DEPUTY ROBERTS.

INT. REED RESIDENCE - HALLWAY - NIGHT

DEPUTY ROBERTS hears the CREAKING of the floor boards. RITA gives him a scared look. Instinctively, he reaches for his GUN --

DEPUTY ROBERTS

I'll be right back, ma'am.

-- He CREEPS toward the noise as Rita BACKS UP...

-- CLOSER.

CLOSER.

And from around the corner, POPS OUT DEPUTY LAKE RIVERS.

DEPUTY ROBERTS (CONT'D)

GAH! You scared me. With all the creepy shit happening 'round here, you could at least announce your presence.

DEPUTY RIVERS

Sorry, Deputy. Everything OK?

She looks back at Rita, who gives a nod. Rivers turns her eyes back at Roberts. Gives him a serious GLARE.

DEPUTY RIVERS (CONT'D)

It's time.

(beat)

Your turn to take the outside shift.

DEPUTY ROBERTS

(sarcastic)

Great. Rookie cop outside at night with a serial killer running around. Good idea.

Rivers scoffs - smiles. She flashes her bandaged arm at him.

DEPUTY RIVERS

Hey, I've already risked my ass for them, it's your turn.

Deputy Rivers walks away. Roberts looks back at Rita.

DEPUTY ROBERTS

Lake will be in here with you, I'm taking the outside shift, OK?

Rita nods -- shuffling nervously in her place.

RITA

Alright. Just... Be careful.

Roberts smiles. The first sign of sheer confidence we've seen in him as of yet.

DEPUTY ROBERTS

I will.

And with that, he disappears out the door.