. KIDS scatter in all directions as a SPOTLIGHT swings toward camera--

POLICE (LOUDSPEAKER)
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!

KENNY (O.S.)
Holy shit! What do we do?!

Before they can react, the police car's window comes down-- to reveal PETE (Molly's brother) behind the steering wheel with SNAGGLETOOTH riding shotgun--

EVERYONE IN UNISON
PETE!!!!

Pete smiles as the party jumps up a notch, everyone LAUGHING hysterically--

PETE

Come on! We're gonna launch this
car off the pier!

CUT TO:

A SERIES OF PHOTOGRAPHS:

-- Danny's parents at their wedding

DANNY (V.O.)

Marcella and Bernard. They met in
college...

-- His mother holding him just after giving birth.

DANNY (V.O.) (CONT'D)

My mom was a sales rep for a
photocopy manufacturer. I don't
think she really liked it all that
much, but that's what she did...

-- Danny with his dad standing on the beach, both carrying
surfboards.

DANNY (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Dad was a history professor. And he
loved it...

-- The three of them on vacation somewhere in the alps.

DANNY (V.O.) (CONT'D)

My whole life, they're the one
thing that's always been a
constant...

EXT. DANNY'S BACKYARD - DAY

Danny's VO becomes DIRECT ADDRESS as we find him sitting in
his backyard, covered in dirt.

DANNY

This morning I went in to bring
them their coffee...

He shakes his head, fighting back tears--

DANNY (CONT'D)

...but they must have died during
the night.

HOLD ON ONE FINAL SHOT: of two FRESH GRAVES in the backyard.

INT. BAR - NIGHT

KENNY FILMS as Danny and his friends sit gathered in a booth near the front of the bar.

MOLLY

This whole town is falling apart.
There's a gun going off every five
minutes out there...

Molly glances over at Pete, who's quietly sobbing in the next booth over--

MOLLY (CONT'D)

What the hell are we supposed to
do?

The kids all look at each other for a moment.

DANNY

For a while now, I've been thinking
about what my dad said...

Everyone turns toward Danny.

DANNY (CONT'D)

About all of us heading up into the
woods and just hiding out until
whatever happens, happens... I
think it's not a bad idea.

SNAGGLETOOTH

Sweet. We could like hunt and live
off the land and shit.

MOLLY

It's not funny, Snag.

SNAGGLETOOTH

I'm serious. My pops and I used to
hunt up there all the time. I know
those woods like the back of my
hand.

JAKE

We're not gonna go hide out in the
friggin woods...

Off their looks--

JAKE (CONT'D)

We've got everything we need right
here. Food, shelter, running water--

Outside, somebody YELLS as an ENGINE REVS--

A SCREECH followed by a SMASH!

JAKE (CONT'D)
...now, what?

The kids walk over to the windows of the bar and peek out--

A group of TEN or so TEENAGERS stand in the street, gathered around a CAR that has crashed into a telephone pole.

Half of the group are JUMPING UP AND DOWN on the car's roof, while the other half pull the teenage DRIVER and his GIRLFRIEND out of the front--

DANNY
Shit!

JAKE
Danny, hold up! Don't go out there!

But he's already stepping out of the bar--

DANNY
WHAT ARE YOU GUYS DOING?! LEAVE
THEM ALONE!

JIMMY-- 17, obviously the leader of the gang-- suddenly appears, swinging a SHOTGUN into view, holding it at waist level. His eyes have a dull, hateful look to them--

JIMMY
We're doing... whatever the hell we
feel like doing...

JAKE
Danny! Get back inside!

BAM! Jake pulls Danny back into the bar as the gun GOES OFF--
SHATTERING A WINDOW--

BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG! Our guys duck down as GUNFIRE erupts outside-- GLASS EXPLODING EVERYWHERE--

KENNY (O.S.)
HOLY CRAP!

JAKE
Kill the lights!

Molly turns them off, plunging everything into darkness--

JAKE (CONT'D)
Everyone stay down!

DANNY
We gotta do something!

JAKE
Like what?!

Danny looks out through one of the shattered windows--
To see the DRIVER trying valiantly to protect his girlfriend--
The kids clear away as Jimmy approaches with his shotgun--
He CHAMBERS A ROUND and points it at the driver. The boy looks up at him, a bewildered expression crossing his bloodied face--
The WHOOPING and HOLLERING reaches a crescendo, then--
BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM! This is no shotgun, it's something MUCH BIGGER--
TOTAL CHAOS OUTSIDE-- The kids turn and SCATTER in all directions, disappearing into the night--
AS A LOW RUMBLING SOUND echoes down the street--

MOLLY (O.S.)
(hysterical)
...what's happening?

A HUMVEES slowly rolls into view. A SOLDIER in biohazard gear mans a fifty caliber machine gun mounted on the back.

The soldier appears to look directly into camera as the humvee rumbles past, though it's impossible to tell for certain because of the man's GAS MASK.

Our kids watch as the Humvee continue on, disappearing from view.

JAKE
This whole place is about to blow...

Jake turns to Danny.

JAKE (CONT'D)
You were right. We need to get out of here.

CUT TO:

INT. BAR - MORNING

KENNY FLIPS ON HIS CAMERA to reveal Danny going over the previous night's footage on his laptop.

DANNY

I can't believe you were able to keep rolling through all this.

KENNY (O.S.)

Are you kidding? I was just grateful to have something to do... Without that camera, I probably would've soiled myself.

DANNY

(re the footage)
It's friggin' amazing...

KENNY (O.S.)

What's the feedback been like?

DANNY

We haven't got any. At least not yet...

(off his look)

The power went out before I could post it to the site. We've got batteries... but no internet.

EXT. BAR - MORNING

DANNY AND KENNY FILM THE CARNAGE as the group of friends stumble out of the bar.

JAKE

Oh man...

Snaggletooth-- nursing a hangover--

SNAGGLETOOTH

This street looks like I feel...

Danny steps over a trail of BLOODY FOOTPRINTS as he wanders out into the middle of the street-- BROKEN GLASS lies everywhere along with small pieces of DEBRIS--

MOLLY

Game over, man. We're done. The whole human race.

SARAH

Molly...

MOLLY

What? Look around! We're screwed.
It's gonna be like Lord of the
Flies only all over the world.

SNAGGLETOOTH

Sweet.

MOLLY

Goddamnit Snag!

SNAGGLETOOTH

What? That book rules!

JAKE

Everyone chill. We're getting out
of here, but we've got a lot of
work to do first. We gotta round up
some supplies, some camping gear--

KENNY (O.S.)

(interrupting)

Maybe not...

Kenny ZOOMS IN on a FLYER plastered on a nearby wall--

KENNY (CONT'D)

According to this, we're
evacuating.

DANNY

What?

Kenny rips off the flyer, holding it up for him--

KENNY

It says they've finally got a
working vaccine. We're supposed to
go check in at the high school and
they're gonna bus us out from
there.

Jake jumps up in the air.

JAKE

Yeah! We're outta here! OUT!

EXT. STREET - DAY

Danny walks with Kenny, Jake and Snaggletooth, a little ways
behind Molly, Pete and Sarah.

Sarah says something to Molly. They both look back at Danny for a beat, then start laughing.

SNAGGLETOOTH

(re: Sarah)

You totally lucked out with that shorty, bro...

DANNY

She's cool, huh?

SNAGGLETOOTH

She's hot.

JAKE

I don't think he's lucked out with her... at least not yet.

SNAGGLETOOTH

Oh man. Tell me you ain't letting that go to waste...

JAKE

Danny's a virgin.

SNAGGLETOOTH

What?!

JAKE

I SAID, DANNY'S A--

DANNY

(interrupting)

DUDE! What the hell?!

Jake cracks up, LAUGHING, as Molly and Sarah look back--

MOLLY

What're you guys doing back there?

DANNY

(pissed)

Nothing.

Sarah gives him a funny look, but then shrugs it off and goes back to her conversation.

Danny shoots Jake a look--

DANNY (CONT'D)

You can be such a jerk sometimes, you know that?

SNAGGLETOOTH

He's right.

(then, looking at Sarah)

On the other hand, what you've got there is a ticking clock, Danny. It's not something you can hold off forever...

Off their looks, Snaggletooth shrugs--

SNAGGLETOOTH (CONT'D)

It's like my old man used to say: if she smokes... she fucks.

EXT. STREET - LATER

Danny and his friends are now walking with a much larger group of KIDS.

Kenny ZOOMS IN ON A SOLDIER in biohazard gear standing at the side of the road, clutching a machine gun--

JAKE

(nodding as they pass)

'Sup?

No reaction. The soldier stands frozen like a statue, face hidden behind his rubber gas mask.

DANNY (O.S.)

Ken-bo...

Kenny swings his camera toward Danny--

KENNY (O.S.)

Yeah?

Danny keeps his voice low, as though not wanting anyone to overhear--

DANNY

Does your phone work?

KENNY (O.S.)

I don't know. I've been keeping it off to save the battery.

DANNY

Try it.

Kenny pulls out his cell phone and turns it on.

KENNY (O.S.)
No service.

DANNY
Nobody's phone is working...

KENNY (O.S.)
Maybe the networks are down or something.

DANNY
All of them?

KENNY (O.S.)
Why not? Everything else is crapping out.
(then)
Why? You think it means something?

DANNY
I don't know. Maybe...

KENNY (O.S.)
Like what?

For a second, Danny looks as though he's about to say something but then he just shrugs.

DANNY
I don't know.

EXT. SCHOOL - DAY

A RAZOR WIRE FENCE surrounds the perimeter of the school and SOLDIERS in biohazard suits mill about, directing the HUNDREDS of KIDS who stand in line, waiting to pass through two giant METAL DETECTORS which have been set up near the entrance to the school.

Our guys fall into line behind the other kids.

Danny looks over at a nearby soldier, something suddenly catching his eye--

DANNY
Contractors...

KENNY (O.S.)
What?

Danny nods in the soldier's direction.

DANNY

These soldiers... they're not
National Guard anymore. They're
contractors. Mercenaries.

Jake turns back, joining the conversation--

JAKE

So? The government hires those guys
all the time.

DANNY

Yeah. To go fight wars.

Danny looks around.

DANNY (CONT'D)

This is all wrong, guys...

SNAGGLETOOTH

What are you talking about?

Danny lowers his voice as another soldier walks passed.

DANNY

Yesterday, the electricity was
working... today it's off.
Yesterday, all of our phones
worked... today they don't.

SNAGGLETOOTH

So?

DANNY

(thinking out loud)

They don't want any information to
get out... because they don't want
anyone to know what they're
doing...

(then)

This is no evacuation...

Jake laughs.

JAKE

You are so paranoid, bro. You sound
just like your dad.

KENNY (O.S.)

You mean his dad, the Rhodes
Scholar?

JAKE

Yeah. The one who thought 9/11 was an inside job...

DANNY

All I know is, I see a lot of kids going in through that fence, but I don't see any of them coming back out.

JAKE

That's because they're in the gym, waiting to be bussed out.

DANNY

In what? I don't see any buses.

They look toward the school-- it's true, there aren't any buses--

JAKE

Okay. Maybe they're behind the school...

DANNY

In the soccer field?

JAKE

So maybe they're not here yet. How the heck am I supposed to know?

DANNY

We're talking about what? A couple thousand kids? What's that worth? What's that worth when civilization itself hangs in the balance?

MOLLY

That's being a little over dramatic, don't you think?

KENNY (O.S.)

No. He's right...

They all turn toward Kenny--

KENNY (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Think about it. Kids can't keep a power station running... kids can't keep the water on... We don't know how to grow crops or raise livestock... If this thing spreads, it's the end and they know it...

MOLLY
You guys are freaking Petey out!

PETE
I'm okay...

But he doesn't look it. Jake turns to Danny:

JAKE
Dude. We're not even sick.

DANNY
We could still be carriers.

JAKE
We could also not be carriers.

DANNY
Maybe that's not a chance they're willing to take...

SNAGGLETOOTH
You're nuts, bro.

PETE
Maybe... but what if he's right?

A beat of silence as the kids look at each other, unsure what to do.

SARAH
So let's check it out.

MOLLY
'Scuse me? Check it out how?

SARAH
Go back there and see what's going on.

MOLLY
Are you insane? We could get shot. I'm not going anywhere. And neither is Petey.

Molly puts a protective arm around Pete.

SARAH
Fine. You stay put. But the only way we're really gonna know what's going on, is to go take a look for ourselves.

Danny hands his backpack full of camera gear to Jake.

DANNY
 Here. Hold this.
 (then, to Kenny)
 You're coming with us.

EXT. SCHOOL - MOMENTS LATER

THE NEXT SEVERAL MINUTES SHOULD FEEL LIKE ONE CONTINUOUS TAKE FROM KENNY'S CAMERA.

Kenny follows Danny and Sarah as they creep through some TREES near the school.

Ahead of them, a SOLDIER walks along the RAZOR WIRE FENCE, scanning the area for a moment before disappearing around a corner off to their right.

SARAH
Now.

The three of them hurry over to the fence--

Sarah grabs Danny's jacket as they get there-- quickly laying it down over the razor wire and climbing over--

Kenny tosses her the camera-- EVERYTHING BLURRING WILDLY-- as he and Danny follow her over--

Kenny takes back the camera as Danny grabs his jacket--

The three of them continue on, creeping along the left side of the school, passing darkened classrooms--

As they reach the end of the building, Sarah suddenly halts-- they can see SOLDIERS just around the corner, through the classroom windows--

They quickly backtrack away from the corner classroom, with Kenny constantly looking back (PANNING CAMERA) to make sure they're not followed--

DANNY
 What do we do? They're all over the place?

Sarah-- stopping again as she looks up--

SARAH
 If we could just get up on the roof...

DANNY
 There's no way.

Her eyes settle on a nearby classroom window. She turns to Danny--

SARAH
Gimme your jacket again.

He hands it over--

DANNY
Why...?

Sarah quickly wraps it around her fist, then PUNCHES through the window, SHATTERING it--

DANNY (CONT'D)
Sarah?!

She dives in through the broken window, followed by Danny and Kenny--

INSIDE THE SCHOOL:

Our guys quickly scramble away from the window, brushing off broken glass--

DANNY (CONT'D)
Are you crazy?! Like they're not gonna notice a broken window?!

SARAH
It got us in, didn't it?

Sarah grabs something off the floor, passing it to Danny--

SARAH (CONT'D)
You dropped something.

It's the HANDGUN Bernard gave him. Danny quickly stuffs the gun down the back of his pants as they head out of the classroom--

KENNY (O.S.)
I can't believe you brought that thing with you! Have you ever even shot a gun?!

Before he can answer--

SARAH
SHHHH!

They quickly draw back, just outside the classroom, as they hear a RADIO BURST from outside the broken window--

SOLDIER (O.S.)

Knight Six to Knight One. We have a breach on the northwest side of the building...

Sarah motions to Danny and Kenny-- and then they're off again, sprinting down the darkened hallway, passing under a "WELCOME BACK" banner hung haphazardly from the ceiling--

Stopping as a DOOR OPENS just ahead of them, up on the right--

Sarah-- quickly pulling Danny and Kenny back--

KENNY'S CAMERA-- catching just a glimpse of TWO SOLDIERS entering the hallway-- as our guys disappear into a darkened classroom--

Our guys sit in total silence for a beat-- as the soldiers pass by the classroom--

And then we're on the move again--

We see the soldiers down at the end of the hallway-- their backs to us-- as our kids slip out of the classroom and round the corner, stepping out into a--

COURTYARD:

Danny-- already moving toward two TABLES at the far end--

DANNY

Use the tables to get on the roof!

They quickly scamper up the tables and out onto the--

ROOFTOP:

Our guys quickly duck down-- as they catch sight of SOLDIERS of to the side of the building--

SARAH

Stay low. Come on...

They set off-- crouching as they move across the roof toward the back of the school, passing a LOUDSPEAKER just as it CRACKLES to life--

LOUDSPEAKER

Group C thirteen report to decontamination. C thirteen.

Danny and Sarah get to the other side first. They peer out over the roof-- their mouths dropping open--

DANNY

Jesus...

Kenny slowly creeps over to the ledge and looks out,
REVEALING:

SOLDIERS dumping BODIES into a LARGE PIT which has been dug
out of the middle of the soccer field.

LOUDSPEAKER (O.S.)

*Group C fourteen. C fourteen report
to decontamination.*

Sarah stares down at the pit full of bodies, her mind
someplace very far away.

SARAH

We've gotta get out of here.

DANNY

Not so fast...
(turning to Kenny)
Did you get all of this?

KENNY (O.S.)

Yeah.

DANNY

Are you sure?

KENNY (O.S.)

Jesus, Danny, of course I'm--

THWAP-THWAP-THWAP! SILENCED ROUNDS SUDDENLY RIP INTO THE ROOF
all around them--

DANNY

Holy crap!

SOLDIERS-- coming up onto the roof from the far end of the
building, their rifles muzzled with SILENCERS--

SARAH

RUN!

They set off, sprinting as fast as they can, CAMERA SWINGING
WILDLY as they go--

MORE TWHAPING SOUNDS AS BULLETS WHIZ THROUGH THE AIR--

MORE SOLDIERS coming up from the courtyard--

SARAH
OVER THE FENCE! IT'S OUR ONLY
CHANCE!

They charge toward the end of the building and LEAP OFF--
sailing over the razor wire--

Hitting the ground HARD--

THE CAMERA BURSTS WITH STATIC for a moment--

And then they're up and running again--

Sprinting through the wooded area, running blindly as bushes
slap them in the face--

Bursting back out into the CROWD OF KIDS gathered at the--

FRONT OF THE SCHOOL:

OUR SINGLE SHOT CONTINUES-- as our guys push their way into
the mass of bodies, heading toward their friends--

KENNY LOOKS/PANS BACK-- to reveal FOUR SOLDIERS stepping out
of the woods behind them, scanning the sea of faces--

Danny-- YELLING to be heard over the crowd as he finally
reaches Jake and the others--

DANNY
GUYS! GUYS!

Everyone looks at Danny-- his expression instantly telling
them everything they need to know--

JAKE
Oh shit...

Molly looks around, panicked--

MOLLY
Where's Petey?

SNAGGLETOOTH
He was just here...

They scan the crowd--

MOLLY
PETE?

SARAH
They saw us. They know that we
know.

JAKE
We gotta get out of here.

DANNY
What about all these people? We've
gotta warn 'em...

SARAH
It's too late.

Off her look, KENNY LOOKS/PANS BACK-- to see the SOLDIERS
pointing in their direction--

KENNY (O.S.)
Oh shit...

SARAH
Danny... gimme the gun.

JAKE
What gun?

Molly continues frantically searching the sea of faces--

MOLLY
PETE!

KENNY PANS BACK TO THE SOLDIERS-- one of them has entered the
crowd, heading for our guys--

SARAH (O.S.)
Gimme the gun.

Danny shakes his head.

DANNY
We don't need it.

SARAH
Just give it to me!

MOLLY
WHERE'S PETEY?!!

Danny turns away from the approaching soldier-- only to see
TWO MORE SOLDIERS coming towards them from the other side--

DANNY
FUCK!

KENNY (O.S.)
...what do we do?

Danny looks out at the crowd for a moment, then raises his hands to his mouth and YELLS:

DANNY
RUN! EVERYBODY RUN!

A few of the kids in their vicinity turn and look blankly at Danny, clueless as to why he's freaking out--

DANNY (CONT'D)
RUN FOR YOUR FUCKING LIVES! IT'S A
TRAP!

WHIP PAN BACK-- to see one of the approaching soldiers raising his machine gun--

BACK TO SARAH-- as she sees it too-- and something inside her SNAPS. She lunges-- grabbing the handgun from the back of Danny's pants and whipping it up toward the soldier--

BANG!

The guy goes down--

For an eerie moment, the crowd suddenly goes dead quiet... and then ALL HELL BREAKS LOOSE--

TOTAL CHAOS-- as AUTOMATIC GUNFIRE ERUPTS--

EVERYONE SCREAMING as the entire crowd suddenly tries to run in all directions at once--

SARAH
This way!

CAMERA SHAKES WILDLY as our guys charge through the crowd--

Most of what we see is just a BLUR, but we know its bad from the SOUNDS of the GUNFIRE and people SCREAMING--

QUICK GLIMPSES-- of PEOPLE on the ground, STILL MOVING as they're TRAMPLED--

FLASHES of AUTOMATIC GUNFIRE from the edge of the crowd--

MOLLY (O.S.)
Danny! Help!

Danny whirls around to see Molly slipping under the crowd while other kids try to scramble over her--

He grabs her hand and pulls, helping her to her feet--

Sarah stops as they near the edge of the crowd--

MORE MUZZLE FLASHES-- There are soldiers FIRING on this side too--

JAKE
We're surrounded!

Sarah ducks down as BULLETS WHIZ past her head, cutting short a SCREAM coming from somewhere behind them--

MOLLY
Where's Pete!

Sarah suddenly charges forward again--

DANNY
Sarah!

She raises Danny's handgun, FIRING RAPIDLY as she breaks free of the other kids--

BANG! BANG! BANG! ONE OF THE SOLDIERS GOES DOWN--

Sarah darts over to him, quickly grabbing his MACHINE GUN--

She whips back the slide, OPENING FIRE on the OTHER SOLDIERS--

BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM!

Bullets rip through biohazard suits--

THREE SOLDIERS GO DOWN before they even have time to register what's happening--

Seeing an out, the CROWD OF KIDS suddenly charges forward-- getting in between our guys and the other soldiers--

SARAH
COME ON!

She grabs a handgun from the soldier at her feet, tossing it to Jake--

SARAH (CONT'D)
LET'S GO!

Our guys turn and run from the school, joining a LARGE CROWD of SCREAMING KIDS as they spill out onto the--

STREET:

OUR SINGLE SHOT CONTINUES-- THE CAMERA SWINGING WILDLY as our guys haul ass--

SCREECH!

WHIP PAN BACK-- to reveal a HUMVEE rounding a corner behind them--

BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM! The 50 CALIBER GUN is DEAFENING--

More SCREAMING and CHAOS--

GLASS EXPLODING from the windows of parked cars--

JAKE
DOWN HERE!

He darts down a narrow walkway between two buildings-- The others piling after him--

WALKWAY:

BAM! BAM!

WHIP PAN BACK-- to see FOUR SOLDIERS on foot, coming after them--

Just as our guys round a corner--

Sarah drops back, RETURNING FIRE around the corner as the others sprint on ahead of her--

DANNY
(turning back)
Sarah!

Sarah shakes her head as she SLAPS a fresh clip into her machine gun and CHAMBERS a round.

SARAH
Stay with the others!

Danny hesitates.

SARAH (CONT'D)
GO! I'M RIGHT BEHIND YOU!!!

They continue on, with Sarah FIRING BACK as the SOLDIERS finally burst into view--

HER ROUNDS driving them back around the corner--

Our guys burst out of the walkway to find themselves in a--

PARKING LOT:

JAKE
Over there! Behind the cars!

They follow Jake toward a handful of PARKED CARS in the middle of the lot--

Danny-- hesitating--

DANNY
WHERE'S SARAH?!

BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM! The soldiers burst into view behind them--
SPRAYING the parking lot with GUNFIRE--

ANOTHER BURST OF STATIC ON THE SCREEN as Kenny dives to the ground, behind a car--

The STATIC CLEARS again-- and we realize we are looking out from under the car-- just in time to see MOLLY FALL to the ground, clutching her stomach--

SNAGGLETOOTH (O.S.)
MOLLY!

THE CAMERA WHIPS UP AGAIN as Kenny runs over to her--

Snaggletooth is already there, kneeling over her, covering her wound with his hand--

SNAGGLETOOTH (CONT'D)
Shit...

MOLLY
(dazed)
Where's Petey?

BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM!

THE CAMERA WHIPS UP-- and we see the SOLDIERS turning back the way they came-- as SARAH OPENS FIRE on them from behind a DUMPSTER--

TWO OF THEM GO DOWN--

The others RETURN FIRE-- forcing Sarah back into cover behind a garbage dumpster--

The remaining soldiers split up, one going after Sarah, the other heading right toward us-- BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM!

KENNY DUCKS DOWN again as BULLETS whiz by all around--

Snaggletooth stares down at Molly as the battle rages behind them.

MOLLY (CONT'D)
I've gotta find Petey... I promised
my mom... that I'd look after him.

SNAGGLETOOTH
We'll find him, Mol. I swear,
alright?

Molly nods.

MOLLY
I don't wanna die, Snag...

Snaggletooth puts his hands on her chest, covering her wound
as her BREATHING BECOMES IRREGULAR--

MOLLY (CONT'D)
I don't wanna die...

He looks down at her for a beat, unsure what to say.

SNAGGLETOOTH
Mol... You remember when you
totally flipped out on Suzie
Peterson and all those
cheerleaders... in the woods back
behind school?

MOLLY
How... do you know about that?

SNAGGLETOOTH
Because I was there. I was sneaking
out of shop class... and I heard
you guys fighting.

MOLLY
Shit...

SNAGGLETOOTH
I don't know what they said about
me that got you so pissed off...

Molly somehow manages a faint smile.

MOLLY
You... don't wanna know...

SNAGGLETOOTH
The point is, you didn't know I was
there. You didn't have to stick up
for me like that. But you did...
because deep down you're a fucking
scrapper...

(MORE)

SNAGGLETOOTH (CONT'D)
 Even if you don't know it. And you
 know what scrappers do? They fight.
 So fucking fight with me, alright?
 Fight with me. Right now.

Molly nods her head.

SNAGGLETOOTH (CONT'D)
 You're gonna be alright. You got
 me?

Molly nods again.

SNAGGLETOOTH (CONT'D)
 C'mon, Mol. Say it. Say it with me.
 You're gonna be alright.

MOLLY
 I'm gonna be alright...

Snaggletooth nods, his eyes welling up. He grabs onto her
 hand, clasping it in his own, holding it over her wound.

SNAGGLETOOTH
 Yeah you are.

MOLLY
 I'm... gonna... be al..right...

Molly's breathing becomes SHORT and FAST for a moment before
 finally stopping cold.

SNAGGLETOOTH
 Molly...

But she's gone.

Snaggletooth stares down at her lifeless body.

BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM GLASS EXPLODES out of the car above
 their heads--

THE CAMERA WHIPS TO THE SIDE-- just as one of the SOLDIERS
 appears in front of them, RAISING HIS GUN--

BAM! THE SOLDIER CRUMPLES TO THE GROUND.

As he falls away, we see SARAH standing behind him. She
 FREEZES as she catches sight of Molly lying on the ground--

SARAH
 MOLLY!

She runs forward--

Danny, hurrying out to intercept her--

DANNY

Sarah...

She pushes him away, kneeling down over her cousin--

SARAH

Molly... Goddamnit, Molly!

A wave of emotion crosses Sarah's face. At first her eyes well up and she looks like she's going to lose it completely... but then she somehow fights it back down, a look of grim determination slowly taking its place...

She turns to the others.

SARAH (CONT'D)

Help me grab their guns.

OUR SINGLE SHOT FINALLY ENDS.

CUT TO:

EXT. RAILROAD TRACKS - DAY

Several rusty, decommissioned boxcars sit on the tracks, which lie in an industrial part of town.

INT. BOXCAR - CONTINUOUS

Our guys sit in a semi-circle in one of the boxcars, passing a water bottle back and forth. Nobody says anything for several seconds, until finally Jake speaks, breaking the silence:

JAKE

She was the first girl I ever
kissed.

The others look at him for a moment, considering this.

DANNY

Yeah, right...

JAKE

It's true. I was new in town. I
didn't know anyone... To be honest,
I didn't think girls would even be
into me.

DANNY

Dude. The minute you got here you were instantly the most popular guy in our whole school.

JAKE

It was fifth grade, Danny. I didn't know any better.

Jake shakes his head.

JAKE (CONT'D)

Damnit. She was so fucking cool. Even back then...

Silence.

SNAGGLETOOTH

(quiet)

I don't understand... how she can just be gone, you know?

Snaggletooth shakes his head.

SNAGGLETOOTH (CONT'D)

How can the girl who taught me how to play guitar... The one person who went to every single show that my band ever played, even though we sucked... How can she be gone?

Nobody has an answer for that one.

SNAGGLETOOTH (CONT'D)

It just doesn't seem possible.

EXT. RAILROAD TRACKS - DAY

The kids sit in a small patch of shade behind the boxcars, eating some kind of soup that Kenny has simmering over a camping stove.

Sarah inspects their machine guns, counting the ammo.

Danny stands a few feet away, watching the street from the edge of a boxcar.

JAKE

This soup is seriously grubbing, bro.

KENNY

You think so? I kinda just threw it together.

DANNY

Shhh!

ENGINE SOUNDS--

We catch a quick glimpse of a HUMVEE approaching as our guys duck down, taking cover--

They sit in total silence for a long beat, as the Humvee RUMBLES by without stopping.

When it's gone, Sarah turns to the group.

SARAH

We've gotta get out of here.

DANNY

We could still head up into the woods.

SARAH

We're way past hiding out in the fucking woods, Danny. This whole place just became a war zone. We need to get out.

DANNY

We can't just break the quarantine...

SARAH

Why not? It beats dying.

DANNY

What if we're contagious?

JAKE

I don't know about you bro, but I ain't sick.

DANNY

You know that doesn't matter. Technically we could still be carriers, otherwise they wouldn't be trying to kill us.

JAKE

Yeah, well, technically I don't give a crap. I'm with Ripley here...

(MORE)

JAKE (CONT'D)
(nodding at Sarah)
I say we get the hell out, even if
we are infected.

DANNY
What's the point? If we're infected
then we'll all be dead within a
year or two anyway.

Jake looks at Kenny.

JAKE
Is that how it works?

KENNY (O.S.)
Why are you asking me?

JAKE
Because you're smart, Kenny.

Beat.

KENNY (O.S.)
I don't know...

SNAGGLETOOTH
One year, two years... it doesn't
matter... Anything's better than
nothing.

Jake and Sarah nod in agreement.

DANNY
You guys are unbelievable. We can't
risk infecting the rest of the
world. That's insane.

SARAH
No. Insane would be sitting here
waiting for them to come and kill
us.

JAKE
The decision's been made, bro.

DANNY
You know what Jake? Who the fuck
are you to be telling me the
decision's been made? You think
that just 'cause you're the captain
of the basketball team you're
automatically our leader or
something? Fuck you!

JAKE

What do you wanna do, Danny? Vote?
Everyone in favor of not getting
your ass killed raise your fucking
hand.

Jake, Sarah and Snaggletooth immediately raise their hands.
Danny, looks over at Kenny (CAMERA) for support--

KENNY (O.S.)

I'm just not sure we have a choice.

DANNY

Of course we do. There's always a
choice.

JAKE

Okay, so what is it?

Danny doesn't have an answer for that one.

JAKE (CONT'D)

Exactly.

EXT. LOADING DOCK - DUSK

Sarah sits away from the railroad tracks, watching the sunset
from the loading dock of some industrial building.

FOOTAGE CHANGES FROM KENNY'S CAMERA TO ONE MOUNTED ON DANNY'S
SHOULDER-- as he walks up behind her.

DANNY (O.S.)

Hey.

She looks up at him.

SARAH

Hey.

He sits down, digging a mini-cam out of his pack.

DANNY (O.S.)

I'm putting one of these on
everyone...

He mounts the cam onto her shoulder.

DANNY (O.S.) (CONT'D)

The way I see it, the one good
thing about breaking quarantine is
that it means we can get the word
out...

WE SWITCH VIEWS AS HE FLIPS ON HER CAMERA-- peering into the lens as he adjusts it.

DANNY (CONT'D)

If the rest of the world sees what's happening with their own eyes, someone will have to step in to stop it...

SARAH

(unconvinced)
Maybe.

Beat.

SARAH (CONT'D)

You really think we're wrong for trying to escape?

DANNY

All I know for sure, is that if you're going, then I am too...

SARAH

I don't need you to protect me, Danny.

DANNY

No, I got that... If anything, I'm guessing it'll probably be the other way around. You know, if you're cool with that...

Sarah smiles.

DANNY (CONT'D)

I'm sorry I doubted you back at the school. I should've just given you the gun.

SARAH

Don't worry about it.

DANNY

I didn't know that you were Special Ops or whatever...

Sarah smiles again. Danny looks at her, waiting for an explanation.

SARAH

My dad's one of those survivalist kooks. Ex Green Beret. He's got this cabin out in the woods...

(MORE)

SARAH (CONT'D)

He used to take me up there on the weekends... to train for the end of the world.

(beat)

I guess now it's here.

EXT. ALLEYWAY - NIGHT

NOTE: KENNY CONTINUES TO FILM WITH THE MAIN CAMERA BUT OUR KIDS ALSO NOW HAVE MINI-CAMS ON THEIR SHOULDERS, ALLOWING US TO CUT BACK AND FORTH WHEN CONVENIENT.

GUNSHOTS ring out in the distance as the kids slowly make their way through the darkened alleyway, carrying machine guns.

Danny and Sarah lag a little behind Jake and Snaggletooth, fiddling with Danny's revolver.

SARAH

No. You've gotta pull back on the release first.

DANNY

The what?

Sarah reaches over, pointing at a small lever on the side of the gun. Danny pulls it back.

SARAH

Now push on the cylinder.

Danny pops the cylinder out of the side of the revolver.

DANNY

(getting it)

Ah...

Danny stares down at the spent casings sitting in the cylinder.

DANNY (CONT'D)

Wait, there's still bullets in there...?

SARAH

Those are just the casings.

He looks at her, confused.

SARAH (CONT'D)

Dude...

Sarah takes the gun from him, emptying the casings into her hand.

SARAH (CONT'D)

See? Empty.

DANNY

I'm totally gonna shoot myself in the foot or something, aren't I?

SARAH

Probably.

Ahead of them--

JAKE

(quiet)

Everybody down!

Our kids take cover-- as a HUMVEE suddenly appears at the end of the alley, sweeping the area with its SPOTLIGHT--

And then continuing on.

As the Humvee disappears, our guys quietly make their way to the edge of the street and peek out:

SOLDIERS patrol both sides of the street, which is lit by INDUSTRIAL WORK LIGHTS and borders a LARGE, WOODED PARK on the other side.

Our kids crouch down behind a garbage dumpster as one of the PATROLS nears their location.

They stay silent for a moment as the patrol passes, then--

SARAH

(quiet)

Okay. Now!

They quickly dart out of hiding, crossing the street--

Quickly ducking down again as they enter the TREES at the edge of the park--

Just as ANOTHER SOLDIER appears on the street right behind them--

EXT. PARK - CONTINUOUS

Our kids sit perfectly still as the SOLDIER walks past...

SNAP! A branch suddenly breaks under someone's foot.

The soldier stops, turning toward the park...

He flicks on a FLASHLIGHT attached to his machine gun, sweeping it through the trees...

Our kids sit in silence, waiting...

Sarah slowly lines up a shot as the soldier continues sweeping the area with his light...

But after a moment, the soldier seems to decide it's a dead end. He flicks off his light and walks away, letting out a MUFFLED COUGH as he goes.

The kids all breathe a collective sigh of relief as the soldier disappears from view.

DANNY

Did you guys hear that? He coughed.

KENNY

It might not mean anything.

SARAH

I'll tell you what. If they do get sick, we might just have a chance.

JAKE

Guys...

They turn toward Jake, who's moved on ahead a little. He motions for them to join him--

DANNY

What is it?

JAKE

(freaked out)

They've got a bunch of kids...

The others creep over to his position and take a look for themselves.

KENNY ZOOMS IN WITH HIS HANDHELD--

TWO SOLDIERS stand in a nearby CLEARING just downhill from them, watching over a DOZEN or SO KIDS. The kids all sit on their knees with their hands tied behind their backs.

INDUSTRIAL WORK LIGHTS illuminate the clearing and we see A SECOND GROUP OF SOLDIERS at the far end, standing near a HUMVEE that sits parked on an ACCESS ROAD.

As Kenny FOCUSES IN on the kids being held prisoner, we realize that one of them is PETE, Molly's younger brother.

KENNY (O.S.)

Jesus...

BACK WITH OUR GUYS, as they look at each other, unsure what to do--

SNAGGLETOOTH

They've got Pete...

SARAH

They've also got a fifty caliber machine gun mounted on the back of that Humvee...

(shakes her head)

There's nothing we can do for him.

JAKE

She's got a point, bro.

SNAGGLETOOTH

He's one of us.

DANNY

Snag's right. We can't just leave him there.

The SOUND OF ENGINE NOISE draws their attention back to the clearing-- as a SCHOOL BUS appears at the far end of the access road.

As our guys watch, the bus pulls up to a stop across from Pete and the other prisoners.

Snaggletooth turns back to the group.

SNAGGLETOOTH

If he gets on that bus, we're never gonna see him again.

He flips off the safety on his rifle.

SNAGGLETOOTH (CONT'D)

Fuck it. I'm going in. You guys do what you have to.

Snaggletooth takes one last look at his friends.

SNAGGLETOOTH (CONT'D)

Peace.

JAKE

Snag...

But it's too late-- Snaggletooth darts off, making his way down the hill through the trees toward Pete and the other prisoners--

SARAH

Shit...

DANNY

What?

Sarah points-- and we see MORE SOLDIERS entering the clearing from off to the side, dragging a couple of TEENAGERS out of the woods, headed toward the main group--

SARAH

There's no way he's gonna make it.

DANNY

We've gotta do something.

SARAH

We can't. It's suicide. He knew that going in.

JAKE

(agreeing)

There's too many of them.

DANNY

It's SNAG!

SARAH

I'm not throwing my life away for anyone.

Danny looks at them for a beat, then takes a deep breath and darts off into the woods after Snaggletooth--

SARAH (CONT'D)

Danny!

Sarah watches him go for a second, then shakes her head--

SARAH (CONT'D)

Shit.

She bolts after him.

KENNY FOLLOWS BEHIND HER, WITH HIS FOOTAGE CREATING A MASTER SHOT FOR THE SCENE.

WITH SNAGGLETOOTH:

Arriving at the edge of the clearing just as the bus doors swing open--

The SOLDIERS guarding the kids motion for them to get on--

WITH DANNY:

Ducking down behind some trees at a different part of the clearing-- as the SOLDIERS DRAGGING THE TEENAGERS near his position--

He readies his gun as Sarah and Kenny catch up to him--

SARAH (CONT'D)
Right behind you...

Danny looks over at her--

SARAH (CONT'D)
You got your safety off?

He nods.

SARAH (CONT'D)
Alright.

Sarah raises her own rifle.

SARAH (CONT'D)
Danny, if you just got me killed,
I'm gonna be pissed.

WITH SNAGGLETOOTH:

As he bursts out of the woods, running toward Pete and the other prisoners--

Aiming his rifle as a STRUGGLE breaks out ahead of him--

It's PETE-- refusing to get on the bus. He somehow breaks free--

One of the SOLDIERS swings his gun toward Pete--

BANG! Snaggletooth FIRES FIRST, dropping the guy--

WITH DANNY AND SARAH:

As the SOLDIERS dragging the teenagers react to the gunfire-- letting go of their prisoners as they draw their weapons--

BANG! Sarah DROPS one of the SOLDIERS as the teenagers scramble out of the way--

SARAH (CONT'D)

NOW!

BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM! Danny and Sarah both OPEN FIRE on the soldiers, mowing a couple of them down--

The others quickly drop to the ground behind some PICNIC TABLES, RETURNING FIRE--

Our guys duck back as BULLETS TEAR INTO THE TREES all around them--

DANNY

Holy shit...

Danny looks over at Sarah, then at Kenny as it hits him--

DANNY (CONT'D)

I just killed that guy...

SARAH

Better him than us.

She leans out, FIRING BACK--

WITH SNAGGLETOOTH:

BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM! He takes out the other SOLDIER who was watching over the kids-- and then YET ANOTHER ONE as the guy steps off the bus--

Pete looks over at Snaggletooth, stunned, as he finally reaches the group--

PETE

...Snag?

SNAGGLETOOTH

GET DOWN!

BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM! The BUS'S WINDOWS EXPLODE IN A SHOWER OF GLASS as the SOLDIERS at the picnic tables OPEN FIRE on their position--

SNAGGLETOOTH (CONT'D)

EVERYBODY GET DOWN! BEHIND THE BUS!

WITH DANNY AND SARAH:

FIRING AWAY from behind the trees-- BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM-- taking out another one of the soldiers--

WITH SNAGGLETOOTH:

As he pulls a KNIFE, quickly cutting through Pete's plastic handcuffs--

SNAGGLETOOTH (CONT'D)
How you doin' buddy? You alright?
These your friends?

Pete nods-- too shocked to process it-- as BULLETS continue to WHIZ by all around them--

SNAGGLETOOTH (CONT'D)
I know you're pretty freaked out
right now, Pete, but I need you to
do something for me...

He hands the KNIFE to Pete--

SNAGGLETOOTH (CONT'D)
I need you to cut everyone else
loose while I clear us a path out
of here, alright?

Pete nods-- starts cutting the others loose--

As Snaggletooth cautiously makes his way over to the edge of the bus--

And RETURNS FIRE on the SOLDIERS at the picnic tables--

WITH DANNY AND SARAH:

Also FIRING at the same group--

Danny MOWS ONE OF THEM DOWN as the soldier charges toward the bus--

BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM! The others make one final attempt to storm Danny and Sarah's position-- but she CUTS THEM DOWN--

Then, for a half second, it's QUIET...

Across from them, Snaggletooth peeks out from behind the bus and waves--

Just as the HUMVEE at the far end of the clearing SCREECHES TO LIFE, racing toward him--

WITH SNAGGLETOOTH:

As Pete finishes cutting through the last of the other kids' handcuffs--

SNAGGLETOOTH (CONT'D)
EVERYBODY RUN! GET OUT OF HERE!

WITH DANNY AND SARAH:

Watching in horror as the Humvee bears down on Snaggletooth's position--

SARAH
Danny! We gotta go!

WITH SNAGGLETOOTH:

As the Humvee's SPOTLIGHT locks onto him and the kids--

SNAGGLETOOTH
GET GOING! NOW! MOVE IT!

The kids scatter in all directions as the Humvee OPENS FIRE--

WITH DANNY AND SARAH:

Danny instinctively swings his rifle toward the Humvee, but Sarah pulls him back--

SARAH
That fifty cal will tear right
through these trees...
(then)
C'mon, we gotta fall back!

WITH SNAGGLETOOTH:

As he sprints out from behind the bus and onto the access road, FIRING HIS GUN at the Humvee, drawing it away from the other kids--

SNAGGLETOOTH (O.S.)
COME ON, YOU ASSHOLES!

The Humvee whips its spotlight after him, giving chase--

PETE (O.S.)
Snag!

Snaggletooth turns to see Pete running after him--

SNAGGLETOOTH (O.S.)
Pete! Go! Get away from me! Find
your friends and hide!

As the Humvee accelerates after them--

WITH DANNY AND SARAH:

As Snaggletooth and Pete disappear from view, pursued by the Humvee--

SARAH
C'mon. We're done...

But Danny doesn't move. He just sits there, frozen in place.

EXT. PARK, ACCESS ROAD - CONTINUOUS

Snaggletooth and Pete sprint down the access road, the Humvee's spotlight BLASTING on their backs--

SNAGGLETOOTH (O.S.)
Go Pete! Get out of here!

Pete looks over at him, unsure--

SNAGGLETOOTH (CONT'D)
GO GODDAMNIT!

Snaggletooth PUSHES him toward a TRAIL coming up on their right--

SNAGGLETOOTH (CONT'D)
GO GO GO!

Pete darts off, disappearing down the trail-- as Snaggletooth turns back toward the Humvee, OPENING FIRE--

SNAGGLETOOTH (CONT'D)
BRING IT!

The Humvee follows him, ignoring Pete--

Snaggletooth turns, running forward again as fast as he can--

The Humvee bearing down on him--

Closer, closer, closer--

Snaggletooth whirls around, OPENING FIRE one last time--

BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM! 50 CALIBER FLASHES BLIND THE CAMERA--

WHICH JERKS INTO THE AIR FOR A MOMENT before--

SMASHING TO BLACK as Snaggletooth crumples to the ground.

EXT. PARK, EDGE OF THE CLEARING - CONTINUOUS

Sarah gently pulls Danny back into the woods.

SARAH
Danny, they're not coming back.

He shakes his head, fighting back tears.

SARAH (CONT'D)
He's gone. You've gotta let it go.

EXT. WOODED HILLSIDE - LATER

Our kids scramble up the heavily wooded hillside, using FLASHLIGHTS attached to THEIR GUNS to see where they're going.

KENNY
(panting)
Guys... hold on.

DANNY
You okay?

KENNY
Yeah... I just need to rest a sec.

The other kids all gather around, finding places to sit.

KENNY (CONT'D)
I feel like we've been climbing
this hill for hours...

Danny fishes a bottle of water out of his backpack and takes a sip.

DANNY
Water?

Jake takes the bottle from Danny and drinks, then passes it over to Sarah.

SARAH
I don't suppose any of you actually
knows where the hell we're
going...?

JAKE
I think we wanna just keep heading
east.

SARAH
You mean north? East is that way.

Sarah points off to the side of the hill.

JAKE

Doh!

Danny takes out his map.

DANNY

Right now we're in here
somewhere...

He traces along their route with his fingertip.

DANNY (CONT'D)

We wanna keep going north for a
little while, maybe another mile,
mile and a half, then cut east. If
we do it too soon, we'll end up
back in town.

A dog BARKS from somewhere behind them. Sarah reflexively
leaps to her feet.

SARAH

Kill the lights!

They quickly switch off their flashlights, scanning the
darkness.

SARAH (CONT'D)

Shit...

FAR BELOW-- FLASHLIGHT BEAMS sweep through the woods as
DOZENS of SOLDIERS with GERMAN SHEPHERDS slowly make their
way up the hillside.

JAKE

I guess that settles that. Nowhere
to go but up.

EXT. WOODED HILLSIDE - LATER

Our guys scramble up the hillside in near total darkness,
coming to a flat area.

JAKE

I can't see a thing! How far have
we gone?

KENNY

I'd say about a mile.

DANNY

I think it's leveling off. We can probably cut over now. What do you guys think?

The kids scan the darkness.

SARAH

What's that? Do you see that?

Sarah points at a faint patch of LIGHT just up ahead, barely visible through the trees.

EXT. CLEARING - CONTINUOUS

The kids stumble out of the woods, finding themselves at the edge of an enormous, grassy clearing. The woods stretch out on both sides of them, with some mountains in the distance.

SARAH

Alright. Let's head east, but stay close to the trees. We've only got another half hour before it gets light out.

Sarah walks off to the right, along the edge of the clearing. The others follow.

KENNY

Do you guys hear something?

JAKE

Hear what?

Everyone stops to listen. At first we can't hear anything, but then a QUIET LAUGH breaks the silence, followed by WHISPERING.

SARAH

Over there.

She points out across the clearing:

Several FIGURES walk parallel to them, through the middle of the clearing.

KENNY

Soldiers?

The kids stare out into the darkness-- it's impossible to tell.

DANNY
I don't think so.

As they listen, a different sound, a faint MECHANICAL SOUND becomes audible-- the WHOOPING of a helicopter--

SARAH
Get back!

The kids dart back, taking cover in some bushes-- just as the helicopter rises into view behind them, its SPOTLIGHT SHINING DOWN through the trees--

They watch in horror as the blinding spotlight slowly passes over them--

DANNY
Can they see us?

Nobody answers.

The helicopter hovers above them for a beat-- then suddenly swoops off towards the middle of the clearing-- training its spotlight onto the FIGURES they saw earlier--

TWENTY TEENAGERS walking across the clearing suddenly freeze as the spotlight hits them-- They look up for a second, as though unsure what to do, then scatter in all directions--

BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM! GUNFIRE ERUPTS from the far side of the clearing--

DANNY (CONT'D)
Oh, God...

SOLDIERS step out from the trees, FIRING their guns at the now SCREAMING TEENAGERS--

The helicopter darts around, keeping the kids visible in its spotlight, while the soldiers continue FIRING--

KENNY
What do we do?

A dog BARKS from somewhere behind them.

KENNY (CONT'D)
(panicking)
We can't go back. We can't go forward...

DANNY
Kenny, shut up!

Kenny looks at him, hurt.

DANNY (CONT'D)

Sorry. That's just not very helpful right now!

JAKE

He's right, though. What are we gonna do? Those dogs will lead them right to us.

SARAH

Let's double back. Retrace our steps.

Everyone looks at her.

JAKE

You know what's funny? I could've sworn you just said "let's double back and retrace our steps." But I know I must've misheard you because THAT WOULD BE BATSHIT INSANE!

SARAH

I've got an idea. I don't know if it'll work... but it beats staying here.

EXT. WOODED HILLSIDE - NIGHT

The kids hurry back down the hillside, running blindly through the trees.

DANNY

This is exactly the same way we came up. We're gonna run right into them!

Sarah skids to a halt.

SARAH

Stop!

The others follow her lead as several FLASHLIGHT BEAMS suddenly become visible down below--

SARAH (CONT'D)

Alright. Everyone pick a tree and start climbing.

DANNY

That's your plan? We're gonna climb trees?

SARAH

Just do it!

Sarah slings her gun over her shoulder and grabs onto the closest tree. The others watch her for a moment, then do the same--

WITH DANNY: as he puts his hands on a large branch and hoists himself up--

WITH SARAH: climbing steadily, hand over hand--

WITH KENNY: going carefully from branch to branch, moving much slower than the others--

WITH JAKE: already a good twenty feet off the ground, pauses to look down--

The SOLDIERS are now fully visible, about fifty feet away--

The LEAD SOLDIER hurries after a large German Shepherd, keeping his flashlight trained on the ground just ahead of the dog--

WITH DANNY: keeping as still and quiet as possible--

As the lead soldier follows his dog over to the base of Danny's tree--

The dog starts pawing at the trunk--

The soldier looks up, aiming his flashlight into the branches--

He stands there for what seems like eternity, checking the tree--

Until one of the other dogs suddenly starts BARKING FURIOUSLY--

SOLDIER (O.S.)

THIS WAY! THEY WENT UP THE HILL!

The soldiers continue on, their dogs following the scent from where the kids doubled back.

Our guys wait for a long beat, then start climbing down.

Sarah reaches the ground first, followed by Jake a few seconds later and then Danny.

JAKE
(to Sarah)
Good thinking, Rips.

Sarah looks up at the flashlight beams sweeping the hillside above them.

SARAH
We've probably only got a few minutes before they figure out what we did.

Jake looks up at Kenny, who's still making his way cautiously down the last few branches of his tree.

JAKE
Just jump, bro.

Kenny looks at them for a second, then jumps.

BANG! He stumbles on impact, DISCHARGING his rifle.

The kids look at each other: shit!

They look back up the hill to see the soldiers' flashlight beams swinging back in their direction--

SARAH
Run!

They do, cutting sideways through the brush.

EXT. WOODED HILLSIDE - MOMENTS LATER

Danny ducks and dives through the heavy brush, the others running next to him--

He risks a look back--

--to see flashlights sweeping the woods just behind them--

BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM! The soldiers OPEN FIRE--

BULLETS WHIZ past Danny's head as he races blindly through the woods, tree branches slapping him in the face--

Suddenly, the forest opens up right in front of him, revealing an ENORMOUS CLIFF.

EXT. WATERFALL - CONTINUOUS

The kids all come screeching to a stop near the top of a GIANT WATERFALL. They stare down-- it must be at least a hundred feet, the bottom invisible in the darkness--

SARAH
We've gotta jump.

JAKE
Hells no!

They look back-- to see the FLASHLIGHT BEAMS getting closer--
Jake glances down at the water, then turns to the others--

JAKE (CONT'D)
Not it.

It takes a moment for them to realize what he's saying, then--

SARAH
Not it!

DANNY
Not it!

Kenny looks at them, incredulous.

KENNY
Not it? Are you fucking kidding me?
What is this, first grade?

JAKE
Dude. You're it!

KENNY
I'm not jumping off that!

Danny looks back at the approaching FLASHLIGHT BEAMS--

DANNY
Rock paper scissors?

JAKE
Fuck it. I'm going!

Jake JUMPS--

The others watch him fall, disappearing into the darkness--
Seconds later, a distant SPLASH rings out from below.

DANNY

Whoa...

Danny looks at Sarah and Kenny.

KENNY

I can't do it.

SARAH

Yeah you can.

Sarah grabs their rifles and throws them off the cliff--

DANNY

We're never gonna find those.

SARAH

We might.

She turns to Kenny.

SARAH (CONT'D)

Take off your glasses.

Kenny removes his glasses, fingers trembling, and puts them in a zippered pocket.

SARAH (CONT'D)

Gimme your hand.

He does.

SARAH (CONT'D)

You ready?

Kenny shakes his head: no.

SARAH (CONT'D)

Here we go.

She JUMPS, pulling Kenny with her--

As FLASHLIGHT BEAMS sweep over the edge of the cliff--

BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM! Danny JUMPS as GUNFIRE erupts out of the forest--

WITH DANNY-- the footage from his camera nothing more than a DARK BLUR as he falls through space--

SPLASH!

I/E. RIVER - CONTINUOUS

FOOTAGE FROM DANNY'S CAMERA-- TOTAL CHAOS as he HITS THE WATER--

AUDIO cutting from UNDERWATER BUBBLING SOUNDS to Danny GASPING FOR AIR as he finally breaks surface again--

In the midst of the mayhem, we catch a GLIMPSE OF SKY and realize that it's starting to get light out--

A HORRENDOUS ROAR, growing louder--

Someone's POV-- as we go flying over a small WATERFALL--

SCREAMING--

MORE CHAOS-- BUBBLES, WHITE WATER--

Somewhere in the middle of it, we hear a loud THUNK!

DANNY (O.S.)

SARAH!

QUICK GLIMPSE-- a DARK SHAPE on the water--

BUBBLES, CHAOS--

Another THUNK and the CAMERA GOES BLACK--

Over DARKNESS, we hear Danny calling her name, growing more and more panicky--

DANNY (O.S.) (CONT'D)

SARAH...? SARAH!!!

We hear him breathing hard, saying something unintelligible over the WATER, and then--

DANNY (CONT'D)

HELP! KENNY! JAKE!

EXT. RIVERBANK - CONTINUOUS

WITH KENNY AND JAKE: already out of the river, as they hear Danny screaming--

JAKE

Danny?!

DANNY

HELP ME!

They see him floating down the river and both charge in-- helping him pull her back to shore--

JAKE
What happened?!

DANNY
She must have hit her head!

They carry Sarah up onto the riverbank and set her down. Danny checks her breathing--

DANNY (CONT'D)
Damn it!

He pinches her nose and blows into her mouth twice, watching as her chest rises each time--

DANNY (CONT'D)
Gimme some room!

Danny puts his hands on Sarah's chest and begins pushing down in quick bursts while Jake and Kenny move back, helpless to do anything--

Danny counts off under his breath... Twenty three. Twenty Four. Twenty five...

Sarah's lifeless eyes stare up at the pre-dawn sky.

DANNY (CONT'D)
Come on, Sarah, breathe...

He leans over, breathing into her mouth again.

DANNY (CONT'D)
God... please don't do this...

Jake reaches out, putting a hand on Danny's shoulder.

JAKE
Bro...

Danny ignores him, starts counting out loud:

DANNY
Twenty seven. Twenty eight. Twenty nine. Thirty. Come on Sarah!

He breathes into her mouth.

JAKE
Danny!

Danny suddenly stops.

JAKE (CONT'D)
She's gone, man. I'm sorry.

Danny looks at Jake for a beat, fighting back tears, then shakes his head and starts pushing down on her chest again.

DANNY
One, two, three, four... Sarah
c'mon!

THUMP! Danny hits her on the chest with his fist.

DANNY (CONT'D)
BREATHE GODDAMNIT!

THUMP!

Jake tries to pull Danny away but he fights him off--

DANNY (CONT'D)
Don't you touch me! You want to
keep going and save your own ass,
then go! That's all you care about
anyway. But I'm not leaving her!

Danny looks back down at Sarah.

DANNY (CONT'D)
I'M NOT FUCKING LEAVING YOU!

THUMP!

WATER COMES RUSHING out of Sarah's mouth. She turns on her side, RETCHING and GASPING for air.

Danny stares down at her, tears streaming down his face.

Sarah stares up at him, breathing hard.

EXT. WOODS - DAY

The kids make their way through the woods with Danny helping Sarah along, keeping one of her arms draped over his shoulder.

They walk in silence for a moment, then:

KENNY
You guys remember "for reals"?

Jake and Danny both chuckle.

DANNY

Oh, God...

SARAH

What's "for reals"?

KENNY

Back in middle school, Snag used to do this thing where he'd say "for reals" at the end of every sentence.

DANNY

It was the most horrible thing ever.

JAKE

For reals.

Danny smiles.

DANNY

Don't even start.

JAKE

For reals?

Danny flips him off. They walk in silence for a moment.

KENNY

You know what the worst part is? I think he got it from his dad.

JAKE

For reals?!

Danny lets go of Sarah in order to go after Jake, fake fighting--

SARAH

Guys...

Off her expression, the others turn to see-- a CABIN up ahead, just barely visible through the trees.

I./E. CABIN - MOMENTS LATER

The kids cautiously approach the front of two story cabin.

DANNY

People actually live up here?

KENNY

I doubt it...

(off their looks)

No power lines, no driveway. It's probably like a hunting lodge or something.

Jake walks up to the front door and KNOCKS. No answer. He tries the handle but it's locked.

MOMENTS LATER:

Jake throws a large rock through a small window, SHATTERING IT.

He clears away the glass and climbs in, opening the door for the others.

As they step in--

JAKE

Not bad, huh?

DANNY

Not bad? After what we've been through... this is like the freakin' Bellagio.

JAKE

I saw a generator outside. I'm gonna go turn it on.

Kenny moves over toward some kitchen cabinets, opens them up-- to reveal TONS OF FOOD on the other side.

KENNY

Who's hungry?

INT. CABIN - LATER

COUNTRY MUSIC plays from an old tape player. The kids sit at a wooden table.

Danny cycles through their cell phones, trying each one, while Kenny dishes out their breakfast.

JAKE

(re: the cells)

Any luck?

Danny shakes his head.

DANNY

They're all fried. Even if we can get to a place that has reception, we're not gonna be able to use them.

JAKE

Rice trick, bro.

DANNY

That's for water damage. This is more like water destruction.

SARAH

Who would we even call, anyway, the cops?

They look at each other for a moment, but nobody has an immediate answer.

Kenny ends the conversation by setting down the last of the food--

KENNY

Let's eat.

They don't need to be told twice. They dig in...

Nobody saying anything for several seconds...

Then...

JAKE

...holy crap...

KENNY

It's not a race, bro.

JAKE

Yeah, it is...

LATER:

Post meal. Everyone still sitting at the table, surrounded by MOUNTAINS of dishes. It looks like a tornado went through.

SARAH

I forgot what food taste like...

Danny nods, only semi-conscious as a food coma sets in--

DANNY

Kenny... I swear, that was the best breakfast I've ever had...

SARAH
He's right. You should go to
cooking school...

JAKE
Cooking school...?

SARAH
Yeah. They have schools for that.

JAKE
But Kenny's smart. Kenny's gonna go
to math school or something.

SARAH
Kenny, you do have a say in this.
What brings you more joy, math or
cooking? And be honest.

Kenny thinks for a second.

KENNY
(realizing)
Cooking.

He looks over at the others, adding somewhat guiltily:

KENNY (CONT'D)
I mean, you know, I do really like
math a lot though...

SARAH
You don't have to apologize. It's
not like math is gonna take it
personally.

A TEAPOT WHISTLES and Kenny stands up.

KENNY
Coffee time.

SARAH
(orgasm)
Coffee...

Kenny walks into the kitchen and takes the kettle off as--

THE FRONT DOOR SUDDENLY FLIES OPEN--

Everyone jumping out of their seats as RJ-- 50s, very fit--
storms into the cabin, leveling a SHOTGUN at the kitchen
table--

JAKE
Holy shit!

SARAH
Don't shoot, don't shoot!

The kids raise their hands in the air.

JAKE
It's a mistake!

DANNY
We didn't think anyone lived here!
Honestly.

WITH KENNY:

In the kitchen-- RJ hasn't noticed he's there yet--

BACK WITH THE OTHERS:

As RJ sizes them up, taking in their dirty, torn clothing and the gash on Sarah's head--

RJ
You kids came out through the river, didn't you? It took you right out of the quarantine.

They look at each other.

JAKE
We're out of the quarantine?!!

WITH KENNY:

As he picks up an IRON SKILLET, silently creeping toward RJ from behind--

RJ
And that means you're infected...
all of you...

JAKE
Why don't we just put the gun down,
so we can work this out?

RJ swings his gun toward Jake--

RJ
Sorry, kid, but I don't plan on
getting sick...

Kenny swings the skillet as hard as he can-- WHACK--

BANG! RJ's shotgun FIRES harmlessly into the ceiling as he crumples to the ground, knocked out cold.

Jake quickly scrambles over, picking up the shotgun.

KENNY

What are we gonna do with him? We can't just let him go or he'll turn us in...

They consider their options for a moment.

DANNY

Guys...

Everyone turns toward Danny.

DANNY (CONT'D)

I know we all wanna get back to civilization. Especially now that we've had a taste of it...

He glances down at RJ.

DANNY (CONT'D)

But this is our chance. To find out once and for all if we're really carriers.

Jake looks at Danny for a beat, then nods.

JAKE

You're right.
(to the group)
Change of plan. We're gonna stay a while.

INT. CABIN - NIGHT

DANNY FINISHES PUTTING UP A "PRISONER CAM" so that it looks down on RJ, who sits on the floor, hands tied to a chair behind his back.

DANNY

I know this must really suck, but if we are carrying this thing... then you're already infected, so we might as well stick around and find out for sure...

Danny takes a seat on the couch. RJ's shotgun rests on a coffee table just in front of him, along with a box of ammo.

DANNY (CONT'D)

If you get sick... it means we can't go on.

RJ

How could you not be infected? It killed off your entire town.

DANNY

It only killed off the adults. They're the ones killing kids.

RJ

I've seen the bodies on the news.

DANNY

Whatever you saw, it was staged.

RJ

And I'm supposed to take your word for it?

DANNY

Listen. If you don't get sick... I swear to God, we'll let you go. We don't want to hurt anyone...

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Danny sits on a chair, addressing camera:

DANNY

...if nothing else, this has definitely been the craziest day of my life...

Danny looks off screen as a door opens.

DANNY (CONT'D)

Hey... what's up?

SARAH (O.S.)

There's only two bedrooms...

Danny looks up at her, doesn't get it--

SARAH (O.S.) (CONT'D)

So... unless you want me to crash with Jake...

Danny bolts up, walking off screen--

DANNY (O.S.)
 No, we've got plenty of room in
 here... Let me just clear some of
 this junk off the bed for you...
 I'll sleep on the floor...

Sarah passes by the CAMERA-- we can't see much because the
 camera is only at waist level-- but we can see that she's
 SLIPPING OFF HER SHIRT--

DANNY (O.S.) (CONT'D)
 ...oh.

We hear some FUMBLING as they make out for a moment--

See some SHOES bouncing on the floor--

Hear something UNZIPPING--

A SOCKED FOOT crashes into the lens, bringing the camera to
 the floor, so that we are now looking at the base of the bed--

And then... a pause...

SARAH (O.S.)
 What's wrong?

DANNY (O.S.)
 I um... I don't really know what
 I'm doing.

SARAH (O.S.)
 It's okay. We don't have to. I just
 figured with the world ending and
 all...

DANNY (O.S.)
 No. I want to. I was just giving
 you a heads up.

More clothes drop down on the floor, COVERING THE LENS.

INT. CABIN - DAY

SWITCHING BETWEEN DIFFERENT "PRISONER" CAMS:

Jake sits on the floor across from RJ, taking his temperature
 with a digital thermometer.

JAKE

Sorry, man... But Kenny wants us to record all this crap so that we'll know right away if you start getting sick...

He takes the thermometer out, checks the reading.

JAKE (CONT'D)

Normal.

He writes it down on a piece of paper.

DANNY (O.S.)

Morning...

Jake turns as Danny comes down from upstairs.

JAKE

Morning? It's like three o'clock, bro.

DANNY

Yeah. I was up kinda late.

JAKE

Oh really...

Danny smiles sheepishly, glances over at RJ.

DANNY

How's he doing?

JAKE

He's not talking and he won't eat. But his vitals and shit look okay.

DANNY

(to RJ)

Dude, you've gotta eat.

No response.

Danny looks back at Jake.

DANNY (CONT'D)

You know where Sarah is?

JAKE

She said she was going for a walk.

DANNY

I'm gonna go see if I can find her.

Jake nods, turning back to RJ as Danny walks out the door.

JAKE

I know you're pissed, but what do you think we're gonna do, poison you?

(shakes head)

I'm gonna go make you a sandwich, bro, whether you like it or not.

As Jake walks off, leaving frame, we see RJ moving his hands up and down, RUBBING HIS BINDS up against the chair he's tied to...

EXT. RIVERBANK - DAY

HANDHELD FOOTAGE: of Sarah sitting alone on the riverbank, in the exact spot where Danny resuscitated her.

There's a HEAVY MIST in the air, and the whole image has a dreamy, atmospheric vibe.

After a long moment, Sarah stops as though sensing something and turns toward camera.

SARAH

What are you doing?

DANNY (O.S.)

What are you doing?

Danny walks over, sitting down beside her.

SARAH

Don't be creeping. I don't like it.

DANNY (O.S.)

Sorry... it just looked so... *peaceful*... with the light and everything. I couldn't help it...

They sit in silence for a moment.

SARAH

You know what's weird?

DANNY (O.S.)

What's that?

SARAH

I died yesterday.

DANNY (O.S.)

Yeah. That totally sucked by the way. Don't do that again.

Sarah smiles softly at him for a beat, then--

SARAH

There was this moment... in the middle of it all... where it was like I was up above my body looking down... and I could see you there trying to save me...

She looks back out at the river.

SARAH (CONT'D)

And this probably sounds stupid, but the thing is, I've always felt alone in some way, Danny. Like it's always been me against the whole fucking world... But in that moment... it just didn't feel like that at all. Because there you were, right in front of me..

Sarah looks back at Danny, her eyes welling up.

SARAH (CONT'D)

So then I just started praying. "God... if you're there... please, give me one more shot. I promise I won't mess it up. Just give me one more chance..."

Sarah somehow manages to smile.

SARAH (CONT'D)

Next thing I knew, there I was... barfing all over the place.

INT. CABIN - DAY

Jake sits on the couch, flipping through an old PLAYBOY, oblivious to the fact that RJ CONTINUES TO WORK HIS BINDS against the chair.

JAKE

Asian chicks, man. I don't know what it is but they really do it for me. What about you?

Jake glances at RJ.

JAKE (CONT'D)

That's okay, you don't have to say anything. I can tell by the look in your eyes that you know exactly what I'm talking about.

RJ's binds finally slip off his wrists and fall to the floor-- but Jake can't see them from where he sits on the couch--

RJ

It's Jake, right?

Jake looks over at him.

JAKE

Hey, he talks!

RJ nods toward a massive SANDWICH sitting on the edge of the table.

RJ

That sandwich is starting to look pretty good after all...

JAKE

Cool. I know this situation blows, man. We've just gotta make the best of it.

Jake picks up the sandwich, offering him a bite--

In a flash, RJ lashes out, PUNCHING him in the face--

Jake falls to the ground, stunned. RJ climbs on top of him, PUNCHING him again and again until he stops moving.

RJ darts over to a JACKET hanging near the door and takes out a CELL PHONE.

He turns it on...

Waiting as the screen flashes to life...

And then dialing 9-1-1.

RJ

(beat)

I need the sheriff's station...

RJ turns back toward Jake-- to see Jake reaching for the SHOTGUN--

RJ (CONT'D)

No!

RJ leaps onto him. They struggle... with RJ on top and the shotgun wedged between them, pointed down--

BANG! Jake suddenly stops struggling, a look of total shock on his face--

RJ climbs off of him-- revealing a giant WOUND in Jake's thigh--

EXT. WOODS - MOMENTS LATER

Danny and Sarah race through the woods, running blindly through the fog--

DANNY (O.S.)

You're sure it was a gunshot?

SARAH

Positive. It was muffled... like it came from inside.

INT. CABIN - MOMENTS LATER

RJ kneels over Jake, holding a jacket over his wound while talking on his cell phone--

RJ

Thirty two hundred Galbraith lane... Yeah, about five miles past Harrison.

The door suddenly opens and RJ grabs the shotgun, leveling it at Kenny as he steps inside carrying an armful of freshly picked apples--

KENNY

Holy shit!

Kenny drops the apples all over the floor as RJ motions with the shotgun, guiding him over toward Jake--

RJ

Use the jacket. Keep pressure on his leg.

Kenny does as he's told.

RJ (CONT'D)

(into his phone)

No. There's four of 'em. But one's hurt... pretty bad.

(then)

(MORE)

RJ (CONT'D)
You really think there's a chance I
haven't been infected?

EXT. CABIN - MOMENTS LATER

Danny and Sarah-- finally reaching the front door-- only to
have RJ shove the gun in their faces--

RJ
Why don't you two step inside.

INT. CABIN - MOMENTS LATER

RJ stands near the door, holding the shotgun at waist level,
keeping it pointed in the general direction of Danny and
Sarah, who sit on the couch.

Jake YELPS as Kenny cinches down on a belt wrapped around the
top of his leg, creating a tourniquet.

KENNY
Sorry.

Jake shoots a look at RJ.

JAKE
(weakly)
Next time shoot me in the head or
something.

RJ doesn't respond.

DANNY
What do you think they're gonna do,
RJ? Let you go?

RJ shifts the gun slightly, so that it's pointed directly at
Danny's head.

RJ
I'm getting real tired of all the
yapping, kid.

DANNY
They're gonna kill us all. Yourself
included.

RJ
I said shut the hell up.

SARAH
Danny...

DANNY

What? What difference does it make
if he shoots us now or if they do
it when they get here?

As if on cue, we hear the sound of a HELICOPTER
APPROACHING...

DANNY (CONT'D)

Perfect.

The SOUND GETS LOUDER AND LOUDER. RJ goes over to a window
and peeks out.

RJ

Here they come...

He walks over to the front door and steps out, holding the
shotgun off to his side--

RJ (CONT'D)

OVER HERE!

BANG! RJ FLIES BACKWARD-- hitting the ground with a loud
THUMP!

INT. CABIN - CONTINUOUS

BACK TO INDIVIDUAL SHOULDER CAMS:

The kids hit the ground as BULLETS RIP into the cabin all
around them--

In a flash, Sarah grabs RJ's shotgun, retreating back into
the cabin and kicking the door closed at the same time--

SARAH

Out the back! Kitchen window! GO!

Danny grabs Jake, helping him to his feet--

SARAH (CONT'D)

Get him outside and just keep
going. I'll catch up.

Danny nods. He and Kenny help Jake over to the kitchen while
Sarah ducks down behind a side window and looks out--

SOLDIERS-- barely visible through the fog-- streaming toward
them out of the woods--

EXT. CABIN - CONTINUOUS

Kenny opens the kitchen window and jumps out, then turns back to help Danny get Jake out--

INT. CABIN - CONTINUOUS

Sarah catches sight of a soldier creeping along the side of the house and raises her shotgun--

BANG! The man goes down--

She looks back-- to see Danny slipping out of the kitchen window--

She stands, grabbing the box of ammo off the coffee table and slipping it into her pocket--

EXT. CABIN - CONTINUOUS

Danny and Kenny run on either side of Jake, helping him along as they make their way into the woods behind the cabin, disappearing into the fog--

WITH SARAH: climbing out of the window, still carrying the shotgun--

She creeps over to the side of the building and looks out around the corner-- to see ANOTHER SOLDIER walking toward her, the only one visible through the heavy fog--

BANG! He crumples to the ground--

Suddenly, the whole front of the cabin ERUPTS in GUNFIRE as more soldiers OPEN FIRE. We can't see the men themselves, only the soft glow of their MUZZLE FLASHES in the mist--

Sarah races off as BULLETS tear into the cabin and the surrounding trees--

She runs blindly through the fog, quickly catching up to the others, who can't run very fast because of Jake's injury--

SARAH

Hurry!

DANNY

We're going as fast as we can!

The sound of DOGS BARKING rings out behind them--

SARAH
We can't outrun them.

JAKE
You mean not with me you can't.

SARAH
I mean not if they've got dogs!

DANNY
Guys...

Jake suddenly stumbles as his leg cramps up.

JAKE
Shit!

Everyone stops.

DANNY
Jake, c'mon man... we've gotta keep moving.

Jake tries putting weight on the leg-- GASPING as the pain overwhelms him--

JAKE
I can't!

Jake shakes his head.

JAKE (CONT'D)
Goddamnit! Why'd that dumbass have to shoot me?

Another BARK sounds out, this time a lot closer than before--

Sarah turns to Jake.

SARAH
What do you wanna do?

Jake looks at her for a moment, a silent understanding passing between the two of them.

JAKE
Get me over to those rocks.

Danny follows Jake's eyes over to some BOULDERS lying nearby. He shakes his head.

DANNY
No way. We're not gonna leave you here...

JAKE
Just do it! There's no time to
argue, Danny.

Danny doesn't move.

Another BARK.

JAKE (CONT'D)
DAMNIT!

Jake starts limping towards the boulders on his own.

SARAH
Give him a hand.

Danny and Kenny help Jake over to the rocks while Sarah takes up the rear, walking backwards, keeping the shotgun aimed back the way they came.

The boys set Jake down behind the rocks in such a way as to provide some cover from the advancing soldiers.

DANNY
Screw it. We'll stay here with
you...

Danny looks back at Kenny and Sarah.

DANNY (CONT'D)
Right?

Kenny's face is white as a sheet and he's literally trembling with fear-- but somehow he still manages to nod his head in agreement.

Sarah looks at Jake.

SARAH
This is your call. If you want us
to stay. We'll stay.

JAKE
Just gimme the gun, Rips.

DANNY
No! Don't...
(to Jake)
We're not gonna leave you.

JAKE
What're you gonna do, throw rocks
at 'em? There's only one gun.
(to Sarah)
(MORE)

JAKE (CONT'D)
Give it to me. I'll hold them off
as long as I can.

Sarah hands the shotgun over to Jake, along with the box of shells. Jake checks to make sure it's fully loaded.

SARAH
Jake...

He looks up at her.

SARAH (CONT'D)
Take out the dogs first.

He gives her a grim nod.

DANNY
We can't just leave him here.

JAKE
Yeah, Danny. You can...

Danny shakes his head, unable to speak.

JAKE (CONT'D)
It's okay, bro. Don't worry about
me... worry about those two...

Danny looks over at Sarah and Kenny.

JAKE (CONT'D)
...worry about yourself.

Danny looks back at Jake.

JAKE (CONT'D)
You can't always save the world,
Danny. Sometimes you've gotta just
save your own ass. You got me?

Beat.

DANNY
Yeah. I got you.

Jake holds out his fist. Danny reaches out, bumping it with his own.

JAKE
Now, go. Run. Get out of here and
don't ever slow down.

Suddenly, GUNFIRE ERUPTS from deep within the fog behind them, BULLETS RIPPING into the trees above their heads.

JAKE (CONT'D)

GO!

Danny takes one last look at his friend, then bolts after Sarah and Kenny, disappearing into the mist.

After a moment, the gunfire stops and everything grows QUIET.

Jake turns back towards the approaching soldiers, propping the shotgun up on top of the rocks.

He waits.

EXT. WOODS - CONTINUOUS

Danny, Sarah and Kenny run through the fog at full speed, dodging the trees and branches which constantly appear right in front of them without any warning--

EXT. WOODS, ROCKPILE - CONTINUOUS

Jake stares into the fog.

For a long time, we can't see anything at all through the swirling mist. And then... the SHAPE of a SNARLING DOG coming toward us--

Jake pulls the trigger twice. BANG! BANG!

The DOG GOES DOWN and suddenly it's quiet again...

EXT. WOODS - CONTINUOUS

Danny looks back, reacting to the SHOT, but Sarah pulls him forward--

SARAH

C'mon!

EXT. WOODS, ROCKPILE - CONTINUOUS

BACK WITH JAKE-- as we hear FOOTSTEPS APPROACHING, accompanied by the PANTING of another dog.

He slowly peeks up over the edge of the rockpile-- to see SOLDIERS creeping toward him through the fog--

He raises the shotgun, sighting it at their DOG--

BANG!

The DOG GOES DOWN, but now the soldiers have a fix on his position-- They whirl toward him, OPENING FIRE--

BULLETS PING into the rocks all around us--

Jake ducks down, fumbling some shells out of the box of ammo and re-loading-- as the soldiers continue FIRING on his position--

EXT. WOODS, HILLSIDE - CONTINUOUS

Danny stops again, looking back as the distant MUZZLE FLASHES light up the dark forest--

SARAH

Danny. We've gotta keep going...

She pulls him forward again as the GUNFIRE STOPS.

KENNY

I don't know if we can...

Off his look, they turn-- to see a steep, cliff like formation rising up in front of them, disappearing into the fog--

DANNY

Shit...

They look to the left and to the right-- the cliff continues in both directions.

SARAH

With their suits and their guns,
they're gonna have a harder time
climbing than we are. I say we keep
going up.

Danny looks at Kenny. Kenny shrugs.

DANNY

Let's do it.

They begin to climb.

EXT. WOODS, ROCKPILE - CONTINUOUS

Jake sits in silence for a beat, clutching the shotgun, listening. It's starting to get dark, making it even harder to see anything through the heavy fog...

SNAP! A branch breaks from somewhere behind him and Jake whirls around...

But he can't see anything.

He hears another FOOTSTEP right in front of him - but still no sign of the soldiers--

Movement-- in the fog-- out of the corner of his eye. BANG! Jake fires another shot.

BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM! The soldiers OPEN FIRE from within the woods--
-

The BULLETS TEAR INTO JAKE-- he drops the gun, falling backward onto the ground--

HIS CAMERA NOW POINTS STRAIGHT UP-- as he lies there, his BREATHING now LOUD and ERRATIC--

SOLDIERS-- creep out of the fog, securing the area--

One of them keeps an eye on Jake while the others fan back out into the woods, switching on the FLASHLIGHTS attached to their machine guns as they go--

The soldier who stayed behind looks down at Jake, watching as he GASPS for air--

He raises his machine gun--

But just as he's about to pull the trigger, he suddenly DOUBLES OVER, COUGHING VIOLENTLY--

The SOLDIER RIPS OFF HIS MASK-- BLOOD EXPLODING out of his mouth--

As the coughing fit subsides, the soldier-- who's in his 20s and not all that much older than Jake-- wipes the blood off his mouth, a horrified expression slowly crossing his face...

JAKE (O.S.)

....why?

The soldier looks down at him for a long beat before giving him a defeated shrug.

SOLDIER

Because even though you guys will never get sick, you can still give it to everyone else...

He and Jake lock eyes for a moment.

SOLDIER (CONT'D)
And I've got kids of my own.

Jake's BREATHING becomes HARD and FAST.

SOLDIER (CONT'D)
...I'm sorry.

And then everything goes QUIET.

EXT. HILLTOP - NIGHT

Danny, Sarah and Kenny emerge from some heavy brush to find themselves up above the fog layer, near the top of a large hill.

Danny looks up at the stars for a moment, then back down the way they came.

Several flashlight beams continue to sweep through the valley down below-- but none appear to be headed up the cliff after them.

KENNY
They've lost our trail.

SARAH
For now...

Off their looks--

SARAH (CONT'D)
Let's keep moving.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. WOODS - DAWN

The kids shuffle through the woods almost looking like zombies: weak, tired and hungry.

SARAH
We must be halfway to Mexico by now.

DANNY
It's true... But you know what? As tired as I am-- and I've never been so exhausted in my life-- right now... I feel like I could walk forever if I had to. If that's what it took.

KENNY

It's like... the harder everything gets, the more you wanna just keep going.

DANNY

The closer you get to dying... the more you wanna live.

SARAH

Wow. That is some insightful shit...

Sarah pauses as they come to a steep embankment.

SARAH (CONT'D)

Don't get me wrong, I'd rather have a hot shower and something to eat, but still...

They continue forward, half walking, half sliding down the embankment.

SARAH (CONT'D)

I do find it truly, deeply, insightful...

EXT. ROAD - MOMENTS LATER

The kids stumble out of the woods and onto a road - only to find themselves FACE TO FACE with another HUMVEE.

Kenny panics, trying to scramble away but Danny pulls him back.

DANNY

Hold on. I think it's empty.

As Danny slowly creeps along the side of the Humvee, the sound of a RADIO becomes audible. Some sort of NEWSCAST:

NEWSCASTER (O.S.)

...getting confirmation now that the virus apparently spread after several contractors hired to secure the area became infected themselves...

Danny opens the door of the Humvee, jumping as the BODY of a soldier spills out onto the road.

NEWSCASTER (O.S.) (CONT'D)

In response, the President has ordered that the quarantine be expanded by a hundred miles in every direction...

Flies crawl about on the man's face, which is covered with RED LESIONS.

NEWSCASTER (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Additional troops have been deployed to help with security in the affected areas, which are already experiencing widespread power failures and looting...

Danny reaches into the truck and shuts off the radio.

KENNY

So. What now?

They look at each other for a moment, then Danny shrugs--

DANNY

We go back to town... Bury our dead... See who else made it... Then head over to one of the islands or something. Someplace easy to defend.

INT. HUMVEE - MOMENTS LATER

Danny sits behind the steering wheel, trying to start the Humvee. At first it doesn't sound like the engine's going to turn over-- but then it does, suddenly ROARING to life.

He looks over at Sarah, who sits across from him, inspecting a pair of MACHINE GUNS.

SARAH

Let's do it.

Danny puts the Humvee in gear and hits the gas.

They drive in silence for a beat.

KENNY PANS THE CAMERA so that we're looking outside, at the TREES RUSHING BY--

KENNY (O.S.)

You guys think this is the apocalypse?

He points the camera back toward Danny and Sarah.

DANNY

I think you're the apocalypse.

Sarah smiles, SLAPS a fresh clip into one of the guns.

SARAH

Your mom's the apocalypse.

HARD CUT TO BLACK as the humvee races toward the rising sun.

ROLL CREDITS

EXT. WOODS - MORNING (**EPILOGUE**)

THE CAMERA is tied to DOZENS of HELIUM BALLOONS.

DANNY (O.S.)

There's a strong wind blowing east
today...

As it SLOWLY PANS AROUND, we see a bunch of KIDS out in the woods, setting up camp.

DANNY (O.S.) (CONT'D)

According to Kenny, this
contraption's probably gonna come
down a couple of states over...

We see KENNY and PETE cooking breakfast for everyone.

DANNY (CONT'D)

So. For all of you who are out
there, going about your daily lives
as though what's happening here
doesn't affect you... this is your
wake up call. Now you know the
truth. And you've got no excuse to
just stand by and let it happen...

We see another group of TEENS gathered around SARAH, watching with rapt attention as she demonstrates how to break down a MACHINE GUN.

DANNY (O.S.) (CONT'D)

We don't want to hurt anyone... We
don't want to see this thing spread
any more than you do...

Finally, we come to rest on DANNY, holding the camera in his hand as he looks into the lens:

DANNY (CONT'D)

But if the only choice we're given
is to either fight or die... We
choose to fight. Every time.

(then)

That's my message to you. What you
do with it, is up to you.

And with that, Danny releases the camera.

It quickly TAKES FLIGHT, rising up away from him-- the camp
growing smaller and smaller until finally it disappears
completely into the woods.