

TIS WAS THE NIGHT

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INT. LIVING ROOM

A small room containing way too much stuff. It clearly belongs to a poor family with one too many kids. Pictures along the wall shows a family of 5. Mother, Father, 2 sons and a baby girl. The oldest son is in a great deal more pictures than the younger siblings, as is the case from time to time. In great deal of them he is in a baseball uniform, he's not just the star of the team but of the family. What we see clear as day in the pictures is just how much the younger brother looks up to the older one.

TOMMY (O.S.)  
Over here!

The boy from the picture, TOMMY, about 8 years old jumps to catch a ball being throw across the room by his friend KRIS, also 8.

He catches the ball in midair and falls back into a table, knocking the monitor over. It lands with a crash on the ground. Kris runs over.

KRIS  
Are you okay?

He asks as he helps Tommy up.

TOMMY  
(shaken)  
Yeah.

He looks at the broken monitor on the floor.

TOMMY (CONT'D)  
My parents are going to kill me.

Kris just nods.

KRIS  
Yeah, they will.  
(slaps Tommy on the chest)  
But hey! You finally caught the ball!

Tommy's face lights up a bit.

TOMMY  
I did right?

He looks down at the ball in his hands. His face aglow in pride.

KRIS

And you thought you needed Juan to show you how. I told you I could teach you.

A bit of the glow leaves Tommy's face.

TOMMY

Yeah, I guess I didn't need him after all.

KRIS

Not at all.  
(looks down at the monitor)  
Now what do we do about this?

Tommy bends down and turns the monitor over. The screen is broken.

TOMMY

We have to clean it up but I don't know what to tell my parents when they get home.

Kris goes to get a broom and dust pan.

KRIS

Earthquake?

TOMMY

There wasn't one.

KRIS

Kidnappers! They'll be so happy to have you home safe they will forget all about the stupid monitor.

They sweep up the glass and pick up the monitor.

TOMMY

You think that will work?

KRIS

Sure it will! When have I ever steered you wrong?

Tommy gives him a knowing look and Kris laughs.

KRIS (CONT'D)

Fair enough, but this will work just trust me!

They throw the stuff in the trash, the monitor won't fit so they place it next to it. Nearby is a very Charlie Brownesque Christmas tree with too few gifts underneath.

JUAN (O.S.)  
What will work?

The two friends turn around to find Tommy's older brother, JUAN, walking into the room. He is the very definition of cool older brother.

TOMMY  
(guilty)  
Nothing, nothing at all.

JUAN  
Tommy!

KRIS  
We can handle it!

JUAN  
Can you Kris? So what are you going to tell my parents when they get home, about that?

He points to the broken monitor behind them. Tommy starts to open his mouth but Kris walks in front of him, shutting him up.

KRIS  
(over acting)  
Mr., Mrs. Patino, it was horrible. We . . . we was just sitting watching TV. PBS, learning about history, when all the sudden there was a bang at the door. We of course didn't go near it. In fact we just shut off the TV and stayed quiet hoping they would go away like we was taught.  
(leans in to whisper)  
At first, it seemed to work. The banging stopped. We thought we were safe and then  
(screams)  
Bang!  
They kicked the door open and stormed in. Me and Tommy ran upstairs as they stormed into the house with guns and masks and demanded that we go with them. They threw the monitor on the ground yelling for us to come.  
(MORE)

KRIS (CONT'D)

We were so scared, we could hear them downstairs looking for us but we stayed upstairs hiding. When we finally heard them leave we went downstairs and everything was a wreck. We spent the rest of the day trying to clean everything up but the monitor. . .

(lowers his head like a sad puppy)

It was too late to save the monitor. And for that

(looks up with tears in his eyes)

I am forever sorry.

Tommy and Juan look at each other confused.

TOMMY

(hopeful)

Could that work?

Juan tries not to laugh.

JUAN

Well I gotta give you an A for effort. I mean tears and everything.

KRIS

(proud)

Thank you. See we got this.

JUAN

Just one problem.

KRIS

What?

JUAN

The door.

TOMMY

What about it?

JUAN

Well, if they kicked it open why does it look fine?

KRIS

We can fix that!

He starts towards the door but Juan picks him up.

JUAN

No can do, I can't let you break  
our door down just to fit your  
story.

TOMMY

So what do we do?

The door opens as the parents walk in. Juan puts Kris down.

MR. PATINO

About?

MRS. PATINO puts her bag down on the table.

MRS. PATINO

Where is my monitor?

Tommy and Kris look at Juan scared. Juan winks at them.

JUAN

Yeah, about that. I was throwing  
the ball around with Carlos and I  
broke the monitor. I'm really sorry  
mom. I know you told me not to play  
around in the house and I should  
have listened.

MRS. PATINO

Juan! How many times do I have to  
tell you about playing in the  
house!

He walks up and gives her a hug.

JUAN

I know I messed up, I'm sorry.

MR. PATINO

You will be! You're going to  
replace it.

He salutes his father.

JUAN

Aye aye sir.

With that he makes for the door out of the house.

MR. PATINO

Where do you think you're going?

JUAN

To catch up with Carlos. I'll be back.

MRS. PATINO

Juan! It's Christmas eve. You can play with your friends some other time. Tonight is family night.

(looks at Kris)

You can of course stay if you'd like dear.

MR. PATINO

You're like family son.

Kris just smiles and nods.

JUAN

And I'll be back mom, just give me some time. After all, you guys just said it, friends are family.

With that he closes the door behind him.

TOMMY

Can we go with him?

MRS. PATINO

No.

TOMMY

Please mom!

MR. PATINO

He's already gone. Why don't you and Kris go pick up Abby from the Hendersons and then you can play outside for a bit.

MRS. PATINO

But don't go far!

TOMMY

Thanks dad!

Tommy and Kris head for the door at a sprint.

EXT. APARTMENTS - DUSK

Tommy and Kris make their way towards the Hendersons apartment.

KRIS  
So were do you think Juan went?

Tommy looks all around.

TOMMY  
I'm not sure. I never can find him  
when he takes off with his friends.

Kris knocks on the neighbors door.

KRIS  
Than don't worry about him. He  
isn't worth it.

The door opens and a older woman is standing there.

MRS. HENDERSON  
Oh hi Tommy. You here for little  
Abby?

TOMMY  
Yes ma'am.

MRS. HENDERSON  
Just a second sweetheart.

She retreats back into her house.

KRIS  
You want to come chill at my place  
for a little? I always get one of  
my gifts on Christmas Eve, maybe  
it'll be something good!

Tommy shakes his head no.

TOMMY  
That's okay. I'm going to go look  
for Juan.

The door opens back up and a 4 year old ABBY comes walking  
out.

MRS. HENDERSON  
Here you are.

Tommy takes Abby's hand while Kris takes the bag Mrs.  
Henderson hands him.

TOMMY  
Thank you.



MRS. HENDERSON  
My pleasure dear. Tell your mother  
I said hi.

TOMMY  
I will.

She goes back inside as Tommy leads them back towards their apartment.

On the other side of the apartments Juan walks up with some friends. He looks around to make sure no one sees him as they dart into an alley.

TOMMY (CONT'D)  
I found him!

KRIS  
What? Where?

Tommy points.

TOMMY  
He went that way!

KRIS  
I don't see him.

He hands Abby's hand to Kris.

TOMMY  
Here take her home.

KRIS  
What? No!

TOMMY  
Come on Kris! I have to catch up  
with him before I lose him!

KRIS  
And what do I tell your parents?

TOMMY  
Think of something! You're great at  
lies!

KRIS  
(proud)  
I am aren't I?

Tommy runs off towards where Juan was last seen.

ABBY

Tommy!

KRIS

It's okay Abby, I'll get you home.

ABBY

But Tommy!

KRIS

I know, I know. But let's go.

He knocks on Tommy's door. Mrs. Patino opens the door.

MRS. PATINO

(baby talk)

Hello baby!

ABBY

Mommy!

Abby hugs her mother who picks her up. She looks at Kris who hands her the diaper bag.

MRS. PATINO

Kris, where is Tommy?

Kris thinks for a moment before talking.

KRIS

Tommy. . .

MRS. PATINO

Yes, Tommy. Where is he?

KRIS

Ya see, we were walking back when we saw a car accident. It was bad, must have been a 7 car pile up. There was a baby stuck in the back seat as the mother crawled her way out the drivers seat and Tommy, well he's a hero he ran to go save the baby. Got him out of there and returned the little guy to his mother. The police wanted to thank him but he didn't want you worrying about little Abby so he asked me to bring her home.

Mrs. Patino says not a word.

KRIS (CONT'D)

You should be proud.

MRS. PATINO  
(firm)  
Where is my son.

KRIS  
The. . .the car wreck.

She gives him that look that only mothers can give. He looks at the ground.

KRIS (CONT'D)  
He went to go find Juan.

EXT. DARK ALLEY

Tommy makes his way slowly down the dark alley following the sounds of his brother and his friends.

The alley leads to an opening outside the apartments.

EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS

Juan and some friends of his are walking down the street with purpose. They keep looking around as if someone is following them. Tommy does his best to keep up with them. It isn't easy.

They turn onto another street that leads them to another alley.

EXT. SECOND ALLEY - CONTINUOUS

By time Tommy makes it to the alley way night has descended fully. Juan and his friends are on the back of a loading dock. Juan is keeping a look out while one of the men pick the lock to get inside the building.

Tommy ducks behind a dumpster and watches the group, scared of what he should do next.

The guys who went inside start coming out with boxes. Juan helps them stack the boxes.

TOMMY  
(whispers/scared)  
Juan?

The last man comes out of the warehouse. Closing the gate behind him.

LAST MAN  
(yells)  
That's it! Let's go!

The kids all pick up as many boxes as they can, Juan included.

They start to head back towards Tommy, he panics and falls back, trying to stay out of the way as they get closer and closer.

A HOMELESS man appears, almost out of thin air. He is thin and sick looking. Clean shaven. He walks up to the kids.

HOMELESS MAN  
Hey, what are you kids doing back here?

LAST MAN  
None ya old man.

HOMELESS MAN  
What is that you're holding there?

JUAN  
Lunch. Want a box?

The last man shoots Juan a look telling him to shut up before looking back at the homeless man.

LAST MAN  
Get moving old man!

The homeless man moves in to block their path.

HOMELESS MAN  
I don't think you kids are supposed to be taking those.

LAST MAN  
So? What you going to do about it?

The homeless man puts his hand on Last man's shoulder.

HOMELESS MAN  
Maybe you should put those back.

Last man knocks his hand off.

LAST MAN  
Bite me!

The homeless man smiles.

HOMELESS MAN

Gladly!

In the blink of an eye the homeless man grabs the kid's hand and pulls him towards himself, his mouth opens up far too wide and with way too many razor sharp teeth. He eats Last man in one bite.

The other kids scream and drop the boxes as they back up. The homeless man laughs as he doubles in weight and hair starts to grow rapidly from his face.

TOMMY

(whispers)

What the hell?

JUAN

Wha. . .what are you?

The homeless man smiles as he steps towards them. In the blink of an eye he eats another one of the kids, once again growing double in size and the hair on his face grows out.

He looks over at Juan who trips as he backs up.

HOMELESS MAN

Why, I'm Santa Clause, don't you recognize me?

He leaned in to eat Juan as he let out a scream.

TOMMY

Ju. . .

INT. TOMMY'S BEDROOM

The room is full of comic books and horror movies posters from the most outrageous B-Movies.

A teenage Tommy shoots up in bed, sweat falling down his face, mid scream.

TOMMY

. . .an!

He is breathing hard, tears welling in his eyes.

HOMELESS MAN (O.S.)

Ho-ho-ho

He shakes his head and wipes away the tears.

MRS. PATINO (O.S.)  
Tommy! Get your ass out of bed. You  
aren't missing school today!

TOMMY  
Yes, mama.

INT. LIVING ROOM

Tommy, now dressed, heads downstairs, a lot has changed over the years but the pictures are the same as when Tommy was a kid, but with one major difference, Juan isn't in a single one. It is almost as if he has been erased.

Tommy heads out the door.

TOMMY  
I'll be in the car ma.

I/E. CAR

An older Mrs. Patino is driving Tommy to school. He seems distracted.

MRS. PATINO  
Is something wrong mio?

He is startled by her words, almost as if he forgot she was there.

TOMMY  
Huh?

MRS. PATINO  
Is something bothering you? Did I  
do something?

TOMMY  
No, no. I just. . .I had the dream  
again.

MRS. PATINO  
The nightmare?

TOMMY  
Yeah, with my brother.

MRS. PATINO

Tommy, you never had a brother. You know that. It's just a dream.

TOMMY

I know, it just feels so real. I can't shake the feeling that it's more than just a dream.

The car pulls to a stop in front of the school.

MRS. PATINO

Sometimes we have dreams for a reason. But it doesn't make them real. Believe me, I would remember if I had another child. Two childbirths were painful enough! Now get! Before you're late for class.

Tommy smiles as he opens the door.

TOMMY

Love ya.

EXT. SCHOOL YARD - CONTINUOUS

Tommy closes the door and makes his way towards the front door. A group of kids are talking nearby, one of them, a tall good looking guy starts towards him. It is an older Kris.

KRIS

Yo! Tommy, wait up man.

Tommy smiles and waits for him to catch up. Pulling a baseball out of his backpack and tossing it in the air as he waits.

TOMMY

Hey man, how you doing?

KRIS

Good, shit,  
(looks around)  
Guess who spent the night with Sheryl last night?

TOMMY

Not you.

KRIS

Bitch please, she couldn't get enough of me. Straight begged me to stay.

TOMMY

Is that when you woke up, or what?

They walk into the building. Tommy still playing with the baseball.

INT. SCHOOL BUILDING - CONTINUOUS

The main lobby breaks into different hallways all packed with fellow students rushing to class.

KRIS

Why you hating?

TOMMY

Whose hating? I just know you didn't hook up with Sheryl. You've been trying for so long, it didn't happen.

Kris is about to say something but stops before starting again.

KRIS

Well, I never said I hooked up with her. I said I stayed with her.

TOMMY

So what happened?

KRIS

She called and asked me over, so I went. She then spent all night crying because this guy she was talking to fucked her friend.

TOMMY

Why did you stay?

Kris shrugged.

KRIS

I like her.



TOMMY

Fair enough, I guess. So how many people you brag about spending the night with her too?

KRIS

Everyone who would listen.

TOMMY

And if she finds out?

KRIS

(sound of disbelief)  
She won't find out.

Tommy enters into the classroom. Kris thinks about it a moment before following him in.

KRIS (CONT'D)

Will she?

INT. CLASSROOM - CONTINUOUS

The teacher stops talking as Tommy takes his seat and Kris rushes in. He does not look happy.

TEACHER

Are we interrupting you two or should we wait for you guys to finish your conversation?

Tommy tosses his baseball up and catches it yet again as he sits down.

TOMMY

I think we're done, you can carry on.

TEACHER

(sarcastic)  
Thank you. Now as I was saying, I know it's the last day of class before winter break but let's try and act like we care about learning. As hard as that might be for some of you.

KRIS

(whisper)  
Oh, we are so not done. What do I do if she finds out?

Tommy shrugs.

TOMMY  
(whispers)  
Lie?

Kris nods.

KRIS  
(whispers)  
I am pretty good at that.

INT. SCHOOL BUILDING - HALLWAY

The bell rings and students rush out of the classrooms. Kris hot on the heels of Tommy.

KRIS  
So that going to work?

TOMMY  
Well, how gullible is she?

Kris shrugs.

KRIS  
Well, I mean, she is a girl right?  
Aren't they pretty gullible?

Tommy shoots him a what the fuck look.

TOMMY  
So how often does your mom fall for  
your shit?

Kris nods.

KRIS  
Point. But that's my mom. Shes not  
a girl. Shes a mutant. Like out of  
X-Men or something. Read minds and  
shit. It ain't natural.

Tommy starts laughing.

KRIS (CONT'D)  
So wanna catch a movie to celebrate  
the end of the semester or are you  
going to run off to some rally for  
the advancement of lady folks? Act  
all noble and shit.

TOMMY

Oh yeah, I'mma go burn my bra and  
fling it at some fraternity.

KRIS

I knew it! Nah foreal. You down?

TOMMY

Can't. I got my. . .  
(he looks around to make  
sure no one is around)  
Appointment tonight.

KRIS

Appointment?

The frustration is clear as day on Tommy's face.

TOMMY

(under his breath)  
My appointment!

Recognition dawns on Kris's face.

KRIS

(speaks far too loudly)  
Ohhhh!!! You mean your therapist  
appointment!

Tommy hits him hard in the arm and looks around again. The  
hallway is clear but for a few kids at their lockers who  
could care less about their conversation.

TOMMY

Not so loud man!

KRIS

Like anyone cares.

TOMMY

I care.

KRIS

Okay, if you care so much, simple  
solution, don't fucking go. I mean  
every year you have these fucked up  
dreams and get all bent out of  
shape about them. Dude, they are  
just dreams.

TOMMY

Easy for you to say! You don't have  
them!

KRIS

Boy! I got dreams. I dream almost every night about me and Selena Gomez sailing away together on the S.S. Minnow for a three hour tour.

TOMMY

You're an idiot!

KRIS

(sing it)

Hey man, the weather started getting rough, the tiny ship was tossed, if not for the courage of. . . well me, the Minnow would be lost, the minnow would be lost. The ship set ground on the shore of this uncharted desert isle, with me, the sexy Selena Gomez and nothing but a coconut bikini between us.

TOMMY

You wouldn't know what to do with Selena Gomez.

KRIS

I know what I wanna do with Selena Gomez.

Tommy laughs, hits his friend playfully and heads for the door.

TOMMY

I got to go man, I'll catch you later.

KRIS

Alright man!

Tommy pulls his baseball out and tosses it in the air and catches it.

KRIS (CONT'D)

(calls after him)

And stop with the damn baseball!  
You don't even play.

INT. THERAPIST LOBBY

The office is packed. A cute girl, SARAH, sits alone near the back.

She is playing on her phone, with ear buds in as Tommy walks into the room, tossing the ball in the air and catching it before putting it his backpack.

He looks around for a seat and finds one next to Sarah. He makes his way towards her.

TOMMY  
Can I sit here?

She looks up and takes one of the ear buds out.

SARAH  
Sorry?

TOMMY  
Can I sit here?  
(looks around)  
This place is kind of packed.

She shrugs and puts her headphones back in.

TOMMY (CONT'D)  
Okay than.

He sits down next to her and pulls out his phone. His leg starts twitching nervously.

Time flies as people are called into the office. Tommy and Sarah aren't. Sarah shoots him a dirty look. He starts twiddling his thumbs. Once again she looks annoyed but says nothing. More time passes and he pulls out the baseball and starts tossing it around again.

Sarah catches it.

SARAH  
Can you stop?

She takes an ear bud out.

TOMMY  
Sorry, just nervous.

SARAH  
About seeing the shrink? Don't be,  
(motions to everyone in  
the room)  
We all kind of here for that.

TOMMY  
I'm aware.

He snatches the ball out of her hand.

TOMMY (CONT'D)  
It's more about why I'm here.

She nods.

SARAH  
I get it. Something happened or is happening and you don't like talking about it but have to. We all been there. So relax. Get your mind off things a bit.

TOMMY  
Easier said than done.

SARAH  
You just got to focus on something else.  
(takes the ball back)  
Like baseball. Who you like?

TOMMY  
(confused)  
Baseball?

She tosses the ball to him.

SARAH  
Don't you play?

TOMMY  
Oh uh, no. I got it as a Christmas gift years ago from San. . .I Mean my parents and just always kept it close.

SARAH  
Aw, you saying you don't believe in Santa?

TOMMY  
Of course not.

SARAH  
Well I do.

TOMMY  
What? You believe in Santa.

SARAH  
(shrugs)  
Yeah, and it's getting to be a problem, that's why my parents sent me here.

TOMMY  
Are you serious?

She nods.

TOMMY (CONT'D)  
Your parents sent you here because  
you believe some jolly fat guy  
gives you gifts?  
(nervous laugh)  
I can't tell if you're joking or  
not.

SARAH  
(serious)  
He isn't jolly and he isn't fat. At  
least not at first.

TOMMY  
What?

SARAH  
(shakes her head and looks  
away)  
You can laugh if you want.

TOMMY  
I'm not laughing.

SARAH  
Sure. Other seats have opened up.  
Maybe you should move.

TOMMY  
He looks homeless at first.

She looks over at him confused.

SARAH  
(points at her teeth)  
Teeth?

TOMMY  
Like razors. When he eats people...

SARAH  
He grows bigger, and gets a beard.

TOMMY  
How do you know this? Did Dr. Frank  
tell you? Cause I was told he  
couldn't repeat anything I told  
him.

SARAH

I dreamt it. Every year for two months leading up to Christmas. It's always the same.

Tommy nods.

SARAH (CONT'D)

My sister, I remember seeing her steal some money from our mother to go out with some guy. I begged her to go with but she said no. So I went anyways. A homeless man walked up to her and laughed, laughed that ho-ho-ho laugh and ate her. Afterwards he mutated into Santa, minus the stupid red suit.

TOMMY

I have the same dream, only it's my brother.

SARAH

Well, the kicker is I don't have a sister.

TOMMY

And I don't have a brother.

They look at each other in shock for a moment before the doctor comes back out.

DR. FRANK

Sarah, I can see you now.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Tommy lays on his bed throwing the ball up and down.

Tap. Tap. Tap.

Tommy looks up to see Kris outside his window. He moves to let him in.

KRIS

Dude, you won't believe the day I just fucking had!

He says as he comes inside.

TOMMY

You wouldn't either.



Tommy sits on the bed as Kris paces back and forth.

KRIS

Man, nobody cares what that crackpot said. This is serious.

He gets animated as he talks. As is his way.

KRIS (CONT'D)

So there I was at the food court. I figured that I could get a bite to eat before the movie, you know that one that you made me go to alone.

TOMMY

You could have waited for me.

KRIS

Anyways! As I was saying! I was there all alone, just minding my own business. Now I mean, I was a fucking saint, didn't even check out the two dimes that walked past me. And believe me they were fine, one of them had these tight white yoga pants on. You could literally bounce a dime off that ass! And I didn't even look. Didn't even notice they were there.

Tommy laughs as he lays back on the bed and tosses the ball to himself.

KRIS (CONT'D)

Now I was getting my food and thinking about how my best friend ditched me.

TOMMY

I did not ditch you.

KRIS

Excuse you! Whose story is this?

TOMMY

Sorry, carry on.

KRIS

As I was saying, across the court who was I to see but the one and only...

TOMMY

Sheryl.

Kris gets annoyed.

KRIS  
You going to let me talk or keep  
interrupting me?

TOMMY  
Carry on, let me know when I can  
talk.

KRIS  
Will do.

He starts moving around again.

KRIS (CONT'D)  
So there Sheryl was with her little  
gaggle of friends.

TOMMY  
Gaggle?

KRIS  
Yeah, like a school of fish, or a  
litter of kittens.

TOMMY  
Or a group of kids?

KRIS  
I thought you burned your bras  
already, she wasn't human tonight  
man. She was more like a piranha.  
You know what, lets stick with the  
fish metaphor.

TOMMY  
Alright, so Sheryl and her gang of  
piranhas, what? Ate you?

KRIS  
Mind as well have, shit! She moved  
so fast I thought it was Flash  
mutha fucking Gordan.

TOMMY  
It's just the Flash, Flash Gordon  
is some old scifi shit.

KRIS  
Whatever man, it's all the same.

TOMMY

Oh, like how Quicksilver is just a brand of clothes?

KRIS

Fuck that! Quicksilver is an avenger, show him some respect. Besides, not only is he an avenger but he is the son of Magneto. No matter what bitch ass Marvel and their anti-Fox hating asses say!

TOMMY

Bitch please you love Marvel.

KRIS

More than life, don't mean I like this anti-Mutant kick they been on of late.

TOMMY

Alright, forget the comic politics. What did she do?

Kris stops pacing and looks at Tommy, as if his life depends on it.

KRIS

She moved across the food court,

TOMMY

Like Quicksilver slash the Flash, so you've said.

KRIS

I tried to put on my most charming smile, and you know just how charming that is.

TOMMY

Oh yeah, me and the entire female population of San Diego, so go on.

KRIS

She bulled right through it. Before I could even say anything, she started screaming at me about how I took advantage of her and how I was a low life scumbag. And when I say that she was screaming, I mean the people down in Victoria Secret trying on them sexy red lacy lingerie on the other side of the mall heard all about it.

(MORE)

KRIS (CONT'D)

And I really think I had a shot with them!

TOMMY

I'm sure you did.

KRIS

I know I did. So then, I tried to tell her my side.

TOMMY

The truth?

KRIS

God no! The truth makes me look like an ass, I spun that shit so fast she didn't know what hit her.

TOMMY

She buy it?

KRIS

Not a word. That bitch went and slapped me so hard I thought my teeth were gonna fly out.

Tommy starts laughing as he sits up.

TOMMY

Damn, that must have sucked.

KRIS

You have no idea. I couldn't even enjoy my movie.

TOMMY

I bet.

KRIS

Man, my cheek is still sore.

TOMMY

Sucks, so you ready to hear about my day?

Kris sits down in the chair by the desk.

KRIS

Let me guess, the doc said your crazy.

TOMMY

Just like always, but that isn't the news.

KRIS  
So what is?

TOMMY  
I met this girl,

KRIS  
Was she hot?

TOMMY  
That's not important,

KRIS  
So that's a no.  
(thinks)  
Or yes, and you don't want me to  
know. Asshole.

TOMMY  
Kris! She has the same dream as me!

KRIS  
What?

EXT. PARK - DAY

The park is filled with kids playing and having a good time.  
Off towards the back Sarah sits alone playing with a jeweled  
ring that looks very out of place on her on.

Kris and Tommy walk up towards the table.

TOMMY  
Sarah, this is my friend Kris.

SARAH  
Hi.

Tommy sits across from Sarah but Kris stays standing.

KRIS  
So this is the girl with the Santa  
delusions. What the hell have you  
been feeding my friend?

She rolls her eyes.

SARAH  
Why'd you bring him if he doesn't  
believe?

KRIS  
Because he wants a voice of reason.

TOMMY  
He's not wrong.

SARAH  
Oh, so you don't believe either?  
How do you explain the dreams?

KRIS  
Just like that, they are dreams!  
Dreams, not real! There is a  
difference!

She ignores Kris and looks to Tommy.

SARAH  
Well?

TOMMY  
(sighs)  
I don't know.

KRIS  
Tommy!

TOMMY  
(to Kris)  
I don't know!  
(to Sarah)  
I really don't. I mean, the fact  
that you had similar nightmares to  
mine is just weird.

SARAH  
Not similar, the same!

KRIS  
Oh, so you dream about his  
fictional brother too?

SARAH  
Why don't you leave? We have  
business to discuss.

Business?

TOMMY

Business?

KRIS

SARAH (CONT'D)  
Business.  
(looks to Tommy)  
I want you to help me stop him.

TOMMY  
Stop who?

KRIS  
Don't say it.

Tommy looks from Kris to Sarah, confused.

SARAH  
Santa.

KRIS  
(throws his hands up)  
She said it!

TOMMY  
Santa? You want to stop Santa?

She nods.

TOMMY (CONT'D)  
You know he isn't real right?

KRIS  
That's my point!

SARAH  
What if I tell you that he is?

KRIS  
I'd tell you that ya crazy.

TOMMY  
Kris!

KRIS  
(sarcastic)  
Tommy! Dude, really, What are we  
doing here?

TOMMY  
Lets just hear her out.

Kris sits down and pretends to be eager to listen.

KRIS  
Fine, I'm all ears.

Sarah rolls her eyes and looks at Tommy.

SARAH  
Do you know the origin of Santa  
Claus?

TOMMY  
Saint Nicholas?

She smiles.

SARAH  
The one and the same, only I don't  
know how much of a saint he was.

EXT. STREETS OF ROME 332 AD - NIGHT

The streets are largely empty but for a few drunks making their way around town. A lone man with a hood pulled tight over his head makes his way down the narrow streets in something of a rush.

The sounds of guards chasing him can be heard coming from behind him. The man breaks out into a run.

A house nearby has an open window, he breaks for the side of the alley and kneels down, hiding from the guards who run past. Voices can be heard from inside.

MOTHER (O.S.)  
I won't let you!

FATHER (O.S.)  
You think I want this? You think  
I'm okay with this! I hate it! But.  
. . But we have no choice.

The man peeks inside the house, it is a poor run down home. A man and woman stand there yelling at each other as their three daughters sit in the corner crying.

MOTHER  
There is always a choice!

FATHER  
Not this time! I can talk to him  
again, maybe he will just take one  
of the girls.

The girls sob louder.

MOTHER  
You want me to give away one of my  
daughters to that. . . That whore  
house?

The father sits down, tears in his eyes.



FATHER

My hands are tied. Without the money,

MOTHER

The money you let that man steal from us!

FATHER

I didn't know! I trusted him!

MOTHER

And it cost us our daughters!

The man lowers his hood, he is NIKOLAOS OF MYRA. He watches the family, pain in his eyes.

The guards could be heard coming back this way.

The man pulls a bag off of his belt. He looks inside, it is filled with gold.

The guards are getting closer and closer.

He takes a deep breath and tosses the gold inside the window and takes off running.

KRIS (V.O.)

So he gave some girls money, saving them from being hookers?

EXT. PARK

Kris stretches as he gets up.

KRIS

What a monster.

TOMMY

Kris, sit down.

(turns to Sarah)

I've heard this story before.

SARAH

I should hope so, it's Santa's origin after all. The reason we wait all year for him to give us gifts because hey he did it once right?

Kris sits down.

KRIS

Right! So where is my stack of gold?

Sarah shoots him the dirtiest look she can.

SARAH

Most people are too stupid to see the point of that story.

KRIS

Me? You calling me stupid? Bitch, you're talking about Santa like he is real!

TOMMY

So what is the point?

SARAH

The point isn't that he gives us gifts for the hell of it, the point is he gives us what we need when we need it most.

TOMMY

I don't get it, how does giving people what they need turn a man into a monster?

KRIS

It doesn't! This is such a waste of our time Tommy.

SARAH

What we need isn't always good. Sometimes we need to be stopped. You would know that if you guys knew the rest of the story.

TOMMY

The rest of the story?

KRIS

Oh now there is a rest of the story.

(to Tommy)

I could be at home fixing things with Sheryl.

SARAH

Than go little boy. This doesn't concern you anyways.

TOMMY

Let's just hear her out. If she knows more about these dreams I want to know.

Kris lets out an annoyed sigh.

KRIS

Enlighten us sweetheart. Lets hear it.

INT. ROMAN HOUSE 332 AD - THE DAY BEFORE

Nikolaos of Myra was on his knees, in dirty torn up old clothes, before two big angry looking men and a smug man who could only be their boss.

BOSS

Nikolaos, Nikolaos, my dear Nikolaos, look at you. All your families fortune gone. . . And for what?

Nikolaos whimpers on the ground before the man. One of the guards hits him across the face hard, knocking him to the floor.

BOSS (CONT'D)

Now, now, let's not be so rude next time, yeah?

Nikolaos gets back to his knees.

NIKOLAOS

So. . .so. . .sorry.

BOSS

That's fine my boy. I'd be a bit distraught if I threw my families wealth away on a fool's errand. You never had it in you to gain power my boy. Never. And even if by some miracle you did you'd never be able to sustain it. You aren't man enough.

Nikolaos gathers strength into himself.

NIKOLAOS

I! Am! A! Man!

He gets to his feet, it is a mighty show, at least until the second guard hits him in the gut hard, knocking him back down to his knees and forcing all the air from his lungs.

BOSS

Oh, so manly. I love it.

The boss pulls out the bag Nikolaos tossed the family.

BOSS (CONT'D)

Almost as much as I love this cute little bag of pocket change.

He tosses the bag in the air.

BOSS (CONT'D)

Where did you dig this up anyways?

Nikolaos looks up at him, tears of pain in his eyes.

NIKOLAOS

My name still means something around here.

BOSS

I'm sure. Your family use to be a force to be reckoned with, till you became the patriarch. Your family has no money left. You have no money left. So I ask again, where did you get this?

Nikolaos looks down at the ground.

NIKOLAOS

I. . .I Convinced a man in town to give it to me as an investment. It was all that he had.

BOSS

You conned him? I'm impressed.

NIKOLAOS

Does. . .does it buy me more time?

The boss smiles and tosses him the bag of money.

BOSS

It buys you less time for insulting me.

Nikolaos eyes go wide in fear.

BOSS (CONT'D)  
You have 24 hours to get me my  
money or you'll pay with your life.

EXT. PARK

Kris stands up.

KRIS  
So wait, you're saying that the  
money he gave the family, he stole  
it from them first?

She nods.

SARAH  
I told you he was no saint.

KRIS  
Well that uts a whole new spin on  
things.

TOMMY  
I've never heard that part of the  
story before.

SARAH  
Of course not, they leave that part  
out of the Sunday school lessons.

Kris sits back down.

KRIS  
So how did you hear about it?

She finally looks at Kris.

SARAH  
So you starting to believe?

KRIS  
Lets just say that I'm a fan of a  
well crafted tall tale. I've been  
known to spin a few myself.

Tommy laughs to himself.

TOMMY  
So what happened next?

Sarah takes a deep breath.

SARAH

He spent the next 24 hours trying to get his hands on the money, needless to say he had no luck. The boss sent his men after Nikolaos and well...

KRIS

That leads us to the story we all know and love.

SARAH

Right in one.

TOMMY

So how does that make him a monster?

KRIS

It makes him an asshole, not really a monster.

SARAH

It doesn't. What happens next does.

KRIS

Ah, more flashbacks great! Let's hear.

(looks at Tommy)

I'm starting to like her. Don't believe a word of this shit but I like her.

TOMMY

Shut up.

EXT. STREETS OF ROME 332 AD - NIGHT

Nikolaos stumbles into a wall as he rushes through the narrow streets. The sounds of people chasing him getting closer and closer.

He pushes himself up and takes off at a run again, trying to stay one step ahead of his pursuers.

He stops in a dark alley full of trash to catch his breath. Sweat pouring down his face as the men close in on him from behind.

A semi-crazy looking man waddles towards him.

SEMI-CRAZY MAN  
You look lost friend.

Nikolaos backs up afraid.

NIKOLAOS  
Wh. . .what do you want?

The man smiles.

SEMI-CRAZY MAN  
To help you of course.

NIKOLAOS  
Help me? Do I know you?

SEMI-CRAZY MAN  
No, but I know you Nikolaos. I know  
what you crave.

NIKOLAOS  
What I crave? Who are you?

His smile grows wider, unnaturally wide.

SEMI-CRAZY MAN  
I'm the man who can give you  
everything you want. All you have  
to do is agree to my terms.

The sounds of the guards get closer and closer.

SEMI-CRAZY MAN (CONT'D)  
It seems your time is growing  
short.

Nikolaos takes a deep breath.

NIKOLAOS  
What do I have to do?

We see the guards running through the streets and ending up  
in the alley where Nikolaos stands alone, looking a bit  
crazier than before.

ROME GUARD  
We got you at last!

Nikolaos turns around, the same unnatural smile that the semi-  
crazy man had.

The guards hardly take one step forward when Nikolaos opened his mouth wide, his teeth razor sharp and he ate the first guard whole. His body doubling in size before he turned to the second man, his face covered in a five o'clock shadow.

The second guard took a step back, fear clear as day across his face as Nickolaos moved forward. He opens his mouth wide and leaps forward as the screen cuts to black and the sound of his laughter washes over us.

Ho-Ho-Ho

EXT. PARK

Tommy and Kris sit in silence as Sarah finishes her story.

SARAH  
And that, that is the true origin  
of Santa Claus.

Kris starts clapping, breaking the silence.

KRIS  
Bravo! Bravo!

He gets to his feet clapping harder.

KRIS (CONT'D)  
Bravo! Now that,  
(he turns to look at  
Tommy)  
That, is how you tell a story.  
(looks back to Sarah)  
Girl, you should be a writer.

SARAH  
Are you done?

KRIS  
Are you?

TOMMY  
Is all that true?

Kris sits down.

KRIS  
Here we go.

SARAH  
Every word.



TOMMY  
So what do we do?

KRIS  
Drink? Party? Maybe get high?  
Definitely get laid,  
(points to Sarah)  
You can help him with that, yeah?

Tommy hits Kris hard in the arm.

SARAH  
Why do you hang out with him?

TOMMY  
Sometimes I wonder myself.

KRIS  
That hurts man, that hurts.

TOMMY  
You can take it.

KRIS  
So, let's for the shake of argument  
assume that she is telling the  
truth and all this is real, it's  
not but lets assume it is, what is  
your plan?

SARAH  
Kill the fat man.

KRIS  
Kill him? Yeah we all got that, but  
how?

Sarah looks down, not saying a word.

KRIS (CONT'D)  
We're waiting.

TOMMY  
I'm sure she has a plan Kris, don't  
be such an ass.

SARAH  
I don't know yet.

KRIS  
You were saying?

SARAH

Look! I figured all of this out! I can figure out a way to kill him. We have two weeks left till he comes.

KRIS

Oh, Christmas eve, that's right.

SARAH

Now that I have the two of you, it shouldn't be any problem figuring out his kryptonite.

KRIS

The two of us? Bitch, I don't even do homework, what makes you think I'mma work on this?

TOMMY

Kris!

(looks back to Sarah)

We'll help you. We'll stop him.

Kris rolls his eyes annoyed as Sarah smiles.

INT. LIBRARY

A quiet place with next to nobody there, but for a homeless man surfing the internet, because why not?

Sarah leads Tommy and Kris into the building, looking every bit the heroes they will soon be. Well but for Kris who is eating a bag of chips and being far too loud with it.

The librarian shoots them a dirty look and starts to get out of her chair when Sarah snatches the bag of chips from Kris and tosses it away.

KRIS

Hey!

SARAH

No eating in here, oh and shut up.

He's about to snap back but Tommy shakes his head no and Kris shuts up.

TOMMY

So what are we doing here?

KRIS

Going to a read along? What is it this week? Cat in the Hat?

SARAH

The have books on the Occult. It's where I learned about Nikolaos's past. I figured we can plow through the books to see if we can't uncover any weaknesses.

Tommy nods.

TOMMY

Lead the way.

Sarah does just that as the boys follow.

KRIS

Man, I am not wanting to spend my vacation studying. It's a vacation! Not a studcation.

INT. LIBRARY - MONTAGE

Sarah throwing book after book at Tommy and Kris, both who look more than a little overwhelmed.

The three of them reading through the books. Sarah taking detailed notes, Tommy reading book after book and looking completely and utterly lost. Kris reading a few lines on a page before looking around the room bored out of his mind.

INT. LIBRARY

Kris walks away from the table to get a drink and some fresh air.

EXT. LIBRARY

Kris goes outside and leans against the wall, letting out a low sigh.

A beautiful woman, SHERYL, leads two younger kids towards the library. She shoots Kris a dirty look.

KRIS  
Great, of all the libraries why  
would Sheryl come to this one?

INT. LIBRARY

Tommy puts another book down.

TOMMY  
How do you do this?

Sarah takes a pen out of her mouth and looks at him, a bit  
flustered.

SARAH  
What?

TOMMY  
This! All this studying and reading  
(he points at her notes)  
Note taking. It's all just too  
much.

SARAH  
Because it's important. What do you  
do in school?

Tommy shrugs.

TOMMY  
Mostly sleep and talk to Kris.

SARAH  
Well that's helpful.

He picks up a book and looks at it.

TOMMY  
This stuff just doesn't make any  
sense.

SARAH  
At first it doesn't. You just have  
to keep reading.

TOMMY  
It's just so boring, can't we take  
a break.

SARAH  
We don't have time for breaks  
Tommy. He's coming and we have to  
be ready.

INT. LIBRARY - SECOND FLOOR

Sheryl sits bored in the corner playing on her phone. Kris watches her from behind one of the stacks.

KRIS  
(whispers)  
Okay, just go talk to her.

She looks up from her book to check on the kids, her phone pings and she looks right back at it.

KRIS (CONT'D)  
(whispers)  
Hey Sheryl, how you doing? I know there was that whole mix up, what with me telling everyone about us sleeping together even though we never did but that doesn't matter right?

He shakes his head.

KRIS (CONT'D)  
That's just stupid!

She looks up and he quickly hides behind the stacks.

KRIS (CONT'D)  
(whispers)  
Stupid, stupid, stupid. Please God don't let her have heard me.

SHERYL (O.S.)  
I heard you.

Kris turns to see Sheryl standing there and she does not look happy.

KRIS  
Sheryl, uh, hey you. I uh, I was uh

SHERYL  
Stalking me.

KRIS

What? No! I was, well see the thing is. . .

SHERYL

That you're a fucking creep.

KRIS

I am not! Sheryl, look, I. . .I don't know what people told you but I didn't say anything to anyone. I swear it, see what had happened was Carl asked me why I was so tired and I told him that I was up all night.

SHERYL

Fucking me right? You fucking lair!

KRIS

No! I told him that I was up all night working. . .working on homework!

(snaps his fingers)

That's it. Yeah, and he mentioned your boyfriend and I. . .I just said he was an asshole. And he read from that what he will. I never told him anything.

She slaps him.

SHERYL

You just let him think it!

He rubs his face.

KRIS

Owe, and no! I didn't. I swear, Sheryl, I would never.

SHERYL

Just like you would never stalk me?

KRIS

I wouldn't!

SHERYL

So why are you here?

KRIS

Here? Here, here? Like this isle here?

SHERYL

This building! You followed me!

KRIS

Uh no! You saw me when you walked in! I was here first.

SHERYL

And I take my little sisters here every Saturday. Everyone knows that! You were outside waiting on me. You fucking creep.

KRIS

What? How would I even know that?

SHERYL

Because you been following me!

KRIS

Sheryl, you know me. We've been friends for a long time. When your boyfriend cheated on you, who was there for you?

SHERYL

I thought I knew, I thought you were my friend. But you were just there to try and get into my pants!

Kris takes a step back.

KRIS

Now, now that's not. . .Well I wouldn't say no to that but that wasn't why I was helping you.

She slaps him again.

SHERYL

Creep!

KRIS

Will you stop slapping me? Look I like you. I really like you.

SHERYL

Well maybe you should have thought of that before telling half the school we hooked up!

She stormed off.

KRIS

Sheryl!

She doesn't even look back.

KRIS (CONT'D)

Well that sucks.

INT. LIBRARY

Tommy and Sarah are sitting closer than we last left them. She is leaning over him pointing out something in one of the books. Tommy is clearly attracted to her and trying not to say something.

SARAH

It has to be in here. There just has to be some way to beat him.

Tommy nods, nervous.

TOMMY

Some way.

She sits back in her chair, flustered. Tommy watches her, at a lost for words.

SARAH

This is pointless.

He leans forward.

TOMMY

Don't say that. We've come this far, we can stop him. We have to!

She starts playing with the ring on her finger again.

SARAH

How? We've been through these books time and again and there is nothing on how to stop him.

TOMMY

But we've learned so much.

SARAH

It's not enough.

He takes her hand.



TOMMY  
We'll figure it out.

She looks up at him. There is chemistry between them.

SARAH  
You think so?

TOMMY  
I know so.

They move closer together, a kiss is almost upon them.

KRIS (O.S.)  
So you'll never believe what just  
happened to me.

The two of them pull back and look up as Kris walks over. He didn't notice anything. He takes a seat next to them, the books in front of him.

KRIS (CONT'D)  
I was outside getting some fresh  
air and guess who I saw  
(he doesn't let them  
answer)  
Fucking Sheryl. Fucking Sheryl! Of  
all the places she could show up  
why the hell did she come here? I  
mean who the hell hangs out at  
libraries?

Thinks on what he just said and looks back up.

KRIS (CONT'D)  
Don't answer that! So I figured,  
maybe this was my chance to make  
amends you know?

Sarah is about to say something but Tommy puts his hand on her arm and shakes his head no.

KRIS (CONT'D)  
So I followed her inside and took  
a moment to get my courage together  
you know? Because it's hard to say  
sorry, shit I don't do sorry.  
That's not me. So sorry if I needed  
a fucking second to get my wits  
about me. Is that too much to ask?

Tommy and Sarah look at each other.

SARAH

Uh

TOMMY

No?

KRIS

No! It isn't! But tell that to her! She saw me catching my breath and slapped me!

Tommy tries not to laugh and Sarah just lets it out.

KRIS (CONT'D)

It isn't funny! I was trying to make amends and she slaps me. Its unbelievable! What did I ever do to her?

TOMMY

Tell everyone at school you slept with her?

SARAH

You did what?

KRIS

I did no such thing!

Tommy gives Kris a knowing look.

KRIS (CONT'D)

I may have implied it, may have! But I never said it. Not really, I mean come on!

SARAH

Not cool man.

KRIS

(pulls a book closer)  
Whatever.

Sarah and Tommy exchange a look.

TOMMY

So. . . What are you going to. . .

KRIS

Hey did you guys see this?

SARAH

See what?

He points out a paragraph in the book.

It reads: After seeing what had become of himself, Nikolaos fled from the dark alley, running till he left the city behind and the sun had risen and set. When he stopped he let his grief run over him, not sure what to do with himself. He felt new found power rush over him. The type of power he had always wanted, only he couldn't accept it for the power was tainted. There was only one thing to do. He took the power, all but what he needed to live and returned it to his victim's families as a gift. Out of a sense of shame Nikolaos used the gift to wipe all traces of the men he murdered from the minds of man, in doing so he sealed his fate. From that day forth he would be forced to feed on the guilty once a year in order to keep his power and his life. It is said that his gifts hold the secret to his downfall.

The three friends finished reading at the same time and looked at one another in understanding. Sarah started playing with her ring as Tommy looked up at his baseball sitting on the table.

INT. DINING ROOM

Tommy is playing with his food as his parents eat theirs, Abby tears through her food, eyeing her presents the whole time. It is a quiet dinner. Mr. Patino watches her son worried. She looks over to her husbands and nods towards their son. He nods grimly and turns to their boy.

MR. PATINO

You okay Tom?

ABBY

He's never okay, have you met him?

Mrs. Patino shoots her a look that screams shut up or else. She shuts up.

MRS. PATINO

You can tell us sweetie.

Tommy looks up. The weight of the world in his eyes.

TOMMY

I'm fine.

MRS. PATINO

You sure?

TOMMY

Did you guys ever think about  
having another child?

ABBY

Oh! Maybe you guys could finally  
have the son you always wanted!

TOMMY

Shut up Abby!

ABBY

Make me!

His parents look at each other confused.

MRS. PATINO

(smiles at Tommy)

We have a son, a great one.

MR. PATINO

(playfully)

So why do you ask? You want a  
little brother?

TOMMY

I kind of meant before me.

MRS. PATINO

Well, we were trying for years. It  
took a long while before God gave  
us you.

ABBY

Did you save the receipt?

Tommy plays with his food a bit.

MR. PATINO

What's this all about?

Tommy shakes his head and gets up.

TOMMY

Nothing. I gotta go.

MR. PATINO

Go where?

He shakes his head and heads for the door.

TOMMY

I'll be back before it's time for  
gifts.

ABBY

If he isn't can I have his?

He opens the door and stops, he looks back at them.

TOMMY

I love you guys.

MR. PATINO

What are you up to?

Without another word he leaves, closing the door behind him.  
His parents share a look.

MR. PATINO (CONT'D)

Drugs.

MRS. PATINO

Drugs.

EXT. PARK - NIGHT

The park is quiet, eerily quiet, as Tommy makes his way along. Even the street lamps are dim, almost as if the night is suppressing the light. Every sound seems almost amplified as he makes his way.

Foot steps grow louder and louder. He hears it and tries to walk faster without making it too oblivious. The foot steps speed up as well.

Tommy takes a deep breath as he gets ready to run.

KRIS (O.S.)

Wait up! Why you walking so fast  
man?

Tommy turns around to find Kris struggling to catch up.

TOMMY

(pissed)

Dude! You gave me a heart attack.

Kris lets out a laugh.

KRIS

I see that. Come on man, we haven't  
even started looking for this bogey  
man of yours. You can't be scared  
already.

Sarah comes out of the woods on the other side. Tommy hits  
Kris in the arm.

TOMMY  
Shut up man!  
(shouts to Sarah)  
Hey, over here!

Kris shakes his head as Sarah nods, indicting she already saw them.

KRIS  
Like she didn't see us already. God  
you're so lame.

TOMMY  
Am not!

Sarah stops a few feet from the boys as Tommy tries to act all cool.

TOMMY (CONT'D)  
Hey.

Sarah gives him a forced smile showing just how weird she finds them.

SARAH  
You boys ready?

TOMMY  
Lets do it.

KRIS  
(mocking)  
Lets do it. God, do you guys have  
any idea how stupid this is? How  
just idiotic this all is!

SARAH  
So you've said.

KRIS  
And no one has yet to say anything  
to convince me otherwise.

SARAH  
So why are you here?

TOMMY  
We need him! If. . .if we are right  
about all of this than we will need  
all the help we can get.

KRIS  
And if we're wrong, we'll need all  
the lawyering that money can buy.

SARAH

We won't get caught. It's Christmas eve, no one will be there. And we can return whatever we steal tomorrow. No harm, no foul. We just need to do something criminal tonight to drawl him out.

TOMMY

It'll be fine Kris. Trust me.

KRIS

Trust you? Trust you? You are asking me to steal shit to draw the attention of some fictional fat fuck who supposedly eats people who steals shit and gives their souls to their family in the form of a gift. How the fuck am I supposed to trust you?

Tommy shrugs.

TOMMY

I don't know what to tell you, I don't know how much I believe in this myself, but something tells me this is right.

SARAH

Are you girls going to stay there bickering or are we going to do this?

KRIS

Is staying here and bickering an option? Because I'mma vote for that!

Sarah doesn't even look back. She just starts walking. Tommy laughs and follows, looking back at Kris.

TOMMY

Guess that's your answer.

With a sigh Kris takes off after them.

EXT. ALLEY WAY - NIGHT

Kris and Tommy stand guard while Sarah kneels down attempting to pick the lock of some door.

KRIS  
(whispers)  
I have a really bad feeling about  
this man.

Tommy glances back at Sarah, doubt in his eyes.

TOMMY  
(sarcasm)  
Really? Why haven't you mentioned  
it before?

KRIS  
What if the police show up instead  
of your imaginary friend? I'm  
really not trying to spend  
Christmas in jail.

TOMMY  
Oh and you think I want to?

KRIS  
You dragged my ass here!

The door pops open.

SARAH  
Will you two shut up and come on!

INT. STORE - CONTINUOUS

They enter the back of what appears to be a clothing store.

KRIS  
So what now?

Sarah picks up a pair of sunglasses and put them on.

SARAH  
Find something you like and have  
fun.

Tommy shrugs and starts looking around. Kris stands back  
watching them.

KRIS  
(to himself)  
Have fun, sure why not? We're  
trying to trick a psycho demon into  
chasing after us and our  
consolation prize is the police. Oh  
boy, what fun!



Sarah is absentmindedly browsing through shirts as Tommy walks up to her.

TOMMY  
Anything you like?

SARAH  
You really think I'd shop here?

TOMMY  
Not shop necessarily, more shop  
lift.

She graces him with a smile.

SARAH  
You done?

TOMMY  
Naw, I'm just getting started.

Kris looks out the store front window. Worry all across his face.

MONTAGE

Sarah and Tommy try on different outfits and start to have some fun with it while Kris paces around stressfully. Sarah and Tommy stuff the clothes they like in their bags.

The montage ends when Tommy tries on a fancy shirt.

TOMMY (CONT'D)  
How I look?

She laughs and takes a step forward.

SARAH  
Like a mess.

She fixes his collar and he looks from her hands to her eyes. The moment stretches on and on as they look in each others eyes. Each moving ever so closer until the two of them are about to kiss.

KRIS (O.S.)  
We got incoming!

Their moment is ruined as the two look up to see Kris running towards them.

TOMMY  
Incoming?

KRIS  
Yeah, and I don't mean your fairy  
godmother. I mean the fucking  
police!

Sarah picks up her bag, full of stolen clothes.

SARAH  
Let's jet!

Tommy picks up his bag and follows Sarah out the door. Kris  
follows close behind, his bag empty.

EXT. ALLEY WAY - CONTINUOUS

The three friends rush into the empty alley, just as two  
police cars stop on one side, sirens blearing.

KRIS  
We need to go!

He pulls on Tommy's arm as he runs the opposite way.

COP ONE  
Don't move!

They of course move! And fast!

The three friends run flat out as a out of shape cop chases  
after them.

EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS

The streets are almost empty as they rush down the street.  
Sirens sounding from all directions.

KRIS  
So where is this friend of yours?

SARAH  
He isn't our friend!

She plays with her ring as they run.

A cop car pulls out in front of them.

TOMMY  
Fuck!

They turn and take off down a side street as the cop car spins to follow them.

KRIS  
We need to get off the streets!

SARAH  
No shit!

TOMMY  
Over here!

Tommy turns towards a nearby house and makes his way over the fence. Sarah and Kris follow his lead.

Sarah trips as she attempts to climb over but Kris gives her a boost.

KRIS  
I got you!

SARAH  
Thanks!

She shoots back a look as she climbs over. The police catches up to them as Kris makes it over, the cop gets a hold of his leg. Kris kicks him and falls down, landing loudly next to Sarah and Tommy.

They help him up.

TOMMY  
This is no time to be taking a nap.

Kris pulls free.

KRIS  
No shit!

They take off through the yard and over the back fence, landing in a slanted wooded area. They make their way to the bottom before resting on a residential street.

TOMMY  
Think we lost them?

SARAH  
I'm not sure.

KRIS  
Well, that wasn't what I was expecting. Instead of a hungry Santa we got 5/0.

SARAH

We knew that was a possibility. It isn't the end of the world.

KRIS

It isn't? You have us chasing after a damn dream! I went along with it  
(looks at Tommy)  
Because I thought it might help you work out your damn nightmares but this is not how I want to spend my Christmas! Can we just admit this is all bullshit and go home?

TOMMY

It isn't bullshit Kris. I know it's a lot to believe but

KRIS

But what? We stole, just like you wanted and nothing happened!

SARAH

Yet. The night is still young.

KRIS

For you, I'm going home. Come on Tommy.

Tommy looks between the two.

TOMMY

Let's just stay for a bit. Just a little longer.

KRIS

We stay out here any longer and we will spend Christmas in jail!

TOMMY

Kris, I have to. . .I need to find out what happened to my brother.

KRIS

Your brother? You don't have a brother! It's just a stupid dream.

SARAH

It's real, you know it is Tommy.

Tommy nods.

KRIS  
Fine, do what you want! But I'm  
out!

With that he storms off.

SARAH  
He doesn't understand.

TOMMY  
How could he? I don't understand.

EXT. NICE STREET

A jeep pulls up, a pretty girl named EMMA in the driver's seat, next to her sits STACY, a red head with a bored expression on her face. The music blasting.

HONK

Emma hits the horn and holds it down. Stacy laughs and hits her hand away.

STACY  
Stop! You'll wake the block!

EMMA  
Oh, wouldn't want that. Kids awake  
on Christmas Eve, how will Santa  
ever show up?

The front door of the house opens up as Sheryl walks out. Motioning for them to stop beeping the horn. Emma laughs and hits it again.

Sheryl runs for the car.

SHERYL  
Stop!

EMMA  
Than get in!

Sheryl hops in the back of the jeep.

STACY  
Took you long enough.

SHERYL  
Sorry, the rents didn't want me to  
go out, I had to sneak out while  
they were watching the late show.

Emma starts the car and speeds off.

EMMA

Damn, your parents never let you do anything.

SHERYL

They do so.

STACY

Yeah, like taking your siblings to the library every weekend. You daredevil you.

EMMA

How do you manage such a high speed life?

SHERYL

Oh you two are such a riot. So where are we going?

EMMA

We're going to meet James and some of his friends at park.

SHERYL

The park?

STACY

Yeah, what's wrong with the park?

SHERYL

What are we going to do there?

Stacy uses the rearview mirror to put on her makeup.

STACY

I don't know about you, but I know what I'll be doing.

Emma looks back at her.

EMMA

Besides, Sal will be there. You know he's been sniffing around you since you and Jon broke up.

SHERYL

(rolls her eyes)  
Believe me, I've noticed.

STACY

You don't like him?

SHERYL  
Would you?

EMMA  
I mean, he's no Kris.  
(looks to Stacy)  
From what I hear, he's been giving  
it to her for weeks now.

STACY  
That creepy dude who thinks he's so  
funny?  
(looks at Sheryl)  
Ew, why?

SHERYL  
We have. . .I never did anything  
with him. That fucking creep was  
lying.

EMMA  
Oh, I'm sure.

SHERYL  
Shut up!

EXT. PARK

JAMES, SAL and a short guy named LARRY are sitting at the  
table as the girls walk up. Emma walks up and gives James a  
kiss and Stacy sits next to Larry, they start flirting with  
each other.

Sal walks over to Sheryl.

SAL  
Hey Sheryl, how are you?

She gives him a fake smile.

SHERYL  
I'm good.

She looks away.

SAL  
Good, good. So like, I've been  
waiting for you to come out. I  
don't know if you noticed, but I  
like, kinda like you.

She looks over at Emma and mouths "help me" Emma laughs, shakes her head no and goes back to talking to James.

EXT. STREET

The street lamps providing too little light on these dark streets as Tommy and Sarah slowly make their way down the street.

TOMMY

How much longer till he shows up?

SARAH

How should I know? I've never tried to find him before!

TOMMY

It's been hours and we've seen nothing.

SARAH

We just have to keep moving. The night is still young.

INT. RESTROOM

Emma and Stacy are in front of the mirror in the restroom fixing themselves up. Sheryl leans against the wall, unhappy.

SHERYL

It's getting late.

STACY

Stop being such a killjoy, the night is still young.

EMMA

Yeah, come on Sheryl, we're having fun.

SHERYL

Maybe you are, but I'm not.

STACY

Chill out. Look, Sal is paying for you, so you're getting free food.

EMMA

Really, I mean who doesn't like free food?



SHERYL  
But I can't stand Sal!

STACY  
Just shut up and sit through the meal. Then we can go. Deal?

SHERYL  
Fine.

EMMA  
God, why do we bring you out?

INT. DINER

The guys are sitting around eating as the girls walk up and sit down.

JAMES  
What took you girls so long?

SAL  
Yeah, we thought something happened. We were getting ready to send out the search party.

EMMA  
Well sorry,wer we were trying to look good for you.

She sits down and kisses James.

STACY  
So what's next?

JAMES  
Back to the park?

STACY  
Okay.

Sheryl looks around.

SHERYL  
Where is the waiter?

LARRY  
Who cares? You guys ready?

James gets up.

JAMES

Let's go.

Sheryl looks at them confused as everyone stands up.

SHERYL

What are you doing?

JAMES

Leaving.

SHERYL

We haven't paid yet.

LARRY

That's the point.

SHERYL

We can't just leave.

JAMES

Come on, it's an adventure.

EMMA

It'll be okay Sheryl.

STACY

Yeah, stop being a killjoy.

SHERYL

I can't.

LARRY

You got money to pay for everything?

She shakes her head no.

LARRY (CONT'D)

Than get off your ass and lets go.

Reluctantly she gets up.

EXT. DINER

The six of them run out of the diner and down the street.

EXT. STREET

Kris walks down the street alone.

KRIS

I can't believe he picked her over me. For what? To find some urban legend. Made me waste my Christmas Eve walking around, breaking into stores. Fucking shit man.

EXT. DIFFERENT BUT CLOSE BY STREET

The six friends walk down the street. Sal and Sheryl in the rear. She doesn't look happy.

SAL

So. . .you having fun?

SHERYL

...

SAL

I'm having fun. It's real cool that we are finally getting to hang out. I mean I know we've been having a hard time linking our schedules up, I mean a really hard time. It feels like every time I text you, you either don't text back or tell me you're busy. I mean your schedule must be a pain. I'm so sorry, but hey we finally get to hang out!

SHERYL

...

SAL

So uh yeah. We finally get to hang out, and get to know each other better. I mean I'm really loving this conversation.

SHERYL

...

The thin homeless man walks up to them.

HOMELESS MAN

You kids enjoying a late night stroll?

James and Larry move forward, protecting the girls.

JAMES

Move along old man.

HOMELESS MAN  
Is that anyway to treat a stranger?  
Whatever happened to manners?

LARRY  
I don't know, whatever happened to  
showers?

The others laugh, but for Sheryl.

HOMELESS MAN  
What wit,  
(looks at the women)  
You must kill with the ladies.

Larry smiles proud of himself.

LARRY  
I do alright.

Looks back at Stacy for approval. She shakes her head, but  
smiles. She finds him cute.

HOMELESS MAN  
So I see.

JAMES  
Well this has been riveting, but we  
really must be going now.

They try to move around him but he blocks their path.

HOMELESS MAN  
You know, waiters primarily make a  
living off of tips and when you run  
out on your bill they have to pay  
for it.

The kids all look at each other confused.

LARRY  
What's it to you?

The homeless man smiles.

HOMELESS MAN  
I just like to right wrongs.

JAMES  
Well go right them somewhere else.

HOMELESS MAN  
I think I'm fine here.

Larry gets in the homeless man's face.

LARRY  
You're not. Now go!

He pushes the homeless man. The homeless man catches his arms.

LARRY (CONT'D)  
Hey! Let go!

James moves forward.

JAMES  
What are you doing?

HOMELESS MAN  
Righting wrongs.

He opens his mouth wide, his razor sharp teeth shining in the moon night as he swallows Larry in one bite.

Everyone screams as the homeless man doubles in size, his beard grows. Blood drips out of his mouth, staining his new grown beard.

EXT. STREET

The screams of the kids catches the attention of Kris.

KRIS  
What the?

He runs towards the sound of the screams.

EXT. DIFFERENT BUT CLOSE BY STREET - CONTINUOUS

Kris comes to a stop when he spots the homeless man, Santa, eating James and growing once more. Stacy and Emma run off into the night.

Santa moves towards Sal and Sheryl, his blood soaked smile glistening in the moon light.

KRIS  
Sheryl?

Sheryl and Sal run the other direction.

SAL

Sorry.

SHERYL

What?

He pushes her to the floor and keeps on running. Santa closes in on Sheryl, she lets out a scream.

Kris rams into Santa, knocking him over. He holds out his hand to Sheryl.

KRIS

Come with me if you want to live!

She takes his hand and he helps her up. They take off running.

SHERYL

Thank you!

KRIS

No problem! I mean you gave me a chance to quote my favorite movie, I'd say we're even.

Santa's eyes shine blood red in the darkness as he watches them run.

EXT. STREET

The sounds of foot falls hitting the ground heralds the arrival of Emma and Stacy, looking terrified. They stop to catch their breath.

STACY

Wh. . .what was that?

EMMA

I have no idea, but did you see his face?

STACY

All those teeth!

EMMA

Oh god, do you think he got Sheryl and Sal?

STACY

I hope he got Sal! It was his dumb idea to come out here, all because he wanted to hook up with Sheryl.

EMMA

Why did we even agree to help him?

EXT. OTHER STREET

Kris leads Sheryl by the hand down the street as they run, he turns into a

EXT. BACK ALLEY

To catch their breath.

SHERYL

What's going on?

She pulls her hand free. Kris takes a deep breath.

SHERYL (CONT'D)

Tell me!

He looks up at her slowly, into her eyes.

KRIS

Would you believe Santa Claus?

SHERYL

What?

KRIS

Old Saint Nick?

SHERYL

If you aren't going to tell me than fine!

She turns to leave but Kris grabs her hand.

KRIS

I'm serious.

EXT. STREET

The girls start walking again.

STACY

What do we do?

EMMA

We need to go to the police.

STACY

And tell them what? A fat man with  
razor teeth is trying to eat us?

Behind them red eyes shine through the darkness.

EXT. BACK ALLEY

Sheryl is sitting against the wall.

KRIS

Every year since, he has come out  
on Christmas Eve and punishes those  
that sin, mainly seems to be  
stealing, maybe cause that's what  
he did but he eats them and gives  
their souls back to their family in  
the form of a gift.

SHERYL

You can't be serious.

KRIS

Honestly? I didn't believe it till  
I saw him chasing you.

SHERYL

So what do I do?

KRIS

Tommy has a way to stop him, we  
hope. We just have to find him.

SHERYL

Well where is he?

KRIS

No clue.

SHERYL

What if he can't stop him? I don't  
want to die.

KRIS

...



Sheryl stands up.

SHERYL

There has to be some way to get him  
to spare me!

It comes to Kris.

KRIS

Why is he after you?

SHERYL

What?

KRIS

He goes after thieves. What did you  
steal?

SHERYL

(guilty)

We dined and dashed.

KRIS

So, and this is just a theory mind  
you, but hopefully if you go back  
and pay he won't be after you  
anymore.

SHERYL

Will that work?

KRIS

Do you have a better idea?

She shakes her head no.

SHERYL

Let's just hope we can pay it  
before he gets to Stacy and Emma.

They take off.

EMMA (V.O.)

He found us!

EXT. STREET

The girls run as Santa gives chase. His blood stained teeth  
shinning in the darkness.

Stacy trips and Santa smiles as he dives for a bite.

EMMA

Stacy!

In a few bites Stacy is gone. He looks up at Emma who is frozen in place.

SARAH (O.S.)

Leave her alone!

Emma and Santa turn to see Stacy and Tommy standing not far away.

SANTA

You have to love it when snacks  
come to you!

Emma backs up.

SANTA (CONT'D)

Oh don't worry dear, you're first.

He jumps and digs in, blood going everywhere.

SARAH

Hurry Tommy! Throw the ball.

Tommy throws the ball as hard as he can. It moves two feet and falls to the ground.

SARAH (CONT'D)

What the hell was that?

TOMMY

I'm not a sports guy!

Santa smiles as he starts towards them.

EXT. OTHER STREET

Sheryl and Kris speed walk towards their destination.

SHERYL

I really hope that Emma and. . . .  
what was I saying?

KRIS

What?

EXT. STREET

Santa jumps at Tommy, Sarah hits him with her ring hand. Where the ring hits his face a bright white line shines through. He lets out a howl of pain and falls back.

SARAH

It worked!

Tommy gets up as Santa backs away.

TOMMY

Finish him!

Sarah runs towards Santa but he runs off into the darkness. She stops and looks back at him.

SARAH

We almost had him!

Tommy picks up his baseball.

TOMMY

Next time we'll get him.

SARAH

Next time! Just, well move closer before throwing it.

TOMMY

Gee, ya think? I never said I could throw.

SARAH

Fair enough, but that was just pathetic.

EXT. OTHER STREET

A lone brick wall covered in a light from a lone street lamp is used to stop Sal's run. His face is covered in sweat, his breathing rapid. Fear in his eyes.

EXT. DINER

Sheryl and Kris come to a stop in front of the diner.

SHERYL

There it is.

KRIS  
Almost free of all this.

She nods, he takes a hold of her hand, clearly nervous about it but she holds his hand back. He smiles.

SHERYL  
You think it will work?

KRIS  
It'll work. You're safe now.

She turns to face him.

SHERYL  
Thank you so much.

EXT. OTHER STREET

Sal tries to catch his breath.

SANTA (O.S.)  
Ho-ho-ho

He turns to look as bright red eyes shine through the darkness.

EXT. DINER

Sheryl and Kris are standing far too close to each other.

KRIS  
I just. . .I . . .I'm sorry for everything. I never meant to hurt you.

She nods, moving closer. A kiss is imminent.

EXT. OTHER STREET

Sal tries to fight the wounded Santa off of him but Santa over powers him, opening his mouth wide.

EXT. DINER

Sheryl kisses Kris.

EXT. OTHER STREET

Santa eats Sal.

EXT. DINER

Sheryl opens her eyes, sees that she is kissing Kris, pulls back and slaps him.

SHERYL  
You fucking perv!

Kris rubs the spot on his cheek where she slapped him.

KRIS  
Wha?

SHERYL  
You asshole! For the last fucking  
time stay the hell away from me!

She storms off as Kris watches her leave confused.

EXT. OTHER STREET

Santa's wounds heal. He smiles.

SANTA  
Ho-ho-ho

EXT. DINER

Kris watches Sheryl leave. When she is out of sight, he shakes his head.

KRIS  
What the hell just happened?

TOMMY (O.S.)  
Kris?

He turns around as Tommy and Sheryl walk up to him. Tommy tossing the baseball up and down.

KRIS  
Hey.

TOMMY

You okay?

He shakes his head.

KRIS

I don't know what happened, Sheryl  
kissed me, then slapped me and  
stormed off.

TOMMY

She kissed you? After what you told  
everyone?

He nodded.

KRIS

I was as surprised as anyone. I  
just don't know why she slapped me.

EXT. DIFFERENT BUT CLOSE BY STREET

Sheryl is walking alone, a hurried pace to her step.

SHERYL

Why did I kiss him?

Red eyes shine in the darkness.

EXT. DINER

Sarah looks on annoyed as the boys talk.

SARAH

Are you two done yet?

KRIS

Sorry.

TOMMY

Sorry.

SARAH (CONT'D)

It's fine, we just have work to do.  
We came here for a reason.

KRIS

You did? And here I thought you  
were just looking for me.

EXT. DIFFERENT BUT CLOSE BY STREET

Santa comes out of the shadows behind Sheryl.

EXT. DINER

SARAH  
We followed Santa here.

TOMMY  
He's real!

KRIS  
You saw him?

TOMMY  
We did, clear as day. Sarah even  
hurt him.

SARAH  
Cut him up pretty bad.

KRIS  
Oh shit, Sheryl! What if Santa goes  
after her?

TOMMY  
She doesn't seem the type to do  
anything wrong.

EXT. DIFFERENT BUT CLOSE BY STREET

Sheryl turns around as she hears Santa walking towards her.

SHERYL  
Oh, um hi.

He smiles at her, his razor teeth reflecting the moon light.  
Her eyes go wide with fear. She looks forward and starts  
walking faster.

SANTA  
Ho-ho-ho.

EXT. DINER

SARAH

We need to find him and fast. We only have a couple of hours left.

TOMMY

Well we stole, what else could we do to bring him out?

KRIS

It doesn't matter! I have to make sure that Sheryl is okay.

He runs off towards her.

EXT. DIFFERENT BUT CLOSE BY STREET

Santa jumps onto Sheryl's back. She lets out a scream as he eats her whole.

EXT. DINER

Kris stops running, he looks around confused.

TOMMY

Where are you going?

Kris turns around to face them.

KRIS

No idea.

SARAH

Can we go now?

KRIS

Lead the way.

EXT. STREET

The three of them walk through the dark streets, Tommy nervously tossing his ball up and down. Sarah plays with her ring. Kris grows more and more bored.

KRIS

Can we call it a night?



SARAH

No!

KRIS

Come on! We've seen no sign of this  
cat all night.

TOMMY

We have!

KRIS

So you say.

TOMMY

Would I lie?

KRIS

No, but maybe a pretty girl,  
(nods at Sarah)  
Gots your head all turned around.

She shoots him a dirty look but he pays her no mind. Red eyes  
shine in the darkness behind them.

TOMMY

I know what I saw.

KRIS

Than where is he?  
(yells)  
Hey yo Santa! Saint Nick, Old jolly  
fat man! You here!

SARAH

Shut up!

Kris laughs and shakes his head.

KRIS

It's all bullshit!

SANTA

Isn't it?

The three kids turn around to find Santa standing there. A  
blood thirsty smile on his face.

KRIS

That isn't. . .is it?

TOMMY

Run!

Kris turns and run, he makes it a few feet before noticing that Sarah and Tommy haven't moved.

SANTA  
You hurt me last time little girl.

SARAH  
Good, but when I'm finished with you this time it'll make the last time look like a love tap.

Tommy tries to put on a brave face but his fear leaks through.

KRIS (O.S.)  
I see why you like her. She got balls.

Tommy jumps.

TOMMY  
Dude!

KRIS  
Sorry. Just felt weird running while you stayed to fight.

Tommy nods.

TOMMY  
Fair enough.

Santa roars, his razor sharp teeth clear as day. He leaps at Sarah who swings hitting him in the face. Once more his face opens up with a blinding white light.

He shakes off his pain and moves back to fight some more. She tries to hit him again but Santa grabs her hand and breaks it.

TOMMY (CONT'D)  
Sarah!

He throws the ball at Santa, it hits him and knocks a hole through his side. A white light shoots out.

Santa falls and Tommy moves forward. Santa gets up and knocks Tommy down before he can pick the ball back up. Kris grabs Tommy as Santa devours Sarah, healing his wounds as he does so.

KRIS  
Run!

TOMMY  
But Sarah!

KRIS  
She's gone!

Tommy turns and runs with Kris as Santa eats Sarah like a dog going to town in his food dish. Her ring falling to the floor.

EXT. ALLEY WAY

Kris and Tommy stop to catch their breath.

TOMMY  
I can't believe he's real!

KRIS  
What. . .what was that?

TOMMY  
That's the guy from my dream! The one that ate my brother.

KRIS  
You don't have a brother!

TOMMY  
And that thing isn't real!

KRIS  
Okay, point taken. So how do we stop him?

TOMMY  
I don't know. I just know that he goes after people who steal.

He lift up the bag full of stolen clothes.

TOMMY (CONT'D)  
That's why I stole this stuff, to draw him out.

KRIS  
Okay, so we got him to come after us, now what?

TOMMY  
I don't know! I didn't think that far ahead.

KRIS  
Well, good going!

TOMMY  
You were right there with me! Why  
didn't you point out that we had no  
idea what to do.

KRIS  
...

TOMMY  
See! So what do we do now?

KRIS  
How should I. . .wait! If he is  
after you for stealing that shit,  
than if we return it,

TOMMY  
He'll leave me alone!

Kris hits Tommy excitedly on the chest.

KRIS  
Let's go!

EXT. STREET

The two friends run through the empty streets, past houses  
with Christmas decorations, with lights and fake Santa's  
full of smiling faces.

They run past it all, not slowing down even for a moment.  
Kris looks back as they run. Tommy grips the bag of stolen  
clothes tightly.

SANTA (O.S.)  
Ho-ho-ho

The two friends turn but Santa is nowhere to be seen.

They turn the corner onto the street with the store in front  
of them.

KRIS  
Almost there!

Tommy let's out a sigh of relief as they make it to the door.  
Kris looks around.

KRIS (CONT'D)  
Open the door!

Tommy tries the door but it won't open.

TOMMY  
It's locked!

Kris looks at him.

KRIS  
Well pick it!

TOMMY  
I don't know how to do that! You  
pick it!

KRIS  
I have no idea how.

TOMMY  
How did we get in last time?

Kris tries to think.

KRIS  
We picked it.

TOMMY  
How?

KRIS  
I . . . I can't remember.

TOMMY  
Me either.

SANTA (O.S.)  
Ho-ho-ho

The friends turn around to find Santa standing there. Looking every bit the Santa we all know, only with murder in his eyes and blood stained lips. A smile made all the scarier with his razor sharp teeth. A look of madness to him.

KRIS  
We have to get inside!

Tommy starts frantically pulling on the door to no avail.

Santa walks closer to them, a hungry look about him.

SANTA  
It's always more fun when dinner  
makes you work for it.

Kris stands between Santa and Tommy.

KRIS  
(to Tommy)  
Hurry!  
(to Santa)  
Stay away from us fat man!

Santa smiles.

SANTA  
Leave boy.

KRIS  
Not going to happen! Tommy is a  
good man, I won't let you hurt him!

SANTA  
Like you have a choice!

Santa swats Kris away like a fly. Kris lands hard on the  
ground, letting out a cry of pain.

Santa makes his way to Tommy. Who is trying harder and harder  
to open the door.

TOMMY  
Open! Please for the love of God  
open.

SANTA  
It's good that you are attempting  
to right your wrong.

Tommy turns to look at Santa, pressing himself against the  
wall.

TOMMY  
I will, I'll return it, everything.  
And pay and whatever else. Please  
just let me and Kris leave.

Santa stops for a moment. Kris starts to get up, clearly in  
pain from getting tossed around.

SANTA  
Normally I would let you. I was  
allowed to right my own wrong. I  
like to think that I am a force for  
good. A force for redemption.

TOMMY  
 Than let me get my redemption.  
 Please!

A look of sadness crosses his face.

SANTA  
 I wish I could. Unfortunately, you  
 hurt me. The first person to do so  
 in centuries.

Hate fills his face.

SANTA (CONT'D)  
 That can't stand.

Kris gets up.

KRIS  
 (yells)  
 Tommy!

Santa lunges at Tommy.

ANGLE: CLOSE UP OF THE GROUND

The bag of stolen clothes drop to the floor. Blood sprays  
 over it as we hear Santa eating Tommy.

RETURN TO SCENE

Kris watches on in horror, tears in his eyes.

KRIS (CONT'D)  
 Tommy! Tommy! You fucking monster!

He charges at Santa.

Santa stands up and dusts himself off. Kris stops, a look of  
 confusion upon his face.

KRIS (CONT'D)  
 Where am I? What am I doing here.

Santa smiles at him.

SANTA  
 Nothing Kris. Go home, you're a  
 good boy.

Santa walks past Kris, a smile on his face.

KRIS  
 What the fuck?

He watches Santa leave.

KRIS (CONT'D)  
How the hell does that rent a Santa  
know my name?

He shakes his head. He heads the other direction, towards his home.

KRIS (CONT'D)  
Fuck it I'm going home and going to  
bed.

A lone baseball rolls pass Kris. He stops and picks up the ball, tossing it in the air like Tommy always did.

FADE TO BLACK.

SANTA (V.O.)  
Ho-ho-ho

THE END