

BL DLIST



FRESH BLOOD SELECTS

SINGLE MONSTER

"PILOT"

By

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COLD OPEN

INT. JOEY'S ROOM - NIGHT

JOEY, a rebellious 12 year old tomboy slams and locks her door behind her as she jumps face first onto her bed. SUSAN, her 37 year old foster mom, almost makes it inside with her, but the door is shut in her face.

INTERCUT - BOTH SIDES OF THE DOOR

SUSAN

Joey!

(then)

He said your boobs were what!?

JOEY

(muffled)

Exiguous.

SUSAN

What!? Can you open the door?

Joey rolls over and sits up abruptly, stomps to the door.

JOEY

Exiguous! He said my boobs were
exiguous!

A moment.

SUSAN

(quietly)

What does that mean?

JOEY

Less plentiful than what is normal,
necessary, or desirable.

A moment.

SUSAN

Oh.

(then)

You knew that?

JOEY

No.

(then)

I punched Bobby Turnival in the eye
and looked it up on the way home.

Susan leans her head against the door.

SUSAN
(sad and disapproving)
Oh, Joey.

JOEY
I knew it was bad because of the
way he said it, Susan.
(then)
Nobody laughed, because no one knew
what it meant, but I had a feeling,
so I punched the little dickhead in
the face and left.

SUSAN
Joey!
(pleading)
And please don't call me Susan.

Joey flops back down onto the bed.

JOEY
(muffled, again)
Whatever.
(quiet)
Foster Mom, Susan.

A quiet moment as Susan thinks it over.

SUSAN
I thought I taught you to act like
a proper young woman.
(then)
You need to grow up. I'm getting
the keys and coming in.

INT. MONSTERWORLD - INFINITE NIGHT

A graphic, bureaucratic, hell-scape world, churning out your darkest fears, very industrially, from the sulfuric bowels of some kind of satanic inter-demensional rift... or something, don't over think it.

GLOOMY, a sexless, spiky, humanoid dragon-type godzilla monster, stomps to the front of a work line and clocks in.

It then squeezes into an already full lift, crammed with various monsters of all shapes and sizes.

GLOOMY
Make room, I'm late. Don't be
dicks, come on, get my tail in...

The lift chugs to life and lurches off the craggy ground of Monsterworld, creeping up toward the light of Humanworld.

GLOOMY (CONT'D)

Big night for me. My human was
going to a Middle School party.
She'll get home all gaga for boys
and I'm gonna make her piss the
bed.

Chuckles from the other monsters. Gloomy takes in the small praise. The lift makes a few stops along the way, letting creatures off at various cave entrances.

P.A. SYSTEM (V.O.)

Basements.

A couple shadowy monsters get off and slither into the black maw of the cave. The lift stops again.

P.A. SYSTEM (V.O.)

Under Beds.

A couple more creatures rattle off toward a thin horizontal sliver of light near the bottom of the cave entrance. The lift is off again.

P.A. SYSTEM (V.O.)

Closets.

GLOOMY

Bingo. See ya later, dummies.

P.A. SYSTEM (V.O.)

Final stop, Attics.

The lift is off and moving as Gloomy heads into the vertical crack of light within the cave. It approaches a key-card reader, where it types in a security code.

GLOOMY

Gloomy, code 60951, reporting for
raised hairs and late night scares.

SCREEN: "BERKEY RESIDENCE - ROOM - JOEY BERKEY - 12 YEAR OLD
HUMAN FEMALE"

The security screen flashes RED.

SCREEN: "CAUTION - ADULT PRESENCE DETECTED - HOLD POSITION"

GLOOMY (CONT'D)
 Boo that. It's called a locked
 door, stupid, and all the kids are
 doing it.

SCREEN: "REPEAT - CAUTION - DO NOT ENTER - HOLD POSITION"

GLOOMY (CONT'D)
 (typing override)
 Can't help it, oops, I'm going in.

INT. JOEY'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Joey is moping on her bed.

JOEY
 I don't want you to come in and
 talk about it! I don't need your
 help running my life!

SUSAN (O.S.)
 I'm coming in, Joey, and we're
 dealing with this.

The bedroom door unlocks and Susan enters.

SUSAN (CONT'D)
 I am your legal guardian and I--

The closet door FLIES open and the grizzly, monstrous Gloomy
ROARS into the room!

SUSAN (CONT'D)
 --think you--AAAAHHHHHHH!!!!

Susan clutches her chest, stumbles backward through the door,
 into the hall, loses her footing and tumbles backwards down
 the stairs, breaking her neck with a sickening SNAP!

BOTTOM OF THE STEPS

Looking past the glazed, dead eyes of Susan's corpse, we see
 the bright frame of Joey's room upstairs and her small
 silhouette step into it.

JOEY
 ...Susan?

Behind Joey, Gloomy's horrific silhouette leans into the door
 frame. A beat.

GLOOMY
SHHHHHIIIIIIIIIIII--

TITLE CARD: SINGLE MONSTER

END OF COLD OPEN

ACT IINT. MONSTERWORLD -(HR OFFICE) - INFINITE NIGHT

Gloomy shifts uncomfortable in the too small chair provided by HR. GERTH, a fat, droopy tentacled mollusk flips through papers on it's desk.

GERTH

Well, Gloomy... you killed a human woman, which isn't great.

(reading form)

Says here you were warned not to engage. So... Yeah, that's not great either.

Gloomy moans loudly.

GLOOMY

--Yeah... but, Gerth, it was an accident. Does it say that? An accident?

(then)

If, soft, uh, female humans can't take a little fall, why build stairs...

(trailing off)

... asking for it... seems like, to me--

Gerth is not entertained. Gloomy rages.

GLOOMY (CONT'D)

I've killed tons of humans! Why, why why is this suddenly an issue?

Gerth's arms flit around stacking papers and adjusting files, passing documents in front of its droopy eyes for inspection.

GERTH

That was before... when you were... let's see.

(reading)

Stationed in the German woods as part of Fairy Tale Moral Stories.

(Tsking)

That was a dark business. Lot of Black Forest Ops.

(sympathetic)

You're a closet monster now.

Corporate expected more from you.

GLOOMY
I can fix this. How dead is the
mom?

Gerth glances at a paper.

GERTH
Very.

GLOOMY
Like, permanently?

Another glance.

GERTH
Yes.

Gloomy doesn't falter.

GLOOMY
(determined)
I can fix this.

Gerth neatly stacks all of the files together in a pristine
case book.

GERTH
We'll see.

Gerth slams down a RED STAMP that reads SUSPENDED on top of
the files.

GERTH (CONT'D)
Gloomy. You are hereby suspended,
pending proof of responsibility and
growth within your chosen field.

Gloomy lets out a loud, disappointed roar.

GLOOMY
That's dumb, you're dumb.

GERTH
You must battle your impulsive
nature and take time to think
things through.

Gloomy SWATS a photo of Gerth's happy family against the
wall, smashing it.

GLOOMY
Fuck, I'm sorry. I didn't mean...

Gerth scoops up the picture lovingly.

GERTH

That is exactly what's wrong with you.

GLOOMY

This sucks.

(then)

Alright, what BS job do I have to do? Clean up litter along the hellway? Dress like a clown and go make little cancer demons laugh?

Gerth smirks.

GERTH

Nothing so easy as that. There are no community service positions currently available in Monsterworld.

GLOOMY

Great. Then a job well done. Good meeting, Gerth. Really nice HRing. Catch you on the flip--

GERTH

Hold it! You are hereby sentenced to the rearing of one JOEY BERKEY, 12 year old human female.

GLOOMY

What?

GERTH

In Humanworld.

GLOOMY

And... what if I say eat my poop, Gerth.

GERTH

Well, I would say 'grow up', Gloomy. Then I would smile politely and say that you can serve this probation or take the alternative--

GLOOMY

I'll take the altern--

GERTH

Which is death.

GLOOMY

(hasty)

Well now hold on let me think about
it for a second.

(then)

This seems harsh.

GERTH

Yes.

GLOOMY

How dead would I be?

GERTH

Very.

GLOOMY

Like, permanently?

GERTH

Yes.

Gloomy slumps back in the chair, contemplative. It's eyes
dart to the files and back to Gerth.

GLOOMY

(RE: files)

You don't need to...?

GERTH

Nope.

(composed)

You will remain with Joey Berkey
throughout her formative growth
times, for a sentence of up to six
years, or her eighteenth birthday.

GLOOMY

That's a long time.

GERTH

You're both a bit immature.

GLOOMY

Says you, you butthole.

GERTH

You both struggle with control over
negative traits.

GLOOMY

You're a negative trait.

GERTH

I think you both have quite a bit to gain from working together to grow... for the better.

GLOOMY

Wow, beautiful, I'm gonna cry.

Gerth places Gloomy's file into a large cabinet and turns with a smirk.

GERTH

Your new job starts immediately. I wish you the best of luck.

Gloomy lurches to it's feet and moves to the door.

GLOOMY

Don't need it. Hey... before when I... I'm sorry I...

GERTH

(leaning in)

Yes?

GLOOMY

(smiling)

I'm sorry I called you a negative trait.

Gloomy turns with a fart and disappears through the door.

INT. JOEY'S ROOM - NIGHT

It's dark.

SFX: A tapping as pebbles hit a window.

Joey opens her eyes on her bed. The tapping happens again and she sits up, looking dazed, eyes wet from crying.

AT JOEY'S WINDOW

A small bespectacled boy, COOPER NEVILLE, peeks through the glass, balancing on the terrace. He smiles his innocence, braces gleaming. He throws away his handful of gravel as Joey opens the window.

Cooper crawls, then falls through the open window. He stands quickly, playing it off, dusting off his baby blue suit. He's shorter than Joey though they're the same age.

JOEY
Cooper. This is not a good time.

COOPER
Joey, did your monster make you
cry?

JOEY
What?

COOPER
You ran off from the party so I
followed you and then I was looking
in your room and I saw your closet
monster. I have a monster too, but
I saw your monster and now we have
something in common.

He holds up a small bouquet of flowers.

JOEY
... Not really.

COOPER
(sad)
Oh.

He lowers the flowers.

JOEY
I can't really talk right now.

COOPER
I can climb back up later.

JOEY
You shouldn't.

COOPER
It's okay, I can see in here from
the tree on the side of my house.
I'll come back later.

JOEY
You shouldn't watch me in my room?

COOPER
What, I don't do it in a bad way,
it's like an, admirable way. Like
a, uh, like a prince.

JOEY
Okay, we'll unpack that later.
(serious)
(MORE)

JOEY (CONT'D)

Cooper. I'm not sure when it's coming back. I need you to do something for me.

COOPER

I would die for you.

JOEY

Jesus, maybe later, okay. For now, I just need you to call the cops.

COOPER

What? Why?

JOEY

Just do it!

Joey is pushing him back through the window.

COOPER

Okay. What do I tell them?

MONSTERWORLD - CAVE TO CLOSET - MOMENTS LATER

Gloomy stomps toward the entrance back to the human realm.

GLOOMY

I hope she didn't run off while I was gone.

(deep breath)

I can fix this. I guess I have to now.

INT. JOEY'S ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Joey is on her bed, stoic, staring ahead, unsure of how to proceed in the world.

Her closet door BURSTS open and Gloomy rushes into the room SCREAMING! Joey, prepared, though caught unawares, also screams.

They are face to face and continue to SCREAM!

GLOOMY

SORRY I HAD TO RUN BACK TO
MONSTERWORLD REAL QUICK AND TAKE
CARE OF SOME BUSINESS!!!

They stop screaming.

GLOOMY (CONT'D)
 (calm)
 I'm gonna raise you now.

Joey passes out.

LATER

Joey stirs awake. She's in bed, Gloomy crouched over her caressing her face.

GLOOMY
 (sweetly)
 Hey there, little flesh sack.

Joey EXPLODES out from under Gloomy and escapes to the corner of her room.

JOEY
 Oh my God, oh my God, oh my God!

GLOOMY
 That's really not necessary. You can call me Gloomy.

JOEY
 Shit...shit.

GLOOMY
 Okay, rude.

JOEY
 You're real... shit, you're real!

GLOOMY
 I've been your closet monster for, like, six months. You didn't know I was real?

Joey runs to the door and looks downstairs.

JOEY
 Oh God, she's still there.

GLOOMY
 Yeah... I left her body down there. Not sure what you guys do with your dead... like, eat them, or... ?

Joey tears up and sinks down to the floor.

JOEY
 ... fuck.

GLOOMY

Are you... are you gonna cry some more?

JOEY

... Susan's dead.

GLOOMY

She's been dead, like, forever.
Come on, buck up...

(then)

So do you like... eat your dead...?
Where did we land on that?

Joey looks up at the monster.

JOEY

Why are you here?

GLOOMY

I'm uh, you know, I'm gonna be your parent now.

(then)

Remember, I said that before? When we were screaming?

JOEY

I don't want you here.

(like it's magic)

I DON'T BELIEVE IN YOU!

Gloomy shifts uncomfortably.

GLOOMY

Wow. Sound just like my dad.

JOEY

I thought that would make you... I don't know, disappear.

Gloomy chortles.

GLOOMY

Does your human language have dominion over things in this world?

JOEY

No, I guess not.

GLOOMY

Hilarious.

A quiet moment.

JOEY
Seriously though. I don't want you
here.

GLOOMY
(shrugging)
I don't want to be here either but,
what other option do you have?

Joey stands up and stares down Gloomy.

JOEY
I could run away. I could stay with
friends. I could live on the
streets. I could kill myself.

Gloomy has had enough.

GLOOMY
Whoa, whoa whoa! Stop, just stop!
(then)
All this running away and killing
yourself talk is getting my hackles
excited.

Joey is disgusted.

JOEY
Ugh, you're a dickhead.

GLOOMY
You're a stupid little kid.

JOEY
Fuck you.

Gloomy nods her approval.

GLOOMY
We're gonna get along great. Just
you and me. A team.

JOEY
No...

GLOOMY
A team that never turns their backs
on each other.

JOEY
I'm never...

GLOOMY
A family. Parent and dumb kid.
Nothing can stop us.

A quiet moment as Gloomy smiles down at Joey. Outside the bedroom window RED and BLUE flashing lights of a police car slash through the room.

JOEY
It's the cops, asshole.

GLOOMY
What? Why!?

JOEY
Because you killed Susan!

Gloomy groans and goes to the window.

EXT. BERKEY HOUSE - NIGHT

Gloomy's hulking silhouette slides into the bright square of light that is Joey's bedroom window. Police lights play off the house.

GLOOMY
SHHHHHIIIIIIIIII--

SMASH TO BLACK:

END OF ACT I

ACT IIINT. BERKEY HOUSEHOLD (FRONT DOOR) - MOMENTS LATER

Joey is horrified as we reveal Gloomy now WEARING Susan's skin. It is stretched and pulled around Gloomy's lumpy and spike covered body, looking just south of normal.

GLOOMY
 (to Joey)
 We can fix this.

Joey is aghast.

JOEY
 I hate everything about this.

GLOOMY
 Shut up, this'll work. Just open
 the door, wait wait wait!
 (then)
 How do I look? Do I look okay?

Gloomy (Susan) smiles and it stretches Susan's face in a terrible way. Joey turns away and vomits on the floor.

GLOOMY (CONT'D)
 Great!
 (then)
 Okay, wipe your mouth, get the
 door.

Gloomy (Susan) leans casually against the railing of the stairs. Joey, full of sadness, opens the door.

A young buck of a police officer is there. This is CHET, 24 and clean cut. Handsome and friendly.

CHET
 (cautious)
 Hey there. Everything okay?
 (off Joey)
 Can I come in?

Joey steps back allowing Chet to enter. He is smiling but trepidatious. He turns and sees "Susan".

CHET (CONT'D)
 AAAHHHHH'm Chet!
 (recovering)
 Sorry. You startled me.

GLOOMY
That's okay!

Gloomy (Susan) laughs for an uncomfortable amount of time.

GLOOMY (CONT'D)
(suddenly)
So, what brings you out?

Chet shifts awkwardly.

CHET
Well. I got a call that there was
an accident at this residence and
that someone may be dead.

A beat. Gloomy's (Susan) eyes flash from Joey to Chet.

GLOOMY
That was me. I'm fine. I fell, I
looked dead, I got up. I'm fine.

Chet glances around. There is a little blood on the ground
near the base of the steps.

CHET
Um, Joey is it?
(off Joey)
Are you okay?

JOEY
(quietly)
My foster mom...is a monster.

Chet nods.

CHET
I'm just going to look around a
bit. Protocol. Just to make sure
that no one present is in any sort
of dangerous situation.
(to Gloomy)
That okay... Ma'am?

Gloomy (Susan) extravagantly waves entrance into the house.

GLOOMY
Come right in!
(then)
Watch where you step, there's a
bunch of puke right there.
(then)
And the blood. You saw that
already.

Chet crouches down to Joey and whispers to her.

CHET

Hey kiddo. I'm gonna check out the house, and if we need to, I will make sure you stay somewhere safe tonight. Get you back under the care of the State.

Joey tenses up, but nods. Gloomy (Susan) scowls, nonplussed.

Joey looks from Gloomy, stretched, sweaty and grotesque, to Chet with his warming smile and offer of more orphanages.

JOEY

(stalwart)

Let me show you around. I think you'll see that everything is more or less fine.

IN THE KITCHEN

Chet begins his sweep of the house with Gloomy (Susan) and Joey close in tow. Chet checks under the sink, in the fridge and inside the pantry. Nothing.

JOEY

I bet you get these calls all the time, huh?

CHET

Oh yeah. I love the late shift; always full of action. This is actually my last call!

(then)

Yeah, I usually let the family men take the days so they can be home at night.

IN THE DINING ROOM

Chet checks under the table and behind a painting. Nothing.

GLOOMY

Not a family man, huh?

CHET

Me? No... bit of a lone wolf you could say, just focused on making detective.

IN THE LIVING ROOM

Chet checks the chimney and behind the couch. Nothing.

JOEY

At least you get time off to visit family sometimes, right?

CHET

Used to, but, not much for going "home" since my mom and dad passed. No siblings to visit either, so I guess you could say, work is my family.

MS BERKEY'S BEDROOM

Chet looks under the bed and in the closet. Nothing.

CHET

I just transferred, so no partner yet. It's for the best, I enjoy spending time alone. Gives me plenty of time to spot the clues.

MASTER BATHROOM

Chet looks in the medicine cabinet and then pulls back the shower curtain! Nothing.

CHET

(laughing)

Don't get me wrong! I wouldn't mind working with Officer Jansen! You wouldn't get that, she's just a super-cop here in town. She's amazing. "Shut up, Chet", sorry, I love to chit chat.

JOEY'S ROOM

Chet looks under the bed. Nothing. He moves to the closet, throws open the door!

Inside near the back in the dark is a tiny swirling hellfire, the open doorway back to Monsterworld. Chet leans in and stares at it for a beat.

CHET

Cool night-light!

BACK AT THE FRONT DOOR

Chet has finished his sweep of the house. Gloomy (Susan) and Joey stand in the doorway. Chet opens the door, revealing Cooper who stands outside expectantly, finger near doorbell.

Chet doesn't notice, turning back to Gloomy (Susan) and Joey.

CHET

Well, everything looks okay to me.
You and Joey can have a great ni--

Gloomy (Susan) lunges forward and SNAPS Chets neck so hard it turns completely around. Chet now stares sadly at Joey. He gurgles up blood before collapsing to the floor.

Cooper squeals in terror! And is mostly ignored through the following exchange.

COOPER
OH MY GOD!

JOEY
WHY DID YOU DO THAT?!

GLOOMY
(to Joey)
THIS IS YOUR FAULT!

COOPER
(to Joey)
Your mom killed a cop!!!

JOEY
(to Gloomy)
What!? He was gonna leave!

GLOOMY
Yeah right! Leave back to his car
for all his bullets to come kill us
both.

JOEY
Why would you even think that?

COOPER
What is happening!?

GLOOMY
See it all the time in
Monsterworld, whatever! His blood
is on your hands. You called the
cops!

Joey points at Cooper.

JOEY
He called the cops!!

Gloomy (Susan) points at Cooper!

GLOOMY
(to Cooper)
Guilty by association!!!

COOPER
What does that mean!?

GLOOMY
Means you killed a cop, kiddo.
You're really in it now.

COOPER
Oh god!

JOEY
(then)
Wait a second. Why didn't he find
Susan's body? Where did you put her
body?

COOPER
Oh god, I'm so screwed. I'm so
sorry Ms. Berkey.

Gloomy (Susan) shifts uncomfortably. Joey advances, ignoring
Cooper.

JOEY
Gloomy. After... after you took
Susan's skin... where did you put
her body?

COOPER
Wait, what?

GLOOMY
Um, yeah, well. See, I never really
got an answer earlier about, you
know, how we were going to proceed
with that, so I, uh...

JOEY
No. You didn't.

GLOOMY
I ate her.

JOEY
Are you fucking kidding me!? You
piece of shit!

GLOOMY
You're a piece of shit. Watch your
language.

JOEY
YOU ATE MY FOSTER MOM!

COOPER	GLOOMY
Oh god, what is happening.	I AM YOUR MOM! GO TO YOUR ROOM!
	(then cheerful)
	Hey look, I'm parenting!

Joey screams in frustration and stomps upstairs. She stops at the top and hurls a picture from off the wall hitting Gloomy (Susan) right in the face.

GLOOMY (CONT'D)
Ow! What the fuck?!

Gloomy (Susan) bounds up the stairs with lightning speed and a deafening roar. Joey flinches but holds her ground.

GLOOMY (CONT'D)
(calmer)
Don't be a dick.

JOEY
You are un-fucking-believable.

GLOOMY
I did what I had to do. Gloomy over
here, saving the day at every scary
turn! A thank you and an apology
would be nice.

JOEY
An apology!?

Gloomy (Susan) gestures down to Cooper who stares, shivering, at dead Chet.

GLOOMY
For having your boyfriend call the
cops!

JOEY
NOT my boyfriend.

GLOOMY
 (to Cooper)
 Sorry, tiny kid. Missed your window. Now you're a cop killer and terribly alone.

Cooper is crestfallen.

JOEY
 (to Gloomy)
 I'm gonna find a way to kill you. I don't know how, I don't know when, but I know I'm going to kill you.

GLOOMY
 Calm down, Liam Neeson. I don't like this any more than you do! I wish I was back home already, smokin' my sulfer pipe.

JOEY
 That explains a lot.

GLOOMY
 You explain a lot!

JOEY
 Ugh! Shut up!

<p>GLOOMY And frankly, I'm tired of it! So just stop talking and...SHUT UP!</p>	<p>JOEY (CONT'D) That's such a stupid comeback! I just want you dead! SHUT UP!</p>
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With all the strength of her last scream, Joey shoves Gloomy (Susan), who violently tumbles backward down the steps, landing with a sickening SNAP.

Silence.

Joey is silhouetted in the distance behind Gloomy's (Susan's) glassy eyes. An eerily reminiscent tableau of Susan's death. Joey sits on the top step.

Cooper stands in the middle of what looks like a horrific crime scene. He vomits, swoons and collapses between Chet and Gloomy (Susan), unconscious.

Joey exhales calmly, but before the weight can lift from her shoulders...

Gloomy (Susan) BOUNDS to life covering the distance between them just as easily as before.

GLOOMY

That's what your mom looked like!!

(mocking)

Look at my weak fleshy meat body! I
can't survive a small fall down
some soft wooden stairs!!

Joey storms away as Gloomy (Susan) follows.

JOEY

OH YOU PIECE OF SHIT!! Yes a
huge gross piece of shit!

GLOOMY (CONT'D)

I'm a piece of shit?! Oh no
no no, you're the piece of
ungrateful shit!

Joey slams the door in Gloomy's (Susan) face. A quiet moment,
it's forehead resting against the door.

GLOOMY (CONT'D)

(a whisper)

It is so hard, to be a good mother.

Gloomy (Susan) lightly taps on the door.

GLOOMY (CONT'D)

(calm)

Hey kiddo, I was kidding about you
going to your room.

(then)

I actually need you to help me get
Chet's skin off.

The sound of Joey vomiting in her room. Gloomy (Susan) sighs
deeply.

GLOOMY (CONT'D)

(sad and disapproving)

Oh, Joey.

And in one easy motion, tears Joey's door off it's hinges
like ripping paper from a notebook.

GLOOMY (CONT'D)

Please... Help me get Chet's skin.

(then)

It'll be fun.

Joey stands aghast.

GLOOMY (CONT'D)

What? We might need it.

END OF ACT II

ACT III**EXT. CHET'S SQUAD CAR - LATE NIGHT**

Red and blue flashes dance off passing trees as the squad car cuts around the winding curves of a deserted back roads highway.

INT. CHET'S SQUAD CAR

Joey sits in the backseat, stoic and empty. Cooper is propped up beside her, still passed out. Joey stares out the window. She is covered in blood.

Up front, Gloomy wears Chet's skin and eats one of his skinned calves like an amusement park turkey leg.

GLOOMY

I can't believe you're making me eat this much. No wonder I can barely fit into these skins.

No response from the backseat.

GLOOMY (CONT'D)

Hey, um, I er. This all must seem pretty sudden.

(then)

I just want to say I'm sorry for killing your mom, or Susan, whatever you call her. It was an accident though so I shouldn't even need--

(stopping)

No, no. I'm sorry.

(Off Chet's calf)

For eating her too. And wearing her. I really should have got the go ahead from you before doing any of that. I don't know a lot about how Humanworld works.

(tearing up)

It scares me. I'm scared. I meant what I said before. About us being a team, you know, I need you. I need us... to work.

(motherly)

If we can't figure out a way to work together, you'll be stuck with me for a long time. I know you don't want that, so...

(MORE)

GLOOMY (CONT'D)

(no response)

Okay. That's my piece. I've said it.

Silence.

GLOOMY (CONT'D)

Oh, and Chet. Sorry about killing Chet.

(then)

And you know, eating, wearing him, blah blah blah.

They drive a moment in silence. Joey has tears in her eyes.

JOEY

Susan wasn't my real mom. I'm in foster care. She was my... guardian or whatever.

GLOOMY

Oh. Then who cares?

JOEY

God, you are the worst.

(then)

Susan was cool. She was nice. She worked at Doctors Without Borders and donated to tons of charities... We didn't fight a lot. She told me she couldn't have kids... I think she just wanted me to be a little girl, forever. To be a proper young woman.

(then)

That's just not me. I don't want to wear dresses and play with dolls. Dance with boys and play nice all the time.

Joey stares out the window. Gloomy (Chet) doesn't have any answers either.

JOEY (CONT'D)

That's why we were fighting. I stood up for myself at a party and she thought I should've been nice.

(then)

That's why she fought to get in my room. She wanted to be there with me. At that moment. To help me get over it.

(it hits her)

It's my fault.

(MORE)

JOEY (CONT'D)

It's my fault Susan is dead. She just wanted to mother me, to hold me and care for me while I was sad. Oh my God, this whole thing is my--

GLOOMY (O.C.)

LOOK, A DEER!

They violently swerve, causing Joey to smack her head on the window, then against Cooper before the car makes impact with something big. It thuds and rumbles it's way over the roof as they SCREECH to a halt.

Gloomy (Chet) looks back through the wire mesh separating them.

GLOOMY (CONT'D)

You see that!? How lucky are we!? It was a big one! Come on let's go get--

(then)

Oh, sorry. Uh, what, uh, what were you saying?

(then)

No! I mean... Nooooo, It's not your fault.

Gloomy (Chet) smiles sweetly. It's horrific.

EXT. BACK ROAD HIGHWAY

Gloomy (Chet) and Joey stand over the mangled corpse of a 10 point buck.

JOEY

(sad)

I'll start skinning.

GLOOMY

What?! Why the hell would I need to be a deer?? You sound ridiculous. Just help me get it on the roof.

JOEY

Wouldn't a deer on the roof of a police car stand out?

GLOOMY

Good point.

INT. CHET'S SQUAD CAR

They're seated in the same spots as before but now the mangled deer carcass sits beside Cooper in the backseat, it's cold dead eyes staring across him to Joey.

GLOOMY

As I was saying, it's not your fault.

Joey is silent.

GLOOMY (CONT'D)

You know my dad was a monster. Literally. Told me I could be anything I wanted to be as long as it was "gone". How's that for parenting?

Joey remains silent.

GLOOMY (CONT'D)

Come on! We can fix this. I want to make things better for you. I didn't even know my mother!

(excited)

In Monsterworld, we're all sexless until one day we mature for breeding. Then you either spray a load of eggs into a dark hole and wait, or, you fertilize eggs you find with a foamy, sort of gray, viscous milk you squirt out of your-

JOEY

Please stop. And never tell me any of that again.

GLOOMY

Sorry. Just saying at least you had a mom.

JOEY

HAD! Had a mom, you dick! And again, Susan wasn't my real mom! You didn't know my real mom, so can you drop it and just let me deal with this quietly!

(then)

I need to figure out what I'm going to do with my life.

GLOOMY

Okay... You don't want to go back to, uh, what did Chet say? The State?

JOEY

Hell no. That was a perpetual waking-nightmare.

GLOOMY

(excited)

Hey! You're running away from a waking-nightmare and I'm trying to get back to my waking-nightmare!

JOEY

Good for you.

GLOOMY

Good for us, we have something in common.

JOEY

Not really.

GLOOMY

I mean, a little, don't be stupid.
(then)
Here should be good!

EXT. CHET'S SQUAD CAR

The squad car turns down a dirt path. Driving into a clearing where it pulls off to the side.

Gloomy (Chet) exits the car and stretches. The RED and BLUE lights flashing all the while.

INT. CHET'S SQUAD CAR (BACK SEAT)

Joey cries quietly in the back. The deer suddenly lifts it's head and looks at her. It's head flops around while "talking" to her.

GLOOMY (O.C.)

(deer voice)

Hey kiddo! It's me, mister Gothitbycar and I wish you would feel better.

(then)

I know you're sad, but Gloomy is trying. A real piece of shit...

(MORE)

GLOOMY (O.C.) (CONT'D)

but trying.

(a deer "laugh")

Well, when you're done with your
overwhelming human emotions, come
on out of the car and help eat me.
I'll be so goooooood.

(in her face)

Before I go, how about a smooch my
deer? Mwah mwah mwah mwah!

A bunch of blood drools out of the deer's gaping mouth and
spills all over Joey and Cooper.

The deer carcass is pulled from the backseat, leaving Joey
and Cooper alone. Joey takes a deep breath and stares
forward, shivering as the warm blood on her clothes steams in
the night air.

Gloomy, no longer wearing Chet's skin, leans into the
backseat offering Joey a shovel.

GLOOMY (CONT'D)

Here.

JOEY

Now what?

GLOOMY

Get out and I'll show you.

EXT. CHET'S SQUAD CAR

Joey exits the squad car and stands with her shovel. The RED
and BLUE lights flash across her and Gloomy.

JOEY

What?

GLOOMY

I don't know how to turn those
lights off... so I thought maybe we
could smash them together.

(the)

As a team. Thought it might be
cathartic.

JOEY

I could probably just find the
switch and turn them off.

GLOOMY

Yeah.

They stand in silence.

GLOOMY (CONT'D)
But would that be as fun?

Joey almost smiles.

EXT. THE CLEARING

Joey and Gloomy SMASH the ever-living shit out of Chet's police cruiser until the lights flicker out and the engine smolders.

Joey exhausts herself, battering the car without mercy.

LATER

Joey and Gloomy sit around a fire where the deer cooks on a spit. Joey nibbles on a leg. Gloomy picks it's teeth with an antler.

GLOOMY
Exiguous?

JOEY
Yeah.

GLOOMY
I would have torn that kid's face off.

JOEY
(laughing)
Right!?

GLOOMY
Never let anyone tell you you're less plentiful than what is normal, necessary, or desirable.

JOEY
Wait! You know what it means?

GLOOMY
Of course. You'd have to be a complete fucking idiot not to know that word.

Joey laughs more. Gloomy laughs too.

JOEY
(enjoying this)
You're stupid.

GLOOMY
(also enjoying this)
You too, kiddo.

A cute moment while they eat together.

GLOOMY (CONT'D)
Well. Eat up. You're gonna need
your strength.

JOEY
What? Why?

Gloomy points over to the wrecked cruiser.

GLOOMY
I need you to help me bury the cop
car.

JOEY
Shhhhhiiiiiii--

SMASH TO BLACK:

END OF ACT III

ACT IV - TAG**EXT. THE CLEARING - LATER**

Joey and Gloomy are exhausted. The cop car is down in a deep hole and they are both slowly shoveling dirt onto it, lit only by the full moon through the trees.

JOEY

I'm not gonna be over what happened today, for like, a long time.

GLOOMY

Yeah, understandable.

JOEY

I'm never going to call you mom.

GLOOMY

I figured.

JOEY

I still kind of hate you.

GLOOMY

That's fair.

JOEY

I am excited to show you off to my friends.

GLOOMY

Tell ya what. I'll keep Susan's skin in wearable condition.

(defensive, off Joey)

That way you can have people over!

(then)

And if there's a bully who is particularly nasty, I'll kill the little shit, wear him, and hang out with you at recess sometime.

Joey shakes her head as she finishes packing dirt on the mound where the car is buried.

JOEY

You need to stop killing people.

GLOOMY

I haven't killed anyone since Chet!

JOEY
 You know what I mean.
 (then)
 How are we getting home?

Gloomy looks around.

GLOOMY
 Aw, dicks.

EXT. BACK ROAD HIGHWAY - LATER

Joey and Gloomy walk side by side down the road, silhouetted by the huge full moon behind them. Gloomy holds the two skins like folded shirts.

JOEY
 Today was awful.

GLOOMY
 Don't worry kid. From this point on
 it's going to be smoooooooooth
 sailing.

They walk in silence for a moment.

GLOOMY (CONT'D)
 Hey, where's your little boyfriend?

JOEY
 He's not my boyfri... oh my god
 Cooper's still in the car!

GLOOMY
 (laughing)
 You left him in the car!? You're
 cold blooded, man.

JOEY
 I didn't mean to!

GLOOMY
 Nice memory.

JOEY
 We gotta go back and dig him out.

Joey stares down Gloomy.

GLOOMY
 Fuck.

SMASH TO BLACK:

INT. BERKEY RESIDENCE - MORNING

Dust dances through warm beams of early sunlight, that reach like a loving partners outstretched hand through soft flowing curtains.

A birds morning serenade welcomes the dawn.

SERIES OF SHOTS

Cooper, caked in mud and filth, safely nestled in a blanket on the living room couch.

Joey, still wearing her bloody clothes from the night before, hugs a pillow, sound asleep on her bed.

Gloomy, snores loudly, curled up on the soft wooden stairs.

All is serene.

END SERIES

SFX: The doorbell thunders through the house.

Cooper stirs. Joey rolls over, revealing a giant blood stain. Gloomy's eyes flutter open.

SFX: The doorbell, again, reverberates, as if spreading guilt throughout the house.

Gloomy, stirs, sits up. Looks to the door.

THUD THUD THUD

JANSEN (O.S.)
Hello! Stoneville Police, can you
open up please.

Gloomy shoots to the door, wide-eyed, looks through the peep-hole to reveal...

EXT. BERKEY RESIDENCE - CONTINUOUS

JANSEN, 26 and ravishing. An ice cold bad-ass police woman... perfect... just like Chet said. She glances around the perimeter, dirty shovels on the lawn.

GLOOMY (O.S.)
Hold on please! Lemme get on my
skin, er, clothes, I mean, for
human interaction!

JANSEN
Please open the door!

She pulls her baton.

GLOOMY (O.S.)
Yeah, just a sec!

INT. BERKEY RESIDENCE - CONTINUOUS

Gloomy turns away from the door and surveys the scene.

GLOOMY
(to self)
I can fix this.

QUICK SERIES

- Broken railing on stairs.
- Broken glass from family photo.
- Blood and vomit on floor.
- Cooper, dirty, bloody, doesn't live here, saw the crime.
- Chet and Susan's skins hang limp from the coat rack.
- Joey, blood drenched, walks to her door and looks down at Gloomy.

END SERIES

JANSEN (O.S.)
You have thirty seconds!

Gloomy looks up and connects with Joey.

GLOOMY
SSSHHHHHHHIIIIIIIII--

JOEY
SSSHHHHHHHIIIIIIIII--

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF EPISODE