

SKYLINE

Written by

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INT. GUEST BEDROOM - PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - NIGHT

A COUPLE sleeps on a king size bed. The valley in the thousand count sheets between them is noticeably wide.

A strange LIGHT streaks through the closed blinds of the floor-to-ceiling WINDOWS lining the wall beside the bed.

Shadows dance over their faces.

She stirs. Her name is ELAINE, 20s, a natural beauty.

ELAINE

How's it morning already?

JARROD rolls over. 20s, thin and darkly handsome. The clock reads: 3:50 A.M. He throws a pillow over his head.

JARROD

It's not. It's... jet lag.

Elaine puts her hand on her stomach. Feeling nauseous.

She stumbles across the plush shag carpet towards the bathroom. Opens the glass door. The wrong way at first.

CUT TO:

FLUSH. She exits the bathroom, looking worse for the wear. Looks back towards the bed. The LIGHT outside seems to have grown even brighter.

She slowly opens the bedroom door, peeking out in the

LIVING ROOM

It's even brighter in here. And way more expensively decorated. Remnants of last night's party lie strewn across the granite counter tops, not to mention RYAN and DENISE, sleeping on the shag and L shaped leather sofa respectively.

Shaking her head, Elaine closes the bedroom door.

As she moves onto the bed, the LIGHT outside goes nuclear hot, like someone just switched on the mid day SUN.

ELAINE

Jarrood...

JARROD

Morning sickness again?

ELAINE

No, look!

Then the building starts SHAKING.

He rubs the hangover out of his eyes to see the lights coming from behind the blinds. That is weird. He gets up, moving towards the windows.

Raising his hand, he begins to open the blinds when-

WOMAN'S VOICE (O.S.)
Ryan... oh my God...

Her shout comes from the LIVING ROOM.

WOMAN'S VOICE (O.S.) (CONT'D)
What are you-

WHOMP. WHOMP. Her voice is drowned out by an odd FREQUENCY.

Jarrood looks to the now intensely frightened Elaine.

JARROD
Stay here.

ELAINE
What's going on?

JARROD
I don't know-

WOMAN'S VOICE (O.S.)
RYAN!

He motions for Elaine to stay put as he hustles into the:

INT. LIVING ROOM - PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

The room is bathed in an EERIE BRIGHT LIGHT. Jarrood has to shield his eyes just to see.

DENISE is crouched on the sofa, pure fear on her face.

JARROD
What's wrong?

DENISE
He's gone!

Turning to his left, Jarrood peers through the open BALCONY DOOR at the strangely beautiful light shining from outside.

Jarrood's HANDS fall to his side, VEINS BULGING outwards. His knuckles go white. His pupils as big as quarters and black as night.

WHOMP. WHOMP. The FREQUENCY drowns out everything, filling Jarrod's head with a mesmerizing rhythm, pushing him forward as the LIGHT FLARES OVER HIM.

FADE TO:

TITLE: 15 HOURS EARLIER...

The frequency gives way to the sound of AIRPLANE ENGINES.

The WHITE HOT LIGHT fades, revealing JARROD'S FACE.

Eyes closed. Hair flapping in the wind. Smiling.

He leans his head back inside the BACK WINDOW of...

INT. ROLLS ROYCE PHANTOM - DAY

CLASSIC ROCK plays on the radio. He rolls up the window.

JARROD

It's beautiful, huh?

Beside him sits ELAINE. She stares out her window, watching strip malls and power lines streak by.

ELAINE

(playful)

Oh yeah. Breathtaking.

He leans over and looks out her window: TACO BELL, KFC, CHECK CASHING, etc.

JARROD

Okay, I'll admit. I was expecting more palm trees.

ELAINE

The Phantom certainly fits the part.

They laugh. Look around the car.

JARROD

Well, Terry said he'd roll out the red carpet but this is insane.

She looks at the TWO TELEVISIONS on the seat backs.

ELAINE

I know, I'm afraid to touch anything.

Jarrood stretches his arm across the seat. Pulls her in close.

JARROD

I'm not...

Gently caresses her cheek.

ELAINE

If you break it you buy it.

She playfully pushes him off. But he leans in and kisses her tenderly.

EXT. WESTCHESTER - LINCOLN BLVD - DAY

The black Phantom crests a hill, revealing the picturesque VISTA of the Pacific Ocean, mountains and Marina Del Rey.

JARROD (O.S.)

Now that's more like it.

EXT. THE COVE HIGH RISE - DAY

The Phantom pulls into a CUL DE SAC. All sides are flanked by modern high rise condos.

Straight ahead, center, is THE COVE. The newest and most luxurious. Nineteen stories of glittering glass and steel.

EXT. THE COVE FRONT ENTERANCE - DAY

Before the LIMO DRIVER can even step out, Jarrood swings his door open. He takes Elaine's hand, helping her out. Together they look up at the Cove, taking it in.

The Limo Driver places a overnight bag on the walk way, and extends the handle. He hands Jarrood a tattered duffel bag.

Jarrood grabs his wallet, chained to his pants. Thumbs through three crumpled twenties, a five and lots of singles.

LIMO DRIVER

It's all taken care of, sir.

JARROD

Oh, okay. Thanks.

Jarrood rolls Elaine's bag to the FRONT DOOR.

INT. THE COVE LOBBY - DAY

The lobby is immaculately furnished. Spotless and new.

ELAINE
(Smiling)
Wow. He lives in a hotel?

JARROD
Special effects must pay well.

The CONCIERGE'S name tag reads "OLIVER". Early 40s, world-weary. He taps the counter lightly. His ornate WEDDING RING makes a soft click. He speaks in a welcoming voice.

OLIVER
Good afternoon. Welcome to The Cove. How may I assist you?

JARROD
Going up to Terry Sergeant's.

OLIVER
Ah, the party, of course. Enjoy yourselves.

Oliver and Elaine exchange smiles.

INT. ELEVATOR - DAY

They watch the LED floor display until it hits '19'.

ELEVATOR VOICE (V.O.)
Penthouse.

She raises her eyebrow. Jarrod shakes his head.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Elaine and Jarrod emerge from the elevator bank, almost bumping into a group of bikini clad GIRLS - early 20s.

JARROD
Excuse us.

The girls giggle and pile into the elevator, heading down.

WORLD MUSIC echoes down the hall as Jarrod and Elaine make their way to Penthouse six. The DOOR'S OPEN.

They walk inside. It's filled with PEOPLE. A party.

INT. KITCHEN/ LIVING ROOM - DAY

The living room, kitchen and lounge are a MASSIVE OPEN ROOM. A marvel of European design. The floor to ceiling windows offer a panoramic view of Los Angeles' skyline.

Jarrold and Elaine wander through the crowd, looking lost.

FEMALE VOICE (O.S.)

Smile!

FLASH. They turn to see DENISE. A professional SLR CAMERA in her hands. Mid 20s. Beautiful and bohemian.

DENISE

Cute pic. You must be Jarrod.

Denise leans forward, kissing both of Jarrod's cheeks.

DENISE (CONT'D)

Denise.

JARROD

Hey. This is my girlfriend Elaine.

Elaine extends her hand to Denise for a shake.

DENISE

Kisses on the west coast.

Denise kisses her on each cheek.

DENISE (CONT'D)

Terry's around here somewhere.

Elaine looks around the penthouse. Her eyes widen. She moves towards a pop art PAINTING. A sexy girl with a gun.

DENISE (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Mojito's okay?

Elaine turns. Works from the SAME ARTIST are everywhere.

ELAINE

I thought you sold these.

JARROD

I did. Technically.

Denise interrupts, handing them each a MOJITO.

DENISE

Aren't they amazing? Like Andy Warhol meets Jack Kirby. Cheers.

The three clink glasses. Jarrod and Denise imbibe.

DENISE (CONT'D)

Hey you!

Denise recognizes another PARTY GOER and wanders off.

Elaine rolls her eyes. Turns to hand Jarrod her untouched drink. He gives her a knowing grin.

JARROD

That was polite of you.

She smiles back.

MALE VOICE (O.S.)

(LOUD)

Is Brooklyn in the house?!

TERRY struts towards them. Early 30s. African American. Chiseled frame. Tank top. Sunglasses. Larger than life.

JARROD

Look at Mr. California!

Terry grabs Jarrod, HUGGING him tight.

JARROD (CONT'D)

Happy birthday man. Damn, forgot how strong you are.

Terry pulls away, laughing.

TERRY

How could you? After that rumble down in the Bowery?

JARROD

Hey, I was twice as drunk as you.

TERRY

(Re: the two mojitos)
Careful now, looks like you're well on your way.

Terry launches a playful jab. Even his play feels tough.

Elaine is amused by the bro-mance. She stands next to a framed magazine cover of a GORGEOUS MODEL.

TERRY (CONT'D)

Excuse me, where are my manners?

Terry approaches Elaine, taking her hand.

TERRY (CONT'D)

Terry. And you must be the one and only Elaine.

With that he kisses her hand. Elaine can't help but smile.

ELAINE

Thank you so much for the ride.

TERRY

Anything for family.

CLACK. CLACK. High heels walk across the wooden floor.

They turn to see CANDICE, early 30s. The same gorgeous model from the framed photo. In a bikini, with a D&G towel around her waist. Her nose buried in a BLACKBERRY.

TERRY (CONT'D)

Oh, this is my girl Candice.

Candice looks up from her blackberry. Extending her hand to each of them. Almost too formally.

CANDICE

Nice to meet you.

Goes right back to texting.

TERRY

As you can see, it's pool time.
Throw your suits on. We're losing sun.

CUT TO:

EXT. POOL AREA - DAY

The pool area is lavish, complete with jacuzzi, fireplace, dance area, and outdoor bar. A sea of PARTY PEOPLE mill about: lounging, swimming, drinking. It's LA incarnate.

Candice leads the girls towards the jacuzzi.

TERRY

(Arm around Jarrod)
Bar's this way.

Jarrold looks to Elaine.

JARROD

You good?

ELAINE
Club soda. Make it a double.

He smiles and heads off with Terry.

Denise and Candice lay out their towels and disrobe. Elaine watches them reveal their flawless bodies. She caresses her stomach for a moment.

EXT. POOL BAR - DAY

Jarrold and Terry lean against the bar, taking in the view. A cute ASIAN BARTENDER pours them shots. Makes more drinks.

JARROD
You really did it man. Just like everyone knew you would.

TERRY
Couldn't have done it without you.

JARROD
What did I do? Decorate your walls?

TERRY
They do look nice.

They both laugh, toast and down the shots.

JARROD
Can't thank you enough for all this. I mean, I'm the one who should be getting you the gift.

The bartender serves them each a Margarita. Rocks. Salt.

TERRY
Don't worry, I got some ideas on that.

EXT. JACUZZI - DAY

Denise has her feet in the Jacuzzi. Scanning the crowd with her camera. Focuses on Jarrold at the bar. Clicks away.

DENISE
So how did you guys meet?

ELAINE
Believe it or not, my boss set us up.

Elaine takes off her T-shirt, revealing a modest, yet flattering bikini. Her body is curvy. Sexy.

CANDICE
And what is it you do?

Elaine sits on the edge of the jacuzzi, legs dipping in.

ELAINE
Publishing.

CANDICE
Anything I'd know?

ELAINE
It's a small firm. Mostly art books.

DENISE
Cool. I'm a photographer, you know-

CANDICE
Is there any money in that?

ELAINE
It pays the bills. And I love it.

CANDICE
That's important, especially in a fading profession.

ELAINE
Well, nothing last forever, right?

TERRY (O.S.)
Everyone's gettin' along famously I see.

Terry and Jarrod approach the jacuzzi. Drinks in hand.

CANDICE
Where's my cosmo?

Terry cringes, shrugs. Candice pretends she isn't enraged.

CANDICE (CONT'D)
Denise?

Denise bites her lip. Nods.

DENISE
Anyone else?

No takers. She pulls herself out and sulks towards the bar.

Jarrood sits down next to Elaine, legs soaking in the water.

JARROD
Beats December in Brooklyn.

ELAINE
I don't know, I kinda like having
four seasons.

TERRY
We got one of those down the block.

Elaine concedes with a smile.

TERRY (CONT'D)
But wait until tomorrow-

A faint RUMBLING is heard in the distance.

TERRY (CONT'D)
We're gonna take to the high seas
on my new Sunseeker.

JARROD
For real?

TERRY
A 47 footer. Nothing too crazy.

Terry raises his voice to compete with the GROWING RUMBLE.

TERRY (CONT'D)
My starter Yacht.

The RUMBLE is now THUNDEROUS, drowning out all voices.

A SQUADRON OF BLACKHAWK HELICOPTERS PASSES OVERHEAD.

Elaine and Jarrod look up in awe. The rest of the party could care less. Candice texts. Terry sips his drink casually.

The Blackhawks pass. The rumble fades into the distance.

TERRY (CONT'D)
Michael Bay must be coming back
from dinner.

JARROD
Who?

EXT. FIREPLACE AREA - SUNSET

The party has stepped up a notch. Scantly clad WOMEN mingle with well dressed MEN.

Terry leads Jarrod and Elaine through the crowd.

TERRY

Yo Ryan!

RYAN swings around. Big grin on his scruffy, yet boyish face. He and Terry hug it out.

TERRY (CONT'D)

How's that robot fight coming along?

RYAN

It sucks. But the director loves it.
(Looks to Jarrod & Elaine)
Oh, is this the boy wonder? And his lovely lady...

Ryan toasts to Jarrod then Elaine.

RYAN (CONT'D)

Great to finally meet you man. I hear you're gonna join the crew?

JARROD

(Caught off guard)
Huh? I don't-

A surprised Elaine glares at the completely puzzled Jarrod.

RYAN

(To Elaine)
Find a spot to live yet? Let me tell you, Venice is the place to be-

ELAINE

We'll keep that in mind. Excuse me.

She shoots Jarrod a cool glance before leaving.

ELAINE (CONT'D)

Gotta use the little girl's room.

JARROD

Elaine, hold on-

RYAN

(Oblivious)
Bro, she is smokin'.

Terry gives Ryan the stink eye. Puts his arm around Jarrod, walks him towards the fireplace at the edge of the party.

JARROD

What the hell was that about?

TERRY

Alright man, cat's out of the bag.
(Let's out a sigh)
I was thinking you should come out here. I could use you.

Jarrood starts shaking his head.

TERRY (CONT'D)

No, to hell with that. I need you.

JARROD

What for? I don't know anything about effects, man.

TERRY

But you have the eye. You know it. Just apply it to something slightly different. Computer's just a tool. Like a paintbrush.
(He takes a sip)
Just that my brushes cost 200 grand each.

Terry smirks. But Jarrod still isn't sure.

JARROD

I don't know... I just never saw myself out here.

TERRY

Come on, man. It's time to step up.
(he takes another sip)
Look. There are other artists. Sure. But I need someone I can trust. This whole town is full of flakes. What I need is a brother.

Terry puts out for a fist bump. Jarrod leaves him hanging.

JARROD

What about Elaine?

TERRY

Well, I can't take care of everything.

Candice approaches in a stunning dress. Terry winks and takes her hand, leading her onto the dance floor.

EXT. DANCE AREA - NIGHT

The vibe is festive. Dancing guests have overflowed into the lounge area. Terry and Candice move sensually to the music.

Ryan and Denise stand by the edge of the dance area.

RYAN

So you want to head upstairs or-

Jarrood walks past, looking for Elaine.

Denise ignores Ryan, stepping right in front of Jarrood.

JARROOD

Whoa! Watch it. You okay?

DENISE

I'm perfect.

She downs her cosmo. Smiles with a drunken gaze.

DENISE (CONT'D)

You're fun.

Denise moves closer to Jarrood. Yelling into his ear.

DENISE (CONT'D)

We don't get ones like you out here.

JARROOD

(Sheepish)

What are you talking about?

She paws his chest and pulls him onto the dance floor. Writhing around Jarrood. He reluctantly moves to the beat.

Terry points and laughs.

Elaine watches from across the floor, with her arms crossed.

RYAN (O.S.)

Looks like you could use a drink.

She turns to see Ryan.

ELAINE

No thanks.

RYAN
Seriously, not my night.

ELAINE
How about a dance instead?

Elaine takes the lead. Ryan happily tries to keep up.

Jarrold and Elaine's eyes meet. After a long beat, she sticks her tongue out at him. Jarrod cracks a big smile.

INT. PENTHOUSE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

It's a total scene. Models. Rockers. Power nerds. Drinking. Dancing. Smoking on the patio. The music plays loud.

The L-shaped COUCH is packed, shoulder to shoulder.

Ryan sits with a pouch of tobacco, rolling a cigarette on Candice's fashion magazine. He's pressed against Elaine.

RYAN
For real, I can't stand cars.

ELAINE
But don't you need one out here?

RYAN
Don't believe that propaganda.

He finishes rolling the butt with a lick across the paper.

RYAN (CONT'D)
I even bike to dates. If a lady don't like it, I don't want her ass on my handlebars anyhow.

A noticeably looser Jarrod approaches. Fresh drink in hand.

ELAINE
Hey twinkle toes. How are you feeling?

He sits down next to Elaine. Spills some on her sleeve.

JARROD
Sorry, my bad.

ELAINE
No worries.

She gives him a frustrated look as he pats down her sleeve.

Ryan gets up and slides open the PATIO DOOR. Looks to Elaine.

RYAN
Puff on the patio? House rules.

ELAINE
No thanks, trying to cut down.

RYAN
Same here. How about you party boy?

JARROD
Sure. Why not?

Jarrold follows Ryan out. Slides the door shut, leaving Elaine by herself. Again.

A DOUCHE BAG approaches her almost immediately. Cheesy grin.

EXT. PATIO - NIGHT

SMOKE wafts through the air. Jarrod hands the butt to Ryan. There's a handful of other SMOKERS on the patio with them.

Through the patio glass door: Elaine blows off the Douche and storms into the guest bedroom, slamming the door behind her.

RYAN
That can't be good.

Jarrold sighs and heads back inside. Ryan smiles when...

A strange blue LIGHT FLASHES across the sky. Ryan spins around, staring out at the city with a puzzled look.

He turns to a SMOKING MODEL.

RYAN (CONT'D)
Did you see that?
(Off her vacant look)
It was the same color as your eyes.

INT. GUEST BEDROOM - NIGHT

Elaine storms into the bedroom. Grabs the bathroom door handle. It's locked. VOICES inside. Camera FLASHES reveal the silhouette of entwined BODIES through the FROSTED GLASS.

Jarrold enters the room. Shuts the door behind him.

JARROD
Elaine. Come on.

ELAINE

You come on. It's like you've already decided for both of us.

JARROD

Decided? Terry just sprung this California talk on me today.

ELAINE

I'm not talking about California!

The bathroom door swings OPEN. Denise sloppily emerges.

DENISE

Oh. Sorry.

She quickly leaves the room. Elaine turns to Jarrod.

ELAINE

I am trying to deal with this and you're getting wasted, leaving me with total strangers. Is a little consideration too much to ask?

Jarrod runs his hands through his hair. Feeling guilty.

JARROD

I'm sorry. I... I'm just stressed-

ELAINE

And what about me Jarrod? My career, my body...

JARROD

I am with you. Whatever you choose.

Jarrod steps closer to Elaine. He takes her hands.

JARROD (CONT'D)

It's just that... I don't know... What kind of father can't even pay his own rent?

The bathroom door opens again. They do a double take as TERRY walks out.

TERRY

Hey. Just checking on... something.

He leaves without any further embarrassment.

ELAINE

Great. Is that what we have to look forward to?

JARROD

No. Terry's always been that way.

ELAINE

What about you? Ever been "that way?"

JARROD

Elaine. I am not Terry. Alright?

She hesitates, slowly backing away from him.

ELAINE

People change. Especially in L.A.

With that she steps in the bathroom and closes the door.

INT. LIVING ROOM/ LOUNGE AREA - NIGHT

Everyone crowds around the BIG SCREEN TV. The image is a LIVE FEED from a high tech TELESCOPE that Ryan is operating.

RYAN

Wait! I think I got a live one!

Ryan whips the telescope, panning across nearby apartments.

RYAN (CONT'D)

Let's see what's behind door... number... one!

TELESCOPE POV: In a neighbor's WINDOW, where a MAN sits with a short haired WOMAN kneeling before him. Head in his lap.

The party bursts into LAUGHS and CHEERS.

Candice sits in the kitchen. Sipping wine. Not amused.

RYAN (CONT'D)

We have a weiner! Look at her go!

TELESCOPE POV: The woman looks up from her knees to reveal she's not a woman at all. But another MAN.

Ryan spits out his drink, collapses in laughter.

PARTY GUY

Yeah, boys! Show'em how it's done!

The doorbell RINGS.

INT. PENTHOUSE FLOOR HALLWAY - NIGHT

The noise is audible. The door swings open. Candice stands there, looking up and down at Oliver.

OLIVER
Pardon me, ma'am, but we've
received a few noise complaints.

CANDICE
From who? The building's half empty.

Oliver lets out a polite laugh.

OLIVER
I understand. But it's two in the
morning. So. If you don't mind...

CANDICE
Fine.

Candice purses her lips in a KISS and shuts the door.

Oliver is left shaking his head.

INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER

Terry shuts the door on the last guests. Ryan and Denise are still zoning on the couch. Ryan scuttles closer to her.

DENISE
Uh, uh. I call couch.

RYAN
Big enough for both of us, right?

Denise shoves him onto the floor.

DENISE
I like my space.

Denise shoots Terry a 'come hither' glance. But he walks past towards the windows and hits the CONTROL PANEL.

MRRV! The state of the art WINDOW BLINDS automatically close. The last bit of light disappears from the living room.

TITLE: DAY ONE - 3:50 A.M.

INT. GUEST BEDROOM - NIGHT

The strange LIGHT streaks through the closed blinds.
Shadows dance over Elaine and Jarrod's face.
She stirs.

ELAINE
How's it morning already?

He barely registers. Looks at the clock: 3:50 A.M.

JARROD
It's not. It's... jet lag.

CUT TO:

INT. MASTER BEDROOM - NIGHT

With the light glowing through the slits of the window blinds, the building begins to SHAKE.

Candice doesn't even look up.

CANDICE
Earthquake?

Terry rolls over.

TERRY
Probably just a tremor.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

A shirtless Ryan sits up from the shag. Even with the blinds shut, it's far brighter in here. Ryan nudges Denise awake.

RYAN
Hey, check it out.

She doesn't care, turning over. But Ryan can't let it go.

RYAN (CONT'D)
You ever seen anything like that?

He clicks a control panel, OPENING the PATIO DOOR BLINDS. The LIGHT washes over his face in an almost ecstatic haze.

DENISE
Turn off the lights...

She slowly turns back to see the DISTENDED VEINS stretching across his back like a spiderweb.

DENISE (CONT'D)
(Raising her voice)
Ryan... oh my God...

He slides OPEN THE DOOR, flooding the room in radiance.

Denise instinctively shields her eyes, backing away.

DENISE (CONT'D)
What are you-

WHOMP. WHOMP. The FREQUENCY fills the air. A haunting melody.

EXT. BALCONY - NIGHT

Ryan steps outside. Soaked in sweat. Muscles twitching.

ON THE NEIGHBORING BUILDING

Other PEOPLE stand in the same hypnotized state, staring with blackened pupils at

AN INCANDESCENT SPHERE

Hovering twenty feet in the air above Lincoln Blvd. It pulses with energy, flowing out from its center. Beautiful. Tempting. Beckoning everyone near like a lucent SIREN.

EXT. MAXELLA AVENUE - CONTINUOUS

An OLDER COUPLE exits their car, parked in the middle of the road. They move towards the light, completely entranced.

EXT. BALCONY - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Ryan presses against the railing, his body trembling.

BAMPF! In the blink of eye, he's gone. Vanished into thin air.

DENISE (O.S.)
Ryan!

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Jarrood bursts into the room.

JARROD
What's wrong?

DENISE
He's gone!

Turning to his left, Jarrood looks out through the open BALCONY DOOR. The brilliant light washes over him.

DENISE (CONT'D)
Jarrood, no!

Denise grabs Jarrood by the arm.

Terry charges across the living room to see his friend, veins bulging, eyes fully dilated.

TERRY
What the hell's going on?

DENISE
Stop him-

Jarrood tears away from Denise.

The FREQUENCY drowns everything out as Jarrood moves forward, finally stepping outside, SIREN LIGHT FLARING OVER HIM.

But he's pulled back in by Terry.

TERRY
What's with you man?

Jarrood pushes forward. Twice as strong. Terry gasps. It takes everything he's got to hold Jarrood back.

Elaine emerges, rushing towards them.

ELAINE
Jarrood?

But Denise wraps her arms around Elaine, holding her back.

DENISE
Don't!

Terry wrestles Jarrood down to the floor, into the shadows of the upward arcing light.

ELAINE

What the...

Elaine looks out to see the hint of

OBJECTS FLYING UPWARDS THROUGH THE AIR

Suddenly the lights die down. The tremors stop.

Everything goes quiet.

Jarrold stops writhing. Terry eases up. Catching his breath.

Elaine and Denise still hold each other.

No one knows what to say.

CANDICE (O.S.)

(Annoyed)

Are you guys fucking serious?

Candice walks out to see:

Terry lying over Jarrod. His veins bulging, covered in sweat, breathing like he just ran a marathon.

CANDICE (CONT'D)

(Shocked)

Oh my God, what's wrong with him?

Elaine pushes Terry out of the way, jumping to Jarrod's aid. His eyes are squeezed shut, jaw clenched.

ELAINE

It's okay. I'm right here.

He finally eases up, looking back like he's blind.

ELAINE (CONT'D)

Jarrold? Baby, can you see me?

He shakes his head, everything is a blur. Still trying to catch his breath.

CANDICE

What happened?

Terry looks out the balcony door. It's dark now. Hazy.

ELAINE

Please, please be-

JARROD

I'm... I'm okay.

Jarrood sits up, shaking it off. Finally stares into Elaine's tortured face. She burrows into him, holding him tight.

TERRY
Where's Ryan?

Terry steps out onto the patio.

DENISE
No! Don't!

EXT. BALCONY - CONTINUOUS

There's a thick HAZE in the air. He can barely see the street lights below.

Denise rushes out and pulls on Terry. Imploring.

DENISE
Please! Come back inside!

TERRY
Where'd that light come from?

She grunts, forcing him back in.

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Denise slams the door shut behind them. Closes the blinds.

TERRY
You better start making some sense-

Denise's hand on Terry's chest. Candice glares at them.

DENISE
Ryan... went out there. To the
light. And... he just. Disappeared.

CANDICE
Somebody's had a little too much to
drink.

ELAINE
Then explain what happened to him.

Jarrood looks up, still disoriented.

TERRY
Jarrod, man, what did you see?

Jarrood stands up, gathering his thoughts. He speaks softly in a measured and haunted tone.

JARROD

It was... like I was flying. Towards this shimmering light.... But I'd never seen the color before.

He looks away from Elaine's gaze.

JARROD (CONT'D)

It was beautiful.

ROAR! An ungodly growl ECHOES from the base of the building.

Everyone is shocked. Standing still for a moment.

TERRY

What in the hell was that?

Terry walks to the windows. Looks through a crack in the blinds. Can't see anything. Turns to the TELESCOPE.

TERRY (CONT'D)

(To Jarrod)

Give me a hand.

Jarrood helps Terry position the telescope through the corner crack in the blinds.

DENISE

Wait, stop for-

TERRY

No, you stop! Nothing makes any sense. We have to know what's what.

Denise is rattled, but she stops protesting.

Candice DIALS 911 on her blackberry. Holds the phone to her ears, listening to it ring. Over and over again.

Terry changes the input on the TV, broadcasting the Telescope's LIVE FEED onto the Big Screen.

Elaine moves behind Jarrood, puts an arm on his shoulder. He looks into her eyes, nodding. He mans the Telescope.

TELESCOPE POV: Panning across the skyline - It's still hazy, making it hard to see anyone or anything outside.

Everyone watches in rapt silence, not sure what to expect.

TELESCOPE POV: SMOKE PLUMES on the horizon. Eerily calm. There are several ABANDONED CARS in the middle of the Lincoln Blvd. Then. A HULKING SHADOW tears through the intersection.

Jarrood pulls away.

TERRY (CONT'D)

What?

JARROD

There's something down there. On the street...

Terry shakes his head. Still skeptical, he gets behind the telescope, panning around.

TERRY

I don't see anything.

TELESCOPE POV: He pans up to the neighboring ROOFTOP where a group of RESIDENTS point and look off in the other direction.

TERRY (CONT'D)

Wait, there's people...

Turns back to the group. Points at the neighboring building.

TERRY (CONT'D)

On the roof.

JARROD

What are they doing?

Terry struggles with the Telescope. Scanning over.

TERRY

Can't tell. But we should check it out.

Steps away from the telescope.

TERRY (CONT'D)

Go to the roof.

His words hang there for a moment. Jarrood looks down.

No one likes the idea, especially Denise.

TERRY (CONT'D)

Come on, Jarrood.

Jarrood hesitates. Looks to Elaine then Terry.

JARROD
Yeah. Okay.

Terry nods, walks off to the MASTER BEDROOM.

DENISE
I can't believe you're all just
ignoring me...

Denise begins CRYING. Elaine comforts her.

ELAINE
Jarrod, you can't go out there.

JARROD
I can't let him go alone.

Terry returns holding a GLOCK HANDGUN, making Elaine nervous.

ELAINE
A gun?

TERRY
Just to be safe.

Elaine throws up her arms.

CANDICE
(Dismissive)
Really?

Terry ignores her. Candice shakes her head. Dials 911 again.

Jarrold grabs Denise's CAMERA off the counter. Looks through the zoom lens. His gears are turning.

TERRY
(To Jarrod)
Let's go.

Jarrold looks to Elaine. Tears in her eyes. He holds her face in his hands. She hesitates, then kisses him.

ELAINE
Hurry back.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

The door slowly opens. Terry inches out. Gun drawn.

Jarrold follows. Camera around his neck.

Everything is quiet. They relax somewhat.

TERRY
Stairs are this way.

They head down the hall.

Slowly creeping around the corner. Still not a sound.

RUFF! Terry spins around, gun raised to see:

An ELDERLY MAN stands in his doorway, holding his SMALL DOG.

ELDERLY MAN
Whoa, whoa!

Terry lowers the gun.

TERRY
Walt. God damn. Scared the hell out
of me man.

It's Terry's neighbor WALT and his BARKING dog MALCOLM.

WALT
What's going on? Did you hear that
noise? Is it Al Qaeda?

TERRY
We're going to check it out-

WALT
Malcolm's been going crazy and I-

TERRY
Listen just stay inside and keep
your blinds shut. We'll be back,
okay?

Walt nods, closes the door.

INT. NORTH STAIRWELL - DAWN

Terry leads the way up the fluorescent lit steps. Jarrod
looks over his shoulder, feeling edgy.

They reach the top of the stairs.

JARROD
Wait up.

They stop beside the DOOR to the ROOF.

JARROD (CONT'D)
What's the plan?

Terry adjusts his grip on the gun. Nerves catching up to him.

TERRY

I'll go first. Watch my back.

Jarrood nods. An understanding passes between them.

Terry takes a deep breath. Opens the DOOR.

LIGHT FLOODS OVER TERRY.

But it's just the SUNRISE.

TERRY (CONT'D)

Come on.

EXT. ROOFTOP - DAWN

They emerge onto the industrial rooftop, facing WEST. They can see all the way to the OCEAN past the Marina.

Jarrood moves forward, aims the CAMERA towards the coast. Zooms in on the clear blue water. Snaps off a quick shot.

JARROD

Looks calm...

SLAM! The door shuts behind them. Terry grabs the handle. It's locked.

TERRY

Damn it Jarrod!?

JARROD

You never told me to hold it open.

TERRY

I thought it was common sense!

JARROD

I'm sorry, I-

WHOMP. WHOMP. The FREQUENCY bellows through the air.

TERRY

Get down!

They duck down.

JARROD

What now?

Terry motions with his head, the crouch forward towards the stairwell to the HELIPAD.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAWN

Candice paces back and forth. Phone attached to her ear.

CANDICE
Just keeps ringing.

Elaine nods, looking down at her iPhone - dialing her MOM with similar results. She turns on the TV. It displays the default "Acquiring Signal" graphic. Satellite interference.

ELAINE
Perfect.

Denise is curled up on the couch, searching on her iPhone.

DENISE
I've looked everywhere online. No news since 4 AM.

ELAINE
What about Facebook, Twitter?

DENISE
A few people... All asking the same questions.

ELAINE
Someone has to know about this.

Elaine stands before the Telescope. Takes a deep breath.

TELESCOPE POV: She passes over a neighborhood in the distance. Hundreds of flailing SHADOWS rise from the ground.

ELAINE (CONT'D)
Oh my God...

Shocked, she turns and darts towards the front door.

CUT TO:

EXT. HELIPAD STAIRWELL - DAWN

Terry and Jarrod slowly moving up the last steps.

On the neighboring building's ROOFTOP they can see FIVE RESIDENTS staring off at the city in the distance.

EXT. HELIPAD - DAWN

They reach the helipad. Following the neighbors' gazes to see:

The HAZE is clearing, offering a sprawling view of the skyline stretching out before them.

With mouths agape, they see some forty blocks away:

TINY SPECKS RISE UP into the air - spiralling upwards into the CLOUDS above.

Then breaking forth from the cloud cover, half the distance away, they see:

A SHIP. MASSIVE. OTHERWORLDLY. A NIGHTMARE.

TERRY

What. The. Fuck.

A quarter mile wide. Like a single cell organism on an epic scale. It hovers in the air with pure, unadulterated menace.

Beyond that even more SHIPS become visible. DOZENS of them loom over the entire city.

WHOMP. WHOMP. The FREQUENCY sounds. From the bottom of the nearest SHIP the INCANDESCENT SPHERE lowers, softly drifting towards the ground before emitting the SIREN LIGHT.

Jarrood shields his eyes.

JARROD

Don't look at it man!

Terry ignores him, staring out at the horrible spectacle.

JARROD (CONT'D)

Damn it Terry!

TERRY

That shit's over a mile away.

Jarrood unblocks his eyes to see Terry's right. He looks out at the ship.

Suddenly they see a SWARM rising through the air. Jarrood raises the camera to his eyes. Zooms in. Focuses.

IT'S PEOPLE.

Everyone in a three block radius of the SIREN is sucked into the ship by a vacuum force.

TERRY (CONT'D)
That what I think it is?!

JARROD
My God...

They stand there in stunned silence, watching the human population being vacuumed off the face of the Earth.

When it's done a HAZE of DEBRIS fills the air under the SHIP.

Jarrold scans the ship with the ZOOM lens, clicking away. Stops. Sees something. Lowers the lens.

JARROD (CONT'D)
Oh shit.

TERRY
What?

Jarrold begins backing away.

JARROD
Run.

TERRY
What?

JARROD
JUST RUN!

Jarrold and Terry tear ass across the Helipad.

In the SKY ABOVE:

DOZENS of DRAGON-LIKE SHIPS, around the size of fighter jets, begin launching off the MOTHERSHIP. They are the HYDRA.

One HYDRA heads directly towards them.

EXT. HELIPAD STAIRWELL - DAY

Terry and Jarrold jump down the steps, adrenaline on overdrive.

EXT. ROOFTOP - DAY

They stumble towards the locked door. Working together, they try to pull it open. No dice.

TERRY
Back up, back up!

Terry raises his gun. Aims at the lock. BOOM! BOOM!

Jarrood tears at the handle. But it doesn't budge.

JARROD
Damn it!

The HYDRA ship rounds the building, it's surface is a horrific meld of living tissue and metallic structuring. It makes quick work of the NEIGHBORS of the adjacent rooftop.

BOOM! Terry shoots the lock again. Still won't open.

A bright SIREN SPOTLIGHT hits them. They shield their eyes as the HYDRA lowers down towards their roof.

In a last gasp, they both pull frantically at the door. Giving it all they got. Nothing. Jarrood sinks to the ground.

Terry and Jarrood share a look. Preparing for the end.

CREAK. The door swings opens. ELAINE stands before them.

She looks into the SPOTLIGHT of the oncoming HYDRA. Veins immediately bulge across her body. She steps towards it.

JARROD (CONT'D)
No!

He jumps to his feet, pulling her away as Terry slams the door shut behind them.

CUT TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

They burst through the front door. A shaking Jarrood lays Elaine down. She writhes in his arms, slowly coming back to consciousness.

Denise rushes to help. Holding Elaine's head up.

Terry runs to the freezer, pulls out a bag of ice. Jarrood applies it to Elaine's forehead. His hands tremble.

JARROD
(Clenched jaw)
Come on baby...

She looks up. Her pupils slowly return to normal size. Color comes back to her cheeks.

ELAINE
My head feels like it's on fire.

JARROD
(Breathing deeply)
I know. It'll pass. I promise.

She grabs hold of her stomach. Jarrod looks down and places his hand over hers. Her eyes widen as she stares at his ARM.

ELAINE
You looked again?

Jarrod sees the VEINS on his arms are BULGING as well.

ELAINE (CONT'D)
But how...?

Jarrod doesn't know what to say.

An oblivious Denise lets out a huge sigh of relief.

DENISE
What happened up there?!

No one answers. Terry rubs his nose anxiously.

Jarrod finally hands the CAMERA over to Denise.

JARROD
See for yourself.

CUT TO:

INT. DINING AREA - LATER

Elaine sits huddled next to Jarrod as Candice and Denise scrub through the PHOTOS on her CAMERA'S LCD DISPLAY.

Terry paces back and forth. Eyes determined.

DENISE
Oh my God...

They stare at a close up of a WOMAN flying through the air.

ELAINE
All of those people...

The next photo shows the SHIP swallowing entire columns of humans. Elaine stares at it hard.

ELAINE (CONT'D)
What do they do with them?

TERRY
I'm not looking to find out.

Candice takes the camera from Denise. Begins scrolling through the photos.

CANDICE
I can't believe... I mean, how?

JARROD
Once you look... it grabs hold.
Like it...

ELAINE
Controls you.

Elaine and Jarrod lock eyes. Putting things together.

ELAINE (CONT'D)
Who wouldn't stare at something so beautiful? Then...

Terry doesn't like the sound of it.

ELAINE (CONT'D)
It's kind of genius actually.

TERRY
Yeah, fucking brilliant.

Everyone turns to stare at Terry. His eyes wide. Perspiring.

ELAINE
At least I'm trying to piece it together.

TERRY
Who cares? We need to worry about saving ourselves.

Jarrold stands up, moving between them.

JARROD
So what are we going to do?

ELAINE
What do you mean?

Terry heads for the front door.

TERRY
I got an idea.

JARROD
Where you going?

TERRY
Check on my neighbor Walt.

JARROD
What for?

TERRY
Don't sweat it, I'll be right back.

JARROD
Terry-

TERRY
I can handle it.

Opens the door slowly.

TERRY (CONT'D)
Just be cool. And stay quiet.

Terry leaves. And it is quiet for a moment.

Elaine sighs and moves towards the...

INT. GUEST BEDROOM - DAY

Elaine puts on her sweater. Her hands rest on her stomach for a moment. Concern on her face. She heads to the door.

She stops. BZZZ. BZZZ.

Elaine's eyes widen. She pulls her iPhone out of her pocket.

The display reads MOM. She picks up.

ELAINE
Mom?

A FEMALE VOICE answers. Bad connection. Cutting in and out.

MOM (V.O.)
(hysterical)
Elaine!

Elaine is overwhelmed with joy.

ELAINE
(whispering)
Yeah mom. It's me. Are you okay?

MOM (V.O.)
I saw them... I saw. Everybody's
gone! They're all gone!

ELAINE
Mom, please listen to me, you have
to stay inside!

MOM (V.O.)
I am inside.

WHOMP. WHOMP. The frequency begins to fade in over the phone.

ELAINE
Mom!!!

Elaine hears her mother's BLOOD CURDLING SCREAM!

ELAINE (CONT'D)
Mom?

Elaine pulls the phone away from her ear.

After a moment, the frequency begins to fade.

Elaine is shaking. She puts her ear to the phone and listens.

It's not disconnected. Just nobody on the other end.

ELAINE (CONT'D)
(louder)
Mom?

Silence.

ELAINE (CONT'D)
(screaming)
Mom!

She throws her phone against the wall in anger.

Jarrold storms into the room, rushing over to her.

JARROD
Baby, you have to quiet down-

She pushes him away. Emotions overwhelming her.

ELAINE
They took my mother!

Jarrold stares into her eyes. Steps towards her again.

JARROD
I'm sorry-

ELAINE
They took her...

She walks away. Inconsolable.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Terry stands outside of Walt's FRONT DOOR. Quietly KNOCKS.

TERRY
(Whispers)
Walt... Yo Walt, open up!

No answer... He KNOCKS. A little louder this time. Nothing.
Looks at the DOORBELL. Thinks about pressing it. Almost does.
But on second thought he tries the HANDLE. IT'S UNLOCKED.

INT. WALT'S APARTMENT - FOYER - DAY

Terry slowly steps inside.

There's an eerie WHISTLING drifting in from the living room.

TERRY
Walt?

No answer.

Terry takes out his gun. Slowly moves into the:

INT. WALT'S APARTMENT - KITCHEN - DAY

It's a corner unit with an open layout. From here, he can see the entire living room.

TERRY
Anybody here?

The PATIO DOOR is cracked open. The whistling is nothing more than a busted wind chime.

He sighs. Goes to the kitchen counter. Checks the key rack. Finds a MERCEDES key. Pockets it.

WALT (O.S.)
(Whispered)
You at least gonna ask?

A stunned Terry looks to see Walt hiding behind the counter with his WHIMPERING dog Malcolm.

TERRY
Jesus! Man, don't do that.

WALT
Sorry.

TERRY
Listen, I got a plan but I need to borrow your wheels.

Walt doesn't seem too sure.

WALT
I don't know-

VROOSH! A strange noise echoes from OUTSIDE.

RUFF! RUFF! Malcolm barks out.

WALT (CONT'D)
Quiet boy!

IN THE LIVING ROOM

Through the windows: something RISES UP OUTSIDE the building.

THE HYDRA SHIP. Humming in the air above the patio.

ITS SIREN LIGHT FLOODS INTO THE

KITCHEN

Walt pulls Terry down behind the counter as the lights wash over the room.

LIVING ROOM

SOMETHING around the size of a phone booth detaches from the ship. Hovers onto the patio. Pulsing with ENERGY.

The patio door slides open.

BACK IN THE KITCHEN

Walt, with his hands clamped around Malcolm's mouth looks around the corner.

Terry stays deathly still. Grips his gun tightly.

LIVING ROOM

IT hovers past the furniture. Completely stealth.

KITCHEN

Terry looks at Walt and his dog, then the front door. Psyching himself up.

But everything is quiet. For a long stretch.

Walt turns back to Terry.

WALT
(Whispers)
I think it's gone-

GRRR! Malcolm growls. Jumps from Walt's arms and runs around the counter.

WALT (CONT'D)
Malcolm!

He dives after the dog.

Terry turns to see Walt's body RIPPED away.

TERRY
No! Walt!

Terry rises to his feet to see:

Walt violently pulled through the air - across the room into
THE DRONE - 7 feet tall - a tentacled mass of death.

It OPENS - like a bio-mech Venus fly trap - swallowing Walt and his down inside its revolting PUPAS SAC.

Terry stares wide eyed at WALT, still alive inside the translucent monster's WOMB.

TERRY (CONT'D)

Oh shit!

Terry unloads on it. The Drone recoils.

SIREN LIGHT floods Terry as he turns and sprints, blindly firing over his shoulder. He bolts out the front door.

INT. DINING AREA - DAY

Denise walks over to the table where Candice sits alone, smoking a long, skinny CIGARETTE.

CANDICE

Did you think you two were going to live happily ever after?

DENISE

What?

Turns the Camera's DISPLAY towards Denise. It shows a PHOTO of Denise and Terry in a compromising position.

CANDICE

Please. You're just the weekend party.

Candice laughs out smoke. Ashes her butt.

MUFFLED GUN SHOTS ring out. Coming down the hall.

Jarrold and Elaine hurry into the room.

JARROD

Did you hear that?

Terry explodes through the front door.

TERRY

We gotta get out of here. Now!

JARROD

What's going on?

TERRY

We're leaving. Getting on my boat and getting the hell out of here.

ELAINE

What?

TERRY

Those things are in the Goddamn building. Came right through the patio door...

He trails off... Lets out a deep breath.

TERRY (CONT'D)

Point is, we're no safer here than anywhere else.

CANDICE

Then let's just go!

ELAINE

Hold on a second. Am I the only one who saw those photos? That's going on right outside. Right now. They're everywhere-

JARROD

No. Not everywhere.
(Sighs)
Not over the water.

Elaine feels the slight sting of betrayal. Getting worked up.

ELAINE

It didn't take very long for them to find you on the roof.

CANDICE

It's a two minute drive.

ELAINE

We have no idea what they're capable of.

TERRY

Listen Elaine, I know you're scared. We're all scared. But I'm not gonna put my head in the sand and hope this goes away.

Jarrold steps towards Terry.

JARROD

Take it easy man.

TERRY

There's nothing easy about this!

MRRV! A LOUD CLICK. Followed by a MOTORIZED HUM.

LIGHT begins to flood the room. THE BLINDS ARE OPENING.

JARROD

What the-

TERRY

The timer!

Terry and Candice dash to the far side of the room towards the CONTROL PANEL.

TERRY (CONT'D)

Everybody hide!

Jarrold pulls Elaine down behind the KITCHEN ISLAND.

Denise SCREAMS, rolling onto the floor beneath the couch.

THE BLINDS ARE COMPLETELY OPEN.

Terry pushes Candice behind the FIREPLACE WALL.

TERRY (CONT'D)

Stay still!

As Terry makes for the Control Panel on the wall...

SOMETHING turns the corner of the building.

A HYDRA.

TERRY (CONT'D)

Damn!

Terry doubles back behind the fireplace.

He stands face to face with Candice. She gives him a stern glance before they both shut their eyes tight.

The SIREN LIGHT BEAMS IN, scanning the condo, raking across the walls, accompanied by an EERIE HUM.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Jarrold and Elaine are huddled behind the island, covered in shadow. Watching the light move towards the kitchen.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Denise cowers on the floor. Light dances over and around her.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Jarrood and Elaine hold each other as the light vanishes.

The HYDRA's hum fades off.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Terry and Candice crack open their eyes and look around.

He peaks around the corner to see the now full DRONE docking back onto HYDRA as it flies up over the roof.

He darts to the control panel, mashing the button.

MRRV. The blinds close. Darkness envelops the penthouse.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Jarrood and Elaine stand up as Terry approaches.

TERRY

You still want to stay?

ELAINE

I don't want any of this. But, it didn't see us... if we stay quiet-

Terry can't believe what he's hearing.

TERRY

Those things aren't blowing up buildings. They're going after people. Plain and simple.

(turns to Jarrood)

Further we get away from all this, the safer we are.

JARROOD

(to Elaine)

He's right.

ELAINE

Jarrood...

JARROOD

If we get to the boat, we have a chance.

ELAINE

Now. But-

JARROD
We have to try.

TERRY
Gather your stuff. Pull together
water and food. Let's do this.

Terry pockets the BOAT KEY, and pulls out his GUN.

INT. PENTHOUSE FLOOR HALLWAY - DAY

Terry leads the crew out the door. Jarrod takes the rear as they hustle towards the:

ELEVATOR BANK

Terry slams the down button. They wait nervously.

The building MOANS and CRACKLES.

A MUFFLED SCREAM echoes in the distance.

Terry hits the button repeatedly.

DING. The doors open.

INT. ELEVATOR - DAY

The crew files in. Terry hits the button labeled P1.

The elevator descends. All eyes fixated on the floor display.

A faint BOOM is heard. The elevator RATTLES. Lights FLICKER.

Jarrold pulls Elaine closer.

The floor display reads: 5... 4... 3...

Terry readies himself. Aims at the door.

DING. Display reads: P1.

The doors open.

Silence. Nothing but row after row of luxury cars.

INT. PARKING GARAGE - DAY

Terry leads the group towards his silver convertible Ferrari.

TERRY

The sooner I get there, the sooner
that boat is ready to go.

Terry tosses WALT'S KEYS to Jarrod. Candice intercepts them.

CANDICE

(to Elaine and Jarrod)
Let's go.

TERRY

What are you doing?

CANDICE

Driving. I know the way.
(points to Denise)
You can take the slut.

Denise frowns. Candice gives Terry a cold, knowing stare.

TERRY

Candice-

CANDICE

(to Elaine and Jarrod)
Come on.

Terry watches Candice lead them away.

INT. FERRARI - DAY

Terry hops the door into the driver's seat. Denise gets in.

DENISE

Terry. I'm sorry. I-

Terry starts the engine, unleashing a guttural GROWL.

He turns to stare coldly at Denise. Puts it into reverse.

INT. PARKING GARAGE - DAY

The Ferrari zips backward, out of the parking spot.

Terry pulls up to meet Candice behind the wheel of the Mercedes. Jarrod rides shotgun. Elaine in back.

TERRY

(Leaning out the window)
Alright. Take it nice and slow
until the second gate. When that
opens. We tear ass to the dock.

CANDICE

Got it.

Candice looks to Denise then back to Terry. He pulls away.

CUT TO:

INT. MERCEDES - DAY

Candice, Jarrod and Elaine watch intently, following the Ferrari through the FIRST SECURITY GATE.

INT. PARKING GARAGE - DAY

They turn the corner to the next level. Passing through the SECOND SECURITY GATE.

Amongst the empty cars, a COUPLE loads their SUV. In their 40s, the HUSBAND and WIFE throw supplies in the back.

Terry drives right on by.

INT. MERCEDES - DAY

Jarrod looks at the couple. Then back to Elaine.

JARROD

(to Candice)

Slow down a bit.

Candice gives an annoyed look, but complies. Jarrod rolls down the window and leans his head out.

JARROD (CONT'D)

Are you guys okay?

The Husband hesitates, exchanges a look with his Wife.

JARROD (CONT'D)

Do you need-

HUSBAND

Just go. We're fine.

WIFE

(to Husband)

But maybe-

HUSBAND

(to Wife)

Enough! Alright?

(MORE)

HUSBAND (CONT'D)
(turns to Jarrod)
I said we're fine!

Jarrood eases back. Rolls up his window. Candice pulls away.
In the side view mirror, the Wife stare back at Jarrod.

INT. PARKING GARAGE - DAY

The Ferrari approaches the THIRD SECURITY GATE.

Beyond the gate is the VALET OVERHANG that leads to the CUL
DE SAC and out to Lincoln Boulevard.

INT. FERRARI - DAY

Terry looks back to see the Mercedes pull up behind him. He
takes a deep breath. Looks to Denise.

TERRY
Here we go.

Terry hits the GARAGE DOOR OPENER. Revs the engine.

The gate squeaks and rattles open.

EXT. THE COVE ENTRANCE - DAY

The Ferrari launches past the gate, through the Valet
overhang, and towards the end of the driveway.

CRUNCH!!!

The FERRARI IS SMASHED FROM ABOVE...

Crumpled like a tin can by a HULKING MASS...

Terry is THROWN from the car, smacking onto the asphalt.

Above him stands:

THE TANKER

A twenty foot tall BIO-MECHANICAL BEAST. Walking on all
fours, it GRINDS the Ferrari into the ground with its CLAW,
unleashing a monstrous ROAR.

INT. MERCEDES - CONTINUOUS

Candice, Jarrod and Elaine SCREAM in horror.

EXT. THE COVE ENTRANCE - DAY

Terry looks up with wide eyes. He scampers to his feet.

The Tanker REARS UP ON ITS HIND LEGS. Enormous. Terrifying. The Ferrari wreckage shakes off its claw, crashing to the ground to reveal:

DENISE'S MANGLED BODY strewn across its knuckles.

INT. MERCEDES - DAY

Candice can't believe her eyes.

CANDICE
Oh my God!

EXT. THE COVE ENTRANCE - DAY

Terry limps as fast as he can towards the garage.

The Tanker turns. Clenches its RIGHT CLAW.

Terry hobbles under the OVERHANG, steps from the gate.

The Tanker's CLAW SWEEPS after him. IT MISSES.

Terry falls to the ground. It can't reach.

TERRY
Son of a bitch!

Lying on his side, Terry pulls the gun from his jeans.

He UNLOADS on it. Firing ROUND after ROUND. But the Tanker just keeps coming.

INT. MERCEDES - DAY

The group watches with pure dread. Jarrod opens the door.

JARROD
Come on man! Get in!

The Tanker's CLAW sweeps again and again. Getting closer each time.

Jarrod swallows. Jumps out after Terry.

ELAINE
Jarrod!!!

EXT. THE COVE ENTRANCE - DAY

Terry gets up and limps towards Jarrod. Arms outstretched.

JARROD

I got you!

They lock arms. Terry's never looked so thankful or afraid.

The Tanker lunges into the over hang. Everything shakes.

TENDRILS LAUNCH from the Tanker's CLAW, ENSNARING TERRY.

Jarrod is knocked to the ground as the tendrils wrap around Terry's body, dripping an iridescent black OIL.

INT. MERCEDES - DAY

Candice and Elaine SCREAM at the top of their lungs.

Terry is RIPPED BACKWARDS, slamming into the TANKER'S CLAW. His body SNAPS, SWALLOWED through an ORIFICE in its PALM.

CANDICE

(screaming)

No!

EXT. THE COVE ENTRANCE - DAY

Jarrod is devastated, watching the beast in stunned horror.

ELAINE

(Through the window)

Jarrod! Get your ass in here!

He snaps out of it as:

The TENDRILS LASH OUT AGAIN.

Just short of his foot. He scrambles back into the Mercedes.

INT. MERCEDES - CONTINUOUS

The TENDRILS whip around again, slamming down on the hood with a CRUNCH!

ELAINE

Back up!

Candice throws the car into REVERSE and slams the gas pedal.

INT. PARKING GARAGE - DAY

The Mercedes screeches backwards.

Candice turns and pops the car back into DRIVE, skidding to a halt in front of the second gate.

They zoom past the COUPLE, running back from the entrance.

ELAINE
(Yells out the window)
Get back inside!

INT. MERCEDES - DAY

Candice mashes the button. The gate slowly OPENS.

CANDICE
Come on, you piece of shit!

AN OTHERWORLDLY HUM reverberates through the garage.

INT. PARKING GARAGE - CONTINUOUS

The Wife looks over her shoulder at the garage ramp.

INT. MERCEDES - DAY

The HUMMING GROWS LOUDER. Drowning out everything.

On the other side of the gate:

A BRIGHT LIGHT appears around the corner.

JARROD
Get down!

Doubled over in the driver's seat, Candice throws it back into reverse and hits the gas.

The Mercedes speeds violently back from the gate.

INT. PARKING GARAGE - DAY

A SAVAGE looking DRONE turns the corner. BIGGER and BULKIER than the others and twice as mean.

ITS SIREN LIGHT floods over the Couple.

The Husband pushes his Wife to safety.

WIFE

Colin, no!

The Husband is YANKED BACK through the air, sucked across the garage and into the Drone's MASSIVE PUPAS SAC.

The Wife SCREAMS! Turns and runs behind the row of cars.

INT. MERCEDES - DAY

Candice steers blindly. Weaves through the garage.

SLAM! The car collides with a pillar. Air bags deploy.

Jarrood pushes the air bag out of his face.

JARROD

Elaine!

In the back seat, Elaine shakes the cobwebs out her head.

ELAINE

I'm alright.

Candice fumbles with her seat belt. Jumps out of the car.

JARROD

Come on, let's go!

Jarrood and Elaine dash out of the Mercedes.

INT. PARKING GARAGE - DAY

Candice reaches an EXIT DOOR. LOCKED. She bangs hard.

CANDICE

Somebody! Please!

Jarrood and Elaine catch up. Jarrood throws his weight at the door. No luck. Elaine looks for another way to go.

But they're cornered, the DRONE coming straight for them.

A SHRIEK ECHOES through the garage.

WIFE (O.S.)

Oh god, help me!

They all turn to see...

The Wife scampering towards them. She staggers into Elaine's arms, weeping.

WIFE (CONT'D)

Please. Please. You. Have. To...

The HUM drowns her out. The DRONE bears down on them.

Jarrood shields Elaine. Candice and the Wife cower. Eyes shut.

The Drone is moving fast. LIGHTS BLARING.

Jarrood steels himself. Slowly, he opens his eyes...

BOOM!

AN ESCALADE SLAMS INTO THE DRONE.

CRUSHING IT AGAINST A PILLAR.

ITS SIREN LIGHTS FADE. It releases a miserable MOAN. A death rattle.

Elaine open her eyes, looking at the Escalade in disbelief.

OLIVER jumps out of the driver's door. Looks them over. Sees Jarrod: shaking, veins bulging, coming off being entranced.

OLIVER

You alright?

Everyone is speechless. Elaine notices Jarrod's condition. She grabs his arm. Worry on her face.

JARROD

I'm okay.

Candice stares at the Drone. Its torn torso gushes a black, bio-mech oil mixed with human blood.

The Wife's eyes bulge. Shaking in horror at the gruesome sight of the HUSBAND'S twisted body amongst the alien carnage.

Oliver pulls a KEY RING from his belt. Unlocks the Exit Door.

Candice moves through. Jarrod pulls Elaine by the hand.

Elaine stops in the doorway. Looking sympathetically to the Wife, then to Oliver.

Oliver puts his arm around the Wife.

OLIVER

Miss, we have to go-

A GROAN. The Husband stirs to life.

WIFE
He's alive!

She pushes past Oliver to help her husband to his knees.
Candice, Jarrod, and Elaine watch from the doorway.

WIFE (CONT'D)
Oh thank God!

Oliver helps the two of them to their feet.

OLIVER
Come on, let's go.

SLURP! A GLOWING TENDRIL envelops the HUSBAND'S HEAD, searing through his flesh.

WIFE
No!

She pulls at her husband's arms as his BRAIN is RIPPED OUT.
His lifeless remains fall before her feet.

The tendril takes the brain and retreats into the Drone's womb. Almost instantly it SCREAMS, violently lashing back to life. Limbs cracking into place as it begins REBUILDING itself back to its original size and strength.

The Drone pushes the SUV back off it. Gaining strength.

Oliver instinctively yanks the Wife back.

Pulls her through the door and SLAMS it shut.

INT./EXT. POOL STAIRWELL - SUNSET

Candice, Jarrod and Elaine barrel up the stairs, stopping at the last landing. The final flight of stairs leads UP and OUT to the POOL AREA.

CANDICE
Did you see that? It ripped his God damn brain out!

Oliver and the Wife join them. Candice looks away.

OLIVER
Make for the back door.

Everyone nods. The Wife quietly shakes her head.

They gather themselves and run up the stairs to the...

EXT. POOL AREA - SUNSET

At the top of the stairs. The coast is clear.

Candice leads them around the fireplace.

She suddenly stops.

Frozen in terror, they slowly look to the right.

In the rear plaza of the adjacent REGATTA BUILDING...

A massive figure lurks behind the trees.

It stops moving. And turns slowly towards the group.

THE TANKER TOWERS OVER THEM, glaring menacingly.

A long, terrifying pause as they stare each other down.

ELAINE

Run!

Candice leads as the group tears ass around the patio.

The Tanker REARS UP on its hind legs, bellowing an awful WAR CRY before smashing down onto all fours and giving chase.

The Wife stumbles. Oliver pulls her up.

OLIVER

You can make it!

WIFE

I can't!

The Tanker gallops onto to the pool deck, his claw splashing the water.

The Wife looks back. Terrified. Oliver yanks her arm.

OLIVER

Come on!

The Tanker spots the Wife. Extends its CLAW.

THE TENDRILS launch, ensnaring her.

She screams as the TENDRILS RIP her back through the air.

Her body SMASHES through the GLASS fence surrounding the pool, before she's slurped into the Tanker's palm ORIFICE.

Oliver turns and runs.

Candice leads the group through a SUNKEN CONCRETE WALKWAY, eight feet below the pool area.

The BACK DOORWAY is up ahead. Almost there.

CRASH! The TANKER BARRELS over the group running on the sunken walkway below. Its limbs SMASH all around them, barely missing each time.

The Tanker COLLIDES into the adjacent fencing, falling over.

The group reaches the straightaway to the back door.

ROAR! Everyone looks to the LEFT.

A SECOND TANKER emerges from the side of the building.

Everyone doubles their speed. Fight or flight kicking in.

Candice slams into the BACK DOOR.

CANDICE
It's locked!

JARROD
No!

The second Tanker charges them. Oliver reaches the door.

Everything shakes as the Tanker draws closer.

Oliver fumbles with his MULTIPLE KEY FOBS.

He swipes one across the security panel.

BEEP. Oliver pulls on the door. LOCKED.

The tanker is 10 yards away.

Oliver swipes another FOB. No dice.

CANDICE
Open the fucking door-

Oliver throws his shoulder into it. Again and again.

Jarrold joins Oliver. Both of them lunging at the door, breaking it open.

They explode through, spilling out onto the ground.

OLIVER

Hurry!

Everyone piles through after them.

Oliver SLAMS it shut.

BOOM! The whole building shakes as the Tanker rams it.

They fall to the floor. Stunned and scared.

The TENDRILS slam against the glass windows on the door.
Leaving a black oily trails on the glass.

Quickly backing away, the group heads towards the elevator.

INT. PENTHOUSE - FOYER - NIGHT

The front door swings open. Everyone rushes in.

OLIVER

Come on, quickly, quickly.

Oliver carefully closes the door. Locks it.

INT. LIVING ROOM/KITCHEN - NIGHT

Candice crashes on the couch. Elaine catches her breath.

Oliver swiftly moves through the condo. Checks all the rooms.

INT. FRONT BATHROOM - NIGHT

Jarrood splashes water on his face. But his tears continue to fall. He looks up in the mirror to see Elaine behind him.

JARROD

I can't believe he's gone...

Elaine wraps her arms around him. Trying to comfort him.

ELAINE

I'm so sorry...

Her hands go the still bubbling veins on his arms. Jarrood looks down as well.

ELAINE (CONT'D)
When I saw that light, I couldn't
stand up for five minutes.

She looks into his eyes.

ELAINE (CONT'D)
How are you doing this?

He looks away. Unsure of what to say.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

They exit to the bathroom, arm in arm, to see Candice
bawling. They join her on the couch. Hanging their heads.

Oliver is on the Telescope. Pans quickly. Erratic.

OLIVER
(Under his breath)
Lord all mighty.

TELESCOPE POV: Drones roam the city. Tankers storm buildings.
Chasing stragglers through the streets. A ground strike. A
clean up crew. Mother Ships loom on the horizon.

Oliver snaps around. Sees everyone in emotional shock.
Decides he shouldn't share this information.

He scans the room. Charges towards a BOOKSHELF. Motions to
Jarrod.

OLIVER (CONT'D)
Hey!

Jarrod tilts his head up, revealing tear filled eyes.

OLIVER (CONT'D)
Enough, alright. Get over here and
help me with this.

Jarrod looks to Elaine. Wipes his tears.

He gets up and grabs one end of the shelf.

OLIVER (CONT'D)
In front of the door. Come on.

INT. FOYER - NIGHT

The two muscle the bookshelf to the FRONT DOOR. A barricade.

OLIVER
Better than nothing, right?

JARROD
If you say so.

Oliver roughly grabs Jarrod, by his shirt. Pure conviction in his eyes.

OLIVER
(Harshly)
What are you doing? Huh? Like it or not, this is happening.
(looks to the girls)
You got to be strong.

Jarrod straightens his spine. Finally able to stare back.

Oliver nods. But never breaks eye contact.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Jarrod and Oliver walk back towards the couch.

OLIVER
Is everybody alright?

The weeping Candice looks at him like he's an idiot.

OLIVER (CONT'D)
Are you hurt?

She finally shakes her head.

Oliver looks to Elaine.

ELAINE
I'm okay.

Jarrod sits next to her, taking her hand. Tries to be stoic.

Oliver sits across from them. Takes off his uniform jacket. His dress shirt opens. A GOLD CROSS dangles from his neck.

ELAINE (CONT'D)
Thanks again. You really saved our asses.

Jarrod nods in approval.

Candice dries her tears. Choking back sobs.

CANDICE

Yeah... thanks... thank you.

Oliver doesn't respond. Just locks eyes with her in an intense gaze that she slowly shrinks away from.

JARROD

What now?

OLIVER

(Sighing)

We stay here. Safest place I can think of.

JARROD

And?

OLIVER

And? We wait.

JARROD

For what?

OLIVER

For help. We stay quiet, keep watch, and pray someone comes.

Jarrold looks to Elaine.

ELAINE

He's right. Somebody has to... This can't go on forever, right?

They sit in silence. Not wanting to contemplate the answer.

Candice lights a cigarette. She blows the smoke forward. Tears still are running down her face.

Elaine is disgusted. She gets up. Heads for the Guest bedroom.

OLIVER

Sweetie, it's best if we stay together.

ELAINE

I can't- the smoke-

CANDICE

Given the circumstances, I think a smoke is more than reasonable.

ELAINE

I never said-

CANDICE
From the moment you stepped foot in
here, you've been a total drag-

ELAINE
And you've been a total bitch!

Jarrood puts his arm around Elaine.

JARROD
Baby, it's okay.

CANDICE
Why don't you leave then?

JARROD
Stop it Candice.

CANDICE
What's wrong with you people?

ELAINE
I'm pregnant, alright?

Candice exhales. Realization hitting her.

ELAINE (CONT'D)
Between all of... the stress...
and... I just thought smoke is the
last thing...

JARROD
I know. It's okay.

ELAINE
I... never even got to tell my mom.

Oliver watches them intently. Visibly moved. A puff of smoke
passes his face. He turns to see Candice taking another drag.

OLIVER
Put out the cigarette!

Rattled, Candice stamps her smoke out in a decorative bowl.

OLIVER (CONT'D)
(To Elaine)
You okay dear?

Elaine slowly nods.

OLIVER (CONT'D)
Come on Boss. Let the girls sleep.
We'll keep watch.

JARROD
Both of us?

OLIVER
If they try that light stuff, we
got each other's back.

JARROD
(to Elaine)
Try to get some rest. I'll be right
over there.

Elaine nods. Lays down. Jarrod kisses her softly.

He walks to the telescope with Oliver.

ELAINE
(To herself)
I fucking hate L.A.

Elaine looks across the couch to a tear stained Candice.
Elaine sighs and takes a blanket over to her.

CANDICE
I'm sorry... I didn't know-

ELAINE
It's okay. I didn't really either.

They share a smile. Then lie down on opposite ends of the
couch.

FADE OUT.

INT. LOUNGE AREA - NIGHT

They sit in darkness. Not wanting to attract attention.

Oliver scans with the telescope.

Jarrold is behind him, leaning on the fire place wall. He's
penciling on a SKETCH PAD in his lap.

They speak in hushed voices.

OLIVER
It's quiet now.

Oliver is still glued to the telescope.

OLIVER (CONT'D)
Maybe the worst is over.

TELESCOPE POV: Nothing stirs on the streets. Faint glows are hidden by the clouds in the distance.

JARROD

Maybe not.

He turns the pad, looking at it from another angle. It's a surreal picture of the SIREN LIGHT. Haunting. Beautiful.

JARROD (CONT'D)

What do you think those things are?

OLIVER

I don't know. Does it even matter?

JARROD

Probably not.

(sighs)

It doesn't even seem real.

OLIVER

Well, it is real.

Oliver turns to Jarrod, sizing him up.

OLIVER (CONT'D)

And you better man up.

(he looks to Elaine)

For her.

(he looks to Jarrod)

For your baby.

Jarrod stops drawing, looks up.

JARROD

We don't even know if, you know-

OLIVER

What are you blind? She's decided.

Jarrod glances over towards Elaine's sleeping figure.

OLIVER (CONT'D)

(Motions to the window)

All this makes it even more important. Not gonna be many of us left.

The words just hang there for a moment. Too true.

OLIVER (CONT'D)

That's the problem, with... kids like you.

JARROD
You don't know me.

OLIVER
You got everything... and you just
want to throw it all away.
(looks at Jarrod)
Too selfish to grow up.

Jarrold almost says something but stops. Lets it sink in.
Then goes back to drawing. Head down.

JARROD
What about you? You got kids?

Oliver doesn't answer for a moment. A change comes over him.

OLIVER
(Pained)
I did. Wife too.

His looks down to the RING on his left hand.

OLIVER (CONT'D)
My world ended a long time ago.

Jarrold stops sketching. Starting to understand Oliver.

JARROD
I... I'm sorry...

Oliver turns back to the telescope. Resuming his duty.

FADE TO.

TITLE: DAY TWO

EXT. MARINA - DAWN

The sun rises over the water, illuminating the wasted city
scape of Los Angeles.

JARROD (O.S.)
Try looking to the left...

INT. LOUNGE AREA - DAWN

Oliver pulls his sleep deprived eyes away from the Telescope.

OLIVER

Nothing.

Candice emerges from the kitchen, handing them each an ESPRESSO.

JARROD

No thanks.

CANDICE

You sure?

He nods.

Oliver accepts his with a smile, the irony of the moment not lost on him.

OLIVER

Gracias.

He watches Candice walk over to the

LIVING ROOM

Elaine sits on the couch.

CANDICE

Double espresso?

Elaine stares at her for a moment.

CANDICE (CONT'D)

Just kidding.

They share a laugh.

ELAINE

God forbid you ever get knocked up.

CANDICE

(Nods with a smile)

I know. Everything I love is off limits.

She takes a sip. Slowly realizing she probably never will.

INT. MASTER BEDROOM - DAY

Jarrold stands in the doorway.

Over Terry's bed is a PAINTING of an angelic face on a black background. Jarrod stares at it. Tears welling in his eyes.

Candice enters behind him. They exchange a look.

JARROD

This was the first one I ever sold.

Jarrood smiles.

JARROD (CONT'D)

It was supposed to be a gift but he insisted on paying for it.

Candice nods knowingly. Puts her hand on his shoulder.

CANDICE

It was his favorite, you know.

Jarrood chokes up a little. Looks her in the eyes.

CANDICE (CONT'D)

Terry could be such an asshole. But I loved him. Everyone did.

They stand there for a moment. Looking at Jarrood's painting.

WHOMP. WHOMP.

They turn, ducking down as a HYDRA whooshes past the building.

Holding their breath. Watching intently. And then..

The HYDRA moves on. The sound of the FREQUENCY fades away.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. LIVING ROOM/LOUNGE AREA - DAY TO NIGHT

TIME LAPSE: The group moves positions across the condo. From the couch - to the telescope - the kitchen - bathrooms.

Bored. Tired. The fight literally draining from their bodies.

INT. LIVING ROOM/LOUNGE AREA - NIGHT

Elaine and Candice are splayed across the couch.

Jarrood lays across two chairs. Oliver sleeps on a seat before the Telescope.

It's completely silent. Almost peaceful. Then...

A FAINT BOOM is heard in the distance.

The building RATTLES a bit.

They wake with a start.

Jarrold and Oliver look around, listening.

MORE EXPLOSIONS sound off in the night.

JARROD

Take a look!

Oliver puts his eye to the telescope.

OLIVER

I don't see anything...

Jarrold picks up the remote to turn on the TV.

Elaine sits up from the couch.

ELAINE

What are you doing?

JARROD

I want to see what's out there.

Oliver looks up.

OLIVER

No. It's too bright. Can't risk it.

Jarrold looks to Oliver then Elaine. Puts down the remote. Satisfied Oliver returns his eye to the Telescope.

TELESCOPE POV: Only FIRE and SMOKE followed by bursts of light on the horizon.

OLIVER (CONT'D)

There!

ELAINE

What's happening?

OLIVER

Somebody's fighting back.

They all listen to the combat.

The EXPLOSIONS die down. The sound of one side losing. Badly.

Jarrold looks at Elaine. Concern growing on his face.

A few last BOOMS are extinguished, giving way to...

Silence.

FADE TO:

TITLE: DAY THREE

INT. GUEST BATHROOM - DAWN

Jarrood turns the faucet. No water comes out. He tries the toilet. Nothing.

Frustrated, he looks into the mirror. Stubble over grown. Bags under his eyes. His stare grows focused. Determined.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Everyone assumes their positions. Oliver at the telescope. Candice on the couch. Elaine by the fireplace.

Only Jarrood paces back and forth.

OLIVER

Why don't you take a seat. Relax.

Jarrood shakes his head. Oliver sighs.

OLIVER (CONT'D)

Alright. I'll bite. What's your plan Boss? I know you're dying to tell me.

JARROOD

I don't have a plan-

OLIVER

Really? Nothing you want to say?

Jarrood looks over at Candice and Elaine.

JARROOD

Look. We're on a marina for Christ's sake.

OLIVER

I've noticed.

JARROOD

So there are hundreds of boats just across the street.

OLIVER
Remind me how that worked out last
time.

JARROD
We go on foot. Quietly.

OLIVER
And search every boat until we find
a key? That's great plan Jarrod.

Elaine stands up. Not liking where this is going.

ELAINE
I can't believe you'd even suggest
this after what happened.

JARROD
You make it sound like it was my
fault.

It hangs in the air. Maybe it was?

ELAINE
I was practically begging. But you
wouldn't listen to me.

JARROD
And you think Terry would have
listened to me?

Candice looks at him with hurt eyes. Elaine backs off.

OLIVER
Alright. Let's say you make it out
the building. Across to the Marina.
Down to the dock. We find a boat
and everything... Then what?

JARROD
Then we get the hell out of Dodge.

OLIVER
To where? Catalina? Down the coast?

JARROD
Anywhere is better than here.

OLIVER
How do you know? We're here and
we're still alive.

JARROD
I guess I have faith, Oliver.
Thought you might understand that.

Whether it's intended as a mock, Oliver takes it as such.

OLIVER
Listen to me you little punk-
VRRROOSH! A sonic boom echoes from outside.
The sound of something FLYING OVERHEAD. And fast.

ELAINE
What was that?
Oliver hustles to the TELESCOPE. He pans across the sky,
struggling to find the source of the sound.
Jarrod picks up the remote. Looks at Elaine. She doesn't
protest this time. He turns on the TV. Everyone watches the
telescope feed on the screen to see:

MILITARY PREDATOR DRONES.

OLIVER
Hallelujah.
A whole squadron of PREDATORS, flying over the city towards
the MOTHERSHIP.
WHOMP. WHOMP. The Frequency sounds.
The PREDATORS are quickly inundated with SIREN LIGHTS but
they just keep coming.

ELAINE
The light... it's not stopping
them...

OLIVER
They're unmanned.

CANDICE
It's about time.

Oliver pans the telescope over.

Everyone GASPS.

HUNDREDS OF HYDRA ships swarm, blotting out the sky.

JARROD
Oh... shit.

It's not a dogfight. It's a massacre. The HYDRA don't shoot any projectiles. They KAMIKAZE into each Predator Drone.

EXPLOSIONS scatter across the sky. One by one the Predators are dive bombed by the Hydra.

OLIVER

No, no, no!

Oliver whips the telescope back and forth following the action with a growing sense of horror. His hopes and prayers unraveling before his very eyes.

He centers on the SOLE REMAINING PREDATOR as it weaves through an endless sea of Hydra ships.

Everyone holds their breath.

Bobbing. Weaving.

OLIVER (CONT'D)

Come on, come on...

But it can only last for so long. A wave of Hydra engulf him. The Predator cheats death for a second longer. Launches a MISSILE before...

BOOM! The Predator explodes in a burst of black smoke.

Oliver struggles with the focus trying to follow the Missile as it HITS THE MOTHERSHIP over DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES.

FLASH. Everything blows out to WHITE.

The TV DIES. THE POWER GOES OUT. Nuclear EMP.

Oliver looks away, stunned. Dives to the floor.

OLIVER (CONT'D)

Everybody down!

The HEAT WAVE rips across the city.

The building SHAKES VIOLENTLY.

ONE of the WINDOW BLINDS FALLS to the floor, exposing them for the first time.

Everyone else ducks down. The howling wind is deafening.

Jarrold and Elaine make eye contact, expecting the worst.

Then, the shaking stops.

Jarrood rushes to the exposed window.

ELAINE

Jarrood!

He stops short, looks back at her. Slowly peers around to see the MUSHROOM CLOUD over DOWNTOWN. The Westchester BLUFFS shielded them from the brunt of the blast.

JARROD

Oh my God...

The MOTHERSHIP spiral through the air, across the entire skyline before CRASHING into Culver City 4 miles away.

Oliver scans the wreckage with the telescope.

OLIVER

It... It worked.

He turns to Elaine. She hugs Oliver. Jarrood takes note.

Elaine looks for herself. Sure enough the Ship is down.

ELAINE

I don't believe it.

Turns to Jarrood and Candice.

ELAINE (CONT'D)

You want to see?

Tears of joy well up in Candice's eyes. She shakes her head.

CANDICE

I'll take your word for it.

Jarrood steps between Oliver and Elaine.

JARROD

You mind?

OLIVER

By all means Boss.

Oliver moves out of the way.

Jarrood looks through the Telescope.

Oliver and Elaine exchange hopeful looks.

ELAINE

Do you think there's more where those guys came from?

For a long beat Jarrod pans across the wreckage.

OLIVER
Sure. Now they know what to do.

Jarrod stops on the downed ship. Adjust the focus. Sighs.

OLIVER (CONT'D)
Shouldn't be long before help-

Jarrod pulls his head away. A look of deep loss on his face.

ELAINE
Are you alright?

Jarrod just shakes his head.

A concerned Oliver bends over to peer through the scope.

TELESCOPE POV: The MOTHERSHIP is strewn across the hills with HUNDREDS OF TANKERS, HYDRAS, and DRONES spilling from its fractured HULL.

ELAINE (CONT'D)
What... what is it?

Jarrod looks at her.

JARROD
They're not dead.

TELESCOPE POV: HUNDREDS OF THEM move in a murderous WAVE of destruction down the hill, SWARMING across the city, right towards them.

JARROD (CONT'D)
Just really, really pissed off.

TELESCOPE POV: Oliver pans back to the crashed ship to see SOMETHING rising from the wreckage.

OLIVER
Something's happening...

TELESCOPE POV: A darker, mysterious LIGHT pulses above the ship. A strange energy fills the air. The ship's DEBRIS suddenly RISES UP, spinning around the SIREN in a zero gravity centrifugal vortex as:

THE SHIP BEGINS TO REBUILD ITSELF.

Oliver takes a deep, labored breath. Like the hope is sucked out of him. Doesn't know what to say. Then...

OLIVER (CONT'D)
We.... We have to block the window.

But Jarrod can see the resurgent ship through the window clear as day. Elaine looks back at Jarrod. Fear in her eyes.

OLIVER (CONT'D)
Hey. Come on, help me with this.

Oliver grabs a stool from the kitchen. Begins trying to reattached the blinds. But Jarrod just walks away.

OLIVER (CONT'D)
Get back here!

Candice rushes over to help Oliver attach a blanket.

INT. GUEST BEDROOM - DAY

Jarrod packs his duffel bag.

Elaine enters, devastated from the totality of the situation. She watches him packing her things into his bag as well.

ELAINE
(Frightened)
What are you doing?

He stops, looks up at her.

JARROD
The only thing we can do.

He walks past her into the:

INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Jarrod walks out, bag in hand. Elaine follows.

OLIVER (O.S.)
Going somewhere?

Candice and Oliver join them. Oliver is covered in sweat. The exposed window is now covered by a BLANKET.

JARROD
Those things are coming for us.

OLIVER
And you're going to run away?

CANDICE
I'm not going anywhere.

OLIVER
We stay here. We hold up. For good.

Elaine nods. Jarrod turns to her.

JARROD
So now he gets to decide? We have
no water, no power-

ELAINE
But you saw what's out there-

JARROD
Yeah, and I'd rather make a run for
it than stay in a twenty story
target. Between those things and
the radiation, we are dead up here.

Elaine looks to Oliver then back to Jarrod. Uncertainty on
her face.

ELAINE
I don't-

A RUMBLING SOUND reverberates from outside the windows.

Everyone stops in their tracks. The sound grows louder.

Jarrod moves towards the windows. Follows the sound into the

INT. MASTER BEDROOM - DAY

From here he can hear the whirling blades. Then, through a
crack in the blinds, he sees

A BLACK HAWK HELICOPTER

Touching down on the neighboring roof of the REGATTA
BUILDING.

JARROD
Get in here!

He pulls the blinds back, peeking around to make sure the
coast is clear.

Elaine, Oliver, and Candice enter the room.

JARROD (CONT'D)
Look...

On the REGATTA ROOF:

THREE SOLDIERS, with thermal goggles and gas masks, armed to the teeth, emerge from the CHOPPER.

Jarrood goes to open the MASTER PATIO DOOR. Oliver grabs the handle.

OLIVER

What the hell do you think you're doing?

JARROD

We got to let 'em know we're here.

OLIVER

You'll let everything know. We can't attract any attention.

Jarrood looks to Elaine, uncertainly on her face.

JARROD

You've been saying to wait for help. Well, help is here-

He tries to push past Oliver but he won't budge.

OLIVER

Does that look like a rescue chopper to you? Don't you get it? This is a war.

They stare each other down.

CANDICE (O.S.)

Where are they going?

They turn to look across as the Chopper RISES UP, taking flight. Jarrood watches in vain before spotting...

The THREE SOLDIERS quickly and efficiently move across the rooftop into spotting positions.

JARROD

They'll be back for them. Come on, we have to hurry.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Jarrood moves across the living room. Gathers his stuff.

JARROD

We'll go to the roof. Get them to pick us up.

Candice shakes her head. Elaine isn't sure anymore.

ELAINE

What if they don't come back?

JARROD

Elaine-

ELAINE

Look what happened to those planes. What good is a helicopter?

JARROD

We have to take that chance.

Oliver steps towards Jarrod.

OLIVER

You can't make that choice.

JARROD

Seriously, just back off. We're going.

The BLANKET BLIND falls from the window.

Outside they see the still REBUILDING MOTHERSHIP is now HALFWAY COMPLETE - its massive shadow looming over the city.

CANDICE

Shit!

Candice runs over. Struggles to reattach the blanket.

Oliver looks to the exposed window, pissed off, then back to Jarrod.

OLIVER

You just gonna stand there?

JARROD

What do we do when the other blinds fall? We don't have enough bed sheets.

Jarrod steps forward, GRABBING Elaine by the arm.

JARROD (CONT'D)

Come on.

She pulls her arm away. Holds her stomach.

ELAINE
How can you be so sure?

JARROD
Baby-

Jarrold goes to grab Elaine's arm again.

ELAINE
Stop!

Oliver steps in between them.

OLIVER
You heard the lady.

Jarrold looks to Oliver in disbelief. Turns to Elaine.

OLIVER (CONT'D)
She's not going anywhere.

JARROD
That's not up to you.

He pushes past Oliver towards Elaine. Oliver pushes back.

ELAINE
Stop it, both of you!

OLIVER
I'm not gonna let you put her in
danger. Not in her condition.

JARROD
This isn't your family!

Oliver BACKHANDS him across the face.

Jarrold touches his lip. Reaches for Elaine again.

JARROD (CONT'D)
Elaine, come on-

Oliver puts his hand on Jarrold's chest. Jarrold SWINGS back,
cracking Oliver in the jaw. A nice punch but not a knock out.

JARROD (CONT'D)
I said back off!

ELAINE
Jarrold!

Oliver looks to Elaine.

OLIVER
It's alright.

Jarrold looks to Oliver. Then defiantly steps to Elaine again.

JARROD
Baby, we have to-

Oliver grabs Jarrod's shirt. Delivers TWO crushing PUNCHES to his face.

Jarrold falls to the ground. Oliver turns his back.

OLIVER
Stay down, Boss.

Jarrold groans. Doubled over in pain. He pulls himself up.

Elaine rushes to him but Oliver holds her back with his arm.

ELAINE
Get off of me!

Elaine beats her hands against his back.

OLIVER
I'm sorry, but it's for the best.

Jarrold wipes his bloodied face. Stands up, unbalanced.

JARROD
Let her go!

Oliver puts Elaine down. Raises his arms. Ready to brawl.

OLIVER
You just don't get it, do you?

Jarrold stares Oliver down.

JARROD
You can hit me all you want.

Looks into Elaine's eyes.

JARROD (CONT'D)
But I'm not giving up on my family.

Jarrold lowers his fists, extending his arm out to Elaine.

A long pause as Jarrold stares into Elaine's eyes.

She looks back, seeing the boy she loves become a man.
In spite of all apprehension, she takes his hand.

ELAINE
I am with you.

He caresses her cheek. They embrace and kiss.

Oliver hangs his head.

Jarrood stares back at Oliver.

CANDICE
(to Oliver)
You're just gonna let them leave?

Jarrood and Elaine run for the door. Jarrood tosses the bookshelf out of the way. He swings the door open.

Looks back to Oliver one last time.

OLIVER
They are making a choice.
(he nods to Jarrood)
Gotta respect that.

The doors shuts.

Oliver walks to the exposed window.

The almost complete MOTHERSHIP begins to rise upwards as the plethora of CREATURES continue tearing across the city in a wave of destruction. He pans back up to the SOLDIERS on the neighboring rooftop.

He turns to Candice.

OLIVER (CONT'D)
How about that cigarette?

CUT TO:

INT. STAIRWELL - DAY

Emergency lights flash. Smoke fills the air.

A MUFFLED SMASH. Jarrood elbows the emergency glass.

Picks up a FIRE AXE.

JARROD
Come on.

They share a look. Elaine nods. They head up the steps.

EXT. ROOFTOP - DAY

The door slowly opens. Jarrod peeks out. Followed by Elaine.

It's deceptively serene. But they can hear the sounds of BATTLE off in the distance.

Jarrod grabs a BRICK to wedge the door open. Just in case.

JARROD

Alright, just stay low and follow me.

Elaine nods. Looks like she's going to lose it. He gently holds her face in his hands.

JARROD (CONT'D)

You can do this. I know you can.

She swallows her fear, wiping a tear out of her eye. Nods.

ELAINE

Okay, let's go.

Jarrod leads her crouching under the helipad.

They move towards the COOLING SYSTEM. Staying low and keeping covered.

CUT TO:

INT. LOUNGE AREA - DAY

Oliver stubs out his cigarette. Notices a red ring on the filter. His lip is bleeding.

Candice looks towards the Regatta roof.

CANDICE

Do you think they'll help them?

OLIVER

Doesn't matter. From now on...

He stands. Stares into her eyes.

OLIVER (CONT'D)

It's just you and me.

Oliver nods before walking off towards the bathroom.

Candice looks back to the Regatta's roof before her eyes settle on the TELESCOPE.

CUT TO:

EXT. ROOFTOP - DAY

In the distance, the MOTHER SHIP continues to REBUILD.

Jarrood and Elaine crouch along the south edge of the roof, just twenty yards away from the Regatta Building. Jarrood slowly rises up, peeking over the railing.

ELAINE
(whispers)
Do you see anyone?

Jarrood's eyes scan the neighboring rooftop to see A SOLDIER with an RPG on his shoulder.

JARROOD
Hey!

The Soldier spins, weapon trained on Jarrood.

RPG SOLDIER
Don't move!

The other TWO SOLDIERS emerge from their positions, each armed with Barrett Light 50 SNIPER RIFLES.

JARROOD
Hey! Whoa! Easy!

He looks to Elaine. She slowly rises up next to him

ELAINE
Please... We need help.

The Soldiers trade looks. One picks up his RADIO. Eyes trained on Elaine. Calls something in but we can't hear it.

The RADIO SQUAWKS back. Muffled conversation between the Soldiers gives way to debate. All in MOS.

Accusations fly back and forth as TWO of the SOLDIERS STAND OFF with each other, FINGERS POINTING.

CUT TO:

INT. MASTER BATHROOM - DAY

Oliver dabs his lip with rubbing alcohol. Stings.

Looks at his reflection. Rubs away the blood.

INT. LOUNGE AREA - DAY

TELESCOPE POV: Clumsily panning up along the building next door's rooftop. The SOLDIERS stand out in the open, an ARGUMENT taking place between them. It's getting heated.

Suddenly there's a flash of movement.

Candice looks up, then back into the eye piece. She aims the telescope over. Then stops. Twitches for a moment.

VEINS protrude across her body.

INT. MASTER BEDROOM/ CLOSET - DAY

Oliver exits the bathroom and stops. Turns to look into the CLOSET. He walks inside.

It's the size of his bedroom. Runs his hand along a custom built rack of overpriced shoes. Shakes his head.

SSSD! He hears the sound of the PATIO DOOR sliding open.

EXT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Oliver runs out of the master bedroom to see:

CANDICE standing on the patio. SIREN LIGHT pouring over her face.

OLIVER

No, no, no-

CUT TO:

EXT. ROOFTOP - DAY

Elaine and Jarrod stand with their arms still raised as the SOLDIERS ARGUE amongst each other on the neighboring roof.

OLIVER (O.S.)

NO!

The SOLDIERS hear the SCREAM and spring into action, running over towards the north side of the building.

CUT TO:

EXT. PENTHOUSE PATIO - DAY

Oliver closes his eyes and steps outside. Blindly reaching for her.

OLIVER
Give me your hand!

He grabs her arm, pulling her back but:

She is VIOLENTLY RIPPED away from his grip.

Candice spirals out from the balcony, through the air, then:
SHE'S SWALLOWED into the pupas sac of a hovering DRONE.

OLIVER (CONT'D)
No!

The now full Drone rises upwards, flying off.

Oliver watches in despair when:

BOOM! The Drone explodes in mid-air.

Oliver crouches. His eyes darting up the VAPOR TRAIL back to the RPG SOLDIER standing on the Regatta roof.

EXT. ROOFTOP - DAY

Jarrold falls atop of Elaine, instinctively shielding her. They share a look. Then slowly rise up.

On the Regatta Roof, the RPG SOLDIER meets their gaze.

RPG SOLDIER
Stay down! They're coming!

Jarrold and Elaine nod, looking up to see the BLACK HAWK FLYING towards them from across the Marina.

Elaine allows herself to smile. Jarrold holds her tight.

The chopper BLADES WHIRL loudly as it angles between the two buildings, heading towards the COVE's helipad.

SNNRRT! Long and sinewy TENDRILS wrap around the Black Hawk.

A TANKER crests the roof of the Regatta with its outstretched TENDRIL CLAW, holding the BLACK HAWK in mid air.

SNIPER FIRE rips into the Tanker as the SOLDIERS unload on it.

BOOM! The RPG SOLDIER fires at the TANKER, knocking it to the edge of the roof. It teeters there for a long tense moment...

The TANKER GROWLS! Grabbing the RPG SOLDIER with its other claw before FALLING OFF the roof and RIPPING the Black Hawk down with it.

JARROD

No!

Jarrold and Elaine watch helplessly as the CHOPPER FALLS...

All... the... way... down. It CRASHES hard into the ground.

A fireball rises upwards.

EXT. PENTHOUSE PATIO - DAY

Oliver looks down the crashed CHOPPER with hardened eyes.

EXT. ROOFTOP - DAY

The TWO Remaining Soldiers reload their weapons.

Elaine and Jarrod stand in shock for a moment.

Behind them, the now REBUILT MOTHERSHIP hovers towards them.

Before they can even process it, the building starts to SHAKE VIOLENTLY.

ELAINE

Jarrold!?

EXT. PENTHOUSE PATIO - DAY

The SHAKING throws Oliver against the railing.

CRASH. CRASH. The sounds growing louder...

Oliver looks down to see:

ANOTHER TANKER IS CLIMBING UP THE SIDE OF THE BUILDING.

EXT. ROOFTOP - DAY

Elaine helps Jarrod to his feet. He reaches down for the AXE.
Jarrod and Elaine grab each other by the hand.

JARROD

Come on!

They hustle back across the shaking roof.

INT. MASTER BEDROOM/LOUNGE AREA - SUNSET

Oliver stumbles into the rumbling condo as ALL of the WINDOW
BLINDS FALL DOWN exposing the entire view.

The SHADOW of the MOTHERSHIP envelops the entire landscape.

He clutches his cross. Resolve washing over him.

EXT. ROOFTOP - SUNSET

Jarrod and Elaine hustle towards the ROOF DOOR when:

BOOM! BOOM! They look out to see an AIRCRAFT CARRIER on the
COAST LINE. Navy warships are fighting the Hydra.

The entire skyline is filled with the unfolding battle.

Our last stand.

But they don't have time to watch.

Elaine opens the roof door to see:

THE SAVAGE DRONE from the garage - a long SCAR across its
body - moving right for them.

Elaine turns and slams the door but its TENDRIL slips through
the open crack, wrapping around her waist.

SIREN LIGHT seeps through the bullet holes as Jarrod and
Elaine push back against the door.

Jarrod slams the AXE down, chopping the TENDRIL off.

The Drone HOWLS!

Elaine throws the severed tendril to the ground.

JARROD

This way!

They turn and run back through the ventilation system.

The DRONE SMASHES through the doorway.

Its bleeding stump flails out, slithering over the SEVERED TENDRIL. With a grotesque crunch, the tendril REATTACHES.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN - SUNSET

Oliver shuffles a CIGARETTE out of Candice's pack.

Standing behind the stove counter top. He turns on the gas.

Holds the cigarette in his mouth. One last smoke.

Oliver lifts the LIGHTER to his face. About to spark it.

CRASH! The TANKER'S CLAW smashes through the WINDOWS. Its massive TENDRIL sails right past Oliver's head.

He falls back. The LIGHTER scatters across the floor.

CUT TO:

EXT. ROOFTOP - SUNSET

Jarrold and Elaine jump over steaming pipes and vents as the DRONE gives chase.

Elaine's pants get caught on a vent. She stumbles.

The SIREN LIGHT flares through the STEAM.

Jarrold turns back to help her up. Ripping her pants loose.

They ROUND A CORNER to the front of the building.

THE MOTHERSHIP is CLOSING IN, almost right overhead.

Jarrold points to the Window Washer SCAFFOLDING held down by cinder blocks.

JARROLD

Come on, it's the only way down.

Jarrold begins kicking off the cinder blocks when:

VOOSH! A TENDRIL stabs right through his THIGH.

He SCREAMS in pain, falling back as the DRONE rounds the corner. Elaine is on one side, Jarrod the other.

JARROD (CONT'D)

Elaine run!

THE DRONE looms over Jarrod, its SIREN LIGHT floods him. Jarrod is ENTRANCED. Eyes bloodshot. Veins bulging.

The TENDRIL ENVELOPS his head. Pulling him in.

Elaine looks to Jarrod, then the Drone. She's had enough.

THUMP. She smashes the AXE into the DRONE'S HEAD. It lets out a HOWL! Releasing Jarrod.

Elaine twists the handle, yanks the AXE back.

Embedded on the blade is a BRAIN MATTER. Nerve endings dangling. All HUMAN in appearance.

ELAINE

Oh my God...

The dying DRONE whips its TENDRIL, knocking her back.

It pounces on top of her. It's PUPAS SAC opening, trying to swallow her inside.

The still entranced Jarrod trembles. Rises to his feet. Overcoming everything, he pushes forward. The sight of his woman in danger, sending him to another place.

JARROD

GET OFF HER!

Jarrod tackles the Drone off of Elaine, pinning it to the ground. The Drone bores into Jarrod's flesh but there's no stopping him.

Jarrod stares right into the SIREN LIGHT. Using the strength against it. He TEARS at the DRONE'S FACE, ripping away its eyes. BRUTALLY BREAKING it's face apart with his bare hands. SMASHING DOWN. Again and again.

Till there's nothing but oil and goo beneath him.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN/ LIVING ROOM - SUNSET

The TANKER reaches through the windows, shaking everything.

Oliver crawls across the floor. Reaches for the LIGHTER. The CUTLERY BLOCK falls to the ground, carving knives nearly slicing off his fingers. He pulls back his hand. Close call.

SNAP! The Tanker's TENDRIL wraps around his ankle, pulling him across the floor.

Oliver is yanked through the living room, all the way against the shattered windows.

At the last second, 50 CAL FIRE rips into the Tanker's back from the TWO SNIPERS on the Regatta Roof.

EXT. PENTHOUSE - SUNSET

The Tanker turns to look at the SNIPERS with FURIOUS EYES.

SNNNRT! Its TENDRILS WHIP across to the Regatta Roof - debraining the FIRST SNIPER - then whipping the remains into the SECOND, sending him FLYING off the roof.

His SCREAMS drown out as he falls to the city below.

INT. KITCHEN/ LIVING ROOM - SUNSET

Oliver stretches to grip a CARVING KNIFE. Stabs it through the TANKER'S TENDRIL. It HISSES.

Oliver turns and runs back through the living room. The TANKER thrusts its arm after him.

THE CLAW stabs through Oliver's TORSO, pinning him down.

With his last gasp, Oliver reaches out and grabs the LIGHTER.

Looks up at the ugly motherfucker.

OLIVER

Vaya con Dios, you son of a bitch-

SPARK. BOOM!!! The entire penthouse EXPLODES!

EXT. PENTHOUSE - SUNSET

The Tanker HOWLS! Engulfed in a burst of FLAMES.

EXT. ROOFTOP - SUNSET

Jarrod and Elaine are knocked back by the EXPLOSION right beneath them. The building rumbles and shakes.

They hold on to each other tightly, watching helplessly as the SCAFFOLDING FALLS OVER the edge.

JARROD

No!

Jarrold lunges forward. Elaine grabs him. Holds him in her arms. Cuts all over his body. He struggles to catch his breath, coming down from the rage of the entrancement.

Jarrold looks down at his leg. He's bleeding pretty badly.

CRUNCH! The CLAW of the BURNT TANKER grips the roof's edge.

ELAINE

Get up!

She drags Jarrod to his feet.

The BURNT TANKER crests onto the roof. Charred flesh. Angry as hell.

They run up the stairs to the:

HELIPAD

Running across to the opposite end. Jarrod collapses. Face white as a sheet.

The BURNT TANKER bears down on them.

WHOMP. WHOMP. The Frequency sounds from above.

Elaine looks up to see: THE MOTHERSHIP IS OVERHEAD.

A SQUADRON of FIGHTER JETS move towards it. But they too are kamikazed by the Hydra - exploding in the sky above them.

SHRAPNEL RAINS DOWN ONTO THE HELIPAD.

Now it's Elaine's turn to shield Jarrod...

As the BURNT TANKER goes in for the kill...

SMASH! A DOWNED FIGHTER JET CRASHES right into the TANKER - knocking it off the roof, plummeting to the cul de sac below.

Elaine opens her eyes. Surprised to still be alive.

She holds Jarrod in her arms. Life draining from his body.

JARROD

Please Elaine... you have to go.

ELAINE

I'm not going anywhere without you.

They embrace. Sharing a tender moment.

HOWL! Another TANKER crawls up the Regatta building to the south. And another TANKER on the building to the north.

OFF THE COAST: The AIRCRAFT CARRIER sinks into the Pacific. All the Fighter Jets are down.

Our last stand has failed.

There is no escape.

Elaine and Jarrod hold each other tight.

The incandescent SIREN SPHERE gently falls from the MOTHERSHIP'S belly, descending towards them.

Time stands still for a moment.

It's harrowing. And beautiful.

They stare into each other's eyes.

A lifetime passing between them as they kiss.

Then... they look up into the SIREN.

The trance overcomes them. Veins protruding across their bodies.

But they don't let go of each other.

WHOOSH! They're pulled up together through the air.

Spiralling upwards over the building and the howling Tankers.

Over the decimated city of Los Angeles.

Up into the clouds as the SIREN light flares out the lens.

FADE TO:

TITLE: DAY FOUR...

EXT. DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES - SUNRISE

The sun rises over the rooftops as a DRONE scurries past. Not a single person in sight.

EXT. MANHATTAN - DAY

A TANKER is perched atop the Empire State Building overlooking the desolate city below.

EXT. PARIS - DAY

The Eiffel Tower looms above empty streets, eclipsed by a HYDRA flying upwards across the sky.

EXT. AGRA, INDIA - DAY

A vast shadow drifts over the Taj Mahal.

Tilting up to the MOTHERSHIPS, now slowly moving on, like stuffed predators slithering away until their next meal.

EXT. TOKYO - SUNSET

The once humming metropolis is now completely barren. Not a creature stirring.

Human beings have been wiped off the face of the Earth.

FADE TO BLACK.

Then...

SCANNER POV: like 4D ultrasound meets x-ray vision, looking down on some kind of strange CONVEYOR BELT.

HUMAN BODY after BODY passes through the scanner head first. An assembly line.

We can see right through their skin, scanning over the brain, then the organs, muscles, etc. They look like nothing more than animals.

A familiar looking WOMAN passes through the scan. It passes over her stomach to focus on a SECOND HEART BEAT.

She's pregnant.

The conveyor belt STOPS.

Strange noises echo through the chamber. Shadows engulf her.

CUT TO:

CLOSE UP

Of ELAINE'S EYES as they flutter open. She squints, still reeling from the effects of the siren light.

Laying on her back, she tries to sit up. But she can't move a muscle.

Her eyes begin to focus on the strange biomechanical environment. Everything pulses with energy, like the entire ship is alive.

She recoils at the sight of:

HUNDREDS OF HEADLESS HUMAN BODIES. The wounds cauterized.

Then... a DOME HEADED BEING sits before her. A horrifying mix of metal and musculature that we haven't seen before.

A surgical INCISION cut through the center of its cranium. Its large oval eyes are shut tightly.

Beside it, TENDRILS reach into a viscous TROUGH to retrieve a HUMAN BRAIN with spinal nerve endings still attached.

The human nervous system is slowly inserted inside the BEING'S CRANIUM. The TENDRIL seals the wound instantly.

The Being stirs. Looks up, opening its large humanoid EYES.

It tilts its head, considering her for moment.

The BEING turns and bounds across the chamber, murdering TWO DRONES in its path.

It turns and stares at Elaine. She gasps in horror. Her eyes widening in fear as the BEING LOOMS over her.

With two slashes she's freed from her constraints.

She looks up, staring into its EYES.

The BEING bends down. Reaches out to gently caress her cheek.

ELAINE
(Whispers)
Jarrod...?

TO BE CONTINUED...