

DEAD TEENAGERS

Pilot

Written by
Travis Covert

14510 Willow Rd., SE
Port Orchard, WA 98367
(253) 686-5125
trcovert@yahoo.com

TEASER

FADE IN:

EXT. LANGENKAMP HOUSE - DAWN

We're outside an upscale suburban home. It's deceptively quiet. There are signs of a party from the night before: empty beer cans, some other litter, etc.

The moment of silence comes to an end as CHLOE HAYWARD, a pretty 16 year old, stumbles out of the house. Though we'll soon find her to be confident and wholesome, right now she's crying and appears drunk. She's followed by her boyfriend, ADAM SWEENEY, a 16 year old jock; like his girlfriend, Adam usually has more charm than he displays here.

ADAM

Where do you think you're going,
Chloe?

CHLOE

Home. Away. I don't know. Anywhere
but here...

Ever the track star, he's caught up to her and grabbed hold of her hand. As she resists--

ADAM

Come on, let's just sit down and
talk!

CHLOE

Adam, let go of me!

He does so, reluctantly.

ADAM

Please, just let me explain.

CHLOE

What is there to explain? You
cheated on me.

ADAM

Did you see who I was with?

CHLOE

I don't care who was in bed with you. All that matters is that you're a cheater. Get away from me!

She stumbles several steps forward, out of breath.

ADAM

Let me explain what happened. You see--

Chloe lurches forward, leaning down to vomit (which we don't see, thankfully). As she stands back up--

CHLOE

I don't want to hear your excuses.
(beat)

I'm gonna vomit again. Oh God...

She looks around, but only sees the trash can beside the garage. She hurries to it but as she takes off the lid she reacts to what she sees inside.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

There's a body in here!

ADAM

Just how drunk are you? I thought you weren't going to drink anything.

CHLOE

I know what I'm talking about!
There's a body in here!

He glances in the trash can. And Chloe's right: there's a body inside, though we don't see much of it. Chloe, however, recognizes the dead teenager.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

Oh my God, it's--

But before she can supply a name, we

BLACK OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

EXT. HAYWARD HOUSE - ESTABLISHING - DAY

A typical middle-class home in suburban Seattle.

A chyron reads, "12 Hours Before."

INT. CHLOE'S BEDROOM - DAY

In the light of day, Chloe looks like a totally different girl -- pretty, wholesome, sober. She's with her mother, JANA HAYWARD, and her mousy, shy friend MISSY DINNING. Chloe's holding up two outfits from her closet.

CHLOE

Missy, which do you like better,
the red one or the blue one?

MISSY

The red one makes your eyes pop.

CHLOE

You're right. I'll wear the red.

MISSY

But the blue one flatters your
figure.

CHLOE

You're right. But I can't wear
both.

MISSY

I can't choose. Just pick one,
Chloe.

CHLOE

I don't know. What do you think,
Mom?

JANA

What I think is that you two are
spending way too much time
worrying about what you're going
to look like at a party.

Chloe rolls her eyes.

CHLOE

That's easy for you to say. You don't have to go to school every day with Sidney Langenkamp.

MISSY

She's the worst.

CHLOE

The devil!

JANA

I thought Sidney Langenkamp was hosting this party.

CHLOE

She hosts all the parties, because she rules the school.

MISSY

Because she knows everyone.

CHLOE

Not that anyone likes her.

MISSY

Except the popular kids. They all like her.

JANA

Chloe, you're dating a jock. Doesn't that make you one of the popular kids?

Chloe laughs.

CHLOE

Quarterbacks are popular.
Basketball players are popular.
Adam's in track. That makes him only sort of popular.

MISSY

So dating Adam makes Chloe mid-level popular too.

CHLOE

But if I'm seen by all the right people at parties like this one..

MISSY

She'll become popular.

JANA

(to Missy)

Since Adam's your cousin, does
that make you mid-level popular?

MISSY

Uh, no. It doesn't work like that.

JANA

I wish you two spent half as much
time worrying about your grades as
you spend thinking about how
popular you are.

CHLOE

You just don't get it.

JANA

You're right, I don't get it.

MISSY

You were young once, weren't you,
Mrs. Hayward? You must've gone to
a few parties.

CHLOE

I've seen all the pictures. She
was very popular when she was a
teenager.

JANA

Yes, I was. But my parents --
Grandma and Grandpa -- made sure
that I did my school work before I
went out.

CHLOE

All the time?

JANA

Well ... most of the time. Anyway,
that's not my point. My point is
that this night is not the most
important night of your lives, no
matter what you think now. Oh, and
I don't think this Sidney
Langenkamp could be anywhere near
as bad as you make her out to be.

INT. LANGENKAMP LIVING ROOM - DAY

CLOSE ON SIDNEY LANGENKAMP, 16, who is, in fact, just as
bad as Chloe made her out to be. Behind that cute façade is
a snake and a tiger rolled into one.

SIDNEY

Who gave you the right to come in
the front door? Caterers come in
through the servants' entrance.
It's around back.

We PULL OUT to see she's flanked by friends SHANNEN
MCNAMARA and JAMIE-LEE WOO. JAMIE-LEE, a pretty Asian-
American, is a complete toady who has no independent
thoughts of her own. SHANNEN is Sidney's second-in-command
of the school.

The trio are facing LUIS SANCHEZ, one of their classmates.

LUIS

Sorry, Sidney, I just thought--

SIDNEY

I'm not paying you to think! And
since when are we on a first name
basis?

LUIS

I'm Luis. Luis Sanchez.

(beat)

We've been going to the same
school since we were in the third
grade.

(beat)

I think I'm in four of your
classes.

SIDNEY

I don't bother to remember the names of the poor. And judging from those pants, you're definitely one of the poor.

SHANNEN

Those jeans are so 2007.

JAMIE-LEE

Yeah!

Luis's dad, PABLO SANCHEZ, the caterer comes out of the kitchen. He's carrying a bottle of wine. Pablo speaks English with a strong Mexican accent.

PABLO

You're not serving alcohol at this party, are you? Where are your parents?

SIDNEY

My parents are the mayor and his wife. You really don't want to call them while they're in Europe on their second honeymoon.

SHANNEN

Not if you want to work in this town again.

JAMIE-LEE

Yeah!

SIDNEY

The police know to look the other way if someone makes a fuss about one of my parties. Not that anyone would dare try.

JAMIE-LEE

Yeah!

Pablo looks ready to say something, but a look from his son stops him. They head back towards the kitchen as Sidney, Shannen, and Jamie look on.

SHANNEN

Next time you should make sure to
hire better caterers.

SIDNEY

Caterers who were born in this
country. I shouldn't have to deal
with annoying accents I can barely
understand. Someone should toss
that wetback into the ocean and
make him swim back to Mexico!

JAMIE-LEE

Ye-

She stops, mid-"Yeah!", the racist comment not going
unnoticed by either of Sidney's friends. That's going too
far, even for her. Not noticing her friends' looks, Sidney
walks away.

EXT. LANGENKAMP HOUSE - NIGHT

A HANDFUL OF TEENS head inside as Chloe and Missy fidget on
the lawn.

MISSY

Maybe we should go in alone.

CHLOE

Just wait a minute. Adam will be
here any second. I'm sure of it.

Adam strolls towards them. He has his friend BOONE KELLY
with him. Like Adam, Boone's a jock; unlike Adam, Boone
lacks Adam's charm, but Boone has yet to figure this out.

BOONE

Sorry to keep you waiting, ladies.

CHLOE

We weren't waiting for you, Boone.

Chloe kisses her boyfriend. Chloe, Adam, and Boone walk
towards the door. Missy looks around for a moment and then
follows her friend.

INT. LANGENKAMP LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The party's in full swing: music, talking, etc. Boone's swaying to the music, a beer can in hand. Missy's standing nearby. Adam brings Chloe a beer.

CHLOE

No thanks. You know I don't drink.

ADAM

Come on. It's our six month anniversary. Just take one little sip. Live a little!

CHLOE

No, I don't need any. Really!

Boone grabs the beer away from Adam and downs it in seconds. And then he belches. He's a beer away from being wasted.

BOONE

Now that's how I like it! No one can drink as much as I can.

Boone checks his watch then looks away and out of the living room.

ADAM

We'll catch up with you in a bit.

CHLOE

But it's our anniversary!

ADAM

It'll just be a few minutes. I promise.

Adam kisses Chloe. As he and Boone walk away, Sidney approaches Chloe and Missy.

SIDNEY

I don't remember inviting either of you here.

MISSY

Well you did.

She pulls a well-worn invitation out of her pocket and waves it at Sidney, who responds with a scowl.

We move away from the party, through a partly open door,
and into--

INT. LANGENKAMP KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Pablo arranges appetizers on a platter; Luis is supposed to
be making a sauce but his attention's out the open door.

PABLO

Maybe you should let me handle the
sauce.

LUIS

No, I'm fine.

PABLO

Then why don't you lay off on the
pepper.

Luis looks down and sees he has, in fact, dumped about five
times as much pepper into the sauce as it calls for. He
puts down the pepper.

LUIS

I'm sorry. My head's just
somewhere else tonight I guess.

PABLO

Your head's thinking of Chloe.
Some other parts of you are
probably thinking about her too.

LUIS

Dad! I don't think of Chloe like
that! She's just a girl I go to
school with.

PABLO

A girl whose name is doodled all
over your binder. A girl who
you've been staring at for who
knows how long now.

LUIS

(embarrassed)

Dad!

PABLO

I may work fifty hours a week, but I still manage to pay attention to the things that matter.

LUIS

She barely even knows I exist. It doesn't matter anyway. She has a boyfriend. Today's their six month anniversary.

PABLO

Six months? That's nothing. Your mother and I barely knew anything about each other after six months.

LUIS

Couples move faster now, Dad. A lot faster.

PABLO

She's a good girl. And you're a good guy. And I don't trust that boyfriend of hers.

LUIS

So you're saying I should go after her even though she's with Adam?

PABLO

No. But just because she has someone doesn't mean you can't be there for her. But first you have to talk to her.

He hands his son the platter of appetizers.

PABLO (CONT'D)

Take these out there, then enjoy the party.

LUIS

But we need to clean up.

PABLO

I can do that without you.

LUIS

I wasn't even invited to the party.

PABLO

I saw all that beer out there. That Sidney's probably too wasted to even notice an uninvited guest. Avoid the beer but have a good time.

LUIS

Thanks, Dad.

He exits the kitchen. Luis's Dad shakes his head as he continues cleaning up.

PABLO

Kids!

INT. LANGENKAMP LIVING ROOM - LATER

Chloe's still with Missy. They're both bored, have nothing to say to each other. Luis is feet away, staring at Chloe, who doesn't notice him.

CHLOE

Have you seen Adam?

MISSY

Not lately.

Chloe peers around the party for Adam. Not seeing him, she heads out of the room and up the stairs. Back in the midst of the party, Missy and Luis share a smile.

INT. LANGENKAMP UPSTAIRS HALLWAY/BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Chloe pushes past other guests. She almost collides with Sidney who's coming the other way.

SIDNEY

Watch where you're going!

CHLOE

Sorry. Have you seen Adam?

A wicked smile spreads across Sidney's face.

SIDNEY

I think I saw him sneak off into the back room. Go all the way down the hallway and you can't miss it.

CHLOE

Why would he go there?

SIDNEY

You should see for yourself.

Chloe continues down the long hallway. She reaches the last door, which is slightly ajar.

Chloe doesn't even have to open it wider to see what's inside: it's Adam on top of another, barely visible body. She reacts to what she's seeing, but doesn't make a sound. Instead, she backs away from the doorway before turning around and fleeing down the hallway and towards the stairs.

INT. LANGENKAMP LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Chloe descends the stairs to find Jamie-Lee and Shannen talking with some BOYS. The people Chloe hangs with are nowhere to be found. She scans the crowd but, nope, no one she knows. Damn.

But there is a glass of beer on the coffee table. With no one else around to claim it, Chloe grabs the drink and downs it within seconds. So much for not being a drinker...

INT. LANGENKAMP LIVING ROOM - LATER

Still alone despite being surrounded by partygoers, Chloe drinks another beer. She's also loosening up, swaying back and forth to the music.

INT. LANGENKAMP LIVING ROOM - MUCH LATER

Most of the guests are gone. Chloe still has a drink in hand. She collapses onto the couch.

INT. LANGENKAMP LIVING ROOM - DAY

Chloe wakes to find she's almost all alone, except for one RANDOM DRUNK GUY passed out on a nearby chair. She begins to stumble out of the room--

INT. LANGENKAMP FOYER - CONTINUOUS

She runs into Adam as he's descending the stairs. She may be drunk, but her memories of what she saw come flooding back. She attacks her boyfriend with her fists.

CHLOE

You cheated on me!

ADAM

You . . . saw that? What did you see?

CHLOE

How long were you going to leave me down here by myself? What time is it?

ADAM

I lost track of time. Come on, let's go home.

But Chloe's out of there without him. He chases after her.

EXT. LANGENKAMP HOUSE - DAWN

And now we're caught back up with where we started. For a moment we're AT A DISTANCE and don't hear what's being repeated from the teaser. Then we're back on Chloe and Adam as she looks into the trash can and says--

CHLOE

There's a body in here!

ADAM

Just how drunk are you? I thought you weren't going to drink anything.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

I know what I'm talking about!
There's a body in here!

He peers inside, and sees the dead teenage girl. And as Chloe looks inside again, she IDs the body.

CHLOE

Oh my God, it's . . . Missy.

Off of Chloe's shock, we

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

EXT. HAYWARD HOUSE - ESTABLISHING - DAY

A chryon reads, "One Week Later."

INT. CHLOE'S BEDROOM - DAY

Chloe's in a robe with her mother Jana and her brother JASON (15), who's sarcastic, perhaps too smart for his own good. Jana has two outfits out for Chloe to choose from but unlike before last week's party, Chloe's not at all excited.

JANA

Go with the red outfit. It brings
out the color in your eyes.

CHLOE

Here's a thought. How about I stay
home from school?

JASON

If she gets to milk any more out
of this, then I'm staying home
too. Missy and I were close.

For a moment, Chloe's grief gives away to typical brother-sister bickering.

CHLOE

Jason, you two hardly ever spoke.

JASON

We talked with our eyes.

CHLOE

She wouldn't have been able to
pick you out of a police line-up.

(then, to her mom)

I'm not ready. Just thinking about
going to school makes me sick.

JANA

Honey, I know it's going to be
hard. But you have to go back
sometime.

CHLOE

You could always homeschool me.

JASON

I've seen her high school report cards. I don't think homeschool's an option.

(off his mom's look)

I'm trying to help.

JANA

I really wish you wouldn't.

INT. SIDNEY'S BEDROOM - DAY

Sidney's about to walk out the door when her cell phone rings. She quickly answers it.

SIDNEY

Mom? Dad?

SHANNEN (O.S.)

No, silly, it's me.

INTERCUT:

INT. SHANNEN'S BEDROOM - DAY

SHANNEN

Have you seen the latest email?
It's gone out to everyone.

SIDNEY

Everyone?

SHANNEN

Everyone that matters, anyway.

Sidney goes to her computer and checks her email. She reads an email and is shocked.

SIDNEY

Who sent this?

SHANNEN

It doesn't say.

SIDNEY

This is crazy. It says I have something to do with Missy's death.

SHANNEN

Well everyone knew you hated her. And it did happen at your house.

SIDNEY

But...

SHANNEN

I didn't say I believed it. But that's what people will think. Hey, I'll see you at school, 'kay?

As Shannen ends the call, we see she's with Jamie-Lee.

JAMIE-LEE

You don't think people are going to believe what that email said, do you?

SHANNEN

I'm afraid they will. And that's why we're going to have to take action. For the good of the school.

INT. SCHOOL GYM - DAY

Early morning track practice has just finished. As the other ATHLETES begin heading out, Adam and Boone are left behind to shoot the breeze.

BOONE

Did you hear? Chloe's coming back today.

ADAM

I heard. She still hasn't called me back. I haven't talked to her since . . . you know.

BOONE

Since someone smothered that chick with a pillow and stuffed her body in a trash can.

ADAM

Hey, she was family! You don't know the meaning of the word "tact", do you?

BOONE

Tact is overrated. And she was your cousin, not your sister or anything like that. Your parents don't even speak.

Adam's been dialing Chloe's cell number as they talked. But--no answer.

ADAM

She still won't pick up.

BOONE

Dude, chill. She'll be here in an hour, then you can go beg for her forgiveness. Anyway, when are you gonna tell me about this chick you were banging?

ADAM

Again, tact! And I wasn't banging--I mean, sleeping with anyone.

BOONE

That's not what I heard.

ADAM

(fearful)

What exactly did you hear?

But before he can answer, someone enters. It's GARRETT, a reedy 16 year old who's out of place in a gym as a person can be.

BOONE

I think you're in the wrong room. This is the gym, not the chess club.

GARRETT

I'm here to talk to Adam. Alone.

Boone looks from Adam to Garrett, then back to Adam. What's the deal? Adam shrugs.

ADAM
(to Boone)
Just give us a minute. It's about
Geometry.

Boone walks out, but not before giving his friend a curious
look.

ADAM (CONT'D)
This had better be important. I
told you not to talk to me outside
of school.

GARRETT
Sidney Langenkamp's party was
outside of school, and we did a
lot more than talk there.

We move in on Adam's panicked face and then--

INT. LANGENKAMP BEDROOM - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Adam's in bed, half-naked. He's straddling someone -- only
we see it's not a woman, but Garrett. As he moves in to
kiss Garrett--

END FLASHBACK.

INT. SCHOOL GYM - BACK TO SCENE

ADAM
I'm only going to tell you one
more time. Don't you dare say a
word about what we've been doing.

GARRETT
That's what I came to talk to you
about. I've been thinking about
coming clean about what we've been
doing.

ADAM
What? You mean, like you're gonna
come out of the closet?

GARRETT

Something like that. Only I'm
afraid about what I might say.
About you. And us.

ADAM

What do you want?

GARRETT

Nothing much. Just some money.

Garrett grins.

INT. HAYWARD FOYER - DAY

Chloe enters the house, but before she can run upstairs,
her mother comes in from the living room. The two face off.

CHLOE

I missed the bus.

JANA

On purpose.

CHLOE

I didn't say that!

JANA

You didn't have to. Your brother
is the slowest kid I know, and if
he made it to the bus, you
could've made it too.

CHLOE

So can I stay home?

JANA

Let me think about that. No.

CHLOE

But Mom! I can't go to school.

JANA

You can and you will. I know it's
going to be hard. But you can do
it.

CHLOE

But--

JANA

No buts. Let's go!

Jana reaches for her coat and then she's out the door. When Chloe doesn't immediately follow, her mother pokes her head back in and glares at her daughter. A reluctant Chloe follows Jana out the door.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

EXT. SCHOOL - DAY

Students stream into the school at the start of the school day.

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

Adam's at his locker. Garrett approaches.

GARRETT

So, where's my money?

ADAM

You asked me about it less than an hour ago.

GARRETT

Your dad's a doctor. I figure you must have plenty of money.

ADAM

My dad's a podiatrist. He doesn't make that much money.

GARRETT

That's not my problem. I need the money by the end of the day.

ADAM

And where am I supposed to get it?

GARRETT

That's not my problem.

ADAM

You already said that.

Sidney walks up, oblivious to the topic of conversation. She starts to babble--

SIDNEY

If either of you got an email about me today, don't believe it. It's an urban legend. Like the story about the killer with a hook. You've heard that, right? It's not true. This email about me isn't true either.

GARRETT

Actually, that story about the killer with a hook happened to a friend of a friend of mine.

ADAM

No, it didn't.

SIDNEY

Well the email about me definitely isn't true. I had nothing to do with Missy's death.

GARRETT

Well the pillow used to kill her was from your house, right?

SIDNEY

Anyone at the party could've taken that pillow. For all I know, one of you killed her.

She realizes this was the wrong thing to say but it's too late. The guys stare at her.

ANOTHER ANGLE:

Luis is at his locker with his 16 year old friend FRANK TREAGER. Frank's the yin to Luis's yang; while Luis has his head in the clouds, Frank's got a realistic spin on everything.

LUIS

I hear she's coming back to school today.

FRANK

"She"? You mean that girl you've talked about every day for as long as I can remember.

LUIS

Chloe, yeah.

FRANK

I wish you'd start obsessing over something normal.

LUIS

Obsessing over girls is normal.

FRANK

Not the way you do it.

LUIS

I've come up with a way to make Chloe notice me.

FRANK

Oh yeah? What's that?

LUIS

I'm going to find Missy's killer. Then she'll have to pay attention to me.

FRANK

What? That's insane. It'll never work.

LUIS

It works in the movies all the time. Boy meets girl, boy helps girl, girl falls for boy. It's the stuff romantic comedies are made of.

FRANK

Maybe, but Missy's death is more horror than romantic comedy. Go bump into Chloe -- that's how you get a romance started in a romantic comedy.

LUIS

No, Frank, trust me, I know what I'm doing. I'm going to start investigating after school.

Frank looks appropriately skeptical.

ANOTHER ANGLE:

Chloe enters. Her brother Jason's waiting for her.

CHLOE

This was a mistake.

JASON

It's just school. You're good at school.

CHLOE

It's not the schoolwork I'm worried about.

They walk down the hallway together. They pass Frank and Luis. Frank nudges Luis, who's about to talk to Chloe when Adam approaches. Luis and Frank walk away.

ADAM

You're here. Finally!

CHLOE

I don't want to talk to you. I have enough problems this morning.

She and Jason keep on walking. Adam follows. They stop at Missy's locker, which has been made into a shrine: there's cards, notes, plenty of flowers. Chloe reacts.

CHLOE

Oh, no.

Adam ignores his ex-girlfriend's grief and gets into her face.

ADAM

You haven't called me all week.

CHLOE

There's a reason for that. My best friend -- your cousin -- died. And, oh yeah, we broke up.

ADAM

I was hoping you'd changed your mind.

CHLOE

Our relationship's dead, Adam. As
dead as--

Chloe glances at the shrine again. Stops in mid-sentence before she says anything inappropriate. She walks away alone.

ANOTHER ANGLE:

Sidney opens her mouth to speak to a student passing by, but the student doesn't even slow down as he moves past her. Shannen and Jamie-Lee approach her.

SHANNEN

I don't know how to put this nicely, so I'm just going to rip the Band-aid off as quickly as possible: you're no longer the queen bee around here.

SIDNEY

What, did you have a meeting?

Shannen holds up her cell phone.

SHANNEN

The jocks, cheerleaders, and the rest of the in-crowd and I exchanged text messages.

SIDNEY

You can't be serious. I rule this school.

SHANNEN

Ruled. As in past tense. No more. Buh-bye Sidney.

SIDNEY

This is all because of that email?

SHANNEN

The email was the tipping point. But the truth is you've been slipping for a long time.

SIDNEY

You can't do this to me! Jamie-Lee won't take your side. Right?

Sidney and Shannen look to Jamie-Lee. It's a tense moment. Finally, Jamie-Lee makes her choice . . . and joins Shannen.

JAMIE-LEE
I'm sorry, Sidney.

Shannen and Jamie-Lee turn and walk away. Sidney's left alone -- more alone than she's ever been before.

ANOTHER ANGLE:

Frank and Luis watch Chloe, who's at her locker.

FRANK
You have two choices. You can do everything you can to track down her friend's killer, or you can talk to her.
(beat)
This shouldn't be a hard question.
Go talk to her!

Luis steps forward to do just that. But Sidney's reached Chloe first.

SIDNEY
You don't believe that email about me, do you?

CHLOE
I don't know what you're talking about.

SIDNEY
You must've got it. But you've gotta know I didn't have anything to do with what happened to that girl. Right?

And that's it. Chloe slams her locker door shut. This catches most people's attention. Then she slams her book bag to the floor. This catches everyone else's attention. Chloe addresses everyone--

CHLOE

(shouting)

Okay, that's it! I don't want to
talk about what happened to Missy.
I don't want to see flowers all
over my best friend's locker. And
I really don't want to be here.

She realizes she's made a scene, which is so not like her.
Chloe hurries down the hallway and out the door. Then the
door opens, she hurries back to her locker, picks up her
book bag, and is down the hallway and out the door again.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

EXT. SCHOOL - DAY

Adam's heading for the parking lot as Garrett approaches him.

GARRETT

School's over. So where's my money?

ADAM

Are you stalking me now? I'm not giving you any money.

GARRETT

Maybe you didn't understand me before when I explained myself. This time I'll talk slow.

(enunciating every syllable)

I . . . am . . . blackmailing . . . you.

ADAM

No, you're the one who doesn't understand. I'm going to give you something even better than money.

Garrett looks Adam up and down, clearly liking what he sees.

GARRETT

Believe me, I already know that you've got something better than money.

ADAM

I'm not talking about sex, you pervert. I'm talking about a friend. You need a friend.

GARRETT

(defensive)

I have friends!

ADAM

You have acquaintances. Lab partners. Maybe even a study buddy. But I watched you at lunch today, and even though almost everyone else had someone to sit with, you didn't. So I'm going to sit with you at lunch. Do things with you. Be a friend.

GARRETT

A real friend wouldn't call me a pervert.

ADAM

I shouldn't have said that. You're not a pervert.

GARRETT

No more than you.

Spooked, Adam looks around. Did anyone just hear that? Thankfully, no.

ADAM

(sotto voce)

That was just experimenting. I'm done with that now. You and me, we're just friends. What you and I did--

GARRETT

--for the past two months--

ADAM

That never happened.

GARRETT

Uh-huh. If you say so.

Garrett doesn't believe this, but for now, Adam has enough denial for both of them.

EXT. LANGENKAMP HOUSE - DAY

Luis is back at the scene of the crime. Frank's with him. There's flowers and cards around the trash can, just like there was at Missy's locker. Luis looks into the trash can--

-

LUIS

Huh. I can't see anything.

FRANK

I assume they've already
investigated this whole place.
You're so not cut out to be
Sherlock Holmes.

LUIS

I can't leave any stone unturned.

FRANK

They probably got a new trash can,
anyway. If someone found a dead
body in our trash can, my parents
would get a new can.

Sidney comes out of the house.

SIDNEY

What are you guys doing here?

LUIS

Uh, we're here about the check
from last week. Your parents never
sent it to my dad.

SIDNEY

(skeptical)

And so you decided to search
through the trash.

LUIS

And what do you know, I didn't
find any money there.

FRANK

Maybe we should go...

SIDNEY

Or maybe you two should admit why
you're really here. You're not the
first people to come look at the
place where Missy died. Most
people just drove by, though.

LUIS

You're right, Frank, we should probably be going.

SIDNEY

No, no. You're curious. I get it. So come inside.

LUIS

Really?

SIDNEY

Sure. Come see the place around back where the police think Missy was killed. Or maybe up to my bedroom where the killer found the pillow he used to smother her. Be my guest.

Frank is already backing away. But Luis is a boy with a plan.

LUIS

When did you last see Missy that night?

SIDNEY

I don't remember exactly. It was sometime after eleven, I think. But I did see her going outside with some boy.

LUIS

A boy? What boy?

SIDNEY

I don't know. I was kinda drunk at the time.

FRANK

That could've been just about anyone, then.

SIDNEY

Yeah.

FRANK

Come on, Luis. If we go now we can catch the next bus back in to town.

Luis starts to walk away, then turns back for one final question--

LUIS

Who do you think killed her?

Sidney shrugs.

SIDNEY

She was nobody. I don't know why anyone would want to kill her.

The boys walk away. Sidney goes back towards her house. There's an envelope taped to the front door. She opens it, pulls out a piece of paper, and screams. The boys come running back.

LUIS

What is it?

Sidney hands the paper to Luis and Frank.

INSERT NOTE:

YOU'RE NEXT!

BACK TO SCENE

The boys are almost as shocked as Sidney.

Several yards away, Chloe is approaching the house. She has a bouquet of flowers in hand. But when she sees Sidney and the boys, she freezes and turns to leave.

Too late. They see her. Luis smiles.

LUIS

Chloe!

But she's already running, dropping the flowers as she takes off.

INT. HAYWARD LIVING ROOM - DAY

Jana paces next to Jason as her husband (Chloe's and Jason's dad) DEAN HAYWARD enters and greets his wife with a peck on the cheek.

DEAN

Jana, what's wrong?

JANA

Who said anything's wrong?

DEAN

You always pace when something's wrong.

JASON

Chloe only stayed at school for less than ten minutes.

JANA

(to Jason)

I was getting to that.

(to her husband)

No one bothered to call me.

JASON

I don't think any of the teachers even saw her before she left.

DEAN

Is this because of what happened to Missy?

JANA

Of course it's because of what happened to Missy, Dean. But we did the right thing. She needed to be at school.

DEAN

I know you did the right thing, honey. I wasn't questioning you. Do we have any idea where she might be?

JANA

I was just about to start calling around.

DEAN

Okay then. I'll let you get to that.

He walks out of the room. Jana opens her cell phone and begins to dial but stops suddenly.

JANA (CONT'D)

Oh.

JASON

What?

JANA

I was just about to call Missy.

JASON

But she's dead.

JANA

Well, of course I know that. It's just that ever since Chloe was in kindergarten, every time I haven't been able to find her, she's almost always been with Missy. And now . . . well, that'll never happen again. She was always there, and now she's not.

Jana fights back tears.

JANA (CONT'D)

I should probably just take her name off my speed-dial, huh?

Rather than letting loose with a quip as usual, Jason leans forward and hugs his mother. They hear the front door open. Jana pulls out of the hug.

JASON

(gesturing to the front door)

Sic her.

Jana walks towards the foyer.

INT. HAYWARD FOYER - DAY

Chloe's about to head upstairs when--

JANA (O.S.)

You didn't really think you could
get away with it, did you?

She turns to find her disapproving mother standing there.

CHLOE

I'm so, so sorry.

JANA

Well that's a start. You know,
when I said you had to go to
school, I meant for more than ten
minutes. A full day, even!

CHLOE

I tried to go to school. Really, I
did! But I couldn't take it there.
Everyone staring. Everyone knowing
that I was the best friend of the
girl who was smothered with a
pillow last week. School is
supposed to be about learning, and
there was no way I was going to
learn anything today.

And you know what? The speech works. Jana softens.

JANA

I'm going to let you off the hook
this time.

CHLOE

That's no fair!

(beat)

Wait, what? You're not grounding
me?

JANA

Not this time. But you're going to
have to go to school tomorrow. I
know it'll be hard, but school is
important. Missy would've wanted
you to go. Maybe you can talk to
the school counselor . . .

(Chloe gives a
disapproving look)

Or maybe we can come up with a
more socially acceptable option.

CHLOE

That would be good.

JANA

Oh, and if your brother asks, tell him I gave you a stern talking to.

This makes Chloe smile, which makes her mother smile. Then, without warning, Jana hugs her daughter.

INT. SHANNEN'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Shannen's furiously typing away at her computer while Jamie-Lee stands nearby.

JAMIE-LEE

What are you working on?

SHANNEN

Plans for next week's party.

JAMIE-LEE

Isn't it kinda bad taste to have a party so soon after the last one? I mean, a girl died.

SHANNEN

Just Missy. She hardly mattered. Besides, I heard the police think it was a random incident.

JAMIE-LEE

But the email said...

SHANNEN

Forget the email! My Dad's a cop, so I know what I'm talking about. They think some kind of street trash broke into the house during the party, took Sidney's pillow, and used it to kill Missy.

JAMIE-LEE

But if that email was totally wrong, then why did we toss Sidney out of the group?

Shannen smiles. She stops typing.

SHANNEN

You can keep a secret, right?

JAMIE-LEE

Sure.

SHANNEN

I sent that email.

JAMIE-LEE

What? But now everyone at school thinks--

SHANNEN

--what I want them to think.

JAMIE-LEE

I don't know. That just sounds wrong.

SHANNEN

Jamie-Lee, weren't you tired of Sidney bossing you around? Making you follow her every move?

JAMIE-LEE

Well yeah, but--

SHANNEN

So now you have what you want: someone who will treat you more like an equal.

JAMIE-LEE

Well I do like that idea.

SHANNEN

Great! Now, go downstairs and get me a pop. I'm feeling thirsty. Maybe bring up some chips while you're at it.

Shannen goes back to typing her plans. Jamie-Lee just stares at her "equal." After a beat--

SHANNEN (CONT'D)

What are you waiting for?

Jamie-Lee walks out.

INT. SANCHEZ LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Luis's father pokes his head out of the kitchen long enough to say--

PABLO

Set the table. Dinner's going to be ready in less than five minutes.

LUIS

Okay.

His cell phone rings.

LUIS (CONT'D)

I just gotta take this call first.

Pablo nods and goes back to the kitchen. Luis answers his phone.

LUIS

Yo!

INTERCUT:

INT. FRANK'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Frank's sitting at his bedside.

FRANK

Since when do you start calls with "Yo"?

LUIS

Since I saw the call was from you. So, yo, what's up?

FRANK

I was just calling to make sure you're giving up on your plan to find Missy's killer.

LUIS

Why would I do that? I found a clue. She was meeting with some guy.

FRANK

That's not a clue. That's something Sidney already told the police.

LUIS

Still, it's a start. I can find out things the police can't.

FRANK

Yes, but the police can do things you can't. Like handle forensic evidence.

LUIS

I think I have a fingerprint kit from junior high somewhere . . .

FRANK

Okay, good luck with that!

As Frank ends the call, he opens the drawer on his bedside table and pulls out a photo. It's of Missy. Just seeing her picture affects him. He's clearly been holding back on telling Luis something . . .

INT. CHLOE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Chloe finishes reading in bed. She puts her book on her bedside table, next to a framed picture of her with Missy. Like Frank, seeing the picture affects Chloe. She turns the picture frame around so she won't have to see it, then climbs under her covers.

INT. CHLOE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Chloe's sleeping. A knock at the door wakes her.

CHLOE

Who is it?

No answer, except for two knocks.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

Mom? Dad, is that you?

Three quick knocks follow.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

That's you, isn't it, Jason? Just come in!

No answer this time. Chloe waits a moment, then gets out of bed and goes to the door. She opens it. Nothing. Weird. Then, she turns around and sees Missy sitting on the bed! (She's dressed in the same clothes as when she died.) Chloe screams.

MISSY

You look like you've seen a ghost.

She laughs. Chloe's stopped screaming but isn't anywhere close to laughing.

MISSY (CONT'D)

Don't worry. I'm not a ghost, and you're not crazy.

CHLOE

Then what's going on?

MISSY

You're still dreaming. I've just a figment of your imagination . . . part of your subconscious.

CHLOE

I don't understand.

MISSY

That's because you weren't paying attention when Mr. Reeves talked about the subconscious in biology class. Fortunately for you, your subconscious was listening.

CHLOE

But you look just like her.

MISSY

Yes, I do.

She points at her left wrist.

MISSY

Here's the scar where Missy fell off the bike in the third grade.

CHLOE

I remember that. You. . . she
cried for an hour.

MISSY

At least!

Chloe's finally smiling, relaxed. Missy pulls up her shirt
to reveal a pierced belly button.

MISSY (CONT'D)

And here's where she got her
piercing last year. You were so
jealous.

CHLOE

I can't believe Dad wouldn't let
me get one.

MISSY

And then there's this--

Missy takes off her necklace to reveal gruesome bruises
around her neck. Chloe screams--

INT. CHLOE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Chloe wakes up from her nightmare, still screaming for
real. She looks around. Missy's gone.

There's a knock at the door. Chloe's scared, but after a
moment--

JANA (O.S.)

Honey, are you okay?

CHLOE

You can come in, Mom.

Jana comes in.

INT. CHLOE'S BEDROOM - LATER

Jana's brought her daughter a cup of tea.

CHLOE

Thanks, Mom.

JANA

Oh! I forgot the sugar. I'll be right back.

As she leaves, her dad comes in.

DEAN

Sorry to hear about your bad dream, sweetie. Do you want to talk about it?

CHLOE

No. Well, maybe. I dreamt I saw Missy. She took off her necklace, and--

(beat)

Oh, my God.

DEAN

What?

CHLOE

I just remembered something. The night Missy died, she was wearing her necklace. But she didn't have it on when I found her body.

DEAN

You've probably just forgotten.

CHLOE

No. I was there when they pulled her body out of the trash can. She definitely wasn't wearing her necklace. What do you think that means?

Confused, she takes a sip of her tea.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

FADE IN:

INT. HAYWARD DINING ROOM - DAY

Jason, Jana, and Dean are eating pancakes at the table.
Chloe enters, looking happier than she has been in days.

CHLOE

I'm going out.

JANA

Honey, don't you want some
breakfast first?

CHLOE

I'm not hungry.

DEAN

Are you still thinking about going
to the police about that necklace?

CHLOE

Maybe tomorrow. I don't want to
deal with it today.

JASON

Where are you going?

CHLOE

None of your business.

DEAN

Well it's my business. So where
are you going?

CHLOE

Just out. I'll be back this
afternoon.

If it's possible to smile too much, Chloe's doing it now.

JANA

Chloe, are you sure you're okay?

CHLOE

I'm fine.

She gestures at her outfit.

CHLOE (CONT'D)
And you were right. The red does
bring out the color in my eyes.

Chloe leaves, still smiling from ear to ear.

JASON
I think she's on drugs. Coke,
maybe.

EXT./INT. ROLLER RINK - DAY

Boone is hurrying down the sidewalk when he glances over through the GLASS DOOR to see Adam's not only with Garrett, but he's putting on roller skates. Boone taps the glass, gets Adam's attention, and gestures for Adam to come outside. Adam skates out the door.

BOONE
What are you doing? Here? With
him?

ADAM
I'm roller-skating with a friend.

BOONE
We don't roller-skate.

ADAM
You don't roller-skate. I do.

BOONE
When's the last time you were on
skates? Not roller blades, but--
(gesturing at the
skates)
--those things.

ADAM
Okay, it's been a while. I was 11
the last time, probably. But
Garrett suggested it, and it
sounded fun. And it is fun.

BOONE
You look like a dork.

ADAM

Maybe I am a dork. Maybe you don't
know me as well as you think.

BOONE

What the hell? Since when are you
hanging out with geeks like
Garrett anyway?

ADAM

I don't see what the big deal is.
You and I are friends. Garrett and
I are friends.

Garrett roller skates out the door and joins Adam and
Boone.

GARRETT

You're coming back inside, right,
Adam?

ADAM

I'll be there in a minute.

GARRETT

Hey, Boone. Wanna join us?

BOONE

Uh, no. I need to be . . .
somewhere else.

Shannen walks by just in time to see Adam and Garrett skate
back into the roller rink.

SHANNEN

What's Adam doing with that dork?

BOONE

I don't know, but I'm going to
find out.

INT. LANGENKAMP BATHROOM - DAY

Sidney's with her mother, FELICIA LANGENKAMP, a demanding,
well-put together socialite who's putting on her makeup as
they talk.

SIDNEY

I'm thinking of throwing a party
to get my social standing back.

FELICIA

Another party? Your last one is
what got you into trouble in the
first place.

SIDNEY

Mother, this is supposed to be the
part where you tell me I can
achieve anything if I try hard
enough.

FELICIA

Darling, you should know me better
than to spout that nonsense. All
sorts of people try all sorts of
things, and most of them fail.

SIDNEY

I just wish I knew who'd sent that
email.

FELICIA

I'd put good money on that Shannen
being responsible. I've never
trusted her.

SIDNEY

Her mother's one of your best
friends!

FELICIA

I've never trusted her, either.

Felicia's finished her makeup and has moved on to looking
at her daughter's reflection in the mirror.

FELICIA (CONT'D)

If you took better care of your
pores, you might not be in this
situation right now.

Sidney's crushed. Her mother doesn't even notice this.
Sidney tries to change the subject--

SIDNEY

So where's Daddy at today?

FELICIA

A brunch, I think.

SIDNEY

He didn't ask you to come?

FELICIA

Your father knows better than to
invite to me any event that
doesn't serve wine.

She starts to laugh. Sidney opens her mouth to respond,
then stops -- and then crashes to the floor. Is she dead?
Felicia reacts.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Chloe has a picnic basket and a blanket. She sets out the
blanket, then puts the basket on top of it.

CLOSE on the basket. We pull back to find we're in . . .

EXT. PARK - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Chloe's having a picnic with Missy. She hands her friend a
sandwich.

MISSY

Peanut butter and honey?

CHLOE

Of course.

MISSY

You make the best sandwiches.

CHLOE

Thanks! So . . .

MISSY

Yes?

CHLOE

Don't get me wrong, I love a good
picnic. But why are we here?

MISSY

I figured this could be our thing.

CHLOE

Our thing?

MISSY

Something we do together every week.

(beat)

You probably think that's stupid.

CHLOE

No! I like it.

The girls both smile.

EXT. PARK - DAY (PRESENT)

Chloe's finished setting up her picnic. She starts to eat her sandwich, alone.

AT A DISTANCE

Luis and Frank are walking along, not noticing Chloe.

FRANK

So what now, Sherlock?

LUIS

I'm going to question everyone who was there that night. Starting with--

Frank notices Chloe on the grass.

FRANK

Chloe.

LUIS

No, I'll save her for last.

FRANK

What would you say to her if she was here right now?

LUIS

I don't like that hypothetical.

FRANK
I'm not being hypothetical.

He points in Chloe's direction.

LUIS
Oh!

FRANK
This is your shot. Go talk to her.
Now or never!

LUIS
You're wrong. Just because I don't
talk to her today doesn't mean--

FRANK
Come on. I'm tired of you waiting.
Go talk to her.

Luis hesitates.

Chloe's slowly eating her sandwich. It's not as fun doing
it alone as she thought.

EXT. PARK - DAY (FLASHBACK)

CHLOE
Guess what I have in here.

Missy leans over to look in the basket, but Chloe pulls it
back.

CHLOE (CONT'D)
Come on, guess! It's your
favorite.

MISSY
Uh, fried chicken?

CHLOE
Please. Like I can cook fried
chicken!

MISSY
Uh, your mom's macaroni salad?

CHLOE
I wish!

MISSY

I give up.

Chloe pulls out . . . slices of watermelon, wrapped in plastic bags.

MISSY (CONT'D)

Watermelon? I like it, but that's your favorite, not mine.

CHLOE

Close enough.

Missy laughs. The two teens are both enjoying themselves.

EXT. PARK - DAY (PRESENT)

Chloe puts the rest of her sandwich aside; she's lost her appetite. And she's starting to tear up. Luis approaches her from behind.

EXT. PARK - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Chloe and Missy have finished their watermelon.

MISSY

That was great.

CHLOE

Yeah. You're right, we should do this every Saturday.

They just enjoy the moment...

EXT. PARK - DAY (PRESENT)

Chloe's on the brink of tears now . . . just as an unsuspecting Luis reaches her. He sits down to be on her level.

LUIS

Hi, Chloe. It's Luis. Luis Sanchez? I'm in your English class. Anyway, I just wanted to say hi.

Chloe bursts into tears. She's only barely heard anything Luis just said. For a moment, Luis doesn't know how to react -- but then he leans forward, takes her into his arms, and hugs her.

Chloe continues to cry as Luis holds on to her.

FADE TO BLACK:

After a moment, just as we think it's over, we hear the sound of a door opening--

FADE IN:

INT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE - DAY

A DOCTOR enters the room. An expectant Sidney looks to him.

DOCTOR

Your tests are back, and it's just what I thought. You're pregnant.

A beat, and then -- Sidney laughs.

SIDNEY

You'd better run your tests again, doctor, because there's no way I'm pregnant.

DOCTOR

I ran the test twice, Miss Langenkamp, and I have no doubt you're pregnant. How long have you been sexually active?

SIDNEY

That's just it. I can't be pregnant . . . because I've never had sex.

With this confession, we

BLACK OUT.

THE END