

ALDERBROOK FALLS

Season 1, Episode 1: **PILOT**

An Original Series Written By
Zachary Rosemann

OPEN ON:

A FULL MOON.

The stars are shining around it as we pan down to a snowy forest with a mountain background, it's calm before a girl is RUNNING from something.

LEA CARTARONI, 16, wearing nothing but a short sleeved shirt and blue jeans, she quickly passes through several branches before ducking behind a tree.

She takes a breath, shivering before hearing footsteps coming towards her.

They're heavy, each step making a thud against the snow as Lea looks around, she hears the steps getting closer and closer, she looks around and sees light through the trees, she smiles before **BOLTING** towards them, she makes it to the trees before an axe is **THROWN** into her back. She falls onto the snow.

Now profusely bleeding from her wound, Lea screams in agony as the heavy footsteps get closer, she looks around

LEA
HELP ME. SOMEBODY PLEASE HEL-

The figure puts their foot on her head into the snow, muffling the screams before the light fades, she cries before the figure **PULLS** the axe out of her back, she screams as she's turned over, she puts her hand up in desperation

LEA (CONT'D)
Please.. have mercy..

We get a closeup on the axe, dripping in Lea's blood before the figure pulls it over their head and **SWOOSH**

We cut to the full moon, only hearing the echoes of Lea's screams before it fades to black

SMASH TO:

ALDERBROOK FALLS

"25 years ago.."

OPEN ON:

An establishing shot of a two-story house, it's a nice blue color with the morning sun hitting just right, making it more vibrant.

it has lawn chairs strung across the yard and the grass is a yellowish green. We see a work bench on the front porch as we

CUT TO:

INT. FRANCO RESIDENCE - MATT'S ROOM - MORNING

It's a somewhat messy room, pictures of a boy and his family on one side of the wall with another of him and a girl.

There's a big box computer sitting on a desk in the corner, clothes hanging out of a dresser and we focus on the boy, sleeping in his bed, the clock hits 7:00 and lets out a loud ring before he turns over to turn it off.

This is **MATT FRANCO**, 15, wearing a plain white T-shirt and basketball shorts, his hair is shoulder length and frizzled as he sits up, he rubs his eyes as he gets up, opening his dresser and grabbing a shirt and pants before it

CUT TO:

INT. FRANCO RESIDENCE - FOYER - MOMENTS LATER

We see Matt, wearing a plain blue shirt and black jeans, his hair now brushed, he puts on a long sleeve cardigan before getting to the front door, he fixes his shirt and rolls his sleeves up before his mother, **MARTHA FRANCO**, mid 40s, wearing a robe and slippers, comes into the room

MARTHA
Morning, sweetie..

Matt looks at her, he smiles as he grabs his bookbag and puts it around his back

MATT
Hi mom..

MARTHA
You leavin' early?

Matt nods

MATT
I'm meeting with Lisa today.. gonna give her a ride to school again..

Martha smiles as he comes over to hug her, they break off

MATT (CONT'D)
See you after school..

Martha nods

MARTHA
Of course. Just, be safe..

Matt nods

MATT
I will..

Matt makes his way to the door and opens it, he waves to his mother goodbye before shutting the door

EXT. FRANCO RESIDENCE - DRIVEWAY

Matt walks down the steps and along the pathway to get to his bike, he gets on it and rides off down the road.

We ride along with him through the town square, he waves to several townspeople while seeing various locations such as LENNY'S BAR, BURT'S DINER, and ARTHUR'S TOOLSHED before he turns into a neighborhood

CUT TO:

EXT. MORGAN RESIDENCE - DRIVEWAY - MOMENTS LATER

We see a girl, the same one we saw in the photo, waiting on the driveway.

LISA MORGAN, 15, wearing a tank top under a leather jacket and black pants with holes cut where the knees are, she's holding her backpack in her hand before she sees Matt pull up. She flashes a smile as he comes to a stop

LISA
My trusty stead. right on time as
always..

Matt smiles as she walks up, he puts his bike on the kickstand and gets off before she kisses him, he kisses back before they look at each other

MATT
You're peppier than usual this
morning..

Lisa nods before her father comes out, mid 40s, wearing a priest uniform

LISA'S FATHER
Lisa, you forgot your lunch money..

Lisa breaks off from Matt, she scratches her head before turning around

LISA
Uh.. thanks dad.. I'll be right there..

Lisa turns around as Matt playfully shrugs, Lisa shrugs back as she walks towards the steps, Lisa's father looks at him

LISA'S FATHER
Matt Franco, is that you?

Matt waves at him

MATT
Hi, Father Morgan..

FATHER MORGAN
I uh.. must've missed you at mass last night..

Matt nods

MATT
Yeah, I uh.. had a double shift at the supermarket, I'm sure it was a great service though..

Father Morgan nods as Lisa grabs the lunch money

FATHER MORGAN
Well, maybe tonight can be a catchup night, Just swing on by..

Matt scratches his head as Lisa walks back, mouthing "no" as Matt thinks

MATT
I don't think tonight's a good night for me, father.. got a lot of studying to do and I uh..

FATHER MORGAN
You can always make time for the lord, Matt.. it'll only be an hour..

Matt looks at Lisa, who's by him now, he sighs

MATT
Yeah, okay.. I'll be by after
school..

Father Morgan smiles, he nods

FATHER MORGAN
Great.. can't wait..

Matt smiles coyly

MATT
Me either.. see you then..

Father Morgan nods

FATHER MORGAN
Be safe, you two..

Matt gets on his bike, Lisa gets on the back and they ride off down the street as it

CUT TO:

INT. ALDERBROOK HIGH - HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

We see Matt and Lisa walk down the hall, passing several students as she looks at him

LISA
Can't believe my dad did that..

MATT
Well, to be fair. when I met him,
you mentioned just how much I loved
going to church..

Lisa shrugs

LISA
You know how he is.. he was never
gonna let me date you if I told him
you were an atheist..

Matt nods in agreement

MATT
So what happens if we tell him now?
It's only been a couple months..

Lisa smacks his shoulder, he winces

MATT (CONT'D)
Ow, what the hell?

LISA
If we tell him, he'll freak.. and
who knows what he'll do to us..

Matt shrugs as they continue walking

MATT
He's a harmless priest, what
exactly can he do?

LISA
For starters, break us up.. and
then he'll probably homeschool me
which may lead to me actually
killing someone..

Matt chuckles as he wraps his arm around Lisa

MATT
He's not going to break us up.. and
I won't tell him..

Lisa chuckles, she nods as they look at each other

LISA
Thank you..

Matt nods as they get to his locker, he opens it as Lisa
looks around

LISA (CONT'D)
Huh, that's weird..

Matt looks at her

MATT
What?

LISA
Katie usually walks up to us by
now..

Matt shrugs as he grabs books from his locker

MATT
Maybe she's taking a sick day?

LISA
A week before exams? I highly doubt
it..

Matt nods as a group of teens walk up to them.

HENRY SAWYER, 15, his hair swooshed to the side, wearing a letterman jacket over his collared black and green striped shirt tucked into brown jeans.

LANCE HENRIKSON, 16, has short hair, wearing a gray hoodie with sweatpants, his glasses hang on his nose

MADISON GRANT, 17, wearing an all pink attire, standing out from the others, her hair a bright blonde and in a ponytail

And **TOM GRANT**, 15, wearing a plain white T-shirt with a blue collared button up unbuttoned over it with brown shorts

HENRY

Hey guys..

Matt looks at them and nods

MATT

Henry. Lance. Maddie. Tommy. How goes it?

LANCE

We're actually looking for Katie, she didn't show up at breakfast this morning..

LISA

Matt says she's taking a sick day..

MADISON

A week before exams?

Lisa playfully nods

LISA

That's what I said..

MATT

Oh ha ha..

TOM

She could just be at her house..

HENRY

I actually looked there.. no Katie but I just assumed she was here..

Matt looks at them, he thinks

MATT

That uh.. that is unusual.

MADISON

Did you ask her parents where she
might be?

HENRY

Yeah.. they said she never came
home last night..

LANCE

Wasn't last night Mass?

LISA

I saw her but didn't see her leave
with anyone..

Tom thinks as he looks at Matt

TOM

Speaking of Mass, where were you
last night, Matty?

Matt looks at him as he shuts his locker

MATT

I had a double shift at the
supermarket..

MADISON

Damn, they're making you work
doubles now?

Matt nods

MATT

Tell me about it.. I worked until
10 and was exhausted when I got
home..

Madison chuckles as Lisa thinks

LISA

Guys, can we get back to finding
Katie?

Henry shrugs

HENRY

She might've pulled an all nighter
or something, I bet we'll see her
later at the party..

Matt looks at him

MATT
Shit, that's tonight?

Lance nods

LANCE
Yeah, we've been talking about it
for weeks now..

Matt sighs

MATT
I know.. but I gotta be at Lisa's
house after school..

MADISON
Why?

LISA
My dad insisted on catching him up
on what he missed at Mass
yesterday..

TOM
Damn..

MADISON
Well, it isn't like you'll be there
all night, right? The party starts
at 7..

Matt nods

MATT
Right..

The bell rings suddenly, they all break off and go to their
respective classes as it

CUT TO:

INT. ALDERBROOK HIGH - GYMNASIUM - AFTERNOON

We see Matt, now in gym clothes, jogging along the court with
Tom, who's falling behind

MATT
Come on, Tommy..

TOM (PANTING)
You know I'm not athletic, right?

MATT

We're almost there, just a few more steps..

Tom pushes to get next to Matt, he grabs his arm as they pass **COACH WILSON**, wearing the average gym coach attire, who looks impressed as he clicks his stopwatch, the boys stop to catch their breath

COACH WILSON

Nice job, you two. 3:15 and 3:16 respectively..

Matt pats Tom on the back as they look at Coach Wilson

COACH WILSON (CONT'D)

Go to the locker room. next duo, make your way to the line.

Matt and Tom nod as it

CUT TO:

INT. ALDERBROOK HIGH - LOCKER ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

We see Matt putting his shirt on as Tom stares at the mascot display.

It's the ALDERBROOK RAVEN, an all black costume with a plain white basketball jersey covering the chest area and baggy shorts covering the majority of the crotch. Tom thinks

TOM

Ever get the heebie jeebies from this costume?

Matt glances at him as he sits down to put his shoes on, he shrugs

MATT

Not really.. it's just a costume..

Tom nods as he turns around

TOM

I get that.. but still.. it always gave me the impression that.. something dark comes with wearing it..

Matt nods

MATT

I mean.. it is dark when you put it on.. I couldn't see jackshit when I put the head on..

TOM

I'm not talking about that kind of dark, man.. I'm talking about like.. dark energy.. shit like that..

Matt looks at him, he chuckles as he ties his shoes

MATT

Tommy, there isn't such a thing as "dark energy".. the costume is creepy, yes but that's all it is, man..

Tom chuckles as he sits across from him, he sighs

TOM

Maybe you're right.. I might have to stop watching X-Files..

Matt chuckles as he sits back, he looks at the costume before it

CUT TO:

INT. ALDERBROOK HIGH - COMMS AREA - MOMENTS LATER

We see Madison walk up to a payphone, she puts a couple cents in and dials a number, it rings before it picks up

WOMAN (ON PHONE)

Hello?

MADISON

Hi, Mrs. Stuart, it's Madison Grant, I was calling to see if Katie came home yet?

MRS. STUART

No.. I figured she was at school.. why?

Madison sighs, she looks around

MADISON

She's not here either.. is there any other place she would be?

MRS. STUART
Um.. Not that I can think of.. is
something wrong?

Madison shakes her head

MADISON
No Ma'am, I'm sure she'll pop up,
sorry for wasting your time..

Madison hangs up, she sighs before she turns around, seeing Lisa, she jumps back

MADISON (CONT'D)
Don't do that, Lisa..

LISA
Sorry.. Who'd you call?

Madison shrugs, shaking her head

MADISON
I tried calling Katie's mom but it
was a dead end.. that's all..

Lisa nods as Madison awkwardly walks away, she watches on as it

CUT TO:

EXT. ALDERBROOK HIGH - PARKING LOT - LATER

We see Matt walk out of the school with his fellow students, he goes up to the bike rack to see Lisa, all smiles as they look at each other

MATT
Hey.. you need a ride back?

Lisa chuckles as she wraps her arms around him, she sighs

LISA
I wish but uh.. I gotta stay back
for tutoring..

Matt nods as he looks around, Lisa turns his head towards her

LISA (CONT'D)
I know. I know. It sucks but.. I'll
see you at the party tonight,
right?

Matt smiles, he nods

MATT
Wouldn't miss it..

Lisa smiles as they kiss, they look at each other before Lisa breaks off from him

LISA
Okay, I'll see you tonight..

Matt nods as she walks away, Matt grabs his bike off of the rack and walks with it down the sidewalk before getting on it, he rides off down the street as it

CUT TO:

INT. ALDERBROOK HIGH - COACH WILSON'S OFFICE - LATER

It's a relatively big area that takes up a corner in the locker room, there's two big square windows in the front with awards along the walls as well as a computer that's booted up.

We pan to see Coach Wilson, looking through papers as a silhouetted figure creeps into the locker room, he sits back in his chair before hearing a clanging noise, he gets up and looks through his window

COACH WILSON
Hello?

No answer, he goes out and down the steps to look around, seemingly nothing out of place, he scratches his head as he walks along the lockers, he gets to the entrance and looks down the hall to see nothing, not noticing an axe missing from the display case as he hears a CRASH from inside the locker room.

He rushes in to see that the Alderbrook Raven costume is gone from the display case, with the mannequin knocked over, he looks around, darting his eyes back and forth

COACH WILSON (CONT'D)
All right, asshole you got exactly
10 seconds to come out before I
call the cops..

No answer, he looks around before hearing a toilet flush, he turns towards the bathroom extension of the locker room and enters it

INT. ALDERBROOK HIGH - BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

It's a neat bathroom, the stall doors are all shut and there's a big mural on the wall reading "GO RAVENS". Coach Wilson looks around

COACH WILSON

If this is your idea of a senior prank, you're gonna have to pay a very hefty fee for that glass display..

BANG

Coach Wilson smacks open the first stall door, there's nothing there. He sighs as he goes to the next stall

COACH WILSON (CONT'D)

You know, if you come out now there won't be any major consequences..

BANG

Coach Wilson smacks open the second stall, nothing. He sighs once more before looking under the third stall, seeing the big raven's feet, he chuckles before moving towards the stall door

COACH WILSON (CONT'D)

Gave you a chance, kid. Now you're done for..

BANG

Coach Wilson smacks the stall door open only to get an **AXE** to the chest.

Coach Wilson looks shocked, he backs into the sink as the **ALDERBROOK RAVEN** steps out, looking towards the Coach as he falls on his back, blood gushes out of his wound as the Alderbrook Raven **PULLS** the axe out, blood splashes onto the sink and the mirror as the Raven winds back the axe, Coach Wilson spits up blood, holding his hand up

COACH WILSON (CONT'D)

Please. Don't..

The Alderbrook Raven **SWIPES** the axe downwards, planting it in Coach Wilson's head, killing him instantly as it

CUT TO:

EXT. MORGAN RESIDENCE - FRONT PORCH - MOMENTS LATER

We see Matt sitting on the porch steps as he sees Father Morgan pull into the driveway, he stands up as the car turns off, Father Morgan comes out of the car with a smile as he looks at Matt

FATHER MORGAN

Ah, you actually came, Matthew..

Matt nods as Father Morgan makes his way towards the steps

MATT

Well, I'm a boy of my word,
Father.. and I think Lisa would've
killed me if I blew you off.

Father Morgan chuckles as he makes his way up the steps, he looks at Matt

FATHER MORGAN

I don't think it would ever come to
that. My daughter, she's rebellious
but murder isn't in her future..

Matt chuckles as Father Morgan goes to unlock the door, he opens it and looks at Matt

FATHER MORGAN (CONT'D)

Come on in..

Matt nods as he follows Father Morgan into the house as it

CUT TO:

INT. MORGAN RESIDENCE - LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Matt is sitting on the couch, he looks around the room.

It's a nice and tidy space, there's a cross over the fireplace along with pictures of Father Morgan and Lisa, he looks at the coffee table to find a bible and a couple magazines before he looks to see Father Morgan come in, wearing a black long sleeved collared shirt tucked into his black pants, he sits across from him and smiles

FATHER MORGAN

Now that we're all settled.. I
wanted to ask you a few questions
before we get into the lesson..

Matt nods

MATT

Okay..

Father Morgan nods, he thinks before looking back at Matt

FATHER MORGAN

What is the real reason that you
skipped mass last night?

Matt looks at him, confused

MATT

What? I was working at the
supermarket..

FATHER MORGAN

You were.. but they closed at
nine.. you got off at five because
I called to confirm..

Matt looks at him, they both stare at each other before he
sighs

MATT

Okay, fine.. I stayed home after I
got off work..

Father Morgan nods as he thinks

FATHER MORGAN

So.. why did you lie?

MATT

Because.. I knew you'd hate my real
reason..

Father Morgan looks intrigued, he shrugs

FATHER MORGAN

I'm a forgiving person, Matthew..
I'm sure that whatever you say
won't--

MATT

I'm an atheist, Father Morgan..

Father Morgan looks shocked, he sits back and thinks as Matt
sighs

MATT (CONT'D)

I only go to mass because it makes
my mom happy.. it's rare to see her
smile nowadays after my dad died..

Father Morgan nods as he sighs, he sits up

FATHER MORGAN

I'm not mad.. I actually appreciate
the honesty.. but why lie about it?

Matt shrugs

MATT

I don't know.. my friends are all
religious people for the most part
and.. I'm worried that I'd be an
outcast if I told them my beliefs..

Father Morgan nods, he thinks

FATHER MORGAN

I wasn't always a priest, Matthew..

Matt looks confused

MATT

Seriously? But you've worn the robe
every day?

FATHER MORGAN

Yeah. but as a teenager, I was like
my daughter and my dad was like
me.. religion runs deep in my
family but.. I never fully accepted
God into my life until I met Lisa's
mother.. she helped me find my
faith and now after her death.. I
feel her presence along with
God's..

MATT

Whoa.. I uh.. never really thought
about it like that before..

Father Matthew nods

FATHER MORGAN

I'm not gonna tell you how to live
your life, Matthew.. but at the
very least, I can tell you to give
God a shot..

Matt nods as Father Morgan stands up

FATHER MORGAN (CONT'D)

Will I see you at mass next week?

Matt looks at him, he nods

MATT
Absolutely..

Matt stands up, he looks at Father Morgan

MATT (CONT'D)
Thank you, Father Morgan..

Father Morgan nods, he pats him on the shoulder as Matt leaves the room before it

CUT TO:

Matt, riding his bike through the town square with a smile on his face, the street lights are on and people are closing up shop for the day.

he glances over at the Alderbrook High parking lot to see multiple cruisers and a coroner's van, he stops to see them cart out a body from the gymnasium entrance covered with a sheet and put into the van, Matt looks confused before riding off as it

CUT TO:

INT. WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

It's a big area filled with students partying and drinking, strobe lights are on as EDM music is playing, we see Lisa dancing while drinking before we pan over to Madison and Henry doing the same as we see Lance standing next to a girl, their talking as the camera pans over to the entrance where we see Matt enter, looking distracted before Madison spots him, she smiles as she walks over to him

MADISON (YELLING OVER THE MUSIC)
HEY, you made it..

Matt looks at her, he snaps out of it and smiles

MATT (YELLING OVER THE MUSIC)
Yeah, I promised Lisa.. which speaking of..

He looks behind her as Lisa walks over to them, she smiles as Madison walks away

LISA (YELLING OVER THE MUSIC)
Yay, you finally made it, what took you so long?

MATT (YELLING OVER THE MUSIC)
Your dad.. he uh--

LISA (YELLING OVER THE MUSIC)
Gave a long speech?

Matt nods as Lisa nods back

LISA (YELLING OVER THE MUSIC) (CONT'D)
Well, I'm glad that you're here..
want a drink?

Matt looks at her, he smiles and nods as Lisa leads him to the drinks as it

CUE MONTAGE:

We see Matt and Lisa dance with each other, he spins her around and they both chuckle as she goes into his arms, they dance some more as we focus on Madison and Henry, conversing with a couple students while drinking as Lance is seen dancing with the girl we saw earlier as it

CUT TO:

EXT. WAREHOUSE - FRONT ENTRANCE - MOMENTS LATER

We see Matt step out of the warehouse, he looks around and takes in the cool breeze as Lisa follows behind him, all smiles

LISA
You okay?

Matt nods as he turns around, looking at her

MATT
Yeah.. just catchin' my breath..

Lisa nods as she thinks, she looks around before looking at him

LISA
I have an idea.. the falls isn't that far from here..

Matt realizes what she means and smiles

MATT
I'm down..

Lisa smiles

LISA
Okay, follow me..

Lisa takes his hand and takes him towards the forest. They walk pass the several trees as the sound of the falls grow closer and closer before they approach a bridge leading across the falls, they walk onto the platform and look down, they see the water running off of the drop and they take in the sound of rushing water, Lisa looks at Matt leaning on the guardrail, who looks out of it as she wraps her arm around

LISA (CONT'D)
You seem tense, you sure you're all right babe?

Matt nods

MATT
Yeah, I'm fine, it's just.. I saw a couple cops and a van at the high school..

LISA (CONCERNED)
Shit.. what happened?

Matt shrugs

MATT
No idea..

Lisa nods as she thinks, she shrugs

LISA
It could be nothing, Matt..

Matt nods

MATT
I know, I know.. I just haven't seen that many cops since my dad--

Matt shakes his head, Lisa rests her head on his shoulder

LISA
Sorry..

MATT
It's okay, I'm okay..

Lisa nods

LISA
Okay..

It grows silent as the sounds of rushing water fills the silence, Matt chuckles as he sighs

MATT
I am, in fact, a little drunk..

Lisa chuckles before she nods

LISA
Me too.. wanna head back?

Matt looks at her, she looks at him in the eyes, he shifts to wrap his arms around her

MATT
I think we can stay for a little bit longer..

Lisa smiles and as does Matt, they get closer and kiss each other, Lisa hugs Matt as it

CUT TO:

INT. FOREST - MOMENTS LATER

Matt and Lisa are walking through the woods, smiling at each other, they turn before seeing a lump covered in leaves, Matt and Lisa stop in their tracks

MATT (CONFUSED)
What the hell is that?

LISA (CONFUSED)
No idea..

Lisa walks up to him, Matt looks at her

MATT
Lisa, what're you--

LISA
I just wanna see what it is..

Lisa kneels down and brushes the leaves off of one side of the lump only to reveal a shoe and a pant leg, Lisa backs up before she looks at Matt

LISA (CONT'D)
I think it's a person..

Matt walks up, he approaches her and brushes off the leaves to reveal a coat and a familiar face.

It's **KATIE STUART**, with a rope wrapped around her neck, her face dirty and glasses cracked, Matt and Lisa back up in shock

MATT
Holy shit..

LISA
It's Katie.. she's-- she's dead..

Matt looks at her, he thinks before pulling her away

MATT
Listen to me, there's a payphone
not far from the warehouse, I need
you to go and call 911..

Lisa looks at Matt

LISA (SHOCKED)
Matt, I'm not just--

MATT
You have to.. I'll stay right here
and make sure no one else sees
her.. go now, please?

Lisa nods as she runs through the forest, Matt looks at Katie, in shock before it

SMASH TO:

"PRESENT DAY"

FADE IN:

INT. FRANCO RESIDENCE - MATTHEW'S ROOM - MORNING

It's a much more tidier room, the summer sunshine is gone and the cold greyness fills the room. there's pictures of a man and his daughter along the wall as well as a uniform folded neatly on the dresser as we focus on the man in bed.

This is **MATTHEW FRANCO**, now 40 years old, wearing a plain white T-shirt and basketball shorts. His hair now a comover and a full beard matching it.

He opens his eyes to the sound of his alarm on his phone, reading 7:30 as he turns over to turn it off, he gets up and sighs, rubbing his eyes, his arm noticeably having a big scar before he gets up and grabs his clothes, entering his bathroom as it

CUT TO:

INT. FRANCO RESIDENCE - STAIRWAY - MOMENTS LATER

We see Matthew, now wearing his uniform, it's a long sleeve button up shirt with a white undershirt and black pants, with the badge reading "Alderbrook Falls County SHERIFF". he comes down the stairs and into the

INT. FRANCO RESIDENCE - DINING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Where he sees **KENDALL FRANCO**, 15, wearing a blue jacket with matching blue jeans, a beanie is next to her bowl of cereal as she looks at her father

KENDALL

Morning dad..

Matthew smiles at his daughter as he makes his way to the running coffee maker

MATTHEW

Morning kiddo..

Kendall smiles as she eats her cereal, she looks at him

KENDALL

Did you sleep okay?

Matthew looks at her, he nods

MATTHEW

Yeah, why do you ask?

Kendall shrugs

KENDALL

I uh.. just heard you mumbling again.. figured it was a bad dream..

Matthew chuckles lightly and nods

MATTHEW

Yeah.. it was.. but I promise you, I'm fine..

Kendall smiles as she nods back before she eats another scoop of her cereal, Matthew pours his coffee into a cup and walks over to a chair next to her and sits down, he looks at her

MATTHEW (CONT'D)

So.. what's on the agenda for today?

Kendall looks at him, she shrugs

KENDALL

Nothing much, other than school and
setting up for the winter formal.

Matthew nods as he sips his coffee, he sets it down

MATTHEW

How is that going?

KENDALL

Good. We settled on the main theme
being blue and the gymnasium got
approved for the place to hold it
at.. now we're just bringing in
decorations..

Matthew nods

MATTHEW

Sounds like a lot of work..

Kendall nods

KENDALL

It is, but we're committed..

Matthew nods as Kendall takes another bite of her cereal, she
looks at him

KENDALL (CONT'D)

What about you? Are you uh.. gonna
go see Ms. McCormick again?

Matthew looks at her as she chuckles, he smiles

MATTHEW

There's nothing going on with me
and Susan.. and for the record, I
was in her store the other day to
pick out flowers..

Kendall playfully nods

KENDALL

Uh huh, just flowers..

Matthew chuckles as he checks his phone, he gets up

MATTHEW

Finish your cereal, we gotta go..

Kendall nods as Matthew picks up his coffee and goes towards the door, Kendall finishes her cereal as Matthew puts on his coat before it

CUT TO:

EXT. FRANCO RESIDENCE - DRIVEWAY - CONTINUOUS

We see Matthew, now wearing a unzipped puffy jacket, walking towards his cruiser with Kendall not far behind him, she puts on her beanie before she looks next door to see..

SUSAN MCCORMICK, 38, wearing a nice floral themed jacket and brown pants, shoveling snow off of her driveway, she looks at Matthew and Kendall and smiles

SUSAN
Oh.. morning Sheriff..

Matthew looks over and smiles, he waves

MATTHEW
Morning, Susan.. having any trouble with the snow?

Susan puts the shovel in the snow, she shrugs

SUSAN
Nothin' that I can't handle.. where are you off to?

KENDALL (JOKINGLY)
School and probably work..

Kendall chuckles as Matthew playfully grabs her bookbag and brings her to the car, Susan chuckles as Matthew looks at her

MATTHEW
We'll see you later, Susan..

Susan nods as she waves

SUSAN
You stay safe now..

Matthew nods as him and Kendall get in the car, he glances at her as he closes his door

MATTHEW
You're slick..

KENDALL (JOKINGLY)
Guilty as charged..

Matthew chuckles as he starts his cruiser, Kendall closes her door and then drive off, Susan goes back to shoveling snow as we

CUT TO:

An establishing shot of the modernized town square, we see Matthew and Kendall drive through the town square and see places like Lenny's Bar and Burt's Diner still there, Arthur's Toolshed is replaced with Susan's Flower Market. Matthew turns into the

INT. ALDERBROOK HIGH - PARKING LOT - CONTINUOUS

Where we get a good look at the exterior of the high school. It has a brighter coat of paint and students filing in, eager to start the day.

Matthew looks at Kendall as she's starting to get out

MATTHEW

Have a good day, kiddo..

KENDALL

You too, dad..

Kendall closes the car door and walks towards the high school, Matthew watches before he hears a beep on his radio

DISPATCH

Sheriff, this is dispatch..

Matthew grabs the radio and clicks the button

MATTHEW

Go ahead, dispatch..

DISPATCH

We got a call about a car crash just outside of town.. it's bad..

Matthew nods before he clicks his radio again

MATTHEW

Copy that, Dispatch, I'm on my way..

Matthew puts his radio back and backs out of the parking space as it

CUT TO:

INT. ALDERBROOK HIGH - HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Kendall is walking through the halls, which look about the same but the paint has a blue streak across the wall with a mural reading "GO HAWKS".

She walks up to her locker and opens it to grab her books. A boy slides in and leans against the lockers with a smile towards her

CHRIS DAVIS, 15, wearing a white shirt with a blue striped flannel over it with the sleeves rolled up along with black pants, she looks at him and smiles

CHRIS
Morning, beautiful..

Kendall chuckles as she grabs her books and closes her locker

KENDALL
Morning, Chris..

Kendall puts her books in her bag, she goes to walk away before Chris pulls her in and they kiss, they look at each other, she sighs

KENDALL (CONT'D)
Good call..

Chris playfully shrugs

CHRIS
Well hey, someone had to do it..
and, I thought it would help soften
the news a little bit..

Kendall looks confused

KENDALL
What're you talkin' about?

CHRIS
Lea's missing and she's not
answering her phone..

Kendall looks shocked as they start to walk down the hall, she looks at him

KENDALL
Are the cops notified?

Chris shrugs

CHRIS

No idea, but that's one hand down
on setting up the winter formal..

Kendall nods, she thinks before looking at him

KENDALL

Let me see if Ben can cover for
her..

Chris looks at her

CHRIS

Do you think he'll do it
considering that him and Lea used
to be a thing?

KENDALL

No idea.. but he owes me after the
whole drinking debacle at her party
during the summer..

Chris nods

CHRIS

Right, the party where he was so
drunk, we had to take him home only
to be met with his dad, the mayor
and your dad, the sheriff..

Kendall nods as they continue walking, she sighs

KENDALL

All we can do is hope for the best
and who knows?.. maybe she'll turn
up by the end of the day..

Chris nods as they go into a class together before it

CUT TO:

INT. ROAD - MOMENTS LATER

Matthew parks his cruiser and gets out, he walks towards the scene where multiple cruisers and a forensics van is present, we see the crash.

It's a car flipped upside down in flames that collided with another car, Matthew looks shocked as walks towards a woman with her back turned to him

MATTHEW

Heather..

The woman turns around, **HEATHER HOLLAND**, a forensics pathologist wearing her "Alderbrook Falls Forensics" coat over her sweater, she adjusts her glasses as she looks at him

HEATHER
Sheriff..

MATTHEW
What happened here?

Heather looks at the wreck and shrugs as they walk more towards it

HEATHER
It's a pretty open and shut case..
driver seemed to have fallen asleep
behind the wheel, swerved into the
other lane and crashed into this
poor guy's car..

Matthew nods

MATTHEW
Casualties?

Heather nods

HEATHER
One.. guy in flipped over car
must've snapped his neck after the
crash..

MATTHEW
Any ID?

Heather shakes her head

HEATHER
We checked his pockets but couldn't
find a wallet and then we searched
glove compartment, it was cleared
out..

Matthew looks confused as they approach a man sitting on a stretcher in an open ambulance, he looks like he's in his mid 30s, wearing a neck brace she moves to the side

HEATHER (CONT'D)
This is Max.. Max, this is Sheriff
Matthew Franco..

Max and Matthew nod at each other before he looks around and puts on a smile

MATTHEW

Hi Max.. you a local to Alderbrook Falls?

Max shakes his head

MAX

No sir, I was just driving through to get to Chicago..

Matthew nods as he thinks

MATTHEW

Do you remember what exactly happened here?

Max thinks as it grows silent, he looks at him

MAX

Last thing I saw before he crashed into me was his eyes.. they looked.. dead..

Matthew looks confused as he looks at Heather, she shrugs as he looks at Max

MATTHEW

When you say dead, you mean like..

MAX

I know it sounds crazy but this guy was going 80 miles an hour with no headlights on at four in the mornin'.. I know what I saw..

Matthew nods his head as he thinks, he sighs

MATTHEW

Okay, You're gonna take a trip down to the hospital and we'll go from there.. is there any family we could contact to let them know you're alright..

Max nods

MAX

My wife.. can you grab my phone and call her?.. it's in my pocket..

Matthew nods as he reaches to grab Max's phone, he pulls it out and looks on it, he looks at him

MATTHEW
Francine?

Max nods his head and winces as Matthew calls her, putting the phone against his ear, it rings before it picks up

FRANCINE (ON PHONE)
Maxie? You makin' your way here or what? It's passed the time you'd said you'll be here..

MATTHEW
Hi.. is this Francine?

FRANCINE (ON PHONE)
Yeah, who's askin'?

MATTHEW
This is Sheriff Matthew Franco from Alderbrook Falls, I'm calling on behalf of Max, he's kind of in a pickle right now..

FRANCINE (ON PHONE)
Oh god, what did he do now?

Matthew shakes his head

MATTHEW
Nothing, ma'am, he just uh.. totaled his car but it wasn't his fault..

FRANCINE (ON PHONE)
Can I talk to him?

Matthew nods, he hands Max his phone and he puts it on speaker

MAX
Hey pumpkin..

FRANCINE (ON PHONE)
Oh, thank god you're alright, Maxie..

Max smiles and nods

MAX
It was just a little accident, nothing too big..

Max mouths "thank you" to Matthew as he and Heather walk away, she nudges him

HEATHER

That was nice of you, ya know?

Matthew chuckles as he pulls out his keys

MATTHEW

Order a tox screen on the vic, let
me know what you find when you
perform the autopsy..

Heather nods

HEATHER

Will do, Sheriff..

she goes back to her van, where the coroners is loading up the bagged body, Matthew goes in his cruiser and thinks before a message appears on his phone, he looks at it and smiles before he backs up as we see a car drive pass the scene.

CUT TO:

INT. JUSTIN'S CAR - FRONT SEAT - MOMENTS LATER

The car in question, belongs to **JUSTIN HARROW**, a man in his mid 20s, his hair a dirty blonde, wearing a hoodie and glasses as he looks towards the wreck, he looks at the road before picking up his phone from the cupholder, he clicks on the voice recorder app and clicks the "record" button, he sighs

JUSTIN

I've made it back into Alderbrook Falls and there seems to already be an accident.. which makes me wonder if this is an everyday thing for the town..

Justin clicks stop and keeps driving as it

CUT TO:

INT. BURT'S DINER - FRONT ENTRANCE - MOMENTS LATER

We see Justin walk in and look around, it's a cozy diner, surrounded by windows that has a little snow on them, the booths have red seats and brown tables, he sees a waitress walk up to him

DAISY, a woman in her mid 20s, wearing her hair in a ponytail and a picnic table patterned uniform, she greets Justin with a smile

DAISY
Welcome to Burt's Diner, how may I
serve you?

Justin smiles, he shrugs

JUSTIN
Just a table for one, please..

Daisy nods as she grabs a menu, she looks at him

DAISY
Follow me..

Justin nods as they walk towards a booth, he sits down and Daisy puts the menu in front of him

DAISY (CONT'D)
I'll give you a minute to order and
I'll be right back..

Justin looks at her as she starts to walk away

JUSTIN
Hey.. Daisy was it?

Daisy turns around, looking at Justin

DAISY
Yes..

Justin nods as he extends his hand

JUSTIN
Justin Harrow..

Daisy walks over and shakes his hand, a sense of familiarity washes over her face

DAISY
Harrow.. why do I recognize that name?

JUSTIN
We uh.. went to high school
together?

Daisy realizes, she looks shocked as she smiles

DAISY

Oh shit, that's right, you were the kid with the true crime podcast..

Justin nods with a smile

JUSTIN

First episode I ever did was on the Alderbrook Raven..

Daisy nods

DAISY

That's right.. what're you doing back in Alderbrook?

Justin shrugs as he taps his phone, he shakes his head

JUSTIN

No reason, I just felt like it was time to come back to where it all started..

Daisy nods

DAISY

Well, I'm actually off at six if you wanna catch up? Meet me at Lenny's Bar?

Justin thinks before looking at her

JUSTIN

I may take you up on that..

Daisy smiles as she nods

DAISY

Great.. I'll give you a minute to order now..

Justin nods as daisy walks away, he looks at the menu as it

CUT TO:

INT. SUSAN'S FLOWER MARKET - MOMENTS LATER

We see Susan, setting up shop for the day as Matthew knocks on the locked door, she looks at him and smiles before walking over and unlocking it, he smiles as he comes in, she locks the door back

MATTHEW
So uh.. what's the big emergenc--

Matthew turns around as Susan kisses him, he kisses back as we go to the

INT. SUSAN'S FLOWER MARKET - BACKROOM

Where we see Matthew and Susan making out against the wall, Susan unbuckles his pants before seeing the time, she sighs

SUSAN
Shit.. I gotta open..

Matthew chuckles as he kisses her neck

MATTHEW
Right now?

Susan smiles and nods

SUSAN
Yes, right now..

Matthew stops as they look at each other, smiling as she kisses him and they break off

SUSAN (CONT'D)
You can always come over to my
house again.. the door is always
open..

Matthew nods as he buckles his pants, he sighs

MATTHEW
I may take you up on that..

Susan nods as they kiss again, she leaves the room as it

CUT TO:

INT. ALDERBROOK SHERIFF'S OFFICE - BULLPEN - MOMENTS LATER

We see Matthew walk into the office, it's a brightly lit area with rows of desks in the bullpen, a kitchen on the left hand side and several rooms including a hallway that leads to the interrogation rooms.

he passes and greets several deputies standing near a water cooler as **CARTER O'NEIL** walks up to him, holding a file, wearing a deputy's uniform, he walks along with him

MATTHEW

Who're you?

CARTER

My name's Carter O'Neil, I'm the
uh.. new transfer..

Matthew nods

MATTHEW

Right, right. Sorry, it's uh.. been
a long morning..

CARTER

No problem..

MATTHEW

This your first day here?

Carter nods

CARTER

Yes sir.

Matthew nods before he sees a man in his office.

MAYOR THOMAS GRANT, now 40 years old, wearing a snazzy suit,
his hair slicked to the side, he has a woman next to him.
they lock eyes as Matthew looks at Carter

MATTHEW

Sit on the bench for right now..

Carter nods as he goes towards the bench, Matthew enters his
office and closes the door

INT. ALDERBROOK SHERIFF'S OFFICE - MATTHEW'S OFFICE

Matthew looks at Thomas, confused

MATTHEW

Mr. Mayor, now what do I owe the
pleasure of your presence?

Thomas greets him with a smile

THOMAS

Sheriff Franco, this is Maria
Cartaroni..

Matthew looks at **MARIA CARTARONI**, a petite woman in her mid
40s, wearing a dark purple cardigan, a beanie, and gray
pants, looking stressed, he nods

MATTHEW

Ms. Cartaroni.. our daughters go to school with each other.. what's wrong?

MARIA

My daughter is why I'm here, Sheriff.. my baby never came home after school yesterday..

MATTHEW (CONCERNED)

When's the last time you talked to her?

MARIA

A little bit after lunch..

Matthew nods as Thomas looks at him

THOMAS

She came to my office this morning after not being able to find you..

Matthew looks at him

MATTHEW

I was on call, I haven't been in my office..

Thomas nods

THOMAS

Clearly..

Matthew shakes his head as he looks at Maria

MATTHEW

Where was the last place you saw your daughter?

MARIA

The school, I dropped her off and she normally walks home..

Matthew nods

MATTHEW

Okay, So that's where I'll look first.. Ms. Cartaroni, I'm gonna need you to speak with a deputy to fill out a missing person's report, can you do that?

Maria nods as Matthew nods back, he opens the door and waves towards a deputy, he walks over and looks at Matthew

MATTHEW (CONT'D)
Take Ms. Cartaroni to fill out a missing persons report, and please keep it discreet, this CAN'T go out into the media right now..

The deputy nods as Maria follows him out, he looks at Thomas

MATTHEW (CONT'D)
Very much appreciate you bringing this to my attention, Tom..

Thomas shrugs

THOMAS
No problem.. I wouldn't have to be here if you were here and not somewhere else..

There's a sense of tension between the two, Matthew sighs

MATTHEW
We can do this all day, or I can do my job without you undermining me..

Thomas nods, he pats Matthew on the shoulder

THOMAS
It's nice to see you, Matt..

Matthew looks confused as Thomas leaves the room, Matthew walks out back into the

INT. ALDERBROOK SHERIFF'S OFFICE - BULLPEN

Where he shuts his door, he looks at Carter

MATTHEW
New guy, come here..

Carter stands up and walks towards him and stops, looking at him

CARTER
Yes sir?

MATTHEW
I need you to come with me, you're about to work your first case..

Carter looks shocked as it

CUT TO:

INT. MATTHEW'S CRUISER - FRONT SEAT - MOMENTS LATER

Matthew is driving as Carter is in the passenger's seat, it's quiet, he looks at Matthew

CARTER

So uh.. what exactly are we doing?

Matthew glances at him, he looks at the road

MATTHEW

We're looking for Ms. Cartaroni's daughter..

Carter nods as he looks at the passing buildings, Matthew looks at him

MATTHEW (CONT'D)

First time in Alderbrook?

Carter nods

CARTER

Yes sir.

Matthew nods

MATTHEW

Well.. it's always nice to have someone new in town.. where are you staying at?

CARTER

At an apartment complex in the town square. Small place but enough to call it a home, I guess..

Matthew nods as he turns, Carter looks at him

CARTER (CONT'D)

So uh.. how long have you been staying here?

Matthew glances at him

MATTHEW

I was born and raised here..

Carter nods

CARTER

So, you've never left?..

Matthew nods

MATTHEW

Once.. for college.. I failed it
and came back here, joined the
academy in my 20s and voilà, here I
am..

Carter nods as they keep driving before it

CUT TO:

INT. ALDERBROOK HIGH - CAFETERIA - MOMENTS LATER

We see Kendall and Chris walk together towards a table with
their lunches, they sit down across two teens.

RICHARD BANKS, 17, a senior wearing a checkered flannel with
the sleeves down, black pants, his hair poking out of his
beanie

And **VICTORIA BLANCHARD**, 17, Richard's girlfriend that is
wearing a short black dress with a skirt and a small leather
jacket on, they look at Kendall and Chris

RICHARD

How's it goin', guys?

Kendall looks at him

KENDALL

Great, have you guys seen Kendall?

Victoria shakes her head

VICTORIA

She wasn't in first period.. what's
up?

CHRIS

We can't find her and if she
doesn't turn up by the end of the
day, we're down a hand for the
winter formal..

Richard shrugs

RICHARD

Why not have Ben help?

KENDALL

Because.. he's my last ditch effort
and i don't really wanna ask him--

Chris taps her as **BEN GRANT**, 15, wearing a black zip up jacket with blue pants with a girl next to him

HOLLY GREENE, 15, the peppy cheerleader that is nice to everyone, no matter how mean they are back to her. Wearing a pink sweater and black pants as they sit on Richard and Victoria's side.

BEN

Ask me about what?

Kendall looks at him, she nervously chuckles as she scratches her head

KENDALL

I uh.. I wanted to ask if you could help us set up for the winter formal after school?

Ben shrugs

BEN

Isn't Lea helping you guys?

CHRIS

Lea's been M.I.A since yesterday, we decided to ask you because.. you technically owe Kendall after the whole party debacle that got both her AND you in trouble..

Ben thinks, Holly looks at them

HOLLY

What party debacle?

VICTORIA

Oh, that's right, you've only been around the group since August..

Ben shakes his head

BEN

It's nothing..

RICHARD

Ben got blackout drunk and Kendall drove him back home in his car, not knowing that his dad, the mayor, was home along with Kendall's dad, the sheriff..

Holly nods as Ben looks at them

BEN

I'm fine now, I got sent to an AA class by my dad and I've been sober ever since..

KENDALL

But you weren't the only one that got in trouble.. you told me to drive you home, which I did..

Ben nods

BEN

And I greatly appreciate it..

Kendall nods as Chris looks at him

CHRIS

So.. can you help?

Ben looks at him, he nods

BEN

I'll be there..

Kendall and Chris nod their heads before a PA system comes on

PRINCIPAL (ON PA SYSTEM)

Can Kendall Franco, Chris Davis, Richard Banks, Victoria Blanchard, and Ben Grant come to the principal's office..

They all look at each other, confused before it

CUT TO:

INT. ALDERBROOK HIGH - PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

Kendall is sitting across from Matthew, whose sitting at the desk, and Carter, she looks at them, confused

KENDALL

Dad, what's going on?

MATTHEW

Lea Cartaroni is missing, she
didn't come home last night..

Kendall looks shocked

KENDALL

What?

Matthew nods

MATTHEW

We're just questioning if you saw
her leave yesterday or if she
mentioned where she would be..

Kendall thinks, she shakes her head

KENDALL

I wouldn't know, last time I saw
her was at the end of the day
before you came and got me..

Matthew nods, he sighs

MATTHEW

Okay.. you can go..

Kendall nods as she gets up, she opens the door and leaves as
it

CUT TO:

Chris sitting in the chair, already reacting to the news, he
looks shocked

MATTHEW (CONT'D)

Now, we're wondering if you saw her
leave yesterday and if so, do you
know where she might be?

Chris shakes his head

CHRIS

I uh.. was in the library by the
time the last bell rang, helping
out with AV Club..

Matthew nods as it

CUT TO:

Richard and Victoria sitting together, reacting to the news,
Matthew looks at them

MATTHEW
Would you guys know where she'd be?

Richard shakes his head

RICHARD
Last time I saw her was that
morning..

VICTORIA
I saw her at lunch that day..

Matthew nods as it

CUT TO:

Ben sitting in the chair, shocked and confused as Matthew
looks at him

MATTHEW
We're just wondering if you saw Lea
leave yesterday..

Ben thinks, he nods

BEN
She uh.. she got into a car with
someone, I didn't see who it was
but.. it looked like Arthur..

Matthew nods as Carter looks confused, clicking his pen

CARTER
Who's Arthur?

Ben looks at him

BEN
He's the.. town drunk. Why he'd
pick up Lea, I don't know.. but I'm
95.5 percent sure he did..

Matthew nods as he stands up

MATTHEW
Thank you, Ben.. you can go..

Ben nods as he stands up, he looks at them

BEN
Hope you find her, Sheriff..

Matthew nods as Ben leaves, Matthew thinks as Carter looks at
him

CARTER
So, what now?

Matthew looks at him

MATTHEW
We pay a visit to Arthur..

CUT TO:

INT. ALDERBROOK HIGH - HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER

Ben is walking down the hall to the others, Kendall looks at him

KENDALL
How'd it go?

BEN
I told them exactly what I knew..

VICTORIA
Do you guys think Lea's..

CHRIS
No, don't even think like that..

RICHARD
Can you blame her? Lea's not
exactly the runaway type..

KENDALL
It doesn't matter, we need to stay
optimistic about this..

Ben chuckles

BEN
Never fail to be an optimist,
Kendall..

Kendall nods as the bell rings, they all go their separate ways as it

CUT TO:

INT. LENNY'S BAR - BOOTH - EVENING

We see Daisy, waiting in a booth as Justin walks up and sits across from her, she smiles

DAISY
Glad you could make it..

JUSTIN
Well, I considered sitting in my hotel but I figured since you're the only person I know in this town, why not take up on your offer..

Daisy chuckles as a waitress comes up

WAITRESS
What will it be?

DAISY
Just two beers, please..

The waitress nods as she walks away, Justin looks at her

JUSTIN
So.. What made you stay in Alderbrook? Last time I remembered talking to you, you said that acting on broadway was your dream..

DAISY
Well, it still is.. but living in New York is expensive.. which is why I'm saving up to buy an apartment out there and who knows? Maybe this time next year, that dream will become a reality..

Justin nods as Daisy looks at him

DAISY (CONT'D)
So, what about you? Did the true crime world not excite you anymore?

Justin shrugs, he thinks

JUSTIN
I'm actually here on behalf of an anonymous tip..

DAISY
Seriously? What for?

Justin shrugs

JUSTIN

No idea, they just told me to get here and to "get ready for the story of a lifetime"...

DAISY

Isn't that a little suspicious?

JUSTIN

No idea, honestly. But I guess we'll just have to wait and see..

Daisy nods as the waitress comes back with their beers, she sets them down and walks away as it

CUT TO:

EXT. ARTHUR'S CABIN - MOMENTS LATER

We see Matthew pull up in his cruiser, the flood lights on the cabin are on, Matthew and Carter get out and approach a man chopping firewood with an axe

This is **ARTHUR**, 45, wearing a zipped up puffy jacket along with a beanie on his head and black pants, his long hair covers his ears and has a bushy beard, he looks at Matthew and Carter, confused

ARTHUR

Sheriff?

Matthew flashes a smile as he approaches him

MATTHEW

Arthur.. Mind putting down the axe?

Arthur deliberately slams the axe into a tree, he looks at Matthew and Carter

ARTHUR

What brings you onto my property?

MATTHEW

We're looking for a girl.. Lea Cartaroni..

Arthur shrugs

ARTHUR

Never heard of her..

MATTHEW

Then why did I get an anonymous tip
saying you picked her up from
school yesterday afternoon?

ARTHUR

I didn't pick anyone up from
school, I was here all day
yesterday..

CARTER

Any eye witnesses to prove that?

Arthur looks at him, confused

ARTHUR

And who the hell are you?

MATTHEW

He's new.. can we get back to
what's at hand, Arthur?

Arthur looks at Matthew, anger grows in his eyes

ARTHUR

I don't know where the girl is,
Sheriff. If anything, you should be
questioning whoever is going in
that damn warehouse near the
falls..

Matthew looks at Arthur, confused

MATTHEW

What do you mean?

ARTHUR

Last night, I was driving by it and
saw someone drag a big bag into
it.. now, why would anyone want to
go in there after it hasn't been in
use for 25 years?

Matthew looks shocked, he thinks before rushing to his
cruiser

MATTHEW

Come on..

Carter rushes behind him as they get in the cruiser and back
out, Arthur shakes his head

ARTHUR

You're welcome, asshats..

Arthur grabs his axe as it

CUT TO:

EXT. WAREHOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Matthew pulls up to the warehouse, he gets out as Carter does the same, he looks at Matthew

CARTER
Sheriff, what's wrong?

Matthew looks at him, he sighs

MATTHEW
I'll tell you everything later but
for right now, I NEED you with me
on this.. alright?

Carter thinks before he nods, Matthew nods back as he turns towards the warehouse, he and Carter walks towards the

INT. WAREHOUSE - FRONT ENTRANCE

Where he sees that the door is padlocked, Carter sighs

CARTER
It's locked..

Matthew pulls out his gun and **BREAKS** the lock, he looks at Carter

MATTHEW
Not anymore..

Matthew opens the door and goes into the

INT. WAREHOUSE - MAIN AREA

The warehouse looks about the same, only cold and empty, Matthew pulls out his flashlight and shines it, he looks at Carter

MATTHEW
Check the perimeter, yell if you
see anything..

Carter nods as he leaves, Matthew looks around before seeing a dark purple jacket on the ground, he kneels down and picks it up, seeing the tag on it, the initials reading "L.C", he drops it and backs up

MATTHEW (CONT'D)
Jesus Christ..

CARTER (FROM OUTSIDE)
Hey Sheriff.. you may wanna come
see this..

Matthew heads towards the door as it

CUT TO:

EXT. WAREHOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Matthew walks up to Carter, looking at him as he has his flashlight trained onto the ground

MATTHEW
What is it, Carter?

Carter nods his head towards the ground and Matthew looks, seeing blood that leads from the back door and into the forest

MATTHEW (CONT'D)
Guns out..

Carter nods as he pulls his gun out alongside Matthew, they both follow the blood trail into the

INT. FOREST - CONTINUOUS

They walk deep into the forest, Matthew's breath noticeably shaking as the blood trail stops, they both look confused

CARTER
Could it just be an animal,
sheriff?

Matthew shakes his head

MATTHEW
It's Lea.. her jacket was in the
warehouse..

Carter looks at the snow, he scans it before realizing

CARTER
It's fresh..

Matthew looks at him

MATTHEW

How do you know?

CARTER

Look at the difference in density
from where you're standing to where
the trail stops..

Matthew looks and realizes, he kneels down and feels around
the snow, he touches something and looks at Carter

MATTHEW

Help me..

Carter nods and puts his gun away, he helps Matthew dig the
snow off of what he touched and a face is revealed.

It's Lea, her eyes wide open, wearing a beanie, Matthew digs
the rest of her head up and feels her pulse, he sighs

MATTHEW (CONT'D)

She's dead..

Carter sighs as Matthew closes her eyes, Carter looks around
before seeing his hands, covered in blood, he stands up

CARTER

What the hell?

Matthew looks at Carter's hands, he digs the rest of Lea's
body up before seeing her big chest wound, her arms a pale
blue as he backs up in shock, sitting on the ground, Carter
looks at him

CARTER (CONT'D)

I'm gonna call it in..

Matthew blankly nods as Carter steps away, he stares at Lea's
body as it

SMASH TO BLACK