Big Boy 2: The Progeny

by Chris Zell

FADE IN:

INT. KATRINA'S HYDROPONIC GREENHOUSE - DAY

PHIL is lying on the floor a lifeless pool of icky goo. The only movements are from his recently hatched Bug Kids who are crawling around his remains and eating whatever is left with wanton desire. KATRINA watches them with rapt attention bordering on a psychotic episode.

KATRINA

That's it, my babies, eat. Grow strong.

Katrina laughs maniacally.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

We have much work to do.

Katrina picks up the Bug Kids one at a time putting them gently into the terrarium and bestowing their names upon them.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Because you'll never know your father I'll name you after the father he never knew, Robin.

After she puts ROBIN into the terrarium Katrina looks down and is obviously overjoyed while picking up the next Bug Kid.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Oh, this is so wonderful. A girl. I always wanted a girl. And I'll call you Lee Ann.

Katrina puts LEE ANN into the terrarium and continues her job.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

And I'll name you Harvey, I had a rabbit named Harvey as a kid. And you'll be George and, ooo, another girl. I'll name you Hilary.

Katrina puts HARVEY, GEORGE and HILARY into the terrarium before looking back at the faded carcass of Phil. She's just about to pick up the terrarium when she sees something is moving around in the muck. She takes a closer look and pulls back in disgust.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Oh no, we can't have this.

Katrina reaches into the slime and pulls out a tiny Bug Kid. She holds him with two fingers away from herself. Except for the lack of screaming it's very similar to how Phil was welcomed into this world. The little Bug Kid is kicking and fighting to get away but it's to no avail.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

It is too bad but I guess it's a fact of life. Every litter has it's runt.

As Runt kicks and fights he repeats Katrina.

RUNT

Runt.

She ignores the little fellow.

KATRINA

But we don't have to accept him.

Katrina tosses RUNT across the room. Runt slides and skitters to his feet and scurries up a plant keeping a wary eye on Katrina who is nestling up against the terrarium. When Runt gets to the top of the counter he comes to a stop on top of a flyswatter. He sniffs and licks the flyswatter.

Katrina pours a few drops of liquid into a bowl. The parched Bug Kids drink ravenously. Katrina puts the bottle down carelessly and some spills out. She ignores her bad housekeeping to go back to watching her kids as read the label: Extreme Rapid Grow.

The camera pans down and into the terrarium where the Bug Kids have finished off there drink. When Katrina speaks we hear it from the Bug Kids perspective so it's a little muffled by the glass.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

That's it. Drink up my babies. We have a long road ahead of us.

The Bug Kids line up and take a long look at their mother for the first time. Through the glass Katrina's face is somewhat distorted but that seems to be a comforting visage to them. They begin to coo and settle in as the camera pulls out of the terrarium up to Runt's perspective.

From his perspective the maniacal expression of Katrina is anything but comforting. He watches her warily as Katrina stands and picks up the terrarium. The moment Katrina stabilizes herself while cradling the terrarium Runt panics and runs back to the plant. He slides down and begins to burrow into the dirt.

Katrina blissfully walks past the plant and Runt. She is totally transfixed by her new Bug Kids.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Let's go get you guys under a growth light. We have to start our work soon.

Katrina exits into the back room turning the light on there and off in the front room. The new lighting casts shadows and forces Runt to pause for a second before extricating himself from the dirt and crawling out of the plant. He climbs down the pot and begins to check out his surroundings. As he slowly begins to move through the shadows towards the shimmering pool of the spilled Rapid Grow he hears Katrina coming back into the room. He hurries behind a shelf and watches her feet as she kicks over the bottle of Rapid Growth.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Shit.

Katrina leans down and her face is only an inch from Runt which surprises him and forces him jump back. She picks up the bottle and turns to walk out of the room.

The stream of Rapid Growth flows towards Runt and begins to soak his feet. He's still to nervous to venture forward and remains still as the Rapid Growth flows past him. We hear some minor movement from Katrina in the back room before she turns off the light.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Good night my babies. This is the first day of your very memorable lives.

Runt remains still in the new silence as he begins to adjust to the limited moon lighting that is breaking through the windows of the hydroponic greenhouse. After what seems like an hour to Runt (he is a bug after all and really doesn't have a good sense of time) he finally leans down and begins to drink from the pool of Rapid Growth.

After a long drink he looks up and begins to snack on a hanging leaf. After this first meal he curls down into the puddle and begins to visit his first slumber.

Over this serenely slumbering scene we fade slowly to black as the credits of 'Bug Boy 2: The Progeny' begin to roll. Midway through the credits we begin to fade slowly back to white. After the final credit pure white fills the screen and is followed by a bumper that reads: 'One Year Later'.

INT. GYMNASIUM - DAY

This place looks a lot like the greenhouse we just left expect for one vital difference: no plants. The walls are barren white. The windows have been covered. We pan through the room to the sounds of vigorous workouts. You'd expect with all the sound pulsating through this room this would be one filled to overload trendy-ass gym. But you'd be wrong.

We see only five figures, each in their solitary pursuit of excellence. There is something just a little odd about these serious athletes.

It's not that Harvey is using a heavy bag like it's a speed bag.

Or Robin is using the wall like a rock climbing wall sans the rocks.

Or Lee Ann is showing her martial arts skills by putting his hands through steel girders.

Or Hilary is in an accelerated tumble and doesn't look like she's going to be able to stop before coming into contact with a fierce looking swords and other sharp objects of internal infringement. But she does.

Even the fact that George is on a bowing weight bench rapidly lifting what we can only assume is the weight of a Learjet isn't all that odd. Truthfully, this being the legacy of Phil 'Bug Boy' Lophaga, this is a day at the park.

It's not even too odd that these sweating, straining hulks are clothed from head to toe. Stranger then all of this is that each of these extreme athletes has a huge lump covering their entire back. The texture of these lumps are quite prominent through their form fitting clothes. Breaking this grunting, heaving mass is a shrill blast of a whistle. Katrina, the only one in what today accounts for normal work out attire, rushes up to a tumbling Hilary.

KATRINA

What was that? Do you call that a split leap?

Hilary looks to the ground. All of the other Bug Kids stop their workouts to watch her humiliation. Katrina waits impatiently for an answer she knows is never going to come.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Well? Do you?

Hilary almost imperceptibly nods no.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

I would hope not. What do you think we're training for? So you can go out in the world and. . .

Katrina stops because she hears nothing. She turns and looks at the other Bug Kids in various poses of 'Oh shit, we're screwed.' This inactivity sends Katrina into a rage.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

. . .what the hell is this? Did I say it's time to break?

The other Bug Kids begin to go back to their workouts in earnest. Katrina glares at them for a moment before shaking her head and turning back to Hilary.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

I cannot believe you kids. All the work I've put in and this is the best I get? A half-assed split leap and. . .

Katrina turns back to the frantically working out others.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

. . .the rest of you bastards taking breaks whenever your hearts desire.

Katrina stops ranting and rubs her temples.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Sometimes I just don't think it's worth all the effort. It seems like I'm the only one who understands our mission. That I'm the only one who gives her all.

Hilary cautiously ventures a sound.

HILARY

We care, Mom.

Katrina bursts into a frenzy.

KATRINA

Then why don't you show it? Why do you all only give me half of your talent? Do you think that I can't tell when you dog it?

The clamor of the Bug Kids combined workouts reach a fevered pitch.

HILARY

Watch this. I'll do it perfect.

Hilary runs to the other end of the gym and begins running at full tilt towards the aforementioned swords. When she reaches the half way point in the gym she begins furiously tumbling toward the bank of blades. It seems this time there is no way possible she can stop and she will become one with the cutlery.

But, a mere hair from the most lethal looking sword Hilary does come to a complete stop. Breathlessly she stares at the metal that could have become a very invasive part of her anatomy.

She turns her head slowly and begins to look at Katrina who is standing there with a blank expression on her face. Hilary does not know how to read this and a moment before it looks like she is going to breakdown and cry Katrina begins to clap.

KATRINA

Perfect. Wonderful.

Katrina pulls Hilary away from the swords and hugs her.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Absolute precision. We have witnessed a true work of art today. I must say that I have raised a true. . .

Katrina's speech is overpowered. Everyone else stops their workout. A bloodcurdling scream has just erupted from somewhere deep inside the DNA of George. While he continues to scream he slams the bar back onto the weight holder and the weights fall to the floor with a sickening racket.

George is still holding onto the section of the bar he was holding as he continues to scream and roll off of the bench. He quickly rises to his feet and throws the two foot piece of bar he's holding across the room. We follow as it penetrates the wall leaving only a one inch chunk showing on this side of the wall.

Katrina and the rest of the Bug Kids rush to George's side. We finally see what George has been whining about. The lump on George's back is starting to crack, bubble and tear through his shirt. The sound we hear erupting from his back is similar to the crispy fine yet sickeningly moist sound made when the side of a skull comes in contact with a baseball bat swung with extreme force.

Katrina rushes up to George and reaches into this abyss with both hands. Pulling with all of her might, Katrina begins to peel off this gelatinous, crusty, blood spurting outer surface. As the other Bug Kids look on in horror then begin feeling their humps and checking out their siblings, Katrina pulls the last of the crust from George's back.

His screaming has subsided but probably because he doesn't have anything left. Katrina tosses the crust to the side and begins to wet down George's newly human back.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Excellent. It's happening right on schedule.

Katrina pats George's back.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Why don't you sit down, George.

Katrina looks at the other Bug Kids.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

What just happened to George is going to happen to you all real soon now.

SND FX Crackling. This time from Lee Ann.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

See. This cocoon, if you will, that has been covering you since birth is of no use to you now so, naturally, it is breaking free to give you a new skin.

Katrina places her hand on George's soft, smooth back and rubs it. More crackling from the other Bug Kids begins.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

A new beginning.

The other Bug Kids begin to feel the pain that was George's alone oh so recently and react accordingly. The moaning and cracking gets louder as Katrina begins to walk away from her children and their pain. George watches helplessly as his brothers and sisters begin to go through the pain that he vividly remembers.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

This is wonderful.

The cacophony is earth shattering.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Our future is at hand.

Katrina looks over at he writhing, screaming mass of humanity as each one of her children painfully escape the last remnants of their buggy exterior.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

It's time to introduce my children to some of my friends.

The screaming and cracking continues while Katrina watches her writhing brood with a beatific smile on her face.

EXT. PARK - DAY

It's a beautiful day. Obviously the world has replenished itself after the tsunami named Phil. Children play. Parents talk. Lovers, well, they hold hands and maybe kiss softly but they don't have sex because they saw the first 'Bug Boy' and now understand the inherent dangers involved.

Without notice over all this serenity begins a low, intense wail. People stop and look around but no one can seem to pinpoint it. The wail starts to become an urgent cry as parents grab their kids and everyone begins to run out of the park.

Everyone except for one man. We didn't even notice him in the last panoramic shot because he was crouched down amongst the plant life. He's a very professorial looking man right down to his proverbial overflowing backpack.

As the screams become louder he seems to be able to place it and begins running towards it. Is this guy nuts or just foolhardy? Neither, he's DR. DANIEL J. MCCAFFREY, noted entomologist.

He reaches where he's pinpointed the screams and he comes to a dead halt. Not as impressive a stop as Lee Ann's but not bad for an academic. He turns death mask white as he is surrounded by every make, shape and size of insect imaginable in this park. It's a veritable United Nations of bug life on full alert. As they swarm he gets a glimpse of the reason for the heavy security: curled up on the ground is a naked, not so runty anymore Runt jettisoning the last vestiges of this bug cover. The fine doctor is, of course, quite taken aback by his discovery.

DAN

It can't be him. This is a bug. This. . .

Ignoring the buzzing and strafing insects that surrounds him, Daniel reaches into his backpack and pulls out a photo of Phil from his last snack in Malden, Massachusetts. What we see on the high speed photo is a definitely bloated, worn down Phil.

DAN (CONT'D)

. . .is a man.

Daniel looks back over at the still screaming Runt.

DAN (CONT'D)

But this is still a bug. How could this. . .

Daniel trails off as he takes a close look at the photo again and then back to Runt. Finally, it dawns on him.

DAN (CONT'D)

. . .is his child.

Daniel forgets and takes a step towards Runt. Mistake. The bugs surrounding crank up the decibels a bit and a few give him little bites. Not malicious just warnings. Daniel stops dead in his tracks.

DAN (CONT'D)

Oww. Oww. All right, point taken, guys.

A bee gets in his face buzzing mad.

DAN (CONT'D)

And girls.

Daniel keeps watching Runt during the last and most painful part of the metamorphosis. As Runt let's out his last skin crawling scream Daniel winces and some of the bugs fly and crawl to his side.

As they gently care for his newly born skin Runt begins to shiver slightly. Daniel lets his backpack drop to the ground and slips off his jacket. He holds it out for Runt and a few of his bug friends carry it over to him and drape it lovingly over him. Runt pulls it tight around his body.

RUNT

Thank you.

DAN

You're welcome. My name is Daniel. Do you have a name?

Runt begins to settle down to sleep after his ordeal.

RUNT

Runt.

DAN

Good night, Runt. I'll come back tomorrow with some more clothes for you. Is that all right?

Runt is fast asleep before he can answer that question. But, the good doctor gets his question answered anyway. All of the bugs that were swarming him a few short minutes ago have parted and have lined up to give Daniel a runway to Runt.

After a hesitant beginning, Daniel feels confident as he walks up to the somnolent Runt. He leans down and examines Runt's recently shed armor.

DAN (CONT'D)
Amazing. Absolutely amazing.

Daniel tucks the coat around Runt and once satisfied that he has done he best to make Runt comfortable stands to leave. The bugs have maintained their runway and Daniel starts to leave the park. He turns around one last time to look at Runt.

What he see is all of the bugs who were just giving him the space to visit Runt have now covered him to keep him warm throughout his slumber.

DAN (CONT'D)

Incredible.

Daniel turns and exits the park.

INT. GYM - DAY

The non-runt Bug Kids are deep within their workouts. The major difference between the last time we saw these warriors is that the buffed up men are shirtless and the stylishly ripped women are in halters and tight shorts. Needless to say this is one good looking group. Especially considering the DNA frappe that's spinning around inside of them.

Harvey is punching holes through a concrete wall.

Robin is climbing on the ceiling like it's a floor.

Lee Ann is smashing up a car with her feet.

Hilary is crossing a thread thin string using only her hands.

Oh yeah, and I forgot to tell you that George is holding the car Lee Ann is kicking over his head so she has to jump to dismantle it.

All in all, just a normal workout. Lording over this horde is the ever vigilant Katrina with her clipboard. She wanders from station to station appraising her offspring. She walks to the middle of the gym blowing her ever present whistle.

KATRINA

Okay, let me have everyone's attention.

Robin falls off the ceiling and lands right in front of her. She lashes out and slaps him.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

How many times have I told you not to do that?

ROBIN

I'm sorry.

Robin turns and giggles as he takes a few steps back.

KATRINA

And you'd better wipe that smirk off your face, mister, if you know what's good for you.

Katrina stops for a beat and catches herself.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Damn, I'm stating to sound like my mother.

Just then what sounds like a car crash reverberates through the $\operatorname{\mathsf{gym}}$.

LEE ANN

Mmmmmooooooooooooommmmmmmmm, George tried to drop the car on me again.

KATRINA

George.

GEORGE

I did not. You told us to come here so I put it down. Is it my fault she's too slow?

With that Lee Ann flashes up to George flicks his nose and flashes over to KATRINA

LEE ANN

Hi Mommy.

George runs over to Katrina as Lee Ann hides behind her.

GEORGE

Oh, and I bet you didn't see that? She always gets. . .

Katrina blows the whistle.

KATRINA

. . .eeeeeeeeeenough. Just get over here so I can talk to you.

Hilary tumbles over right into Katrina's face. Katrina startles and pushes her away.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

I don't know if it's going to be you or Robin but one of you two is going to be the death of me.

Katrina looks around and only see four heads.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

George? Where are you George?

In barely a whisper we hear George speak.

GEORGE

I'm over here, Mom.

KATRINA

Well, get over here, George.

GEORGE

My arm is stuck again.

Everyone turns around to see that, yep, George seems to be stuck in the concrete block. Katrina is dismayed.

KATRINA

Just tear off a chunk and get over here now.

We hear the tearing apart of a big ass piece of concrete. After impatiently waiting, George finally arrives with a huge concrete cast on his arm. Katrina rolls her eyes and waves to Lee Ann.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Tiee Ann.

Lee Ann jumps up and with one shot renders the block to dust. George starts wiping himself off.

GEORGE

Thanks, Lee Ann.

KATRINA

Now can we get started?

The Bug Kids stand there nodding. Satisfied that she can begin Katrina smiles and looks down at her clipboard.

SND FX The doorbell.

Katrina looks up quite agitated.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Now who the hell can that be? I'm never going to get anything accomplished today. Get the door, Hilary.

Hilary burst to the door and swings it open starling LAURA.

LAURA

Oh, hi, ummmmmm, is Katrina here?

Katrina recognizes Laura's voice and runs over to the door happy to see her old friend.

KATRINA

Laura! Hi! I thought you were coming by later?

Katrina reaches Laura and hugs her as they walk through the gym. The kids move forward and Hilary closes the door and joins them. Laura looks around a little surprised.

LAURA

I didn't want to wait to see this big surprise any longer.

Laura continues to look around as she comes to a stop at the dented and crumbling car.

LAURA (CONT'D)

So, I like what you've done to the place. A little pomo deconstruction art gallery. Don't know if it'll be a lucrative as the greenhouse, but.

.

KATRINA

. . .oh, I closed that. I got some real good government contracts and decided to become a full time mom.

Katrina waves her hand at the Bug Kids as Laura alternates her expression of utter dismay from Katrina to the Bug Kids.

LAURA

Mom?

Laura grabs Katrina's shoulder and spins her around so their backs are to the Bug Kids.

LAURA (CONT'D)

Umm, Kat, what's up with that?

Laura points back at the Bug Kids.

LAURA (CONT'D)

Have you become some type of foster mom to a group of over pumped 'roid heads.

The Bug Kids grumble at the insult. Laura turns her head around to face them.

LAURA (CONT'D)

No offense.

Laura turns back to Katrina.

KATRINA

No, Laura, I'm not their foster mother. I'm their real mother. I had them with Phil.

Katrina pauses for a moment.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

In a way. He did most of the work.

Laura stands there convinced her friend is soon to be a resident at the home for the perpetually goofy.

LAURA

Ohhhhh, the old stock boy knocked you up a year ago and you gave birth to five twenty year olds?

Katrina is happy Laura finally gets it.

KATRINA

Exactly. Well, it was six but the runt died at birth.

Laura stares at her friend concerned for a moment before turning her gaze towards the Bug Kids. After a long pause Laura begins to laugh.

LAURA

You almost had me going, Kat. I've always been a sucker for your strange sense of humor.

Laura begins to step towards the Bug Kids while extending her hand. During her next line Laura draws out the words 'your mother's' in a sardonic fashion.

LAURA (CONT'D)

Hi, I'm you're mother's oldest friend Laura. And you are. . .

Katrina pulls Laura's hand back and pulls Laura back to her.

KATRINA

This is no joke, Laura. These are my children.

Laura pulls away and she is truly frightened by Katrina's demeanor.

LAURA

Let go of me.

Laura spins off putting some distance between her and Katrina.

LAURA (CONT'D)

I don't know what kind of game you're trying to pull but you're more fucked up then I thought. This is much more insane than that stupid blight of plant kind rant you were on last year. Thinking you're a mother of twenty year olds. Yeah, real sane.

Katrina is beside her self with rage.

KATRINA

They are my children. They are my army.

T₁AURA

They look more like a Gap ad.

KATRINA

Why aren't you taking me seriously?

Laura is incredulous at this question.

LAURA

Serious? Serious? Look around. How can I take this seriously?

Katrina drops her head saddened.

KATRINA

You don't believe.

Katrina looks up at Laura with glacier eyes.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

We can't have people around who don't believe.

Laura feels threatened and tries to extricate herself from this potentially dangerous situation.

LAURA

Hey, who said I don't believe? Katrina, you're my best friend. We've been through a lot together. I'm always there for you but this.

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Laura waves at the Bug Kids and the room in general.

LAURA (CONT'D)

. . . is just a little too much to believe.

Laura takes a few steps towards Katrina and puts her hand on her shoulder.

LAURA (CONT'D)

But if anyone can make me believe it's you.

Laura leans on the car.

LAURA (CONT'D)

So, let's start with this one. How did you have kids only a few years younger than yourself and hide them from me all these years?

KATRINA

I told you. I didn't hide them. Phil had them last year.

Laura isn't buying this but she is going to play along.

LAURA

Okay, so Phil had them. I'm going to give you that one.

Katrina nods happy that her friend is finally starting to get it. Katrina looks over at the kids still standing there examining Laura. You have to remember that outside of themselves and Katrina this is the first other person they've seen.

LAURA (CONT'D)

So, how, in the space of a year, did they get so big?

Laura checks out Harvey and George and Robin lasciviously.

LAURA (CONT'D)

I do like 'em big.

Katrina is shocked and points her voice to prove it.

KATRINA

Auntie Laura.

LAURA

That's just an honorary title, Kat. But how'd you like a more permanent one? Like, mother in law?

KATRINA

Very funny, Laura. But can we continue here?

LAURA

You're no fun anymore. Remember the time we. . .

Katrina erupts.

KATRINA

. . .we do not have time for reminiscing at this moment. Can we stick to the task at hand? You wanted to know how they grew so quickly. Well, I. . .

LAURA

. . .damn, I'm just having a little fun here.

Laura looks over at the Bug Kids.

LAURA (CONT'D)

Do you guys know what fun is?

The Bug Kids look at each other not quite sure what this stranger is talking about. But, they try.

LEE ANN

Permanent perfection?

GEORGE

Knowing there are no limits to our endurance?

ROBIN

Proving boundaries are an illusion?

HILARY

Constant precision performance?

HARVEY

Allowing no one to vanquish us.

LAURA

Oh great, I'm stumbled into the poster children for the wide world of sports cliches. What about hanging out with friends?

KATRINA

These is no time for that. Now, if you are not going to be serious about this I must ask you. . .

LAURA

. . .all right, all right. Damn, Katrina. . .

Laura looks at Katrina sadly.

LAURA (CONT'D)

. . .you were much more fun before.

KATRINA

And I will be fun again. I just have to accomplish the tasks. . .

LAURA

. . .at hand. Yeah, heard it. Okay, how'd they get so big so quickly?

KATRINA

A fine training regime and I would give them a few drops of growth formula a day.

Plus, they have a dose of Phil's bug DNA inside of them.

LAURA

Oh, of course. That's exactly what I thought. The stock boy's bug DNA.

Laura pushes herself off the car.

LAURA (CONT'D)

That explains it all.

Laura begins to walk over to the Bug Kids.

LAURA (CONT'D)

Now that that's all cleared up I guess I have to go.

Laura extends her hands to the Bug Kids.

LAURA (CONT'D)

It was a pleasure to meet all of you. Maybe one day we'll go out to dinner. You do eat meat, don't you?

Katrina darts up to Laura and slaps her hand down. Laura spins around and now she and Katrina are face to face.

KATRINA

You don't get it, do you? You were always the stupid one.

LAURA

The stupid one? I'm not the one pretending to be the mommy to kids old enough to date.

Katrina slaps Laura across the face and Laura is preparing to return the favor but. . .

KATRINA

Grab her.

The Bug Kids grab Laura. Lee Ann grabs a leg while Harvey grabs the other one. Hilary and George each take an arm while Robin holds her head steady. Hanging there in her splayed position Laura struggles but she can barely move much less escape. Katrina moves face to face with Laura and she begins to whisper.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

You don't get it, do you? You don't understand that you were the only other person I was going to allow to enjoy our success. You would have had the best seat in the world to witness the wraith that we are going to set upon this world.

LAURA

You are fucking nuts. Now make your goons let go of me and I'll just wander back into my simple, pretty much insanity free, life.

KATRINA

It's not all that easy now, Laura. It's too late for you to walk out of here.

The Bug Kids all pull Laura in all directions a little harder. Laura winces in pain.

LAURA

Katrina, you're scaring me. This isn't funny any more. I'm sorry for laughing at your children. They're lovely children. Good children.

The Bug Kids pulls a little tighter.

LAURA (CONT'D)

Strong children.

After her wince subsides Laura looks at Katrina.

LAURA (CONT'D)

The fun's over, Katrina. Let me down now or. . .

KATRINA

. . .what? What do you think you can do? Go ahead, try to do something.

Laura squirms and screams.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Oh yeah, screaming is always good.

Katrina begins screaming.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Kids, join us.

All of the Bug Kids begin screaming. Laura stops screaming and watches this insanity unfold. She drops her head knowing that fighting is futile and only playing into whatever demented game Katrina is playing. You can barely hear Laura as she whispers to Katrina.

LAURA

I'm sorry, Katrina.

Katrina leans in as she waves at the Bug Kids to stop screaming.

KATRINA

What was that, Laura?

Even with the fact that the screaming has subsided you can still barely hear Laura.

LAURA

I said I'm sorry.

Laura looks up into Katrina's face.

LAURA (CONT'D)

Whatever I did or didn't do to make you feel you have to hold me here like this, I am sorry.

Katrina doesn't avert her glare from Laura as she leans back. After what seems like a life time to Laura, Katrina breaks out into the largest, happiest smile of all time just as she begins to laugh.

At first Laura is startled but as the Bug Kids join in Laura also finds herself beginning to nervously laugh. Just as quickly as Katrina began to laugh she stops and leans quickly back into the still laughing face of Laura.

KATRINA

Isn't that just like you to always think it's always about you.

Katrina leans back and slaps a stunned Laura across the face.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

This time it's not about you, it's about me.

Katrina take a few steps back and softens a bit.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

You were a great friend to me and I thought you'd understand.

LAURA

I understand. Really, Katrina, I

Katrina looks at Laura sadly.

KATRINA

No, Laura, you could never understand a mother's love for her children.

Katrina pauses to look at each one of the Bug Kids who have been holding Laura captive high above the floor. She smiles at each of them and they smile back at her. After a pause they pull Laura tighter. She moans and immediately complains.

LAURA

Oww. Enough's enough, Katrina. This really hurts.

Katrina glares at Laura.

KATRINA

Don't you know, Laura, that pain gives you something to do while waiting to die.

Katrina looks at Laura and a sad smile crosses her face as she slowly nods. Laura hangs there trying to interrupt Katrina's sentence for a moment until her expression bursts into intense pain as we hear ripping of flesh and tearing of bone as the Bug Kids tear Laura into quarters while Robin tears her head off and stands there holding Laura's head (spine attached, thank you very much) and her very surprised expression.

We also see each of the Bug Kids standing there holding pieces of Laura. Her entire body split into four equal pieces they hold aloft. As they examine their handiwork Katrina stands there smiling.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Good work, kids. Now go to the kitchen and eat.

The Bug Kids run out of the gym into the back part of the house.

ROBIN

Mom, Lee Ann says she won't share a leg with me.

LEE ANN

Jerkface. I did not, Mom.

Katrina smiles as she begins walking towards the kitchen.

KATRINA

Kids. Now stop that you two.
There's enough for everyone. And,
don't start on the brain. You know
that's for desert.

Katrina pauses and sighs.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

A mother's work is never done.

Katrina reaches the door the Bug Kids just ran through.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Harvey, put that eyeball back in Laura's head right now. You know that's for special occasions.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Runt us hanging with his bug friend watching people play. He's dressed in jeans and a t-shirt so it's obvious that Dr. McCaffrey kept his promise. All of a sudden a look of panic crosses Runt's face and he's off like a shot. What he saw is now evident to us. Two early/mid teen girls, ALESHIA and LINDSAY, with a magnifying glass are burning a screaming ant. It's the screams that brought Runt running.

ALESHIA

Look at that. He looks like he's about to burst into flames.

LINDSAY

I wonder if they feel this or they.

• •

A figure blocks the sun from crisping the critter.

LINDSAY (CONT'D)

. . .hey? What's. . .

Aleshia and Lindsay turn around and see Runt blocking the sun.

ALESHIA

Get out of our sun, mister.

Runt bends down and picks up the whimpering ant. He brings the ant in front of the girls and has them look at him through the magnifying glass. He's pretty well burnt up. RUNT

Yes, it does hurt him.

The girls look at the ant and then Runt. What they've done to this ant has no effect on them. Lindsay hollers.

LINDSAY

Dad.

Turning from a conversation, Aleshia and Lindsay's father, JOHN, races towards his daughters. When Runt sees the man running towards him he stands and holds the ant out so John can see what his daughters have done.

Of course, John doesn't care about the ant and running full tilt he takes a swing at Runt. Runt side steps it and, sensing that this isn't going to be a totally pleasant visit, puts the wounded ant out of harms way on the top of his head.

John regains his composure and makes another run at Runt. Runt lowers his center of gravity in preparation. Menacing concentration fills his face. John is three steps away.

The park is silent except for the sound of John breathing and pounding footsteps towards Runt. Runt raises his hands in a combative position. John is one steps away from Runt. Runt cocks back his hand and begins to lean in. All of a sudden a voice erupts from the sky.

FEMALE VOICE (O.S.)

Do not attack in anger.

Runt stands straight up and John goes stumbling past.

RUNT

Huh?

Runt looks around but it's clear that he is the only one to have heard the voice.

FEMALE VOICE (O.S.)

You have a gift. Do not abuse it.

John takes another run towards Runt. Runt steps back, reaches out, grabs John, flips him over and holds him aloft. John flails and complains.

JOHN

Hey! Put me down.

RUNT

Hold on.

Runt looks down at John.

RUNT (CONT'D)

Did you hear a voice?

JOHN

I didn't hear anything. Put me down so I can kick your ass.

FEMALE VOICE (O.S.)

Feel your inner peace, Runt.

Now Runt is a little more freaked out.

RUNT

How'd you know my name?

JOHN

I don't know your name, you idiot. Put me down!

Runt looks at John like he's never seen him before. He drops him to the ground with a thud. John quickly gets up and runs to his kids and they all race out of the park.

JOHN (CONT'D)

You're insane, mister. You should be locked up.

Runt ignores John and everything else as he looks around for the voice. He sees nothing except the people pretending not to be staring at him. After coming to the conclusion that it was all in his head Runt goes on about his day.

RUNT

I think when you start hearing voices it's time for a little nap.

Runt walks past a picnic table on his way back into the bushes.

FEMALE VOICE (O.S.)

You don't need a nap, Runt.

Runt snaps to full alert.

RUNT

I'm not so sure. Okay, who is this?

Runt keeps looking around. All of a sudden a dim visage begins to sharpen and we see the bodiless head of his grandmother, MELISSA.

MELISSA

I'm your grandmother, Melissa, and I'm here to guide you.

Runt is, as you would expect, a little taken aback by this.

RUNT

Grandmother? Guide me? Spare me.

Runt begins to walk away. This makes Melissa mad.

MELISSA

An unspeakable evil will befall the world unless you are pure.

Runt stops and looks up at Melissa.

RUNT

What unspeakable evil?

MELISSA

I can't speak of it.

RUNT

How come I knew you were going to say that?

Melissa looks at Runt and smiles.

MELISSA

You look just like your father.

Runt is curious.

RUNT

Was he a good guy?

Melissa thinks for a moment.

MELISSA

Well, he had his moments for a guy who killed his mother; was duped into defoliating the world; got knocked up and died having kids who could unleash an unspeakable evil upon the world.

Melissa pauses to reflect on her only son as Runt absorbs all that Melissa has said.

RUNT

This is kind of Shakespearean, wouldn't you say?

DAN

What's kind of Shakespearean?

Runt turns around to see Dr. Dan holding a picnic basket.

RUNT

My family's history.

Runt points towards Melissa.

RUNT (CONT'D)

My grandmother is catching me up on my family history.

Dan looks around and grins at Runt.

DAN

Runt, it is normal to have conversations with your deceased loved ones. . .

Dan puts the picnic basket on the picnic table and puts his hand on Runt's shoulder.

DAN (CONT'D)

. . .but most times we don't have them out loud and even more seldom in public.

MELISSA

I'm only here for you, Runt.

Melissa begins to fade away.

RUNT

But wait. What am I supposed to do? Where's my guidance? What about that evil that has no name?

MELISSA

Remain ever vigilant, Runt and the unspeakable evil will come to you.

RUNT

Oh, great. That's not really comforting, you know? Shouldn't there be a little more information?

Melissa is almost totally faded away.

MELISSA

Give me a break, will ya? I'm new at this guidance thing so that's all they would give me.

RUNT

That doesn't seem fair.

Melissa is off screen.

MELISSA (O.S.)

Neither is getting killed by your son in the middle of an orgasm.

Runt stares at the spot Melissa just vacated.

RUNT

That would ruin the mood.

DAN

What mood? What are you babbling about?

Runt looks at Dan.

RUNT

I don't know. I guess I've just got to wait to find out.

Runt sits at the picnic table.

RUNT (CONT'D)

What's in the basket?

Dan opens the picnic basket and pulls out two perfectly prepared steaks, takes the foil off of them, places one in front of Runt with silverware and a napkin and does the same in front of where he will be sitting.

DAN

I just grilled these up and thought you could. . .

Before Dan can even come close to finishing his sentence Runt begins to assault the steak. Not with the very handy utensils and not at a leisurely pace normally associated with a friendly repast.

Runt uses the fore and middle fingers along with his thumb to reach in and cut bite-sized pieces of steak and pop them, alternating left and right hands, into his mouth as the steak disappears in seconds.

Dan stands there during this action silent and gape mouthed.

Runt slowly licks his fingers to savor what's left of his meal while eyeing Dan's steak with bad intention.

MELISSA (O.S.)

Don't even think about it, pal.

Runt snaps to attention and continues licking his fingers.

RUNT

That was great, Dr. Dan. And it sure hit the spot. I don't think I could eat another one.

MELISSA (O.S.)

Smart boy.

Dan sits down at his steak. puts a napkin on his lap and picks up his knife and fork.

DAN

Now, Runt, let me show you how it's done outside of the woods.

Dan gingerly and mannerly begins to cut into his steak. Runt alternates his look to Dan and his meal then over his shoulder looking for the ever vigilant Melissa.

INT. GYM - DAY

A very well dressed Katrina has her equally well dressed Bug Kids gathered around. They look like your normal group of twenty year olds getting ready for an exciting night out. The only thing that makes us think this may not be the case is that Melissa is at a chalkboard like a football coach.

KATRINA

I figure that once the hit begins we've got less than a minute to get out of there. Does everyone understand their assignments?

All of the Bug Kids nod with the bored nonchalance of 20 years olds who know everything. This, of course, pisses off Katrina

KATRINA (CONT'D)

I don't think you understand the gravity of this visitation. This isn't just a workout. This is our first attempt and I'd rather you be a little edgy than cocky.

Katrina gets in Robin's smirking face.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

And you, mister smirk. . .

The other Bug Kids chuckle and Katrina glares at them until they stop.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

. . .if you don't do your job we'll have less than a minute.

ROBIN

It'll be done.

Katrina leans back but doesn't take her eyes off Robin.

KATRINA

It had better. Are there any questions before we go?

Katrina looks over the Bug Kids and you can tell that they just want to go. Katrina waits a beat.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Good. Let's go show the world what we're capable of.

Katrina stands up as the kids do the only difference is that the fly past her almost knocking her over. Regaining her balance she looks towards the door they just blasted through.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

It would be good if just once we all left as a family.

GEORGE (O.S.)

Shotgun.

HARVEY (O.S)

You always call shotgun.

HILARY (O.S)

Mom, Lee Ann pushed me. Tell her I have to sit near the window or I'll get sick.

LEE ANN (O.S.)

I did not. Robin! Would you get in the car. Mom, tell Robin he can't ride on the roof.

Katrina reacts dejectedly and begins to walk out of the gym.

KATRINA

Would you kids calm down or we won't go anywhere.

Katrina reaches the door.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

This had better be worth it.

EXT. ALLENVILLE BANK PARKING LOT - DAY

Katrina sits in the drivers seat of the passenger van with Lee Ann in the passenger seat. Robin is in the passenger side seat near the back door. George sits next to him and Harvey next to him. Hilary is sprawled out in the back section. The tension in the van is palpable. Any of the earlier bravado is gone. Everyone has their game face on. Katrina keeps turning her head to scan the busy but not overly crowded parking lot. In a moment her expression changes from anticipatory to alert.

KATRINA

It's here.

All of the Bug Kids heads snap as they watch an armored car pull into the parking lot. Lee Ann reaches for the door but Katrina pulls her arm back.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Not yet.

The armored car shudders to a halt thirty feet behind the van. As the armored car settles, the two GUARDS, DAVE and JONATHAN check out the parking lot nervously. Not sensing any danger, Dave, in the passenger seat opens his door and moves to the back of the armored car..

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Go.

Lee Ann opens the passenger door and slides out and walks calmly and slowly towards the armored car. Robin slides the door open and moves in a flash towards the bank and quickly moves up the wall. He adheres himself on the alarm box.

George slowly slides out the door and begins to walk towards the armored car. Harvey moves to the door but not out. Hilary opens the back and sits there.

Dave shuts the back of the armored car and locks it. He begins to wheel a small amount of cash towards the bank and is quite startled to come face to face with Lee Ann.

DAVE

Excuse me.

Jonathan, sitting in the armored car, begins to watch this scene. He undoes his holster.

George arrives at the drivers side of the armored car unseen by Jonathan and slides under the van

Lee Ann moves to stay in Dave's way. He looks up at her and tries to push past her.

DAVE (CONT'D)

I said excuse me.

Lee Ann pretends to lose her balance but doesn't get out of his way. Dave begins to reach for his holster. Lee Ann sees this.

LEE ANN

That's a mistake.

Lee Ann swings both of her arms out at each of his arms. She slices through his arms and they fall to the ground. He never even had a chance to unhook his holster. His arms flop around the ground as blood spurts all over Lee Ann. She begins to wipe the blood off but it's really no use. She pushes him out of the way. Dave falls to the ground.

LEE ANN (CONT'D)

And this is a new dress.

Lee Ann grabs the hand truck and brings it to the back of the armored car.

KATRINA

One minute.

From the van Katrina calls as Hilary gets up and out of the van. Harvey does the same moving quickly towards the back of the armored car.

Robin tears the alarm from the building and like a shot cuts all off the communication and electric wires from the building. And leaps off the building landing on top of the armored car.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Fifty seconds.

Jonathan puts the van in gear, looks forward, sees Hilary walking straight towards him, glares and floors it. Unfortunately for him the armored car goes nowhere because George has lifted it off the ground. As the wheels spin uselessly Hilary begins tumbling towards the armored car.

Hilary tumbles, leaps and crashes through the bullet resistant windshield. She sits on the steering wheel and pins Jonathan's shoulders to the seat at the same moment that George punches through the back door of the armored car and begins to work at tearing it from it's hinges.

HILARY

How ya doing?

The guard tries to pull his gun out but he can barely move.

KATRINA

Forty seconds.

HILARY

That's really not a good idea.

Hilary puts one finger on Jonathan's forehead and runs it down to his nose cutting him to the bone. Hilary wiggles her fingers into the cut and begins to peel Jonathan's skin from his face exposing his skull. Needless to say, Jonathan isn't too happy about this and is screaming.

KATRINA

Thirty seconds.

HILARY

Would you quiet down?

Hilary reaches into Jonathan's mouth and pulls his jaw and tongue down to his chest exposing in innards of his throat. This, of course, makes him stop screaming. Calmly, Hilary reaches behind her and stops the armored car. When it stops idling George drops the armored car in a thud.

Lee Ann climbs into the back of the armored car and begins handing bags of money to Harvey who tosses it up to Robin who leaps off and flashes to the van and begins loading the bags of money into the back.

KATRINA

Twenty seconds.

Katrina pulls the van to the back of the armored car. George climbs in and begins pulling the bags of money into the van to make more room. Hilary climbs in.

SND FX Sirens begin off screen.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Ten seconds. Time to go.

Robin and George climb into the van with the last bags of money. Hilary jumps out of the armored car with a few bags and hops into the van. Lee Ann does the same but stumbles and sees the still bleeding Dave.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Let's go, Lee Ann.

Lee Ann looks at Dave and pity crosses her face. Lee Ann puts the money down.

LEE ANN

I'll be right there. I dropped the money.

Lee Ann tears a couple of strips from her dress and quickly puts tourniquets around Dave's arms. He looks up at her but quickly passes out. Lee Ann picks up the bags of money and runs to the van and gets in.

KATRINA

It's about time.

Blue lights fill the bank parking lot from behind the van as Katrina pulls out, takes the first left and chugs her heavy load down the street as police cars descend upon the bank.

EXT. ALLENVILLE BANK PARKING LOT - LATER

Blue and red lights fill the scene as EMT's put Dave in the ambulance. The POLICE are hovering around the armored car for clues. The passenger section of the armored car is draped with a covering. In the middle of this we see a television reporter, CORRINE ANDERA, preparing to do a stand-up. Her cameraman, ED, is wearing headphones while preparing his shot while she stands there primping.

ED

Ten seconds.

Ed positions himself behind his camera with one arm held high while Corrine puts the finishing touches on her television persona. The ambulance turns it's lights and siren on and pulls in front of Corrine and out of the parking lot.

ED (CONT'D)

Five, four, three. . .

Ed stops and doesn't move for two seconds and then drops his arm signaling Corrine that it's time to start her report.

CORRINE

This is Corrine Andera for the WCAZ Newsbeat at the scene of one of the most horrendous crime scenes that Allenville has ever witnessed.

Various shots of the front of the uncovered front of the armored car; the back of the empty armored car; bank with it's torn down wires and alarm box are shown.

CORRINE (CONT'D)

Moments ago, a brazen band of well trained mercenaries descended upon an armored car delivery to the Allenville Bank and, after disabling the alarm and communications systems, slaughtered the two guards, whose first names, Dave and Jonathan, are all that is known to us at this time, while making off with the largest amount carried by this armored car company; an estimated two hundred and fifty million dollars in mostly tens and twenties.

INT. GYM - CONTINUOUS

Katrina and the Bug Kids are watching the televised report with rapt attention surrounded by mounds of cash.

CORRINE

When I asked the Allenville police what they thought caused the extensive damage to the vehicle and inhuman torture that has befallen the overpowered guards their spokesman, Detective Ron Rosetti, was quoted as saying. . .

CLOSE-UP OF THE TELEVISION

An ashen faced DETECTIVE RON ROSETTI standing there with a microphone in his face.

RON

I have no freaking idea.

Katrina and the Bug Kids laugh.

CORRINE (O.S.)

Were there any witnesses?

RON

Everyone we've talked to has said the same thing, it was like a blur.

CORRINE (O.S.)

Do you have any leads?

Ron gets an expression of 'What a dumbshit.'

RON

Yeah, we think it was a murder/suicide.

Katrina and the Bug Kids hoot and celebrate. The television shot goes back to a stand-up of Corrine.

CORRINE

This crime has caused enormous strain on the overburdened Allenville police force.

EXT. ALLENVILLE BANK PARKING LOT - CONTINUOUS

Corrine pauses before beginning her dramatic summation.

CORRINE

And with that brings to mind the awful toll this has brought not only our beloved and often beleaguered Allenville but to the families, friends and coworkers of the two guards. One, we are sad to report, is confirmed dead. With the other barely clinging to the last thread of his valiant life. It seems that a member of this monstrous crew took pity on the guard and applied a tourniquet to his severed limbs.

The camera begins to zoom out until it we can see the still twitching arms of Dave flopping around on the ground. A POLICE OFFICER gently picks them up and drops them in a cooler and exits as Corrine ends her report.

CORRINE (CONT'D)

I know that I speak for not only the WCAZ family but the entire community of Allenville when I wish you a speedy and full recovery.

INT. CLOSE-UP OF A TELEVISION SCREEN - CONTINUOUS

CORRINE

I'm Corrine Andera reporting live from the Allenville Bank. Scene of this afternoons heinous carnage.

Camera zooms out slowly to reveal Dr. Dan's living room

Dr. Dan and Runt are sitting in separate chairs exceptionally distraught at this newscast. Dan picks up the remote and turns off the television. They both sit there in silence for a beat.

DAN

Do you think your siblings could have done that, Runt?

Runt isn't sure. He's never had the extreme emotions that could have made someone want to do that. But he also doesn't know anything about the life that they've lead since he was tossed away. It's the hardest concept that Runt has ever had to ponder.

MELISSA (O.S.)

Of course it was them, you dolt.

Runt jumps as Melissa's visage begins to appear.

RUNT

Would you stop doing that? You're going to scare me to death. Can't you give me a warning or something?

DAN

I didn't do anything.

Runt snaps his head around to look at Dan.

RUNT

I know. It's my grandmother, Melissa, again. She agrees that it was my siblings.

Dan looks at Runt like any same person would before answering a perceivably insame person.

DAN

Oh, I see. Your grandmother. Melissa.

RUNT

You still don't believe me.

Runt turns to Melissa.

RUNT (CONT'D)

Can you tell him I'm not insane?

MELISSA

I can only be heard by you.

RUNT

Well, can't you move something around or turn the television on?

MELISSA

With no arms, Runt?

Runt ponders that for a moment.

RUNT

I guess you're right. How about blowing on him or something?

Melissa thinks for a second. It's worth a shot. Runt leans forward hoping this works. Dan leans back a little startled by Runt's intensity.

DAN

Ah, Runt?

RUNT

Hold on.

Melissa begins blowing. Nothing. Harder. Nothing. Harder. Nothing. Harder. It looks like something may be happening. Yes, something is happening. Melissa goes into a coughing fit of biblical proportions. After she regains herself she begins talking with some difficulty.

MELISSA

I guess my lungs ain't what they used to be either.

Melissa and Runt look at each other and she shrugs (well, to the best of her ability).

MELISSA (CONT'D)

I tried.

RUNT

That you did.

Runt sits back, a little disappointed, but goes back into deep thought to try and come up with something so that Dan doesn't think he's a reject from a freak farm.

DAN

Runt, listen, I know you're having.

. .

Runt jumps up startling both Dan and Melissa.

Hey, chill out there little boy. I'm not as young as I once was.

Runt stops his enthusiasm for a moment to address Melissa face to floating head.

RUNT

Now you know how I feel.

Melissa has to agree that he did startle her enough to take a few years off her life if she wasn't already dead as Dan stands up.

DAN

Runt, what's all this about?

RUNT

Hold on, I think I have a solution to this.

Runt turns to Melissa.

RUNT (CONT'D)

You can't be heard by anyone but me, right?

MELISSA

Yes.

Runt turns to Dan.

RUNT

And you think I'm in the middle of an ecstasy-less rave, right?

DAN

I would have categorized it more of non compos mentis but. . .

Runt is waving, gee, kind of like a lunatic, trying to get Dan to quiet down.

RUNT

. . .that's great. What if I tell you where the people who committed that crime live?

MELISSA

Ah, Runt, I have to. . .

Runt waves her off.

RUNT

. . .hold on. This'll be great.

Melissa tries to get Runt's attention a little more forcefully.

MELISSA

Runt.

But Runt is in the throes of his own brilliance.

RUNT

Why didn't I think of this before? It's all so. . .

Melissa screams.

MELISSA

. . .Runt!

RUNT

What?

MELISSA

I don't know where they are.

Runt looks at Melissa like she's scum.

RUNT

What kind of grandmother are you?

MELISSA

A dead one.

Runt relents.

RUNT

I'll have to give you that one.

Runt pauses and looks from Melissa to Dan. Everything is at a stand still. What once seemed like a brilliant plan is falling by the wayside. Or is it?

MELISSA

Runt, I can give you the address of where your father killed me and Scott?

RUNT

What good would that do?

DAN

What good would what do?

RUNT

The address of where my father killed his mother and Scott.

DAN

Who's Scott?

MELISSA

Dr. Scott Randolph. He was your father's doctor and my lover.

RUNT

Scott was. . .

Runt pauses.

RUNT (CONT'D)

. . .you know, all this repeating stuff is getting tiring. It would be so much easier. . .

MELISSA

. . .just give him the information.

Runt's not used to being scolded and isn't all that happy about it but he complies.

RUNT

The guy was my grandmother's lover and my father's doctor, Scott Randolph.

Dan is surprised.

DAN

That name was all over the news about a year ago. He left his office one day and was never seen again.

MELISSA

That would make sense now wouldn't it, Doctor Dan?

Runt looks at Melissa.

RUNT

No one likes a sarcastic disembodied head, you know.

Runt turns to face Dan.

RUNT (CONT'D)

Is that good enough?

Dan ponders for a moment.

DAN

It's a good start.

MELISSA

A start? What does this little bag of testosterone want? Let him go Rockford it on his own if he doesn't believe me.

RUNT

Hey, hey, calm down. Remember your condition.

Melissa is confused and thinks for a moment.

MELISSA

My condition?

RUNT

Dead. That can't be all that healthy.

Melissa sees his somewhat strange point and Runt continues.

RUNT (CONT'D)

What more do you need, Dan?

MELISSA

He's going to ask how I had a Bug Boy. It's all everyone wants to know.

DAN

How'd she get. . . I mean. . . how does one have a. . .

MELISSA

Told ya.

RUNT

I think that's a sore spot, Dan.

Dan's disappointed but he knows he must forge ahead.

DAN

Well, how about the address. I could swing by and see if I find anything useful.

RUNT

Okay, what's the address?

Pleasant Street.

Runt goes into a trance.

RUNT

I am channeling the spirit world and am getting psycho vibrations and. . .

MELISSA

. . . I'd smack you if I had arms. Just get to it, smart guy.

RUNT

All right, all right. 157 Pleasant Street.

Dan picks up a pad of paper and pen and takes notes.

DAN

I'll go by the house today and check it out.

Dan pauses and wants to ask a question but isn't too sure he should be pressing his luck.

DAN (CONT'D)

I don't want you to bother her but.

•

MELISSA

. . .tell the genius I can hear him.

RUNT

You can ask her yourself.

Dan looks around not really sure where to ask her but he begins. Loudly.

DAN

I just wanted to ask. . .

MELISSA

. . .hey, tell bullhorn over there he doesn't have to yell. I'm dead not deaf.

Runt waves at Dan.

RUNT

Hey, ratchet it down a few decibels, Doctor Dan. She can hear you just fine.

Dan is a little embarrassed but you must admit he's a little new at speaking with a disembodied head floating around his living room.

DAN

Sorry. I just wanted to know how I can get in the place.

MELISSA

Do I have to do everything for this lazy little. . .

RUNT

. . .hey, hey, hey. That's my only human friend you're talking about there, Gran.

DAN

What's she saying about me?

Runt waves him off.

MELISSA

All right. Let's see. The key will be taped behind the mailbox.

RUNT

The key's taped behind the mailbox.

Dan jots this down.

DAN

Is there anything I should be looking for? Or, more to the point, should be looking out for?

Melissa thinks for a moment.

MELISSA

I had just cleaned the house but after a year it should be a little dusty. And the living room should be filled with rotted plants.

RUNT

Rotted plants.

Dan writes down everything Runt says.

A couple of strange stains around the couch.

RUNT

Stains near the couch.

MELISSA

Oh yeah, probably dried blood.

RUNT

Dried blood.

MELISSA

And check somewhere around the couch for my black leather thong.

RUNT

Black leather thong.

Runt looks at his grandmother aghast. This is way more information than one would want about their grandmother.

RUNT (CONT'D)

This could put me into therapy.

MELISSA

Sorry, kid. When I had a body I was hot.

Dan begins reading off his list.

DAN

Key behind mailbox. Dead plants. Stains. Blood. Black leather thong.

Dan looks up. Runt and Melissa both nod affirmatively.

DAN (CONT'D)

I'll go by there now and check this out.

Dan puts the pad of paper into his pocket. He looks up at Runt.

DAN (CONT'D)

What does she. . .

Dan catches himself and starts looking aimlessly around the room.

DAN (CONT'D)

. . .what do you think this will accomplish?

Maybe if he looks around the house he can come up with some clues about how these evil Bug Kids live.

RUNT

Maybe looking around will give you help in finding where they'd be living now.

DAN

Excellent. I'll be back just as soon as I can.

RUNT

What do you mean? I'd like to see my ancestral home?

DAN

Not this time. I want to try and keep the habitat as clean as when they were last there.

Runt isn't too happy about not being able too but isn't going to put up a fight. He nods understandingly.

DAN (CONT'D)

Good. I should be back in a couple of hours.

Dan grabs his backpack and begins to exit the living room.

MELISSA

And tell him don't be messing with that thong.

Runt walks over to Dan's chair, picks up the remote, turns the television on and sits down. Melissa hangs there with an air of expectation.

MELISSA (CONT'D)

Excuse me. Aren't you going to give your grandma the comfy chair?

Runt jumps up.

RUNT

Sorry, I thought you just sort of hung there.

Melissa floats to the chair and lands.

Are you kidding? That floating thing takes a lot of effort. Ahhhh, it's good to take a load off from time to time.

Runt sits on the other chair. Melissa watches the television for a moment but it seems like she doesn't really like what she sees.

MELISSA (CONT'D)

Can you see if my favorite show Bound & Gags is still on the air?

Runt flips through a few channels before coming to the opening of 'Bound & Gags'. The audio of the television plays in the background for the rest of the scene.

TELEVISION (O.S.)

Welcome to Bound and Gags with Richard Caines, Terry DeLuca, Ed Nyahay, Chris Zell.

MELISSA

Yeah, I could get used to this.

INT. GYM - DAY

Katrina paces while the Bug Kids sit in a semicircle in front of her. They seem to be happy and are pretty much oblivious to her consternation.

KATRINA

I wouldn't be all that happy about this.

HARVEY

Come on, Mom, we made two hundred and fifty million dollars in a minute.

The other Bug Kids mummer and nod in agreement. This makes Katrina boil.

KATRINA

But it wasn't perfect.

Katrina stands in front of Lee Ann.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Of course, some were less perfect than other.

LEE ANN

Did you want me to leave the money behind?

KATRINA

I'm not talking about the money. I'm talking about saving that quards life.

LEE ANN

He'll probably still die.

KATRINA

He saw your face so for your sake he'd better.

Katrina and Lee Ann get into the time honored mother/daughter staring contest. The other Bug Kids squirm uncomfortably in their seats. Katrina finally disengages and steps back. Not because she lost but because we have to get this scene moving. Katrina address all the Bug Kids.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

What we're trying to achieve goes way beyond this piddling sum of money.

Everyone looks at a rather vast piddling sum of money.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

This is only the beginning. We haven't worked this hard to stop at this, have we?

The Bug Kids ponder for a moment while checking out the money. Katrina's bellow breaks their daydreaming.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Have we!

It takes a second to regain their full attention but little by little they all halfheartedly agree.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

This was just the first step in our global plan. A plan that involves not only wealth and power beyond even my wildest, most feverish dreams but a. . .

SND FX A sharp buzzer goes off.

At first everyone jumps but they all snap back to attention and look at Katrina who now is smirking maniacally.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Well, it looks like we have a visitor. I guess today's practice has moved from here to live action.

The Bug Kids begin to stand up.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Remember, do not enter until I get there.

The Bug Kids begin to walk out.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

And remember, Lee Ann, you're not a nurse.

Lee Ann looks up and glares at Katrina who smiles smugly back. The other Bug Kids flash out of the gym.

LEE ANN

Don't worry about me.

KATRINA

I never do.

Lee Ann flashes out of the gym. Katrina begins to walk out of the gym.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

And I never had better have to.

INT. MELISSA'S HOUSE - DAY

Dan is cautiously closing the door and feeling the wall for a light switch. He finds one and light swallows the darkness. It takes Dan a few seconds to adjust to the light and in that time we see dust particles floating throughout the decaying room. Although there is no overpowering stench the room smells musty and stale. Dan places the house key into his pocket.

Dan begins to cautiously move into the room. The once flourishing plants on the wall are nothing more than vines with gnarled, brown lumps of dead leaves collected on the floor.

Dan begins to walk towards the fabled couch but is distracted by an opened door to his right. From where he's standing he tries but fails to get a better look into the room. He takes a few steps towards the door and swings it open with his foot. He jumps back as the door swings past him. He stands still for a moment before gingerly walking into the room.

INT. PHIL'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Dan puts his hand on the wall looking for another light switch but quickly pulls away startled. It takes him a second to try again to find a light switch and turns on the light. We see that what made Dan jumps was large, dead vines drooping from the wall.

Dan begins to meticulously survey Phil's room. He leans down and gently picks up some of the dead leaves with gnawed edges. He places a handful of these in his backpack. He begins to examine a dried discoloration on the floor and breaks off a piece to put in his backpack. He looks to his right and is shocked by what he sees. It's definitely not what you'd expect in Bug Boy's childhood bedroom. Dan stands and begins to slowly walk to the other half of the room.

Dan walks from the dead forest half of the room to the half of the room whose walls are covered with Bug Boy original artwork. All of it quite good, albeit rather frightening and distorted. Dan moves close and examines some of the work.

SND FX a quick scratching like a tree against a window.

Dan jumps away from the wall and begins to back out of Phil's bedroom unable to take his eyes off of the artwork. It is rather disturbing but at the same time mesmerizing.

INT. MELISSA'S LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Dan backs out of Phil's room and stumbles on the carpet. He regains his balance and turns left to once again face the couch. He turns again and looks into Phil's bedroom. Dan begins to walk towards the couch. He rubs his dust irritated eyes.

Dan walks over a section of the carpet that crunches. He leans down and pulls another rough, dried substance from the floor and puts it into his backpack. He doesn't know this is the remains of Melissa. Dan stays on his hands and knees and examines the rest of the stained carpet. From time to time he puts more clues into his backpack.

As Dan rubs his hands over the carpet his left one comes into contact with something he wasn't expecting and he leans back.

DAN Well, I'll be.

Dan picks up Melissa's black leather thong. He holds it up and smiles.

SND FX the front door swinging open with a thud.

Dan turns and jumps back onto the couch at the same time as he sees Katrina walk into the house with the Bug kids fanning out behind her.

KATRINA

What do we have here, kids? Not only a burglar but one with a thing for women's underwear.

Dan, still holding the thong aloft, stammers his totally unbelievable explanation.

DAN

No, I, um, I was told to come here and check it out by the owners.

Katrina is enjoying watching Dan squirm. The Bug Kids glare at him with expressions that range from contempt to shear joy at knowing it's almost feeding time at the zoo.

KATRINA

The owners. That's a good one. The owners are dead.

DAN

Yeah, I know. She, Melissa that is, told Runt, her grandkid, that I should check this place out and see what I can find because she can only be heard by Runt.

KATRINA

Oh, only heard by her grandkid? That sounds okay. Don't you think, kids?

The Bug Kids laugh.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Sorry to disturb you, mister. We can see that you're busy. You just can't be too careful these days.

Dan relaxes a moment relieved this misunderstanding came to a genteel end.

DAN

I understand. It's good to see Melissa's neighbors are still watching out for her. I'm just about done here myself. I told them I'd only be gone a little while.

Dan stands up.

DAN (CONT'D)

Would you like to lock up or should I take care of it?

Katrina slams the door shut. Robin takes his time locking all the locks. Lee Ann and Harvey disappear to the right. Hilary and George to the left. Dan looks around startled at the speed at which the Bug Kids vanished.

KATRINA

I think we'll have to take care of it.

Dan screws in as much false bravado as he can and takes a step towards Katrina.

DAN

Okay, you take care of it. I'll be on my way now. It was very nice to.

•

Dan takes another step and Robin rushes forward and knocks Dan through the air to the couch. Katrina walks up slowly. She leans close to a now panicked Dan.

KATRINA

. . .meet us? You shouldn't say things you probably don't mean. It's so impolite.

DAN

What do you want?

KATRINA

I want you to meet my kids.

Dan screams in pain as Robin twists Dan's leg to face the opposite direction.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

That's Robin.

Lee Ann swoops in from above and bites an ear off.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

That's Lee Ann.

Hilary drops in front of Dan.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Meet Hilary.

Hilary reaches her hand out like she's going to shake his hand. Dan, as you would expect, is a little hesitant to take it. Hilary frowns.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

How impolite.

Hilary swings her hand forward and slices off Dan's other ear. While Dan is screaming George falls behind him.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

This is George.

Dan looks up and sees George looming above him. Dan tries to smile but no matter how polite you are this is a difficult situation to be pulling a Miss Manners. George reaches into Dan's face and rips his nose off.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Don't worry, George will put it back on.

George does put it back on and it does stick precariously because of the blood and tissue but it's on upside down.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

See? I'm a woman of my words. The problem is that the next time you get caught in the rain you'll drown.

Katrina shrugs her shoulders.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

You can't have everything.

Just then Harvey falls in front of Dan with a thud. Dan screams his most bloodcurdling yowl yet. Harvey has landed on Dan's other leg and crushed it. Katrina moves Harvey off Dan's leg.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

This one is Harvey.

Katrina pats Harvey on the shoulder.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

He's my clumsy one.

The Bug Kids proudly gather around Katrina.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

So, what do you think of my kids?

Dan tries to raise his head and focus but the pain is forcing him into a fetal position. Katrina is not taking this slight lightly.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

I asked you a question.

Katrina kicks what's left of Dan's leg. He screams while also looking up. He attempts an answer through the pain and blood. His upside down nose is emitting a high pitched whistle.

DAN

Very well trained.

Katrina beams proudly.

KATRINA

Aren't they though?

Katrina smiles at her Bug Kids before turning and walking away.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Oh, kids, do what you'd like but keep him alive.

The Bug Kids stand there absolutely glowing in front of Dan. Dan can barely register fear much less a defense. Like the carnivorous animals they are they lean into Dan growling and engulf him.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Kids, did you hear me?

Some grumbling can be heard from the Bug Kids.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

I said keep him alive do you understand?

Hilary picks her head from the pile.

HILARY

We heard you but why mommy?

KATRINA

Because I said so.

Katrina is walking past Phil's bedroom and looks in. Dan muffled cries can be heard. While still looking into Phil's bedroom she calls back to the Big Kids.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Alive, kids, remember keep this one alive.

As they continue torturing Dan Katrina continues looking into Phil's bedroom smiling.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Maybe I should take a few of those home.

She turns her head and starts moving to the front door.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

That's it kids, it's time to go home.

A chorus of groans raise from the fiendish mass.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Come on now, we don't want to over stay our welcome.

Katrina looks over her shoulder and is nonplussed by the carnage she witnesses.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Let's go now. You've got to conserve your strength.

One by one five flashes blast past Katrina.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Good kids.

Katrina turns and looks at Dan.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Good kids. They left him alive.

Katrina grabs the door and continues to exit.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Oh, by the way, tell your friend not to get in our way. Or I'll finish the job this time.

Katrina turns the light off and closes the door behind her. Dan tries to do anything except keep himself alive but that's the only thing he can do.

INT. DAN'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Runt is very jittery while pretending to watch television with Melissa. Melissa is laughing at the television program.

MELISSA

I love Kouch Karaoke. It amazes me those people allow themselves to be on this show.

Melissa turns to Runt.

MELISSA (CONT'D)

What's on next? I really missed television being dead and all

Runt looks at the television guide.

RUNT

Reeling: The Movie Review Show.

MELISSA

I love that show. They're such a cute couple.

RUNT

I wonder where Doctor Dan is?

MELISSA

Oh, he probably just got caught up in his research.

Runt stands up.

MELISSA (CONT'D)

Sit down. Let's see what movies they're reviewing. I sure hope they do a frock flick. They're my favorites.

RUNT

Nah, you watch it. I'm going to go by and see if Doctor Dan needs any help.

MELISSA

Okay, I'll let you know what they reviewed.

Runt begins exiting the room.

RUNT

You do that.

Runt exits while Melissa stares at the television.

MELISSA

Ohhhh, she looks luminescent tonight.

INT. MELISSA'S HOUSE - LATER

Runt opens the front door and begins to enter. The surrounding are totally unfamiliar to him so his bug radar is on full alert.

RUNT

Doctor Dan? Are you here, Doctor Dan?

Dan moans faintly. Runt perks up.

RUNT (CONT'D)

Doctor Dan?

Runt touches the wall looking for a light switch. He finds one and brightness fills the room. It takes Runt a few seconds to acclimate while looking around the room. Finally he sees Dan hunches over on the couch, Runt begins walking towards him.

RUNT (CONT'D)

Are you okay, Doctor Dan? did you find anything?

Runt stops a few feet shy of Dan in a blood draining pause. After a moment Runt screams and rushes over to Dan.

RUNT (CONT'D)

Doctor Dan!

Runt jumps on the couch next to Dan.

RUNT (CONT'D)

What happened doctor Dan?

Dan looks slowly up at Runt. His face a battered Picasso. His clothes torn from his bloodied body. His arms holding his stomach. Legs akimbo. His voice barely audible and sandpaper coarse.

DAN

Kill me, Runt.

Runt is shocked to hear this from Dan.

RUNT

What are you talking about, Doctor Dan? You've just got a couple of scratches. I'll bring you back to your house. Grandmom will know what you do.

Runt reaches for Dan and he howls.

DAN

No, Runt, you have to help me.

RUNT

I'll do anything for you Doctor Dan.

Dan looks up at Runt and bravely tries to smile. It's sad.

DAN

You have to put me out of my misery Runt.

Dan takes his arms away from his stomach and pushes as hard as he can to push himself back. When he does Runt goes into shock. The skin has been ripped from his flesh exposing his ribs, his intestines fall into his lap as he sits up. Through his ribs we can see his heart beating slowly. Dan looks up at Runt.

DAN (CONT'D)

Help me.

Dan reaches a bloody hand out and touches Runt's face leaving a red hand print.

DAN (CONT'D)

Stop my pain, Runt. Please.

Runt looks at his friend and anguish crosses his face. He knows that he must help his friend. He tries to smile at Dan but the attempt is futile. Runt raises his hand. Dan places his hand over Runt's.

DAN (CONT'D)

Be careful, Runt. They're coming for you.

Dan let's go of Runt's hand, closes his eyes and leans forward. Runt looks at his friend sadly. He closes his eyes and leans back to summon the strength to do what he knows must be done. A single tear slides down his cheek. He opens his eyes and looks at his friend.

RUNT

URAGHHHHHHHHHHH!

Runt tears his hand into Dan's chest, grabs his heart and forces it through his back. Runt holds the still beating heart aloft as he continues screaming. Runt stops screaming and begins to squeeze Dan's heart. With his remaining life force Dan manages a smile.

DAN

Be careful, my friend. Watch for them. They're watching for you.

Dan pauses and spits up the last ounce of blood remaining in his body. Dan slumps forward. At peace. Runt looks at him for a moment before collapsing on top of him sobbing.

RUNT

Grandma!

Melissa appears hovering over Runt.

MELISSA

What? Reeling was just going to give their top ten 'B' movies of all time. And I think. . .

Melissa pauses as she surveys her living room. She looks back at Runt's angry face.

RUNT

They will pay for this.

MELISSA

Runt, I know you're angry but you must not let that get ahead of the purity of your actions.

RUNT

Tell me what's pure about this?

MELISSA

They are not pure, Runt. You seem to be the only one who still have any of the decency of your father left inside of you.

RUNT

But he killed you and he. . .

MELISSA

Yes, he did, Runt. He created a lot of havoc in many lives.

Melissa pauses and smiles at Runt.

MELISSA (CONT'D)

But he was always doing what came naturally. He was never evil.

Melissa looks over her house again.

MELISSA (CONT'D)

Whoever did this is unnatural. Whoever did this is evil and the only way to stop evil is with purity.

Melissa looks at Runt.

MELISSA (CONT'D)

Are you as pure as your father, Runt? Are you as natural as Phil or are you going to be like them?

Runt alternates his look from Dan to Melissa and back again. His expression is one of torment, uncertainty, anger. There is no firm emotion in his eyes as we:

INT. GYM - DAY

Katrina is sitting at a desk writing some notes on a pad of paper while the Bug Kids complain about the event that just took place. They're in agreement and are vocal in their solidarity.

ROBIN

How come we left that guy alive?

HILARY

Yeah, wasn't it you who said no one gets out alive?

LEE ANN

And didn't you give me a ton of shit about it?

Whoops. Here is where the solidarity ends and a new subject takes over.

HARVEY

When's dinner?

GEORGE

Yeah, I'd like to try a microwave burrito like I saw on television.

Finally the Bug Kids are back in agreement. Katrina snaps at them and slams the pen down.

KATRINA

That's it. Here I am trying to get ready for our next project and all you care about is eating.

Katrina stands up, picks up the paper she was writing on and picks up the phone. The Bug Kids settle down and watch Katrina carefully.

Katrina dials a number and waits a second. She perks up when the other party answers.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Hello, is this the WCAZ crime tip line? Good. Is this line recorded? Good. We are the Bulgarian Underground Guerrillas, but you can calls us BUGS, and we are the group who pulled off that dramatic robbery at the Allenville Bank and we are here to tell you that you cannot stop us. So that's why we are going to tell you when we are going to hit next.

The Bug Kids look at their mother like she's insane. She just ignores them and continues her call.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Tomorrow we are going to hit one of the fine banks in Allenville. Try and stop us.

Katrina hangs up the phone and smiles maniacally at her Bug Kids. They stare at her not quite comprehending.

ROBIN

Ah, mom, why are you telling them when were going to pull another job?

HILARY

Really. Don't you think they'll have the entire force waiting for us?

The other Bug Kids grumble about this suicide mission. Katrina just smiles and nods at them.

KATRINA

It won't matter. They'll never even see us coming.

Katrina picks up the phone again.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Now go into the kitchen and eat. You'll need your strength for tomorrow.

Katrina begins dialing as the kids flash into the kitchen.

LEE ANN (O.S.)

Mom, Harvey's blowing milk out of his nose again.

HARVEY (O.S)

It's not my fault. Robin made me laugh.

KATRINA

Hi, is this. . . hold on please.

Katrina puts her hand over the mouthpiece and screams.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Knock it off in there or you're going to bed right after dinner.

Some slight grumbling emits from the kitchen but no real protests and Katrina goes back to her phone call.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Excuse me. Kids. You understand. Now where was I?

Katrina picks up the paper.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Oh yeah, is this a recorded line? Good. We are the. . .

INT. DOCTOR DAN'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Runt and Melissa are sitting in the living room watching the evening news. Corrine Andera, the reporter from WCAZ, is on the television in the middle of her report.

CORRINE

. . .Bulgarian Underground
Guerrillas have identified
themselves as the culprits
yesterday's heinous crime at an
Allenville bank. During their call
they seemed to be baiting
Allenville's finest by stating when
and where their next crime will be
perpetrated. Here, in their own
voice, is what these terrorists had
to say.

Corrine stands there stoically while Katrina's tape plays.

KATRINA (O.S.)

Tomorrow we are going to hit one of the fine banks in Allenville. Try and stop us.

CORRINE

The Allenville police department is on full alert at all eleven Allenville banks. We can only hope this ends this ghastly chapter in Allenville's history. I'm Corrine Andera for WCAZ Newsbeat.

Runt turns the television off and sadly looks at Melissa. Melissa floats off the chair and over to a contemplative Runt.

RUNT

Are these the people who killed Doctor Dan?

MELISSA

Yes. And these are the people who are going to kill you if you try and play their game. You have to do what comes naturally, Runt.

RUNT

I don't know if I have it in me.

MELISSA

No one does until they're face with needing it.

Melissa begins to fade.

RUNT

Where are you going?

I'll be around, Runt. Trust your nature, Runt.

Runt leans his head back and closes his eyes. Within moments he seems to have fallen asleep. The sleep of the pure.

EXT. FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF ALLENVILLE PARKING LOT - DAY

Outside of the five police cars in the lot there isn't another car in the customer lot but a few in the employee lot. Having it reported in the news that you may be robbed sure does put a crimp in business.

Across the street we see a passenger van and inside are, of course, Katrina and the Bug Kids. This time there is no assigned seating.

KATRINA

Does everyone have their assignments?

There is some affirmative grunting from the Bug Kids but it's mostly of the 'We're bored. Are we there yet? Are we ever going to get to kill anyone today?' variety. This laid back attitude doesn't sit well with Katrina.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Listen, this is the most important ten minutes of our lives and you've got to be on your quard.

HARVEY

Oh mom, stop worrying. We'll pop this place open like a bottle of Henderbeer and be home before the head fades.

Katrina looks at Harvey and the other kids as any mother would who thinks their kid knows a little too much about a taboo.

KATRINA

And just where do you hear such talk?

Harvey tries to act nonchalant but he knows he's bagged.

HARVEY

Um, from a commercial. I saw a Henderbeer commercial once and that's what they said.

Everyone can see that Katrina's not buying this.

LEE ANN

I saw the same commercial, mom. It also said quality is our last name; no is our first.

Katrina just shakes her head at her Bug Kids.

KATRINA

All right, settle down. You're going to have to make sure you're totally focused on this event.

ROBIN

Oh mom, you worry too much.

HILARY

Yeah, you trained us well. We know our jobs.

KATRINA

This one has personal meaning.

GEORGE

You've always said this is nothing personal. Just business.

Katrina doesn't want to give them anymore information than they need so she just lets it go.

KATRINA

You're right.

Katrina turns and faces all of her kids and manages a smile.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Does everyone know their jobs?

In unison the Bug Kids answer with bored contempt.

BUG KIDS

Yes!

Katrina laughs.

KATRINA

Okay then, let's wreak a little more havoc.

On that the doors fly open and the Bug Kids leave to begin their latest adventure.

The next scenes happen at the same time so in each of the bits we see the other bits in the background.

Robin jumps on top of the car. The two OFFICERS inside look up to see what the noise is. Officer #1, in the passenger seat, cocks a shotgun and gets out. Officer #2, in the drivers seat, picks up the radio to begin to call in. Officer #1's head pops out of the car and Robin grabs his face and pulls him to the roof.

ROBIN Surprised to see me?

Robin jumps down with Officer #1 in tow startling Officer #1. Before Officer #1 can begin his call Robin grabs the side of his face and pulls him out of the car. With both Officers reaching for their guns while being held high above the ground Robin smashes both of their heads together crushing them into one skull. He lets them go and they fall to the ground like some bloody Siamese twin. Robin flashes to the scheduled meeting place.

Hilary tumbles towards the second car and lands on the hood of the car startling the two OFFICERS. The register expression of shock for a moment before Hilary spins over the top of the car to the back trunk. The two Officers look up and can't see her anywhere. The moment the driver spots Hilary smiling and waving to them in the read view mirror its too late.

HILARY

Hi guys. Do you guys still have police men's balls?

Hilary smashes her legs through the back window smashing the back of the heads of the Officers pining their faces to the front windshield. The first time we see their faces they only look trapped against the glass. After a second they both let out screams.

HILARY (CONT'D)

Not any more.

As Hilary leans back she needs to stop their screaming so with one mighty thrust we watch as their skulls explode against the glass. Hilary flashes to the scheduled meeting place.

Two OFFICERS sit ever vigilant in their car. Their expression changes when they notice their viewpoint is changing. They are being lifted into the air. George lifts the car over his head and flips it around. He catches it in his hands and leans over to see the two seatbelt wearing, upside-down Officers staring at George's smiling face incredulously.

George tosses the car high into the air and it crashes into the pavement crushing the two Officers. For good measure George picks it up and smashes it down a couple of times. A bellowing from the distance causes George to stop on his third attempt.

KATRINA

George. Eeeeeenough.

George looks over to Katrina standing by the van with her hands on her hips glaring at George.

George drops the car with a thud. He looks at Katrina's disappointed face.

GEORGE

Sorry.

George flashes off to the scheduled meeting place.

Lee Ann reaches smashes her hand through he drivers side window and jams her fingers into the Officers eyes and through his face out the back of his skull. His body slumps forward onto the steering wheel when she pulls her bloody hand out of his face. She looks at the scared Officer in the passenger seat and smiles.

LEE ANN

Neat trick, huh?

Lee Ann grabs the back of the Officers head and slams it into the back of the dead Officers head knocking him out. Lee Ann looks at her handiwork for a moment before flashing off to the scheduled meeting place.

Harvey wastes no time jumping onto the roof of the police car and ripping off it's lights with a scream. As the lights rattle over the hood startling the two Officers Harvey smashes his hands through the roof of the car and pulls the two Officers heads out of the car by their hair.

HARVEY

Hey look, new sirens.

They look at Harvey with terror in their eyes.

HARVEY (CONT'D)

Come on, be sirens for me.

The two Officers make wimpy siren noises.

HARVEY (CONT'D)

Oww, these sirens seem to be defective.

Harvey pulls one Officers head back and pushes the other one forward severing them from their bodies. He holds the heads high.

HARVEY (CONT'D)
Guess I've got to get new ones.

Harvey jumps off the roof tossing the heads aimlessly into the parking lot where they roll to a stop on top of the crushed car. Harvey flashes to the scheduled meeting place.

EXT. BACK OF FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF ALLENVILLE - CONTINUOUS

The Bug Kids all arrive at the scheduled meeting place at the same time. They may be splattered with blood but they truly seem non the worse for wear. Everyone stands there for a moment waiting for George to do his thing. When he realizes that everyone is staring at him he remembers that it's his turn to go to work.

George looks at his siblings sheepishly and shrugs his shoulder. This is nothing new to them. They're all used to George: dumb as a building and twice as strong.

George leans down and slams his body through wall. We hear some crashing and racks falling as cash and negotiable securities float out of the hole.

GEORGE

I'm okay. Come in. I made a path.

The remaining Bug Kids, expect for Robin, crawl into the hole.

The shot follows Robin climbing up the bank's wall back to the front of the bank. He hangs on the roof and looks into the bank. The shot follows to the car Lee Ann destroyed.

In the car we see the Officer in the passenger seat, OFFICER FORTIER, lift his face out of the back of the dead officers head. He tries to regain he bearings and wipes his partners blood from his face and finds the radio.

OFFICER FORTIER
This is Officer Fortier. My partner is down.

Officer Fortier looks around the parking lot.

OFFICER FORTIER (CONT'D) All officers are down.

EXT. PARK - CONTINUOUS

Runt is back with his insect friends and they're all huddled over a police scanner.

OFFICER FORTIER

I repeat. Officer's down at the First National Bank of Allenville.

Runt shuts off the scanner and looks at his friends.

RUNT

Time to go.

Runt stands up and flashes through the park with a gaggle of insects flying and crawling and slithering behind him.

INT. FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF ALLENVILLE - CONTINUOUS

The four members of the skeleton crew of the bank are running through the lobby towards the front door as the explosion of the internal walls crumbling under George's strength. A woman, SUSAN, opens the front door and runs through the first followed quickly by a man, LAWRENCE. Susan is shocked when Robin drops from the roof in front of her.

ROBIN

Hi.

Susan screams as Robin puts his finger to his lips to shush her. It doesn't work as the screaming continues. Lawrence backs into the other two bank employees, PETER and CHRISTY, who come to a dead stop.

ROBIN (CONT'D)

Please be quiet you're really getting on my nerves.

Susan continues screaming.

Robin grabs Susan by the hair and begins pulling her towards the front door.

ROBIN (CONT'D)

Do you want to leave?

Susan doesn't stop screaming but she does look up at Robin.

Robin opens the door and continues backing out. When Susan's still screaming head gets out the door Robin slams the door severing her head as glass shatters and slices up the rest of her body.

Robin holds the head up to take a look at it. Susan's expression is held in a silent scream. He looks at the other shocked and retreating bank employees.

ROBIN (CONT'D)

Come on, you have to admit that screaming was annoying.

OFFICER FORTIER (O.S.)

Drop the head and put your hands up. If you move I'll. . .

On that Robin vanishes leaving the head spinning in the air.

Officer Fortier begins firing and cuts down all of the bank employees. He stops shooting as the now splintered head falls to the ground spinning.

Officer Fortier looks around for Robin but can't see him anywhere.

KATRINA (O.S.)

You shouldn't have done that.

Blood begins draining from Officer Fortier's face. The blood that's left escapes through a hole in his head as Katrina pulls the trigger.

Officer Fortier falls. Katrina leans over him.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

You shouldn't have tried to hurt my boy.

Robin drops back from the building.

ROBIN

Thanks, mom.

Katrina looks at Robin.

KATRINA

A momma protects her children.

Katrina begins to back away.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

I'll pull the van over. Get in there and start loading up.

Katrina goes her way and Robin goes his.

ROBIN

Yes ma'am.

INT. FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF ALLENVILLE - CONTINUOUS

Cash and negotiable securities float around the room as the Bug Kids pile bags of cash in the lobby. At each blink the pile seems to double. This is a big score.

ROBIN

Mom's pulling the van in front. We'll bring the bags out then.

HARVEY

Who died and left you boss?

Robin shrugs toward the carnage near the front door.

ROBIN

The bank manager.

The Bug Kids chuckle and continue loading up the lobby. Breaking the revelry is a lone voice coming from the gaping hole that used to be a vault door.

RUNT (O.S.)

Excuse me.

The Bug Kids spin their heads towards the hole and they see that it's been plugged up with a large collection of insects.

HARVEY

What the fuck is that?

RUNT (O.S.)

I think you've stolen enough money.

The Bug Kids continue to look around to where the voice is coming from but only see themselves and a wall full of insects.

GEORGE

I'll open up the wall again.

George heads full tilt towards the wall of insects. They stay there as George bears down on them. Two steps from the insects. One step. The insects disappear into the vault and George goes crashing after them.

INT. FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF ALLENVILLE VAULT - CONTINUOUS

George picks himself out of the rubble and looks around at the insects all over the place.

GEORGE

Oh sure, you're tough in a gang but how about one on one?

The other Bug Kids can hear this and can be heard snickering. George ignores this and keeps glaring at the insects.

HILARY (O.S.)

Come on, George, it's just a few bugs. Let's get this over with before the cops come.

LEE ANN (O.S.)

Or mom starts beeping for us.

GEORGE

No, this is personal.

George looks at the insects menacingly.

GEORGE (CONT'D)

So, which one's it gonna be?

George stands there as the insect buzz gets louder. All of a sudden, Runt flashes through an opening his insects made in the vault door.

RUNT

What about me?

GEORGE

Who are you?

RUNT

The man who's gonna teach you some manners.

Runt takes a step towards George who stands there cracking his knuckles and smiling.

Runt stops in his tracks when a bee stops in front of him and starts to buzz at him. Runt nods at him and steps back.

RUNT (CONT'D)

All right, if that's what you want.

George is confused but not because he doesn't know what's going on but because he does.

GEORGE

Did I hear him right? He wants a piece of me?

RUNT

Yep.

George is even more confused now.

GEORGE

How the hell did I know what he's saying?

ROBIN (O.S.)

George would you get the hell out here and stop talking to those bugs. And bring some bags with you.

GEORGE

One second.

George looks at the bee in front of him.

GEORGE (CONT'D)

You want a piece of me?

The bee buzzes.

GEORGE (CONT'D)

Just my nose?

George starts to swing ineffectively as the bee buzzes around him. Taunting him.

George is now breathless and the bee lands on his nose. The bee winks at George and stings him on the tip of his nose. George starts screaming.

ROBIN (O.S.)

Now what's wrong?

The Bug Kids come bursting into the vault.

HILARY

What's wrong, George?

Hilary sees Runt who freaks out.

HILARY (CONT'D)

Who the hell are you?

Runt stammers. He knows he's looking at the people who killed Doctor Dan. Even more than that he knows he's looking at his siblings.

RUNT

I ah, heard this guy screaming and came to see if I could help.

The Bug Kids stare at Runt. There may be some vague familial recognition but it passes quickly.

LEE ANN

Thanks. Why don't you leave now?

RUNT

Yeah, um, glad he's okay.

The problem is George doesn't look okay. his nose is growing and getting redder. Runt turns heading towards the hole to outside. Melissa appears in front of Runt.

MELISSA

You can take them. Just act naturally.

RUNT

I can't.

HARVEY

You can't what?

Runt looks at Melissa.

MELISSA

You can't leave.

Runt stares at Melissa before turning back to the Bug Kids.

RUNT

Leave.

Robin smiles at him.

ROBIN

Well, you can't say we didn't give you a chance.

Robin and Harvey step towards Runt. George screams from the depths of hell. Everyone jumps back and finally notices that his head is now three times it's normal size.

HILARY

What's the hell happened here?

Everyone begins to back away as the screaming gets louder and his head gets bigger.

SND FX Bones cracking.

Tiny rivulets of blood begin to roll down George's head.

LEE ANN

Oh shit. He must be allergic to bee stings.

The Bug Kids back out of the vault as blood spurts from every orifice of George's head. Before everyone exits the vault George's head reaches critical mass and bursts splattering the Bug Kids with skull shards, brain and venom.

The Bug Kids stand there shocked as George's headless body falls to the ground.

SND FX Car Beep

That sound shakes the Bug Kids back to reality. Robin looks around.

ROBIN

Hey, where's that guy?

The Bug Kids look around but Runt is no where to be found.

INT. FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF ALLENVILLE LOBBY

Runt is hanging on the ceiling. You can tell that he is totally natural. And in a situation like this it's natural to be scared shitless. He watches as the remaining Bug Kids step out of the vault and begin to slowly load the money into the van. Melissa floats over to Runt.

MELISSA

Runt, this is your last opportunity. Once they get into that car they will destroy the world.

Runt looks at Melissa. Half of him knows he should do the right thing. The other half wants to go back to the park and hide. It's decisions like this that separate the great from the masses. It's not a position many like. It's fewer who accept it. This is reflected in Runt's face as the Bug Kids get closer to emptying the bank and scorching the earth with their wraith.

MELISSA (CONT'D)

Besides, I took care of the tough one.

Runt looks at Melissa stymied. She just smiles.

MELISSA (CONT'D)

Bee allergies run in my family so I figured I'd take a chance.

Runt begins laughing as Robin walks in.

ROBIN

What the hell?

Robin leaps up and barely misses smashing into Runt. Runt lands on the floor and smiles up at Robin. Robin glares back and pushes himself full force towards Runt. They collide and Runt is thrown across the room.

MELISSA

Look inside, Runt.

Runt picks himself up as Robin glares at him.

RUNT

If I looked inside I think I'd find a ruptured spleen.

ROBIN

That's the least of your worries.

Robin races towards Runt. Runt spins. When Robin slips past Runt turns and grabs hiss neck, lifts him up, and shakes him back breaking his neck. Runt drops him to the ground.

Lee Ann steps quietly back in and swings at Runt. Runt moves just enough to avoid being cut in half but he ends up with a nasty cut on his back. He positions himself for Lee Ann's next move and she loads up with a flying front kick that Runt sidesteps and crashes his elbow into her knees snapping them backwards. Lee Ann falls to the ground silently and tries to crawl away.

Runt wastes no time in chasing her down. He stands over her with rage in his eyes. He picks his foot up and aims it at her whimpering head. It's a millisecond before he brings his foot down to crush her skull. This isn't going to be pretty.

MELISSA

Mercy, Runt.

Runt pauses. Melissa floats in front of him.

MELISSA (CONT'D)

You have stopped her from being a threat. Prepare for the next one.

HILARY

Harvey! Mom! Lee Ann's in trouble.

Hilary begins spinning towards Runt. He leaps. She gets to where she knows she should have come in contact with him and is shocked to see that it didn't work. She looks around and doesn't see Runt.

RUNT

Excuse me?

Hilary looks up and Runt drops from the ceiling landing on and crushing her head. She falls limp next to Lee Ann who reaches into what used to be Hilary's face.

While Runt is watching this touching yet sickening scene while Harvey flashes in and clocks Runt in the face splitting his skull and knocking him into the wall. In the second it takes Runt to get unsteadily Harvey is standing above him. Runt blinks and Harvey hits him again.

HARVEY

Look what you've done?

Harvey hits Runt in the stomach and he falls.

HARVEY (CONT'D)

You should have left when you had the chance.

Harvey kicks Runt.

KATRINA (O.S.)

Did you get all the money?

Harvey looks around the room. He sees one bag.

HARVEY

There's one more, mom.

KATRINA (O.S.)

Then get it and let's go. We don't have much time left.

HARVEY

Be right there.

Harvey turns back.

HARVEY (CONT'D)

We don't have much time and neither do the. . .

Harvey is shocked not to see Runt lying there awaiting his pain ending death.

Harvey turns and is shocked to see Runt standing there. Runt quickly, but with a bit of effort, raises his hands and smashes them into Harvey's shoulders rendering his arms useless. Harvey tries valiantly to keep fighting. He rears back and tries to kick Runt.

Runt steps away easily, pushes Harvey against the wall, puts his hands together and forces them into his sternum and up to his heart. Runt looks Harvey in the eyes for a moment.

RUNT

Goodbye, brother.

Before Harvey can react to that information Runt pulls his arms out of Harvey's chest leaving only an open cavity.

As Runt watches Harvey slide down the wall he is startled to hear applause. He spins around and standing in the door clapping is Katrina.

KATRINA

Very impressive.

Katrina steps into the room. Runt goes into full on alert.

RUNT

Stay right there.

KATRINA

I'm not a threat to you, my son.

Katrina begins to slowly walk into the room. Runt gets jittery.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

You look just like your father.

Katrina gets within three steps of Runt. Runt looks up and catches Katrina's eyes for the first time in his life. She smiles a winning smile. Runt melts slightly.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

He was a wonderful man.

Katrina reaches into her pocket. Runt jumps to his left a couple of safe feet away from her. Katrina stands there still smiling while holding out a photo.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Would you like to see a picture?

Runt's moves his glance from Katrina's face to the picture and back. Katrina moves slowly towards Runt.

MELISSA (O.S.)

Be wary of the burden of gifts, Runt.

This snaps Runt to attention and he finally sees that Katrina is close enough for him to feel her breath. Runt grabs the photo and moves away from Katrina towards the door.

Runt stares at the picture while Katrina continues to moves towards him.

KATRINA

I'm sorry that I abandoned you. You must have had a really hard time of it. But you have sure turned out to be a fine boy.

Runt stops looking at the picture and into the caring face of his mother. Runt melts into his mother's arms.

RUNT

Mom.

In the middle of the embrace Runt hears a warning.

MELISSA

RUNT.

Melissa floats down and looks into Runt's eyes. It takes Runt a few moments to fix on MELISSA

MELISSA (CONT'D)

Don't trust her, Runt. Don't let her gain your confidence.

KATRINA

Are you feeling okay, son?

The moment Katrina says 'son' Runt melts even more.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

We'd better get out of here before the cops show up.

Katrina puts her hands on Runt's shoulder.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

If there's trouble do you think you could get us out of here?

Katrina smiles at Runt and he melts further. He smiles and nods.

Melissa buzzes between them. This causes Runt to back off slightly.

MELISSA

Runt, don't buy into the serpents tonque.

Runt is totally confused.

RUNT

What does that mean?

KATRINA

What does what mean?

Runt holds up a finger to pause his mother.

MELISSA

I don't know. I read it on a fortune cookie once.

Runt pauses starting to believe his mother more and grandmother less.

MELISSA (CONT'D)

Runt.

Melissa pauses because Runt is becoming totally enamored with his mother. Katrina smiles at him.

KATRINA

Are you ready to help momma?

Runt nods in a narcoleptic stupor.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Good. Let me just make sure we have everything.

Katrina runs to the vault area to look in. Melissa takes this time to snap more adamantly at Runt.

MELISSA

Runt.

Runt slowly looks at Melissa.

MELISSA (CONT'D)

Remember what happened to your father.

Runt looks at Melissa. No one should ever be placed in a situation like this and Runt is totally unprepared.

RUNT

What should I do?

Melissa pauses while Katrina comes back.

KATRINA

Your brothers and sisters got everything.

RUNT

What should I do?

Katrina smiles.

KATRINA

Exactly what I say, honey.

Melissa looks at Katrina and then back to Runt.

MELISSA

Kill the bitch.

RUNT

No.

Katrina jumps.

KATRINA

No what?

Runt is out of his element and it's starting to show.

RUNT

No, I need some time.

Runt looks at his mother and lies for the first time in his life.

RUNT (CONT'D)

I have to say goodbye to some friends.

Katrina smiles widens.

KATRINA

Of course, honey.

Katrina reaches into her back pocket.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Friends are important.

Katrina leans towards Runt.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

Relax, baby, mommy just wants a hug.

Runt does relax and allows Katrina to hug him with one hand. In the middle of the hug Katrina opens the knife she pulled out of her pocket and slices deep into Runt stomach. Blue lights begin to cover all the walls from the police surrounding the building. Katrina jams the knife up into his heart and it pierces his chest. She releases the knife and Runt falls to the ground.

KATRINA (CONT'D)

You know, kid, you can't always trust your mother.

Melissa begins to cry as she fades.

MELISSA

I told you, son. I told you.

Melissa dissolves.

Katrina smiles at RUNT

SND FX flesh tearing.

Katrina's smiles fade to a look of excruciating pain.

Shot of a hand inserting deeper into her body.

Katrina's head starts to shake.

SND FX bones crackling

Katrina's head is pulled back.

SND FX crackling becomes louder as does the ripping flesh.

Katrina collapses like a paper cup crushed by a hand.

She hits the ground squirming next to Lee Ann who is holding Katrina's bloody spine. She lays it across Katrina's body still holding it tightly.

LEE ANN

You always said no one gets out alive.

Lee Ann releases Katrina's spine and passes out.

Like a flash, Runt's insect friends converge upon Lee Ann to lift her up and out of the bank through the hole in the vault as the police burst in shocked in disbelief at the carnage they are witnessing.

Shot pulling out of the bank through the hole in the vault Lee Ann is being carried away to her new life by her insect friends.

FADE OUT