

## 1 EXT. GAS STATION - MORNING

1

The GAS STATION is small and has dim lighting. The gas station is quiet, one or two customers are browsing the isles. CUSTOMER 1 approaches the counter. He is old, creped, and shaky. He is wearing WORN COTHES. Customer 1 grabs RYDER, (25) patient, wise, intuitive, strong. He has TATTOOS and SCARS.

CUSTOMER 1

They won't stop. They won't stop.  
They won't stop.

RYDER

Let go of me!

CUSTOMER 1

(eerily)

THEY WILL NEVER STOP!

VAUGHN, (25), confident, a bit eccentric, full of life. He walks in, interrupting customer 1. Vaughn excitedly gallops towards the counter, stops midway to grab a candy bar, then continues to the counter. Customer 1 slowly backs away, shaking his fist. Ryder is chuckling, while regathering his bearings.

VAUGHN

Uh, what was that all about?

RYDER

Hey, yeah...I'm not sure. Anyway,  
how are you?

VAUGHN

Bro, I am amazing! I also, have  
plans tonight!

RYDER

(light laughter)

Yeah? What're you doing?

VAUGHN

The question **is**, what're **WE** doing.

RYDER

I can't be a wingman tonight; I have  
to finish setting up the game room.

VAUGHN

No, we're going out with MERCEDES

(27) intelligent, down to earth, sassy.

tonight. To Deadman's Bluff.

RYDER

(Skeptically)

Deadman's Bluff? You mean the place we went in high school? The try-hard haunted house?

(turning away)

No thanks man.

(chuckling)

I used to walk through there laughing at how hard they tried.

VAUGHN

Bro. You walked through there with ladies on your arm pretending to be hot shit.

RYDER

But it worked, didn't it?

VAUGHN

(laughingly)

That it did my friend...that it did.

(excitedly)

But no! It'll be fun! You guys always stay in and when is the last time we all got together and had fun like we used too, huh?

RYDER

Alright. I'll talk to Rose. Now get the fuck outta here asshole.

FADE OUT.

## 2 INT. ROSE AND RYDER'S HOME KITCHEN - DUSK

2

The home is medium in size, single level with well-maintained landscaping. It's getting darker, the sun sits behind the home. **ROSE**, (26), compassionate, intelligent, sweet. She has BLACK PLASTIC RAYBAN GLASSES. She stands at the center island, a mixing bowl with herbs and spices rests beside her. She turns to the STOVE, lifts the LID off the SKILLET and flips the CHICKEN.

Meanwhile in the background noise, a car door shuts, followed closely by an open and close of the front door.

RYDER  
(shouts)  
Honey! I'm home! mmm smells good!

ROSE  
Hey baby, how was work?

Ryder gives Rose a **kiss** on the lips.

RYDER  
You'll never guess where we got  
invited to.

ROSE  
(dissapointed)  
...but you were gonna hook up the  
pulley system for my VR!

RYDER  
I can always cancel? I didn't even  
say we'd go, I said I would ask you.

ROSE  
(sternly)  
**Ohh no you don't!**

RYDER  
**What?!**

ROSE  
You are **not** making me the one who  
ruins plans that **you** don't even want  
to follow through with!  
We're going.

RYDER  
Fine! We'll go!  
(defeated)  
I'll start the pulley system.

ROSE  
(lovingly)  
I love you baby!  
OH! I'm gonna ask **ED**

(30) nerdy, antisocial, timid. He has large, BUG-EYED  
GLASSES.

and **CHRISTINA**

(29) wild, lazy, dumb.

to join. We all haven't hung out in so long, maybe it'll be fun?

(Sweetly)

Remember how much fun we had back then?

RYDER

(thinks)

Hm. Vaughn said the same thing.

(to Rose)

I'm fine with Christina but why do you even still talk to Ed? He's just sort of...creepy now.

(Sarcastically)

He'll probably wack one just by seeing how scared everyone is, and one for you just existing!

ROSE

Shut up, he's nice.

I just feel bad for him.

Ever since his brother went legit **psychotic**. He's always been so nice to me since the first grade and he was treated so cruelly.

Why do you care?

(playfully)

You uh...jealous?

RYDER

(defensively)

JEALOUS?

NO!

I don't like the way he started looking at you **after** what happened with his brother.

Ryder takes a grape tomato from the mixing bowl and pops it in his mouth.

(while chewing)

Runs in the genes ya know.

Ryder walks up behind Rose, wrapping his arms around her.

(sincerely)

You know I love you. **And** your **insanely** big heart, your compassion for people...

I just, \*sighs\* it's literally in every horror movie ever made. He's the bullied and traumatized creep and you **definitely** fit the final girl description.

ROSE

Rose quickly turns towards Ryder and places her hand on her hip.

Oh. So. You just don't want to die.

Ryder turns and walks a few steps.

RYDER

You're not hearing me, Rose.

ROSE

He's harmless. Go do your thing and I'll send them a text, ok?

Rose pulls out her phone and begins texting. Ryder walks away into the other room.

**3 INT. ED'S BASEMENT - EVENING**

**3**

Scene cuts to Ed meticulously filing down a metal object.

There are broken doll heads around him. He receives a text from Rose and throws his rasp down, hurrying to his phone. Ed grabs his phone and smiles. Ed licks his lip as sweat drips from his nose. Panting louder and louder. There's a creaky door opening coming from upstairs. ED'S MOTHER, (63), a sweet old lady, she has her hair in a bun and is wearing an APRON.

ED'S MOTHER

Ed honey? Dinners just about ready.  
Can I come see what you're working on?

ED

(screams nervously)  
MOM! NO! WHY ARE YOU ALWAYS IN MY GRILL?! GOSH!!

ED'S MOTHER

Oh, I'm sorry honey. Come upstairs when you're ready.

Ed's mother shuts the door and hear her footsteps upstairs walk away.

ED

(to himself)

I won't be eating tonight mother. I  
have big, big plans. Big plans  
indeed.

Ed picks his rasp back up and resumes filing. Scene pans out,  
and to the left to show a DOLL, well preserved. Taken care of  
like a child. This doll is of Rose.

**4 INT. RYDER AND ROSE'S HOME KITCHEN - EVENING**

**4**

The table is set with two plates and silverware, green beans  
are in a dish in the center, next is the chicken with herbs  
and spices from the mixing bowl gently seasoned on top. A  
bottle of cheap wine sits at the end of the table. Rose sits  
down, looks at her phone.

ROSE  
All set. RYDER! SOUPS ON!

Ryder eventually makes his way to the table and sits across  
from Rose. He plates her meal for her, and then helps  
himself. They begin eating.

RYDER  
So, any word from Chris or Ed?

ROSE  
Yes! They both said they will meet  
us all there.

RYDER  
Great. I just wanna shower first.

Ryder stands up and puts his dishes in the sink, and finishes  
his glass of wine. He walks into the other room. Rose  
finishes dinner and begins cleaning up.

**5 EXT. DEADMAN'S BLUFF - NIGHT**

**5**