

BOCAGE

an original screenplay by

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FADE IN:

EXT. BOCAGE COUNTRY CLUB 1955 - NIGHT (B&W)

Heavy rain bounces off a grand wooden sign. A flash of lighting illuminates the sign's letters: BOCAGE.

SUPER: 1955

The greens of the golf course soak in the storm.

Tennis nets catch the surging wind.

The pool vibrates excitedly in the downpour.

Through an upstairs window of the clubhouse we see an empty billiards room.

SMACK! The hand of a young woman flat against the window. Her fingers curl forward, grabbing for anything.

Over the CRACKS of lightning and steady roll of THUNDER we hear her MOANS.

A figure observes the affair from the shelter of an awning.

This is LEVI, 35 years-old in an expensive suit and overcoat.

A car pulls through the empty lot and parks before the awning. Its headlights illuminate Levi.

Out of the black automobile emerges YVETTE, 33 years-old and beautiful, even in her current state. She pulls YOUNG ELLIOTT (6 years-old) out and hurries through the rain.

YVETTE

Where's David? Is he okay?

LEVI

You better leave Elliott in the car.

INT. BOCAGE COUNTRY CLUB 1955 - NIGHT (B&W)

The doors of the billiards room, already partially opened, fling apart as Yvette storms from the room.

Levi, patiently waiting, offers a comforting hand to Yvette's shoulder.

LEVI

I didn't want to be the one. But you deserved to know.

Yvette brushes him off and continues her exit.

DAVID, 33, runs behind tucking in his shirt. He sports a full blown all white tennis pro outfit including wristbands and high socks.

DAVID
Yvette! Wait!

David scorns Levi.

LEVI
I tried to stop her. I don't know
how she found out...

David rushes past Levi, onto the matter at hand.

Levi glances into the room. MARGOT, 19, beautiful, and also in tennis wear, looks back guiltily.

INT. CLUBHOUSE FOYER 1955 - NIGHT (B&W)

Yvette marches down the main staircase. David catches up grabbing her arm. She rips it away from him.

DAVID
Yvette.

He pulls her back more forcefully.

DAVID (CONT'D)
Yvette! Listen.

She finally gives him her attention.

YVETTE
I'm taking Elliott. I don't know
where we're going, but we're not
staying here.

DAVID
Honey. Please. I'm sorry. Think
about what you're saying.

YVETTE
I don't want to think about it.
Elliott and I are leaving. Now.

She turns away and heads for the door.

David runs ahead and holds the door shut with a stiff arm.

DAVID
Listen...

MARGOT (O.S.)
David?

He has one shot. He stares into her eyes.

DAVID
I love you.

MARGOT (O.S.)
David?!

DAVID
I couldn't go on without you and
Elliott in my life.

SANDY
You seemed to be doing just fine up
there.

MARGOT (O.S.)
DAVID!!

David and Yvette turn their attention to Margot who stands rigid next to Levi at the top of the stairs.

MARGOT (CONT'D)
I'm pregnant.

Yvette and David reconnect eyes. SLAP! David isn't surprised. Yvette begins to lose her composure.

YVETTE
I'm going to stay with my mother in
Bayonne. I'll let you know when you
can see Elliott. Besides that, don't
come near me.

She flies into the rain.

The foyer is silent.

DAVID
What is wrong with you!

MARGOT
I'm sorry.

DAVID
Not you!

LEVI
She deserved to know.

DAVID
Go to hell.

David reaches for the door.

LEVI
Where are you going?

DAVID
Home! Then, most likely Bayonne.

MARGOT
When will you come back?

LEVI
What about the club?

DAVID
What about it? Dammit, Levi! I
loved her. All you care about is
this damn clubhouse!

MARGOT
It's yours.

LEVI
Well, I own 35 percent of the club
as well. So--

MARGOT
No. It's yours, David.

Margot slides a hand over her stomach.

David pauses. He slides his sweatbands off his wrists and
throws them on the ground. On them reads: LOVE ALL.

He grabs the door handle.

DAVID
I'm going to Bayonne.

David steps into the rain.

Levi and Margot stand atop the stairs. A RUMBLE of thunder
shakes the windows. Margot doesn't stir.

LEVI
Margot, are you absolutely sure?

MARGOT
He was the only man I ever slept
with.

LEVI
Jesus. Well, I'm sure the it'll grow
up to be better than their father.

EXT. GOLF COURSE - DAY

Two small flags atop a golf cart ripple in the wind.

SUPER: 30 YEARS LATER

Two hands grip the steering wheel. On the wrists, pink bands reading: LOVE ALL

Tools rattle in the bed of the modified cart.

Along the frame of the windshield are various pictures and articles:

A wedding picture of Margot and a man we will come to know as Toby. Toby's nose covered in zinc. Beside the couple stands a young Ben sporting David's wristbands.

A picture of Ben, Margot and Toby. Toby in full lifeguard uniform: whistle, sunglasses, et al. Margot late into another pregnancy.

A newspaper article: MOTHER OF TWO DIES IN LIGHTNING ACCIDENT AT BOCAGE POOL

Another article: SUPER LIFEGUARD IN COMA AFTER CHILD RESCUE

We finally meet BEN, 30 and a little below average in all departments. He steers the cart with ease. He wears his Bocage shirt, cargo shorts, and a bucket hat.

Next to him sits JAKE, a three-legged boxer.

Ben has made the cart his own. A little bobble head of himself and a bobble head of Jake are glued to the dash.

The back of the tailgate reads: MAINTENANCE.

The cart rolls off the black path and cuts across a fairway.

EXT. GOLF COURSE TEE BOX - DAY

Three members (JEFF, STAN, and MARTY) watch Ben drive through the grass.

JEFF

Look at this moron.

Jeff sets the tee.

He lines up his driver.

JEFF (CONT'D)

A hundred dollars if I hit him.
From each of you.

STAN

Deal.

MARTY

You got it.

Jeff swings.

The ball soars through the air.

WHACK! The ball takes off Ben's bobble head. Ben and Jake jump in fear.

JEFF

Oh! Sorry, Benji! Didn't see you there.

Ben continues off trying to ignore the bullies.

BEN

It's okay Jake. They're just a bunch of jerks.

JEFF

Just trying to play a game here!

EXT. SWIMMING POOL - DAY

Ben carries two bags of mulch along the black iron fence surrounding the pool. SPENCER, a 16 year-old lifeguard approaches Ben at the fence.

SPENCER

Hey, Ben?

BEN

Hey Spence. ...Pool pump?

Spencer nods his head.

EXT. POOL PUMP HOUSE - DAY

A geyser shoots water ten feet out of the pump house. A SQUEAK and the stream ceases. Ben and Spencer emerge from the shack. Ben holds a 4 foot pipe wrench against his shoulder.

BEN

Next time you backwash, just make sure to clean the trap and check the seal first.

Spencer nods his head.

BEN (CONT'D)

It's alright buddy. It takes a while to figure all this stuff out. They really just need to get a new pump.

INT. TENNIS PRO SHOP - DAY

A little RING from an overhead doorbell as Ben enters the pro shop.

Wrench still in hand, he treads through the racks of polos, shorts, skirts, and shoes. Racquets line the walls.

At the counter, ELIZABETH, 28 years old and stunning, sorts through a box of shirts. A tattoo of large calligraphy wraps around her forearm.

BEN

Morning, Liz.

ELIZABETH

Hey, Ben.

She eyes the wrench.

ELIZABETH (CONT'D)

Sink break?

BEN

Just the pool pump again. Is there anything you need a hand with today?

ELIZABETH

Not really for right now. Thanks though.

Ben nods with slight disappointment.

BEN

Sure thing.

He turns for the exit.

ELIZABETH

Hey! You see someone's moving into the old Roberts house?

BEN

Really? They say no one has lived there for like--

ELIZABETH

30 years. Yeah. Well, just another rich person for Mr. Levi to sucker in to joining this club.

INT. CLUBHOUSE FOYER - DAY

Levi, now 65 years old, guides a rich, white, middle-aged HUSBAND and WIFE through the foyer.

A brass name tag is pinned on the breast pocket of his suit. It reads: LEVI LEMOINE, CLUB PRESIDENT

LEVI

Now, I'm not gonna try to sucker you into joining our club. I've been here since the beginning of Bocage. I know what we have to offer.

He leads them up the stairs.

LEVI (CONT'D)

You've seen our facilities. The decision is yours.

WIFE

Yeah, we've been looking at several clubs around in the area. A lot of them seem to be letting just anyone in these days. I mean, we know Bocage is pretty strict with membership. We just want to make sure that--

They walk down the mezzanine and stop before Levi's office.

LEVI

Say no more. Yes, this is a common pattern I have seen as well. But, at Bocage, we are extremely selective. And that's not changing anytime soon. I can assure you that, because I've been here since the beginning. I have always personally employed our strict policies. And I will be here for many years to come. I built this place with these hands. And there is nothing that could separate me from my club.

INT. LEVI'S OFFICE - DAY

Levi pushes the doors of his office open. Behind his desk sits a man, ELLIOTT, in his mid thirties. He is reclined in Levi's leather chair with his feet propped on the desk.

LEVI

Excuse me. How did you get in here?

He rises from the chair and extends his hand.

ELLIOTT

I'm Elliott Roberts. I believe you
and my father used to be partners
many years ago.

Levi stares at Elliott. He hasn't seen the boy in 30 years.
Terror creeps onto his face.

INT. TENNIS PRO SHOP - DAY

Ben stands to the side of the counter as Elizabeth rings up
DETECTIVE CURTIS.

Curtis, 45, is wearing a button up, with suspenders. From
his polished shoes to his lengthy tie, everything is a bit
too big for him.

Ben talks to Elizabeth and Curtis

BEN

Yeah, I'm actually going to see him
today, after lunch. We have to make
the decision soon.

Elizabeth hands DETECTIVE CURTIS, the bag.

ELIZABETH

That's rough, Ben. But I'm sure
it's for the best.

DETECTIVE CURTIS

Yeah, Ben. I knew Toby for a long
time. I think it's what he would
have wanted.

BEN

I think so too.

DETECTIVE CURTIS

Alright you two. Y'all take care.
I praying for you, Ben.

BEN

Thanks.

ELIZABETH

See you later, Mr. Curtis.

Detective Curtis exits the shop.

BEN

What are you doing for lunch?

ELIZABETH

I just ordered something from the kitchen a little while ago. I have to go through inventory today. I'm going to be here late as it is.

BEN

Right, right.

ELIZABETH

Hey, I'm thinking about going camping on Hutchison next month. You should come.

BEN

Hutchison? Isn't that pretty far from here?

ELIZABETH

It's just over the bridge, like half an hour.

BEN

I don't think I can go.

A RING from the door. Ben turns around. It's Jeff and his goons.

BEN (CONT'D)

Well, I'm gonna head home for lunch. I'll catch you later.

ELIZABETH

Alright. Yeah, stop by later.

Ben keeps his head down as he skirts past the trio.

JEFF

Hey Benji.

Ben stops and acknowledges Jeff.

JEFF (CONT'D)

Sorry about today on the course. I guess I just didn't see you.

BEN

It's okay, Mr. Hamilton.

JEFF

I mean you shouldn't really be cutting across when someone is at the tee box.

BEN
I'm sorry. I wasn't thinking. It
won't happen again.

JEFF
That's a good man.

Jeff grabs Ben by the neck and gives him a noogie.

JEFF (CONT'D)
You gotta us that head of yours Benji.

TWIN (O.S.)
Yo, excuse me!

TWIN, 28, a kitchen worker with a few tattoos and gold teeth
stands at the door with a to-go box in his hand.

TWIN (CONT'D)
Leave Ben alone.

Jeff lets Ben slip out of his headlock.

JEFF
Excuse me. Who are you?

Ben slides over towards Twin.

TWIN
I don't think you wanna find out.

BEN
(to Twin)
Thanks Twin.

Twin nods.

JEFF
I'm gonna get you fired so fast.

TWIN
Please.

Twin holds up the to-go box.

TWIN (CONT'D)
I got your food right here, Lizzy.

ELIZABETH
Thank you, Twin.

Twin walks past the golfers. Jeff's accomplices clear out
the way. Twin fakes an attack. Jeff flinches.

TWIN
(to self)
That's what I thought.

Twin moves towards Elizabeth.

Jeff turns to confront Ben, but he is already halfway out the door.

EXT. BOCAGE ESTATES STREET - DAY

Ben walks down the sidewalk. Jake trots along his side. The houses are exquisite.

He stops before the Roberts house. It is grand in every manner. Several moving trucks are parked in front of the home. The movers sit on the unpacked furniture and enjoy their lunch.

A man with a clipboard, clearly the BOSS, comes out of the front door.

BOSS
I don't know where the hell he wants us to put all this stuff. The house is fully furnished. The closets still have clothes in them.

Ben makes eye contact with the him. The Boss throws him the stink eye. Ben turns his gaze away and continues walking.

Jake hobbles behind him.

EXT. BEN'S HOUSE - DAY

Squeezed between the fences of two large mansions, stands Ben's modest house.

No wider than 30 feet, it is perfectly square with a perfectly straight walkway leading right up to the perfectly centered front door.

Ben and Jake walk through the green yard. Jake lets out a low growl.

On the porch, a bank REP in a navy suit sits on Ben's porch.

BEN
It's okay Jake.

He stands up and greets Ben.

REP
Good afternoon Mr. Lovelace. I'm with Trusted Regional Bank.

INT. BEN'S HOUSE - DAY

His home is filled with knickknacks, toys, puzzles, and found items, but everything has its place.

Ben opens the door letting Jake in before him. Jake runs to the bathroom and slops up a couple mouthfuls of toilet water.

Ben holds a hand out offering the Rep his couch.

BEN

Please.

The Rep sits down on his well-used sofa.

REP

Now, Mr. Lovelace.

BEN

You can just call me Ben. Would you like something to drink?

Ben goes into the kitchen. Jake hops onto a recliner, clearly his usual spot.

REP

No thank you. So, Ben. You are aware of your current outstanding balance with Trusted Regional?

Ben pulls out four pieces of bread and begins creating two pb&js.

BEN

Oh yeah. See, I'm good for the money eventually. I've been looking at some of the programs at the bank that could buy me some more time.

REP

Well, see Mr. Lov-- Ben. Time is one thing you've really run out of. You haven't returned our calls or letters.

BEN

Well, I don't really have the money right now, and it's funny you came today. But you know, I figured if I didn't have the money it really-- Well, it wouldn't do me much good to call you and let you know I didn't have it.

Ben cleans his knife and puts it back in the drawer.

REP

Mr. Lovelace. I'm not sure you understand the severity of the situation.

Ben enters the living room. He throws one sandwich into Jake's bowl. Jake hops off his throne and begins devouring his snack. Ben sits on the recliner.

BEN

See, I'm good for it. It's just complicated. I'm going to sort some things out here in a few minutes. So maybe you guys could come back sometime next week--

REP

Ben, Trusted Regional is going seize your house at the end of the month. They wouldn't even consider modifying your program unless you came up with a substantial amount of money. I'm not here to give you options or a payment warning. They sent me to prepare you for eviction.

Ben is speechless.

INT. LEVI'S OFFICE - DAY

Levi slouches in a chair in front of his desk.

Elliott looks out the window of the main office.

ELLIOTT

Big plans, Levi. Big moves. Big changes.

He turns back to Levi.

ELLIOTT (CONT'D)

Most importantly, big returns.

Levi rises from his chair.

LEVI

Elliott, I'm not sure you are really prepared to run a country club of our caliber?

Elliott grabs a putter leaning on the wall.

ELLIOTT

I went to business school for six years. I've already had several successful ventures. And even though my father preferred a racquet, I always was fond of golf.

LEVI

Look, Elliott, I understand that you have as much of a right to Bocage as I do.

Elliott opens a drawer from behind the desk. Wrong drawer, he slides it shut.

ELLIOTT

More so. My father left me his entire share, which exceeds 50 percent--

LEVI

Yes but.

He opens the next drawer down. A few golf balls roll around over a stack of documents. He grabs one.

LEVI (CONT'D)

See, I've been here since the beginning. David and I, we started this place together. I've been running it for over 35 years.

ELLIOTT

Yeah, you've done a good job. But things are changing. People want fitness centers. 24 hours a day. They want a place where everyone is welcome.

Elliott drops the ball onto the carpet. And begins to line up his shot. A pint glass rests on its side across the office.

ELLIOTT (CONT'D)

Tennis, Golf, and Aquatics just don't do it anymore. Rock walls, volleyball, there is so much more now--

LEVI

You can't just come in here and start changing whatever you feel like! This is--

Elliott steps away from his putt.

ELLIOTT

That's the thing. I can. I really can, Levi. And you can either be a part of it, sit back, or sell out.

He returns to his stance and lines up again.

LEVI

I will never sell my part of this club...

Levi is fuming. Just before Elliott putts...

LEVI (CONT'D)

Your father would be ashamed.

Elliott stands up straight once more.

ELLIOTT

That's something I wanted to ask you about, actually. I never heard of Bocage. My father never mentioned it. Coming here now, some memories have come back to me. But what I can't figure out is how come for 30 years, my father owned a successful country club, and he never received a penny. He never mentioned it. He owned a huge house just down the road. We never came to visit it.

LEVI

Your father and I were great friends. And I'm not sure you knew--

ELLIOTT

Save it, Levi. It seems to me he picked up and left in a hurry. I don't know why, I don't know what you did. But, I'm quite sure you owe my family a handsome amount of money. So, here's what's going to happen.

Elliott takes his stance and lines up.

ELLIOTT (CONT'D)

You're going to let me run this club, and keep your mouth shut.

He makes contact with the ball. It rolls across the carpet.

ELLIOTT (CONT'D)

And I'll keep my nose out of whatever happened back then.

The golf ball pops into the glass.

ELLIOTT (CONT'D)

I like this putter. I think I'll keep it.

INT. ST. GEORGE HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Machines breathe and whirl. On the hospital bed lies TOBY McGUINNESS, 54. His grey mustache and jewfro give life to his rigid body.

Large aviator sunglasses cover his face. Two nutrition tubes hook into his open mouth.

For an old man in a coma, Toby still seems like a pretty cool guy.

Ben enters the room and sits next to the hospital bed.

BEN

Hey, Toby. Anything new?

Silence.

BEN (CONT'D)

Yeah, I figured... So, we're going through with it today. I know it's what you want, but... It's still hard. I hear people at Bocage talking about you every once in a while. You were the best step-dad, and lifeguard, that anyone could ask for.

The machine breathes.

BEN (CONT'D)

Toby, I'm not doing this for the will. I haven't even read it yet... If I didn't think this was what you would want, the bank could have my house. You know that.

Toby doesn't respond.

BEN (CONT'D)

I miss you Toby.

SFX: Flashback music begins...

EXT. SWIMMING POOL - DAY (1961)

The pool is full of playful children. The older members soak in the sun from the lounge chairs along the pool side.

SUPER: 25 Years Earlier

Toby McGuinness, 24, sits atop his tall wooden lifeguard stand. His mustache and jewfro are dark black. His aviators sit atop his head. His nose is pasted with white zinc.

SUPER: The Story of Lifeguard Extraordinaire: Toby McGuinness

Toby watches over the pool confidently.

A YOUNG BEN, 5 years old with pink sweatbands, runs off of the diving board and splashes into the water.

Toby notices Young Ben and keeps his eyes on him.

He turns in circles, looking for the closest wall. He doggy paddles with his head tilted straight back. He isn't making any progress.

Suddenly, he slips underwater.

Toby stands from his chair, blows his whistle and dives into the water. His sunglasses fly off as he hits the surface.

Underneath, Young Ben kicks and pulls, suspended in the blue space. Toby kicks down and scoops him up.

They break the surface and he pulls the boy to the side. He helps him onto the deck and climbs out behind him. Everyone surrounds them as Toby checks to see that he is okay.

The boy's mother pushes through the crowd. It's Margot, 25, and still as beautiful as ever. She embraces her son with relief.

She looks up at Toby who lets out a big smile. They lock eyes. She smiles back.

There is an immediate connection.

EXT. GOLF COURSE - DAY (1962)

The sun is bright and the grass is vibrant green.

Toby and Margot stand next to each other getting set for a wedding photo. Toby wears a white tuxedo with red accents. Sunglasses on head, whistle dangling, and the white zinc on his nose.

Young Ben stands next to his mother and smiles for the camera.

Margot's white dress altered to allow room for the little someone on the way. She clutches a bouquet of flowers.

The family smiles for the camera. Truly a happy family.

INT. ST. GEORGE HOSPITAL HALLWAY - NIGHT (1963)

The white shoes of hospital workers and the wheels of a gurney fly down the linoleum floor.

On the gurney, Margot scrunches her face in pain.

The white shoes continue forth, right behind them two bare feet keep pace.

From the foot of the gurney, Toby gives supportive sympathy.

INT. ST. GEORGE HOSPITAL ROOM - NIGHT (1963)

Margot holds a new born baby in her hands. She smiles down at the new life.

Toby stands to her side. Margot smiles up at him and hands him the infant.

Toby is in ecstasy.

EXT. SWIMMING POOL - DAY (1966)

Toby sits atop his throne. The sun shines bright. The pool is busy with activity, but not crowded.

Margot floats on her back atop a thin pool raft.

Toby admires her from his perch.

Young Ben, 11, plays with his 3 year-old little brother (JACKSON) on the pool deck. Suddenly a shadow falls over everything.

Toby snaps away from Margot and looks to the sky.

A dark rogue cloud moves in quickly. Alone in the blue sky it churns and flashes with lighting.

Toby stands and blows his whistle. He motions for everyone to get out of the pool. He waves his arms frantically.

Margot continues to float on her back, eyes closed.

The cloud is above them.

Toby shouts from the edge of the pool.

Margot's ears sit just below the water's surface.

Toby lets out a final scream.

A bolt of lighting strikes the pool. Toby is thrown back.

Ben covers Jackson's eyes.

EXT. SWIMMING POOL - DAY (1966)

Toby sits still on the lifeguard stand. His sunglasses cover his face. He watches the pool passively.

EXT. SWIMMING POOL - DAY (1973)

Along the fence of the pool, Ben, now 18 years old and in work clothes, pays close attention as an elderly man instructs him on planting flowers.

Jackson, 10 years old, swims under the surface of the pool scanning the bottom.

Toby watches over the pool. He is much older now, but he has regained most of his his joyous and caring disposition.

Jackson sweeps up a nickel and continues scanning the pool.

Toby admires his son.

Ben admires his step-father.

Jackson comes to surface.

A dark shadow falls over everything.

Ben looks up to the sky, then over to Toby.

Toby looks to the sky.

A dark rogue cloud, identical to the cloud from 7 years prior.

Jackson takes a deep breath, and dives back down.

Toby stands, blows his whistle and waves everyone out of the pool.

Jackson continues his search, clueless.

Toby steps down from the stand. The crowd clears the waters.

The cloud moves in closer towards the pool. Toby shouts at Jackson. He blows his whistle.

Jackson spots a penny.

Toby looks at the cloud and dives into the pool. He sprints to Jackson.

The cloud is over the pool.

Jackson swipes a penny and comes to the surface. Toby grabs Jackson and drags him to the pool's edge. He holds him up and Ben pulls him out of the water.

Flash! The lightning strikes the water.

INT. ST. GEORGE HOSPITAL HALLWAY - DAY (1973)

The white tennis shoes run beside the gurney. Behind them, Ben's boots keep up.

Toby's unconscious body shakes as he flies down the hall.

MATCH DISSOLVE:

INT. ST. GEORGE HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY (1985)

Toby, much thinner and older, rests on the hospital bed as we saw him before the flashback.

SFX: Music ends.

DOCTOR (O.S.)

I get that Ben, but because you're not legally related, we can't accept your signature.

Ben stands next to Toby's hospital bed.

BEN

That's okay, I understand. My brother should be here any--.

Just then Jackson, 22 years old, unhealthy and a bit coked out struts through the door.

BEN (CONT'D)

There you are! Jackson, I have to get back to work soon.

JACKSON

Great. Here come the accusations already.

DOCTOR

Alright, Jackson, now I know this can be tough, but we can go through the list of pros and cons. This would be a withholding of nutrition. So, it's not a "pull the plug" situation. It could be a couple of weeks before--

JACKSON

Yeah, I was thinking. I don't know if I want to do this thing.

BEN

I thought we talked about this. I really think it's time.

JACKSON

Hey, he's not your dad.

Ben takes this like a slap to the face.

JACKSON (CONT'D)

And your not my dad. So stop trying to make my decisions for me.

BEN

I'm not, I just--

JACKSON

You haven't even found his will Mr. Perfect.

BEN

Yes, I did.

Ben pulls a folded envelope out of his shirt pocket.

JACKSON

Of course you did. Well, what does it say?

BEN

I haven't opened it. I figured we could read it together when--

Jackson snatches the envelope from Ben and tears it open. He pulls out one folded piece of paper.

BEN (CONT'D)

Just one paper?

Jackson reads the folded piece of paper.

JACKSON

The last will and testament of Tobias S. McGuinness. I will leave all of my property, possessions, and estate to Margot F. Lovelace and her son Benjamin T. Lovelace.

Jackson looks at the page confused.

Ben sighs with great relief

BEN
Thank you, Toby. Thank you.

JACKSON
Oh wait. Hold on.

Jackson curiously unfolds the paper.

JACKSON (CONT'D)
I will leave all of my property,
possessions, and estate to Margot F.
Lovelace and her son Benjamin T.
Lovelace if I am never to have any
kin to call my own. If the day does
come that I do have any children of
my own, I leave all property,
possessions, and estate to be divided
among them evenly. Tobias S.
McGuinness.

Ben falls back into his chair.

JACKSON (CONT'D)
So what does that mean?

BEN
...It means, you get everything.

A big grin spreads over Jackson's face.

JACKSON
Well, hell, where do I sign, doc?

EXT. ST. GEORGE HOSPITAL - DAY

Ben storms out the sliding doors and paces down the sidewalk. He unhooks Jake from a pole. The two quickly move to the bike rack.

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD STREETS - DAY

Ben pedals fiercely down the street on an old silver road bike. Jake lays in the attached child's bicycle trailer.

Ben picks up speed.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Ben sits next to Twin in the back room. Twin makes progress through a sack of potatoes.

BEN
He never visited him. Never checked
up about him.
(MORE)

BEN (CONT'D)

Toby wrote the will before he even married my mom. Jackson wasn't even born.

TWIN

That's a bitch.

Twin chucks a bare potato into a tall industrial stock pot.

BEN

I mean, he never respected me, which is fine. But I just don't think he ever knew how great of a man Toby really was.

Twin shakes his head as he slides off peels into a trash can.

BEN (CONT'D)

Now he's got all of it. And God knows what he's going to spend it on.

TWIN

See, that's why I wish I worked for the law. I wouldn't let bullshit like this happen. How much we talking about here, Ben? If you don't mind.

A cook walks into the room and grabs a tray from the freezer. Ben waits for him to leave.

BEN

Well, altogether it's somewhere around 80,000 dollars. So, it's not incred--

TWIN

Oh damn, Ben! Come on now, you need to get what's yours. That ain't right man. You go taking care of the man, right?

Twin throws the potato in the pot.

BEN

Yeah.

TWIN

And your half-brother is out spending all his own money on some quasi-gentro bullshit.

BEN

I don't even know what that means.

Twin stands up, pulls a pack of cigarettes out of his front pocket and puts a cigarette behind his ear.

TWIN

It's fucked up. That's what it means.

BEN

He doesn't even have a job. I don't know where he gets the money he does have. I don't wanna know.

Ben stands and the two walk through the kitchen.

TWIN

And if he weren't around, it would be you getting the paycheck.

BEN

Well, yeah. I guess.

TWIN

If he weren't around you would get the money and you could keep your house.

BEN

Yeah.

TWIN

Tell you what, I'm going to hook you up with Cousin Phoenix. He's gonna set you straight. He's real good with this type of stuff.

The two stop by the swinging doors leading to the dining room.

BEN

Really? Is he a lawyer?

TWIN

More or less. Look, he's gonna sort you out though. He's real good, man.

A COOK stops by Twin and Ben.

COOK

You heading out Twin?

TWIN

What d'you want?

The cook hands Twin a plate of Bruschetta.

TWIN (CONT'D)

What's this? We don't open until
4:30.

COOK

It's for Mr. Levi. He's at the end
of the bar.

Twin nods and the cook takes off.

TWIN

Alright, Ben. You hang in there.
I'm gonna set you up with Cousin
Phoenix. You free tonight?

BEN

Tonight?

TWIN

Yeah, man! Cousin Phoenix works
fast.

COOK (O.S.)

Twin!

TWIN

(to Cook)

I'm going!

(to Ben)

I'll set you up for tonight.

Ben nods.

BEN

Thanks, Twin.

Twin gives Ben dap and walks out the door.

INT. DINING ROOM - DAY

The dining room is dark, clearly closed.

Twin walks along the bar. Levi sits swirling a glass of
whiskey. He is hunched over. His head hangs.

Twin slides the plate onto the bar top.

TWIN

Alright, Mr. Levi. Here you go.

Levi doesn't react.

TWIN (CONT'D)

You alright Mr. Levi?

LEVI

This son of a bitch is going to ruin me.

TWIN

Who you talking about?

LEVI

He's gonna take everything I've worked for and run it straight into the ground.

Twin considers Levi's anguish.

TWIN

I think I might know someone who can help you out.

Levi looks up at Twin.

INT. LEO'S ROLLER WORLD - NIGHT

The polyurethane wheels of a pair of roller skates spin across the polished wooden floors of an indoor skating rink.

70s Boogie TUNES bump in the background.

The skates crisscross, spin, and twirl to the beat of the music. They step over each other to take a wide turn. We follow closely in front.

We move up from the skates, over a pair of long skinny black pants, and past a black and white striped referee jersey to reveal COUSIN PHOENIX. He has a large afro, pick sticking out, a cigarette stuck in his ear, and a black bag strapped to his back.

Young teens and preteens skate around him with a bit more difficulty. Phoenix points a finger across the rink.

COUSIN PHOENIX

No food or drinks on the rink,
assholes!

A small boy struggles to maintain balance stepping across the floor in the wrong direction.

Phoenix sweeps him up by the armpits.

COUSIN PHOENIX (CONT'D)

Wrong way, child.

He sets him down and spins past him. The boy's feet go out from under him and he plops to the floor.

Phoenix takes another lap around the roller rink, backwards nonetheless, and skids to an abrupt stops.

He holds a hand over his shoulder, and another uniformed employee indifferently slaps in and takes the rink.

At a concessions table, Ben waits. He is cleaned up, but still in his boots, cargo shorts, and a white shirt.

Phoenix glides over the carpet and sits down across from Ben.

COUSIN PHOENIX (CONT'D)

You Ben?

BEN

Yeah. Phoenix?

COUSIN PHOENIX

Cousin Phoenix.

BEN

Oh... Cousin Phoenix. Got it.

COUSIN PHOENIX

I used to have an uncle named Ben.

BEN

Cool.

COUSIN PHOENIX

He's dead now.

BEN

Oh man, I'm sorry.

COUSIN PHOENIX

He is too. So, Twin tells me you've got a 'problem' that needs to be taken care of.

INT. LEO'S ROLLER WORLD - NIGHT (45 MINUTES EARLIER)

Levi sits across from Phoenix in the same spot where Ben was.

SUPER: 45 Minutes Earlier

LEVI

Yeah, this man is going to ruin everything I've worked for. I need him gone.

COUSIN PHOENIX
 No problem, man. Killing a son of a
 bitch ain't as hard as you'd think.

INT. LEO'S ROLLER WORLD - NIGHT

Ben is taken back.

BEN
 What?

COUSIN PHOENIX
 You need to get rid of this guy...
 for good, right?

BEN
 I'm sorry. I thought you worked in
 law.

Cousin Phoenix lets out a loud laugh.

COUSIN PHOENIX
 I call it justice..

BEN
 I'm not sure what Twin told you-

INT. LEO'S ROLLER WORLD - NIGHT (45 MINUTES EARLIER)

Cousin Phoenix becomes serious. Discomfort spreads across
 Levi's face.

COUSIN PHEONIX
 Twin told me that if you don't get
 rid of this guy, you'll lose
 everything. Now, I've set this deal
 up so that everyone gets away clean.

Levi isn't sold, but he is interested.

INT. LEO'S ROLLER WORLD - NIGHT

Ben is not as interested. Mainly because he still isn't
 catching on.

COUSIN PHOENIX
 I have another client who's in the
 same hole you're in. And he has
 already agreed to take care of your
 problem. It's in the process right
 now. And this guy doesn't mess
 around.

BEN
 I'm not sure I--

COUSIN PHOENIX

I've been thinking. It's probably better if I don't give you the name of the sad asshole your sending down the drain. Unless, you want to know it. I find it easier if you don't.

BEN

I'm not sending anyone down the drain! I'm sorry Mr. Phoenix, this isn't exactly what I had in mind.

Ben goes to stand up. Phoenix grabs his arm.

COUSIN PHOENIX

This isn't a game, Sally! The wheels are already turning! This shit is going down tonight! This other guy. Man, he will mess you up! Tie you up, chop your ears off, all that scary shit!

Ben sits back down.

COUSIN PHOENIX (CONT'D)

Twin sent me you two guys in the same desperate ass situation-- You kill his guy, he kills yours. No motive. No connection. It's clean. It's perfect. I'll need a middle man fee of course not to mention the price of a piece, but that'll come later.

INT. LEO'S ROLLER WORLD - NIGHT (45 MINUTES EARLIER)

Phoenix lights up his cigarette regaining his cool.

LEVI

Can you smoke in here?

Phoenix glares Levi for questioning his authority.

COUSIN PHOENIX

So, as of now, you've got two options, my man. A: You don't do it. You pass on your end of the deal. This other motherfucker will have killed your man. And you gotta understand, he is a low class, blue collar nobody. He's got nothing to lose. Those are the ones you've got to be scared of.

Levi believes Phoenix's every word.

INT. LEO'S ROLLER WORLD - NIGHT

Ben looks around like a trapped animal.

COUSIN PHOENIX

And you gotta understand, he is a top notch, white collar business man. He's got everything to lose. Those are the ones you've got to be scared of. And after he finds out you didn't follow through, he'll come for you. He'll kill you, and your-- you got kids?

BEN

No.

COUSIN PHOENIX

Gotta girlfriend?

BEN

No.

COUSIN PHOENIX

You got anything, man?

BEN

A dog.

COUSIN PHOENIX

He'll kill your damn dog, too, man!
Or...

INT. LEO'S ROLLER WORLD - NIGHT (45 MINUTES EARLIER)

Phoenix pulls a brown bag out of his bag and sets it on the table. It lands with a heavy CLUNK.

COUSIN PHOENIX

You take this. You go hose a stranger who doesn't deserve to live as it is. No chance of getting caught.

INT. LEO'S ROLLER WORLD - NIGHT

Ben looks up from the bag to Phoenix.

COUSIN PHOENIX

You wake up, get to keep your house, your life, and your little doggy. Not a bad trade.

Cousin Phoenix slides the bag across the table.

COUSIN PHOENIX (CONT'D)

So what's it gonna be?

INT. LEO'S ROLLER WORLD - NIGHT (45 MINUTES EARLIER)

Levi eyes the package. He picks it up and studies it.

COUSIN PHOENIX

There's a silencer in there, too.

INT. LEO'S ROLLER WORLD - NIGHT

Ben turns the package over.

COUSIN PHOENIX

I said, what's it gonna be?

Ben looks up at the criminal.

EXT. CLUBHOUSE - NIGHT

The parking lot is empty, except one 1984 red Mazda RX-7 sports car.

Bocage is dark.

INT. BOCAGE CLUBHOUSE - NIGHT

Elliott locks the front doors to the clubhouse. Almost all of the main lights are off.

White light from the tennis pro shop leaks into the foyer.

Elliott walks to the pro shop, opens the door, and cuts the lights.

ELIZABETH (O.S.)

Hey! I'm in here.

ELLIOTT

Oh, I'm sorry.

He flips the lights back on and looks into the pro shop.

ELIZABETH (O.S.)

Thank you!

Elliott walks into the shop towards the voice. Throughout the shop are an array of boxes and misplaced items. Inventory time.

He finds Elizabeth restocking a shelf of tennis balls. Her hair is back and a clipboard is at her side.

ELLIOTT
Sorry. I thought everyone left.

ELIZABETH
Nope, still here.

Elizabeth continues her work as Elliott talks to her.

ELLIOTT
What are you doing?

ELIZABETH
Inventory. Gotta count everything
in here before tomorrow.

ELLIOTT
Wow. That must be boring.

ELIZABETH
Yeah, you're pretty observant.

ELLIOTT
Well, hey, I'm Elliott Roberts. I'm
the new owner of Bocage.

ELIZABETH
Yeah, I heard someone was taking
over.

ELLIOTT
Yeah, that's me. There are going to
be a lot of changes around here.
I'm sure you've got some opinions
about how things are run.

ELIZABETH
That's for sure.

ELLIOTT
We should chat about it sometime.

ELIZABETH
Alright. Yeah, sure.

ELLIOTT
...What's your name?

ELIZABETH
Elizabeth.

ELLIOTT
...You're really cute.

Elizabeth pauses from her work.

ELLIOTT (CONT'D)

I'm just surprised a girl like you
is working in the pro shop...

She avoids his gaze.

ELLIOTT (CONT'D)

You deserve better than this. Or at
least better pay.

ELIZABETH

You don't even know how much I make.

ELLIOTT

No, but why don't you come up to my
office and we can discuss it. Maybe
make a deal.

Elizabeth looks up at Elliott sternly. He holds up both
hands in defense.

ELLIOTT (CONT'D)

Okay. Okay.

Elliott backs out towards the exit with a smile.

ELLIOTT (CONT'D)

The offer still stands whenever you're
ready.

EXT. GOLF COURSE - NIGHT

The number 9, printed on a polyester flag, waves in the night
wind.

Ben sneaks up to a small wooden box at the foot of the green
hill. He unlatches the top and reaches in. He turns a
squeaky faucet, and looks out at the green.

We hear the water rush underneath the ground and the
sprinklers come to life.

EXT. JACKSON'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Levi sits in his black sedan in a low-income neighborhood.
He looks at a house across the street. A low chain link
fence surrounds the front lawn, if you could call the dust,
weeds, and spare tire a lawn.

He unpins his Brass name tag (LEVI LEMOINE, CLUB PRESIDENT)
and sets it on the dash.

Levi looks down at the brown bag in the passenger seat.

INT. JACKSON'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Jackson reclines on a large bean bag chair and devours a bowl of Captain Crunch.

His living room is a weed-smoking, shroom-tripping mecca. Overlapping rugs cover the floor, posters of psychedelic images hang from the walls, and textile tapestries drape from the ceiling.

Along every shelf and windowsill candles of all shapes and sizes glow and flicker.

In the corner of the living room, a chameleon crawls along a rock under a heat lamp.

Jackson watches the tube mindlessly as he pours another bowl of cereal.

EXT. JACKSON'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Levi screws the silencer onto the handgun.

He looks down at the weapon in his hand. He looks at the name slate on his dash.

He reaches for the handle and slides out of the car.

INT. LEVI'S OFFICE - NIGHT

The desk lamps dimly light the office. Elliott sits behind the desk with his sleeves rolled up punching numbers into a calculator.

He looks through budgetary paperwork on the desk. He marks through figures and reduces them. \$7,000 becomes \$5,500. \$12,000 becomes \$10,750.

He punches more numbers into his calculator.

The phone on the desk RINGS, catching him off guard. It RINGS again.

ELLIOTT
Elizabeth! Can you get that?!

ELIZABETH (O.S.)
That line is only to your office!

ELLIOTT
Oh. Right.

He eyes the phone for a moment then returns to his work. It continues to RING.

INT. POOL HOUSE - NIGHT

Ben sits at the bar before large glass windows on the second floor of the pool house. The large open ballroom and bar space is completely dark.

The cord of a phone stretches from behind the bar.

Ben holds the handset up to his ear as he hears the tones of his unanswered call ring off. The voicemail clicks on. Ben sighs in relief and hangs up.

He looks across the pool at the clubhouse.

Elliott's figure can be seen hunched over the desk.

Next to Ben, a beam of light falls over the bar stool, Cousin Phoenix appears in a almost spiritual form.

COUSIN PHOENIX

After he finds out you didn't follow
through, he'll come for you. He'll
kill you.

Ben's relief quickly fades.

Cousin Phoenix's spirit fades away and the room is dark again.

Ben reluctantly reaches over the bar and dials a number on the phone.

EXT. JACKSON'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Levi sneaks around the side of the house. The narrow yard is overgrown with tall grass and weeds.

He peers through a side window. Jackson is still lounging in his bean bag. A blue baja jacket hangs over his skinny frame.

Levi keeps the gun low as he circles to the back of the house. He surveys his surroundings. No witnesses in sight.

The back yard is a wasteland. A bed of dirt with sparse patches of grass opens up to the back alley.

A rusted away bike frame leans on the wooden fence. Half of the planks are missing or broken.

On one side of the lot, an old 1972 Gremlin is parked.

Concrete steps lead up to the back door. Levi steps to the door and presses his ear against the peeling paint. He spots a crowbar leaning against the exterior wall.

Levi tucks the gun in the back of his pants. He quietly grabs the crowbar and situates it between the door and frame.

Just before he leans any weight into the bar, a curiosity grows in his eyes.

He tries for the doorknob, the door cracks open. Figures.

INT. LEVI'S OFFICE - NIGHT

The phone RINGS. Elliott runs his fingers through his hair in frustration.

The phone RINGS again. He picks up.

ELLIOTT

Hello?

INT. POOL HOUSE - NIGHT

Ben watches Elliott from the dark room. He is surprised at the sound of Elliott's voice.

ELLIOTT (V.O.)

(over phone,
impatiently)

Hello...?

BEN

Hello.

INT. LEVI'S OFFICE/POOL HOUSE - NIGHT

Their conversation continues.

INTERCUT:

ELLIOTT

I think you have the wrong number.

BEN

No, no, no.

Ben puts on what he believes to be an upper class voice.

BEN (CONT'D)

Uh. Yes. This is Mr. uh... This is Mr. Phoenix.

ELLIOTT

Well, I don't know any--

BEN

I live behind hole 9. Right behind the green--

ELLIOTT

Okay.

BEN

Yeah. And the sprinklers have been running all night. I'm having a very difficult time sleeping.

ELLIOTT

The sprinklers are keeping you up? I'm sure they will shut off on their own anytime.

Elliott almost hangs up.

BEN

No! No, I don't think so. Hole nine's sprinklers only run weekdays at 5am, and weekends at 10pm.

Ben begins to slip back into his normal voice.

BEN (CONT'D)

Unless someone forgets to reset the timers every Sunday. Which only happened once, and it wasn't really even their fault. Because it was really supposed to rain that week. I mean like they said 100%, but you know how--

ELLIOTT

Sir! Sir! I'm not sure what you are getting at.

Ben puts his voice back on.

BEN

I am a very loyal member of Bocage and I need you to personally turn off these sprinklers... on hole 9...immediately. They have been running all night and are probably going to ruin the green. Grass that short can easily be suffocated by that much water. It will take months to recover, especially this time of year. Not to mention--

ELLIOTT

Mr. Phoenix! Please. I will go take care of the sprinklers. Please, just... just try to get some sleep.

BEN

Thank you.

ELLIOTT

Alright. Take care.

Elliott hangs up the phone. He lets out a breath, exhausted from the conversation.

INT. JACKSON'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Levi creeps slowly through the kitchen towards the living room. The sounds of a reality TV show mask his footsteps.

The room is dark. The lamps and candles from the living room drop light onto the kitchen floor.

Levi keeps close to one side of the kitchen. He leans into the light to scope out the living room. He sees the back of Jackson's head. Levi pulls the gun out pointing it straight up.

He presses his back up against the wall next to the opening between the kitchen and living room. He holds the handgun with two hands against his chest.

Cousin Phoenix appears in a column of light.

COUSIN PHOENIX

He is a low class, blue collar nobody.
He's got nothing to lose. Those are
the ones you've got to be scared of.
You don't do this. He's coming for
your ass.

Levi takes in Phoenix's words.

EXT. GOLF COURSE - NIGHT

Hole 9. The sprinklers spit out water across the green.

Elliott paces down the fairway.

From the side of the course, Ben watches from behind a tree. The gun hangs in his hand at his side.

Elliott walks past Ben and approaches the green.

He stops, just outside the sprinklers' range.

Ben stares at his mission. Cousin Phoenix appears in a glow just behind him.

COUSIN PHOENIX

He'll kill your damn dog, too!

Ben's determination grows.

Elliott looks around at the sprinklers. He has no idea how to shut them off.

Ben steps out from behind the tree and walks with commitment towards Elliott.

INT. JACKSON'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Levi drops the gun to his side and steps into the opening leading into the living room. He looks down at the back of Jackson's head. He raises the loaded weapon and takes aim.

The stainless steel silencer is only a few feet from the back of Jackson's crown.

The chameleon watches silently from its terrarium.

EXT. GOLF COURSE - NIGHT

Elliott crosses his arms in annoyance. Ben approaches from behind him.

Ben raises his gun to Elliott.

INT. JACKSON'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Jackson stares at the television and shovels cereal into his mouth. He is clueless that if he turned around, he would be staring down a barrel.

Levi's finger gently touches the trigger.

EXT. GOLF COURSE - NIGHT

Ben speeds up his walk; his gun is pointed directly at Elliott's head.

He winces away from the gun, holding it as far away from himself as possible. The gun trembles in his hand. He can't do it. He quickly drops his arm by his side.

Elliott admits defeat from the sprinklers and slowly turns around towards Ben. Ben quickly hides the gun behind his back.

INT. JACKSON'S HOUSE - NIGHT

A moment before Levi pulls the trigger: A KNOCK at the kitchen door.

Levi panics and ducks into the bathroom adjacent to the kitchen. The bathroom is lit up with candles of all colors and shapes.

EXT. GOLF COURSE - NIGHT

Elliott is startled by Ben. Ben still hosts an arm behind his back.

ELLIOTT

Oh my God!

Elliott composes himself as he quickly classifies Ben as a non-threat.

ELLIOTT (CONT'D)

Who the hell are you?

Ben slowly tucks in gun in the back of his shorts.

INT. JACKSON'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Levi holds completely still and listens from the bathroom.

Jackson's eyes are stilled glued to the television.

JACKSON

Come in!

From the bathroom, Elliott hears the door swing open and footsteps travel across the floor. One of Jackson's friend's voice (CARRY) can be heard through the bathroom door.

CARRY (O.S.)

Yo, let's go!

Jackson doesn't stir from his chair.

JACKSON

Hold on, man. I'm watching this shit.

Carry, in baggy clothes with a black backpack, crosses the living room and turns off the TV.

JACKSON (CONT'D)

Yo! What the hell?

CARRY

The guy just left his house. I don't know when he is going to be back. We gotta hit it now!

JACKSON

Did you pick up the piece?

Carry unzips his backpack and pulls out a 9 mm handgun. Jackson appreciates the weapon with awe.

CARRY

Now, let's go!

JACKSON

Alright, man. Calm down. I gotta go the bathroom, then we can leave.

Levi's eyes widen. He pulls away from the door and looks for an exit. The window.

CARRY

Fine. Hurry up.

Jackson struggles out of the bean bag and tosses his cereal bowl in the sink.

Levi slides the window open slowly and begins to climb out.

Jackson grabs the bathroom door knob.

CARRY (CONT'D)

Wait!

This stops Levi in his tracks for a moment. Levi continues but more slowly. On his way out, he knocks over a candle. The flame lands on the window's long white curtains.

CARRY (CONT'D)

Are you going number one or number two?

Levi flips out the window and lands on his back with a THUD.

JACKSON

Two.

CARRY

Dude, we don't have time for that. Let's go!

EXT. JACKSON'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Levi lies on his back, the breath knocked out of him. He takes uncontrollable, quick, shallow breaths trying to recover.

Jackson and Carry hop out the back door and down the concrete steps only a few yards from Levi.

If they had looked, Levi would have been right in their sights.

The Gremlin sputters to life, and the headlights illuminate the back of Jackson's house.

INT. JACKSON'S HOUSE - NIGHT

The white curtains of the bathroom windows catch fire. The flame grows with strong signs of life.

The chameleon licks its eye.

EXT. GOLF COURSE - NIGHT

Ben stands on trial before Elliott.

BEN

I um... I received a call about the sprinklers. I'm Ben, I'm the greenskeeper here.

ELLIOTT

Right. Well, turn these things off. If you are the greenskeeper, it's probably your fault they came on in the first place.

Elliott stares deeply into Ben's eyes.

BEN

Right.

ELLIOTT

Do I know you from somewhere?

BEN

I don't think so.

Elliott takes a moment to ponder where he may have seen the man before.

He shrugs it off and walks past Ben. Ben keeps his eyes fixed on him and turns slowly as Elliott walks by to avoid revealing the gun tucked in the back of his shorts.

ELLIOTT

Everything okay?

Ben starts walking backwards towards the green.

BEN

Yeah, I'm just going to go turn off those sprinklers.

Elliott gives him a bizarre look, turns, and continues back to the clubhouse.

INT. LEVI'S CAR - NIGHT

Levi plops back into the leather chair. He is relieved and exhausted. His venture could have been worse, but it was still unsuccessful.

He opens his glove box and throws the gun inside.

He takes a moment for his heartbeat to settle.

EXT. CLUBHOUSE - NIGHT

Ben walks quickly down the side of the club house. His heart is still racing from the close call.

He pulls the gun out from his shorts. He examines the weapon for only a second before he rounds the corner and runs into someone.

ELIZABETH

Woah!

Elizabeth drops her keys.

ELIZABETH (CONT'D)

Oh, Ben.

She bends down to pick them up.

ELIZABETH (CONT'D)

What are you doing here?

She sees the gun.

ELIZABETH (CONT'D)

Oh my god! Jesus. What are you doing?

He looks up at her guiltily.

BEN

I'm in a lot of trouble.

Elizabeth scans their surroundings.

ELIZABETH

We should go inside.

BEN

No, No. Not here. I just- I-

Ben lifts his hands to his head. The gun pointing in all directions. Elizabeth grabs the gun and takes it from Ben.

ELIZABETH
 Woah! Woah! Watch it, you're gonna
 kill someone.

A thought floods Ben's mind.

BEN
 Oh no.

ELIZABETH
 What?

BEN
 ...Jackson.

EXT. BOCAGE STREET - NIGHT

The beat up Gremlin speeds down the suburban road. It halts
 to a stop and parks on the curb.

Jackson and Carry hop out of the car.

JACKSON
 Which house is it?

CARRY
 This way.

Carry and Jackson sneak down a driveway of an extravagant
 home.

They arrive at the wooden fence along the back of the
 driveway.

CARRY (CONT'D)
 Gimme a boost.

Jackson weaves his fingers together and lowers his hands.
 Carry throws his foot into the hold, and Jackson pushes him
 up. Carry hops the fence and lands with stealth.

He looks around the yard.

CARRY (CONT'D)
 Alright, coast is clear.

JACKSON
 How am I supposed to get over there?

CARRY
 With your arms and legs, you lazy
 shit.

Carry explores the area as Jackson struggles to scale the 8
 foot fence.

Jackson rolls over the top and lands with a THUD.

CARRY (CONT'D)

Shhhh. You're going to get us caught.

Jackson stands up and brushes the dirt off of his pants. He observes the yard around them.

It is extremely narrow and disproportionally long. It is filled with extravagant garden work.

Jackson stands next to a garden statue of a dog. It only has three legs.

JACKSON

What the hell; this is Ben's house.

CARRY

Who's Ben?

JACKSON

My half-brother.

CARRY

That asshole you told me about?

JACKSON

Yeah. We can't raid his place.

CARRY

Why not? You told me he was a complete dick.

JACKSON

Well, yeah he can be...

CARRY

Don't back out on me now, Jackson.

JACKSON

Why don't we hit one of these other places. They're way nicer.

CARRY

Cause man, all those other houses have like hardcore security systems.

Jackson looks around the gardens unconvinced.

CARRY (CONT'D)

Are you being a little bitch?

Jackson grows angry.

JACKSON

No.

CARRY

Are you a little bitch, Jackson?

JACKSON

No, I just--

CARRY

Oh, look at poor little Jackson.
The little bitch who couldn't ever
man up.

Jackson kicks the other front leg off of the dog statue. It falls face down into the ground.

JACKSON

Okay. Let's go.

A smile grows across Carry's face.

EXT. BOCAGE ESTATES STREETS - NIGHT

Just outside the entrance to the country club, Ben's bike is locked to a light post. The child trailer is still attached to the back. Jake lays in the trailer patiently.

A well-used soft-top jeep rolls out of the Bocage Country Club entrance and stops before the bike.

Ben opens the passenger door and whistles sharply.

BEN

Come on, Jake.

INT. JEEP - NIGHT

Elizabeth drives the vehicle, smoothly shifting through the gears.

Jake awkwardly sits on Ben's lap.

ELIZABETH

So you put a hit out on Jackson to
get your step-dad's money?

Ben cringes.

BEN

...Yeah.

EXT. BOCAGE ESTATES STREET - NIGHT

The entrance to the Bocage neighborhood is extravagant. Beautiful landscaping surrounds two illuminated stone relieves bearing the Bocage name.

A curving boulevard leads out of the rows of mansions onto a four lane highway.

The jeep rolls down the boulevard and stops at the intersection. No cars out this late at night. The jeep drives over the highway and into Broadmoor Heights, a complete contrast to Bocage evident by the decaying sign and much more economical houses. A slum in comparison.

INT. JEEP - NIGHT

Ben navigates from the passenger seat.

BEN
Take a right here.

Jake licks Elizabeth's face.

ELIZABETH
Did he have to come?

BEN
He gets lonely... take this next right.

As Elizabeth turns the corner, their faces are illuminated by a glowing orange and flashing red.

EXT. JACKSON'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Half of Jackson's house is up in flames the other half is charred. Two fire trucks are parked before the house.

Fire fighters extinguish the remaining fire.

INT. JEEP - NIGHT

Ben, Elizabeth, and Jake gaze in disbelief.

EXT. JACKSON'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Elizabeth's jeep pulls up and parks on the other side of the street. She and Ben stare at the scene.

Two FIRE FIGHTERS casually watch their colleagues handle the fire.

FIRE FIGHTER 1
Yeah, it looked like it was a
chameleon. Big guy.

Ben climbs out of the jeep, and holds Jake back as he closes
the door.

BEN
Stay here, buddy.

Ben walks in a trance-like state towards the Fire Fighters.
He stops just a few feet behind them. They don't notice.

FIRE FIGHTER 2
So he was burnt up pretty good?

This catches Ben's attention.

FIRE FIGHTER 1
Oh yeah. Crispy. Poor guy didn't
stand a chance. Dead as they get.

FIRE FIGHTER 2
That's too bad.

Ben grows pale, and takes a step back towards the jeep.

FIRE FIGHTER 1
Yep. Nothing he could do. I mean,
he definitely didn't start the fire.

FIRE FIGHTER 2
Oh boy. Probably couldn't get out,
and just sizzled up right there.

FIRE FIGHTER 1
That's just a tragedy.

At that, Ben runs back to the jeep.

The Fire Fighter (2) holds up the completely black, burnt
chameleon.

FIRE FIGHTER 2
You ever eaten lizard?

INT. JEEP - NIGHT

Ben hops back into the jeep.

ELIZABETH
What happened?

BEN

(numbly)
They killed him. He's burnt to a
crisp.

ELIZABETH

Oh my God. Ben.

BEN

Jackson... he wasn't a bad kid. He
didn't deserve this.

Ben straps the seat belt over Jake and himself.

BEN (CONT'D)

I need to go home.

ELIZABETH

Do you want-

BEN

Please take me and Jake home.

EXT. JACKSON'S HOUSE - NIGHT

The jeep pulls off leaving the glowing street. Only a moment
later, the old Gremlin pulls in and takes its spot.

Jackson hops out of the car. He stares at the dying flames.

JACKSON

Oh shit. God dammit! God dammit,
man!

Carry climbs out of the car.

CARRY

No way... Man that sucks; my wallet
was in there.

Jackson falls back against his car.

EXT. BEN'S HOUSE - NIGHT

The small house is calm. Elizabeth and Ben pull up. Without
a word, Ben slides out of the jeep, forgetting to close the
door, and walks towards his house. Jake hops out and follows
at his heel.

ELIZABETH

Hey!

Ben continues towards his front door.

She hops out, closes his door, and catches up to him.

ELIZABETH (CONT'D)

Ben!

She catches up at the front porch. He has his keys in the door. She grabs his arm and turns him towards her.

ELIZABETH (CONT'D)

Ben. Look, I know this thing seems out of control right now. But, it's going to be okay.

BEN

It's not. Jackson's dead. I killed him.

ELIZABETH

Hey! You didn't kill him, okay. Listen to me. You're not a murderer. Somebody else did this.

BEN

Yes! And I was supposed to kill Elliott! And now, they're gonna come kill me.

ELIZABETH

You don't know who this guy is, right?

BEN

So.

ELIZABETH

So, they probably don't know who you are.

Ben ponders the idea.

BEN

Yeah.

He gently nods his head.

BEN (CONT'D)

Yeah. They don't know who I am. I mean, we kept it anonymous.

He turns his keys and opens his door.

BEN (CONT'D)

We intentionally kept it anonymous for this reason. Maybe they won't come looking for me.

INT. BEN'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Ben and Elizabeth step inside his house. Ben hits the switch. All hope falls off of their faces as they see the inside of the house.

Everything is tossed and overturned like a hurricane came through.

His TV, radio, and everything else of any value is missing.

Jake lets out a faint whimper.

EXT. JACKSON'S HOUSE - NIGHT

The fire fighters have left. The house is a black skeleton.

Jackson and Carry sit on the front lawn.

CARRY

So, what are we going to do with all of the stuff?

JACKSON

I thought we could leave it at your house.

CARRY

Are you kidding me, man? We can't bring stolen merchandise into my house. My mom will kill me.

JACKSON

Dammit, Carry. We gotta put it somewhere.

CARRY

What about your brother's house?

JACKSON

You mean the house we just robbed?

CARRY

Yeah- Oh wait... Shit, that wouldn't work.

Jackson lets out a frustrated sigh.

CARRY (CONT'D)

Alright, we can go to my house. We'd be going back into Bocage though. You'll just have to park your car in the garage. We can't bring anything in.

Jackson nods. The two goons stand up and walk towards the Gremlin.

CARRY (CONT'D)

What time is it?

JACKSON

I don't know, probably a little past midnight.

CARRY

I'm screwed. She's gonna kill me.

INT. BEN'S HOUSE - LATER

Ben paces back and forth in his living room. Elizabeth and Jake sit on the couch, most of its cushions scattered on the floor. Jake rests his head on her lap.

BEN

I'm screwed! This guy is going to kill me.

ELIZABETH

Maybe we should just call the police.

BEN

What?! No, no, no. I'm a part of this thing. I'm-

ELIZABETH

You're an accessory.

BEN

Yes. Exactly. Phoenix said this guy is high up. Like white collar. Business.

Ben sits on the table which once hosted his television.

Elizabeth strokes Jake's head.

The room is silent as Ben quietly weighs his options.

BEN (CONT'D)

I have to kill him.

ELIZABETH

You don't even know who he is.

BEN

No, not him. Elliott. If I kill Elliott, this guy will have no reason to come for me. I made a deal. I have to do it.

Elizabeth expresses her concern, but has no rebuttal.

BEN (CONT'D)

I have to.

EXT. ROBERTS HOUSE - NIGHT

The mansion is illuminated by garden lights. The moving truck still sits outside. The furniture still litters the lawn.

Elliott's Mazda is parked in the remaining space of the driveway.

Elizabeth and Ben slowly roll up in her jeep. She cuts the engine and lights.

INT. JEEP - NIGHT

They sit quietly in the vehicle.

ELIZABETH

Are you sure about this?

BEN

Not really...

She nods.

BEN (CONT'D)

Liz, you shouldn't be helping me. This is dangerous. You could get hurt.

ELIZABETH

I'll be fine.

BEN

Yeah, but, a girl like you shouldn't--

ELIZABETH

Ben, shut up. I'm a big girl. I'm helping you because you're a good guy... and Elliott's a dick... and 'cause I want to.

A beat.

BEN

Okay. Well... I'll be right back, I guess.

EXT. ROBERTS HOUSE - NIGHT

Ben sneaks between the large bushes and the stone wall of the house.

He circles around the back. The electric blue shimmer from a large swimming pool shines on his face. Beyond the pool is the Bocage golf course.

He moves along the patio staying close to the wall.

He peers into the back windows. Appears empty.

Staying low, he creeps to the french doors. He tries the brass handle. Bingo.

INT. ROBERTS HOUSE DOWNSTAIRS - NIGHT

Ben cautiously steps into the victorian living room. A set of stairs wrap along two of the walls. Antique furniture surrounds a large fireplace.

He quietly paces across the polished wood floors. Pictures of "old rich" family members line the walls. Polo matches. Tennis tournaments. Family portraits in posh attire.

He moves into the dining room. A long stained oak table stretches across the room. The large rug lets Ben move faster without making a sound.

He pushes open the door to the kitchen. It is brightly illuminated. White tiles cover the floor and walls.

Ben freezes. On the other side of the kitchen, an over-weight maid, SABRINA, rests on a fold-out chair staring lifelessly at a small countertop television.

The television is silent. Headphones stretch over her head.

Ben slowly retreats.

He moves out of the dining room and back into the living room.

He cautiously climbs the stairs.

INT. ROBERTS HOUSE UPSTAIRS - NIGHT

At the top of the stairs, a long corridor stretches in both directions. Light from an open door falls onto the floor. Ben approaches the light.

Before he gets to the door, something grabs his attention on an end table. He curiously picks up a picture frame.

The picture is of David and Margot (from the opening flashback). They stand on a court in full tennis attire and hold a trophy together. A banner behind them reads:

ADULT + YOUTH

DOUBLES TENNIS

TOURNAMENT

1955

The black and white photo captivates Ben. On David's wrists are the pink sweatbands. They read: LOVE ALL.

Ben is entranced.

EXT. ROBERTS HOUSE - NIGHT

Elizabeth waits in the Jeep talking to Jake.

ELIZABETH

Sometimes, I wish I was a dog. ...I know, I know. I'm sure you wish you were a human sometimes. If we could switch though, I'm not sure you would still think that. ...We create a lot of problems for ourselves.

Her face is suddenly illuminated by a set of headlights. She looks up.

A Gremlin speeds down the street towards her.

The car whips into the driveway across the street from the Roberts house.

Elizabeth watches closely as the car pulls into the garage.

The ENGINE cuts off.

She continues to observe carefully.

The garage door RATTLES to a start and begins to close.

Jackson and Carry dip out of the garage and walk to the side door. Carry begins to unlock the door.

CARRY

Jackson, I swear to God if you wake her up, I'm gonna kill you.

JACKSON

I won't, come on.

CARRY
I'm serious man.

JACKSON
Dude, we're good.

Carry opens the door and the two walk in.

Elizabeth watches from the jeep, her brow drops.

ELIZABETH
(to self)
Jackson?

INT. ROBERTS HOUSE UPSTAIRS - NIGHT

Ben slowly peeks into a master bedroom. Across the room, double doors open to a balcony overlooking the golf course.

Ben moves into the room. It appears empty. He studies the room.

A grand oak wardrobe stands tall and exquisite. A golf putter leans against the wall. On the bedside table, a glass of water sits next to a dropper bottle.

Ben parks himself on the bed, sets the gun down, and examines the bottle.

In bold letters it reads: SLEEP AID.

He squeezes out a few drops into the glass of water. The clear liquid blends in. Undetectable.

He unscrews the dropper piece and smells the contents. Nothing special.

A FLUSH churns from behind the closed door.

Ben looks about the room for a hiding spot. He sets the sleep aid back on the table and rolls under the bed.

He slides back out, reaches up, grabs the gun, and returns under the bed just as Elliott steps out of the bathroom.

Elliott lumbers over to the bed and plops down, his feet only inches from Ben's face.

EXT. ROBERTS HOUSE - NIGHT

Elizabeth slides between the bushes and house following the same path as Ben.

ELIZABETH
(whispering)
Ben. ...Ben!

She struggles through the brush.

INT. ROBERTS HOUSE UPSTAIRS - NIGHT

Elliott picks up the sleep aid and goes to squeeze a few drops. The cap falls off and all of the liquid pours into the glass.

ELLIOTT
Oh, shit.

Elliott studies the water, shrugs off the dangers and downs the pint.

He stands and sets the empty glass only a couple of feet from Ben's face.

Elliott's socks tread across the carpet. He grabs the putter.

Ben is motionless beneath the bed.

INT. ROBERTS HOUSE DOWNSTAIRS - NIGHT

Elizabeth enters the dining room and tip toes across the rug.

She pushes open the door to the kitchen, spots the maid watching TV, and quickly shuts the door.

INT. ROBERTS HOUSE UPSTAIRS - NIGHT

Three golf balls drop to the floor across from the glass. Elliott lines up his putt.

Ben holds still, not making a sound.

Elliott taps the ball. It skids across the carpet and bounces into the glass. CLINK.

INT. ROBERTS HOUSE DOWNSTAIRS - NIGHT

Elizabeth sneaks up the stairs. She takes each step with stealth.

INT. ROBERTS HOUSE UPSTAIRS - NIGHT

Elliott lines up his next shot. He shifts his feet and straightens his back. He rests the club's head behind the ball.

Elizabeth peers into the bedroom. Elliott is turned away concentrating on his putt. She quickly pulls her head back into the hallway.

She moves down to the base of the door frame and looks back in.

She spots Ben under the bed. They make eye contact.

Elliott putts the ball. It rolls across the room and pops in to join the other.

Ben glares at Elizabeth

ELIZABETH
(mouthing silently)
Don't do it!

He doesn't understand.

ELIZABETH (CONT'D)
(mouthing silently)
Don't. Do not.

Elliott lines up for the last ball.

Elizabeth tries one last word.

ELIZABETH (CONT'D)
(mouthing silently)
Jackson. Jack-son.

No luck. Ben has no idea what she is talking about.

Elliott strikes the ball. It skids across the floor. The ball hits the edge of the glass and rolls under the bed. It stops only millimeters from Ben's nose.

Ben's eyes grow wide. He tightens his grip on the gun.

Elliott walks across the room and picks up the glass and first two golf balls.

Elizabeth shakes her head at Ben, but he isn't paying attention anymore.

He points the gun forward towards Elliott's feet. His eyes water and grow red. He has to do this.

Elliott gets down on his knees.

Ben sets his finger on the trigger. He could blow out his knees, but he's going for the kill.

Elliott bends to look under the bed...

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

Hey!

Elliott turns around.

Elizabeth stands at the door. She is still in her bocage uniform.

ELLIOTT

Elizabeth? What are you doing?

He gets to his feet and walks to the doorway, stumbling slightly.

ELIZABETH

I... um...
(seductively)
thought we could talk about that
raise.

ELLIOTT

(slurred)
Really? How about we discuss it over
some wine. Sabrina!

Elizabeth jumps nearly covering Elliott's mouth, but then restrains herself.

The slur surprises Elliott. He blinks trying to regain his composure.

ELIZABETH

There's no need to do that. I figured
we could...

Elizabeth loses her train of thought as Elliott's eyes begin to relax and he starts to sway.

ELIZABETH (CONT'D)

Are you okay?

His eyes roll back and close. He collapses and hits the floor. Hard.

ELIZABETH (CONT'D)

Oh my god.

Ben rolls out from under the bed.

BEN

(dryly)
He's drugged.

ELIZABETH

What?

BEN

Sleep-aid.

He points to the bottle on the table.

ELIZABETH

What'd you do that for?

BEN

It was an accident. And technically he did it himself.

SABRINA (O.S.)

Mr. Roberts?!

BEN

Shit. Come on. Help me carry him.

Ben sets the gun on the top of the tall wardrobe.

They each wrap one of Elliott's arms around their necks and carry him upright. His feet drag along the carpet.

ELIZABETH

Aren't we putting him in the bed.

BEN

No, no. This way.

They pull him out to the balcony. They look down. A straight drop onto the concrete patio.

BEN (CONT'D)

Okay, let's throw him over. That'll definitely kill him.

ELIZABETH

Wait. No. This is what I was trying to tell you. Jackson is still alive.

BEN

What?!

ELIZABETH

Yeah, I'm pretty sure I saw him across the street.

BEN

That's Carry's house. Yeah.

From the hallway...

SABRINA (O.S.)

Mr. Roberts?

ELIZABETH

What do we do?

INT. ROBERTS HOUSE UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - NIGHT

Sabrina, walks through the upstairs hallway.

She turns into the bedroom. From the door she can see the silhouette of Elliott. He is leaning on the rail of the balcony overlooking the golf course.

Elizabeth and Ben stand on the porch, their backs up against the wall. Elliott is sloppily propped up against the rail. A golf putter wedged between the rail and his chin supports his upper body.

SABRINA

Did you call me, sir?

He doesn't respond.

Sabrina approaches the still body.

SABRINA (CONT'D)

Mr. Roberts? Are you okay?

She takes another cautious step forward.

Elliott begins to slip. His upper body falls forward and he flips over the balcony.

Sabrina screams. She runs to the balcony and looks over the rail.

Elliott's lifeless body lies on the ground.

She steps away from the railing. Ben and Elizabeth are just behind her, in plain sight.

If she turns around, they're caught.

She faints, stiffly falling back and landing directly between them.

Elizabeth and Ben look down at Sabrina and then at each other.

INT. ELIZABETH'S HOUSE - NIGHT

It's a small apartment, nothing romantic about it. A bright streetlight illuminates the living space through the blinds.

An all-in-one kitchen, dining, and living room. A door to her bedroom and a door to the bathroom. This is Elizabeth's apartment. It's simple, it's lonely. A little like her.

The door unlocks, and she walks in. Ben and Jake follow behind her. Ben slides off his boots at the door.

ELIZABETH

The couch doesn't fold out, but it's pretty comfortable. ...I'll grab some blankets.

Elizabeth turns on a lamp and disappears into her bedroom.

Ben sits down on the couch. He sinks in. It feels good to be off his feet.

Jake hobbles around the apartment sniffing out the new territory.

Elizabeth returns with a small stack of blankets and a pillow.

ELIZABETH (CONT'D)

Here you go. This should keep you warm. Does Jake need anything?

BEN

Nah, he'll be alright. I like your place.

ELIZABETH

Thanks. It's small, but it's cheap. It lets me save up.

Ben sets the stack of blankets next to him. Elizabeth sits on the lounge chair next to the couch.

ELIZABETH (CONT'D)

I'm saving for a real house. Somewhere away from here, maybe out west.

BEN

You don't like it here?

ELIZABETH

No, it's okay. I'm just tired of it. I can only handle so much Bocage.

Ben puts his feet up on the couch.

BEN

What do you mean?

ELIZABETH

I've been working at the pro shop for 6 years. It's not really where I expected to be at this point in my life.

BEN

I've never really left Bocage.

ELIZABETH

What do you mean "never"?

BEN

I mean I've never been further than a couple miles outside of the neighborhood. I grew up at Bocage. I only leave it to go visit Toby. Well, today I went to the skating rink for the first time. Actually, I think this is probably the furthest away I've ever been.

ELIZABETH

You and your family never went on vacation?

BEN

Well, I never really met my dad, and my mom died in a lightning storm when I was a little boy. Toby raised me until I was eighteen and then... well, you know.

ELIZABETH

And so, you just never felt the desire to get up and get away from this place?

BEN

I mean, since Toby went to the hospital, I couldn't leave him.

ELIZABETH

Yeah, but--

BEN

I guess I was scared.

ELIZABETH

Are you still scared?

BEN

I don't know. I don't really know how I feel about anything right now. Earlier today, my only worry was that the picker's cage was missing, and the members were hitting balls at me. Now, the closet person I ever had to a dad is slowly starving away at the hospital.

(MORE)

BEN (CONT'D)

My house is going to be taken away in a week. I almost got my brother killed. I drugged an innocent man. Now, he's dead. And someone may still very well be out to kill me.

ELIZABETH

Ben, you didn't--

BEN

I just want to go back to cutting the grass and fixing the pool pump. That's what I'm good at. That's why I stay at bocage. Bad things happen when you leave.

ELIZABETH

Ben, bad things happen everywhere.

Ben isn't sold. He begins to arrange the blankets over himself.

ELIZABETH (CONT'D)

Trust me.

Elizabeth stands and goes to her bedroom door.

BEN

Thank you. For helping me.

ELIZABETH

You're welcome, Ben. ...Goodnight.

BEN

Goodnight.

Ben sinks his head into the pillow. Jake is already asleep at the foot of the couch.

Elizabeth cuts the lamp.

The room is dark.

EXT. GOLF COURSE - MORNING

The golden sun is just breaking through the trees. Morning dew shimmers on the fairways and greens.

Ben finishes raking the sand of a bunker. The long groves are perfectly parallel across the sand. He steps out of the bunker and rakes over his last footprints.

Ben picks up a white 5 gallon bucket and continues across the green.

EXT. PRACTICE GREEN - MORNING

Just behind the clubhouse, Ben works on the putting green. He jumps on the cup-cutter driving it into the soft surface of grass. He lifts it out and walks over to the previous hole. He drops the cylinder of dirt into the hollow space.

He goes to his knees and presses in the new grass. He pulls a pick from his pocket and stabs it around the circular scar in the grass.

SPENCER (O.S.)

Yeah, I think he's just around here.

Ben looks up to see Spencer, the lifeguard, and DETECTIVE CURTIS walking towards the green.

Spencer points to Ben.

DETECTIVE CURTIS

Thank you, Spencer.

Curtis continues on his own, and Spencer retreats towards the pool.

Ben stands from his knees and slides the pick into his pocket.

DETECTIVE CURTIS (CONT'D)

Hey, Ben.

BEN

Good morning, Mr. Curtis.

DETECTIVE CURTIS

I'm afraid it's Detective Curtis today, Ben. I'm going to need you to come with me.

Ben doesn't move. He takes in a deep breath.

BEN

Okay.

INT. BOGAGE KITCHEN - MORNING

The cooks prep the breakfast selections. Levi flies in through the servers' door.

He looks down the line. The closest Cook to him is beating a large bowl of egg yolks.

LEVI

Have you seen Twin?

COOK
He's on a break.

The Cook leans his head towards the back exit.

EXT. CLUBHOUSE - MORNING

Twin sits on the curb of the walkway along the wall. He casually smokes a blunt. Just starting the day.

Levi busts out the door scaring Twin.

TWIN
Woah!

He realizes who it is, drops the blunt, and steps on it.

TWIN (CONT'D)
Mr. Levi. What are you doing back here?

LEVI
Who's the other guy?

TWIN
Huh?

LEVI
Who's the other guy you set up with Phoenix?

TWIN
Hey, man. You gotta tell me what's going on?

LEVI
Who is he? Because we need to stop the whole deal, right now.

Twin relaxes.

TWIN
You didn't hear, did you?

Levi slows down.

TWIN (CONT'D)
Everyone's talking about it.

LEVI
(softly)
Oh no.

TWIN

Yep, that guy that you set up. Elliott Roberts. He...

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM - DAY

DETECTIVE CURTIS

...Killed himself. Last night.

Detective Curtis sits with his hands together on the table. Ben sits nervously still with his arms by his side. An audio recorder sits on the table.

DETECTIVE CURTIS (CONT'D)

His maid watched him do it. She said she watched him jump over the balcony with her own two eyes. Just like that... It's a sad thing. Young guy like that.

Ben stays silent.

DETECTIVE CURTIS (CONT'D)

Ben... I know your little secret.

Curtis takes pride in Ben's terror.

BEN

Okay, listen. I can--

DETECTIVE CURTIS

No, no, no. Bet you're wondering how I found out, huh? Well, even though it was a suicide, we have to do a full evaluation. Check all our options. So on our first pass with the autopsy we found an unusually high amount of barbiturates in his system. Sleep aids. Not uncommon in suicides.

Ben can feel the walls closing in on him.

BEN

Detective, please let me--

DETECTIVE CURTIS

But, I'm a very persistent and scrupulous detective. We didn't stop there... Do you remember the last time you were at this station?

Ben cautiously shakes his head.

DETECTIVE CURTIS (CONT'D)

You were in the fifth grade. You came here on a field trip. Almost everyone does in the fifth grade. And we let all of you do your little fingerprints. Well, we keep those. And we found your prints last night. On this.

Curtis pulls out the tennis picture of Margot and David.

EXT. CLUBHOUSE - DAY

Levi sits on the curb next to Twin.

LEVI

Ben Lovelace? The greenskeeper.

TWIN

Yessir. I didn't think he was that type of guy. Guess the situation was bad enough.

Levi holds a hand to forehead.

LEVI

There couldn't have been a worse person.

TWIN

Well, at least he took care of your problem.

LEVI

I'm not sure he did. Have you seen him today?

TWIN

He's at the police station with Mr. Curtis. Probably getting booked right now.

LEVI

They caught him.

TWIN

That's what it looks like.

A grin grows across Levi's face.

LEVI

He killed Elliott, and now he is going to jail.

TWIN

Afraid so. Poor Ben. Not the kind of guy you'd expect to get caught up in this type of thing.

LEVI

And he has no idea that I'm on the other side of this.

TWIN

Yeah. You're lucky on that one.

LEVI

Unbelievable.

Levi shines.

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM - DAY

Ben sits in misery.

DETECTIVE CURTIS

And I'm thinking to myself, what is Ben, the greenskeeper from Bocage, doing at Elliott Robert's house? And, then I figured it all out.

BEN

Okay, fine. I admit it!

DETECTIVE CURTIS

You... are Elliott Roberts' brother! Well, half brother. I mean, I've been a member of Bocage since I was a kid, and I never connected it.

Ben's anxiety relaxes and turns to confusion.

DETECTIVE CURTIS (CONT'D)

When I was a teenager, I remember when the Roberts left. They just picked up in the middle of the night, and left that big ol' house. And 30 years later Elliott comes all the way back here and finds you.

Curtis is lost in the story.

DETECTIVE CURTIS (CONT'D)

Poor Margot, God rest her soul. She never would tell anyone who your father was. I knew her and Mr. David always had a thing for each other.

(MORE)

DETECTIVE CURTIS (CONT'D)

Of course, that was before she met Toby. I know your mother's wasn't that type of girl.

Curtis throws his feet up on the table.

DETECTIVE CURTIS (CONT'D)

...The greenskeeper, the son of the founder. Who would have thought?

Ben takes in the information and lets Curtis do his thing.

DETECTIVE CURTIS (CONT'D)

So anyway, I did some research, and that country club belonged to you just as much as it belonged to him. And that just made perfect sense. Cause, yesterday I heard Elliott was making big plans for Bocage. I was just thinking to myself, what does this guy know about running a club? But to have you. The one guy who really knows it inside and out... And, you were still out there working today. Now, that just speaks to your commitment...

Curtis takes a moment to quietly admire his deductions.

DETECTIVE CURTIS (CONT'D)

But, hey! That was some pretty impressive detective work, was it not?

Curtis shifts back in his seat.

DETECTIVE CURTIS (CONT'D)

...That's a real shame he had to go like that.

Ben is in shock. Curtis removes his feet from the table.

DETECTIVE CURTIS (CONT'D)

Alright, well, let's do what we came here for. I just have to ask you a few questions about Elliott. Just if he was displaying any signs of depression and whatnot.

Curtis reaches for the recorder.

DETECTIVE CURTIS (CONT'D)

Better turn this guy on.

Curtis lets out a little chuckle and hits record.

DETECTIVE CURTIS (CONT'D)

Okay, please state your name for the record.

INT. LEVI'S OFFICE - DAY

Levi looks over the golf course from his office. The grass is especially green today.

He inhales deeply as he admires his domain.

The sky is bright, and golfers enjoy the driving range.

The pool is filled with playful members.

Tennis opponents rally in all white attire. The club is busy; it is fruitful.

A geyser of water erupts from the pump house next to the pool.

Levi shrugs it off. Things are good.

EXT. BOCAGE CLUBHOUSE - DAY

Ben casually walks through the parking lot with lifted spirits. Things are good for Ben as well. The golden light of the setting sun illuminates the Bocage grounds.

He briskly struts down the walkway leading to the clubhouse.

Spencer runs up next to him.

SPENCER

Hey, Ben...

BEN

Pool pump?

SPENCER

(guiltily)

Yeah...

EXT. POOL PUMP HOUSE - DAY

The geyser shoots out of the pool house. A SQUEAK from inside and it collapses.

Ben and Spencer exit from the house. Ben throws the 4 foot pipe wrench over his shoulder.

SPENCER

I don't know what happened. I checked the seal and I cleaned the trap.

BEN

It's alright, Spence. I think it's just an old pump.

Ben leaves the young and scrawny Spencer to his duties.

EXT. CLUBHOUSE - DAY

Ben walks with a spring in his step. The wrench still over his shoulder. A smile of pure content over his face.

Ben circles around the back of the clubhouse.

Elizabeth comes jogging off the back patio.

ELIZABETH

Ben!

Ben stops and Elizabeth approaches him. He lets the wrench down to his side.

ELIZABETH (CONT'D)

What happened? Spencer told me Mr. Curtis took you to the station.

Ben hugs Elizabeth warmly. She is surprised by the embrace.

BEN

Yep, he sure did. And there's nothing to worry about. Everything is fine.

ELIZABETH

What did he say?

BEN

I can tell you everything in just a little bit. Have you seen Mr. Levi? I need to talk to him.

ELIZABETH

Yeah, he's up in his office.

She points up to the large tinted window centered on the second floor.

INT. LEVI'S OFFICE - DAY

Levi looks down at Elizabeth pointing directly at him. Ben looks up. Levi feels like he is looking right at him. Ben throws the pipe wrench over his shoulder and walks beneath Levi to the entrance.

Levi panics. He runs to the door and shuts it. He CLICKS the locks shut and backs up to his desk. He carefully sits down quietly.

He can hear Ben's boots track across the floor.

A gentle KNOCK at the door.

BEN

Mr. Levi?

Levi looks around, not sure if he should reply.

BEN (CONT'D)

It's Ben. I need to talk to you.

Levi holds his breath.

BEN (CONT'D)

I could hear you shutting the door from downstairs.

LEVI

I'm very busy at the moment.

BEN

Mr. Levi, I think that it is very important that we speak.

LEVI

I'm sure it can wait, Ben. I am really just swamped in here.

INT. OUTSIDE LEVI'S OFFICE - DAY

Ben sighs. He drops the pipe wrench and leans it on his leg. He pulls the loop of keys off his belt and shifts through them.

INT. LEVI'S OFFICE - DAY

Levi listens. He hears the JINGLE of the keys.

He looks to the adjacent wall. The golf putter.

The lock CLICKS, the door swings open, and Ben walks into the office.

Levi has the putter raised and ready to strike.

LEVI

Don't come any closer.

BEN

Woah! Woah! Mr. Levi!

Ben drops the wrench and holds both of his hands up.

LEVI
I was gonna do it. Jackson's not
going anywhere.

BEN
Calm down. No one needs to get hurt.
...Hold on, you're the other guy?

LEVI
What?

BEN
Please put the club down.

Levi lowers the club to the desk.

Ben lets down his hands, turns, and shuts the door.

BEN (CONT'D)
You're the guy who is supposed to
kill Jackson?

LEVI
You didn't know that?

BEN
No... I guess your fire didn't really
work.

LEVI
What fire?

BEN
You didn't set my brother's house on
fire last night?

LEVI
No, that's absurd.

Levi begins to choose his words carefully.

LEVI (CONT'D)
...If you didn't know that I was the
other guy-- Why did you come up here?

BEN
I needed to talk to you...

LEVI
Okay.

BEN
About David, my father... and my
ownership of Bocage.

Levi stares at Ben gravely.

LEVI
I see.

Levi moves behind his desk and sits down.

BEN
You knew.

LEVI
Yes, I did.

BEN
Why didn't you ever tell me?

LEVI
Ben--

BEN
Nevermind, I know exactly why. You
didn't--

Levi holds a hand up silencing Ben.

LEVI
(calmly)
Ben. You're right. I should have
told you. But look, you don't know
anything about running a club.

BEN
I don't want to run it. I want to
sell it to you. For the price of my
house and all the damage you caused.

LEVI
All the damage?

BEN
When you ransacked my home, yesterday.

LEVI
I don't even know where you live.

Ben is severely confused.

BEN
Really...? Well, I still want to
sell you the club.

Levi turns slowly in his chair. He stands and looks out at the golf course. The black silhouettes of pine trees line the horizon of the violet sky.

LEVI

You want to sell me my own club?

BEN

Not for much, I--

LEVI

Listen Ben, I don't think you understand your position right now. I figured you were going to find out one of these days. I really wish it didn't have to come down to this.

He turns back to face Ben.

LEVI (CONT'D)

I know you're very fond of Bocage. But I'm sorry to say we are no longer in need of your services.

BEN

I don't think you get it.

LEVI

No, you don't get it. The way I see it, you're going to follow in your dad's footsteps. You're going to leave Bocage today, and you're never going to come back. You'll leave town, and never show your face again. If you do, I'll tell everyone the truth: you killed Elliott Roberts.

BEN

(to self)

It was an accident.

LEVI

Your own half-brother. How appalling. First you try to set up Jackson--

BEN

I didn't do that! Twin misunderstood.

LEVI

And then Elliott... You must hate your family. Not that you had much of one to begin with.

Levi condescendingly shakes his head at an enraged Ben.

LEVI (CONT'D)

You're just a confused little bastard child, aren't you?

BEN

You can't prove anything! They said it was suicide. Are you going to put Phoenix or Twin in a courtroom? They'd be in just as much trouble. You don't have any evidence.

LEVI

I'll just tell them the whole story. I told you about the inheritance. You couldn't stand to split it with Elliott. You had worked here for years, and he just shows up to collect his winnings? So, you killed him. In cold blood. It's my word against yours. Who do you think they'll believe? The hard working club owner, a vital member of the community. Or, a dropout whose never really amounted to anything?

Levi is satisfied and confident. Ben is helplessly enraged.

INT. JEEP - NIGHT

Elizabeth and Ben's hair dances in the wind as they speed through the neighborhood. The top is down making room for Ben's bike and allowing Jake to hang his head out the back.

BEN

He can't prove it! He can't prove any of it.

ELIZABETH

What about Phoenix?

BEN

He won't say anything.

ELIZABETH

How can you be sure?

BEN

I can't, but it wouldn't be enough to put it on me.

ELIZABETH

Yeah, but Ben, I was involved too. If they decide to further their case--

BEN

Liz, his maid saw him with her own two eyes. Levi was bluffing. There's nothing connecting us to it.

The conversation concluded, Liz and Ben refocus on the road.

Elizabeth's hair whips around chaotically. Her forward stare grows worrisome.

ELIZABETH

Ben...

He looks over as she continues to face the road.

ELIZABETH (CONT'D)

Where's the gun?

Ben's stomach sinks.

EXT. ROBERTS HOUSE - NIGHT

The house is still. It appears identical to the night before. The furniture hasn't moved.

Elizabeth's jeep pulls up a few houses down the street. The lights cut, then the engine. Ben climbs out and steps to Jake sitting in the back. He takes his leash and ties it to the roll bar.

BEN

(whispers)

Hang tight, Jake.

Elizabeth hops out the other side and gently closes the door behind her with a soft...

INT. BOCAGE CLUBHOUSE - NIGHT

CLICK. Levi locks the door to his office. The sound of his hollow footsteps resonate as he walks down the mezzanine.

He glides down the stairs spinning the key chain on his finger before crossing the foyer to the entrance.

He comes to the front door and turns around to admire his empire.

He takes it in with a deep breath.

He cuts the lights and exits locking the doors behind him.

EXT. ROBERTS HOUSE - NIGHT

Ben and Elizabeth slide through the side brush of the house, once again.

They round the back corner and are lit up by the blue pool light.

They sneak across the back patio, this time less cautiously.

Ben tries the back door. It's locked.

EXT. CARRY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Carry and Jackson emerge from the side of his house. They head down the driveway.

CARRY

Dude, Ben's shit was worthless. We only got like 300 bucks.

JACKSON

You picked the job, didn't you?

CARRY

Yeah. Guess you can't win them all. But this one...

The two thieves cross the street and head for the Roberts house.

CARRY (CONT'D)

This one is gold.

EXT. BOCAGE - NIGHT

Levi walks along the front pathway towards his reserved parking spot.

He opens his door and slides into the driver's seat. He is in control of his world.

He turns the ignition and his car roars to a start.

EXT. ROBERTS HOUSE - NIGHT

Ben stands atop an air conditioning unit. He reaches for an open awning bathroom window.

He throws himself up and headfirst halfway in through the window. His frame hardly fits.

INT. ROBERTS HOUSE DOWNSTAIRS BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

In the bathroom Elizabeth helps Ben through. He grunts and squirms.

ELIZABETH

Shhhh.

BEN

I can't-- I can't get my--

ELIZABETH

I could have just gotten it by myself.

BEN

I didn't think it was such a tight squeeze.

Ben slides forward bracing himself against the toilet. He pulls his legs through the window behind him.

EXT. ROBERTS HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Just as Ben's feet slide in through the window, Jackson and Carry come around the far corner of the house.

CARRY

You got the gun, right?

JACKSON

Yeah.

CARRY

Yo, let me carry it.

JACKSON

You had it last time. And dude, you're trigger happy anyway. You know that.

Carry gets down on his knees next to a small grey box with a telephone symbol.

CARRY

Whatever.

He opens the box and pulls a wire snapping it apart.

CARRY (CONT'D)

That should take care of the alarm.

EXT. BOCAGE STREET - NIGHT

Levi cruises silently down the smooth asphalt.

The wheels whiz along the blacktop.

INT. LEVI'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

He comes to an intersection and slows to a stop.

He notices the brass name tag he left on the dash from the previous night.

He grabs it and pins it back on his jacket.

INT. ROBERTS HOUSE DOWNSTAIRS BATHROOM - NIGHT

Ben suspends himself between the toilet and the window. Half hand stand, half push-up.

ELIZABETH

Come on, just drop down.

BEN

I am, I'm just trying to plan it out.

ELIZABETH

There's nothing to plan out, just let your feet fall.

He awkwardly drops down to the ground. Elizabeth tries to assist, but ends up getting knocked over.

BEN

There had to have been an easier way in.

INT. ROBERTS HOUSE DOWNSTAIRS - NIGHT

The foyer is still and dark. The front door easily swings open letting in the street light.

Jackson and Carry enter the mansion quietly.

CARRY

I can't believe that was unlocked.

From across the house...

ELIZABETH (O.S.)

You sure it is in the bedroom?

Ben and Elizabeth emerge from a hallway into the living room.

Jackson and Carry duck into the adjacent room.

EXT. BOCAGE STREET - NIGHT

Levi coasts down the road.

He approaches Elizabeth's jeep. He slows down to notice Ben's bicycle and Jake sitting in the back seat.

Jake and Levi lock eyes for a moment as he drives by.

Levi looks forward at the Roberts house. He slows to a full stop to examine the mansion.

INT. ROBERTS HOUSE - NIGHT

Ben and Elizabeth reach the top of the stairs. They creep down to Elliott's bedroom.

Ben follows Elizabeth as they duck under the police tape across the door frame.

ELIZABETH

Alright, now where do you think it could be?

BEN

I don't know. It has to be in here somewhere.

Elizabeth gets on her knees and examines the carpet beneath the bed.

Nothing.

Ben looks on the balcony. He checks under the curtains.

Nothing.

Elizabeth opens the wardrobe and checks between the garments.

BEN (CONT'D)

Why would it be in there?

ELIZABETH

I don't know Ben. It's a wardrobe. Things go inside it.

Ben remembers.

BEN

Wait. On top.

Elizabeth checks the top shelf.

BEN (CONT'D)

No, on top of the wardrobe.

Elizabeth closes the door. She reaches over the wooden crowning and feels for the gun.

We can see the gun it is just out of her reach.

Her hand pats across the grains.

ELIZABETH
Why would you put the gun up here?

BEN (O.S.)
Liz...

She turns around. Ben has his hands up. Levi is standing at the doorframe, gun pointed at Ben.

She steps away from the wardrobe.

LEVI
Don't move!

She halts.

LEVI (CONT'D)
I tried to give you a chance, Ben.

Levi moves the gun to Elizabeth for a moment.

LEVI (CONT'D)
And Elizabeth... you've really gotten yourself into a mess.

Levi redirects the gun to Ben.

LEVI (CONT'D)
Really wish I didn't have to do this, you know.

The CLICK of a gun's hammer being set.

JACKSON (O.S.)
Drop the gun or you're dead.

From the hallway, Jackson holds a 9mm Glock inches from the back of Levi's head. His hands tremble.

Carry stands in the hallway, out of view of everyone except Jackson. Jackson subtly holds out a hand telling him to stay put, ignoring his silent protests.

He moves into the bedroom holding the gun fixed on Levi's head.

He stands to his side with it pointed right at his temple.

BEN

What are you doing here?

Jackson keeps his eyes concentrated on his target.

JACKSON

Saving your ass, I guess.

Carry shakes his head in the hallway.

BEN

Jackson, you're gonna get us killed.

JACKSON

I'm saving you! God, nothing is ever good enough, is it?

LEVI

He's right, kid. Put the gun down. You don't know what your doing.

JACKSON

Shut up!

Jackson's hands shake violently. Levi keeps his gun pointed at Ben. He glances at Jackson from the corner of his eyes.

LEVI

You're not a killer, I can tell. Now, put the gun down.

JACKSON

Don't tell me what to do! I'll fucking pull this trigger!

BEN

Jackson, you don't have to do this!

JACKSON

Dammit, Ben! I'm trying to save you!

LEVI

Put down the Goddamned gun, kid!

JACKSON

I said don't tell me what to do! Now, drop it!

LEVI

You're gonna get someone killed.

JACKSON

I'm gonna count to three, then I'm gonna blow your head off!

BEN

Jackson!

LEVI

If you get to two, I'll put a bullet
right through his head!

Carry struts into the room.

CARRY

God dammit, Jackson! If you won't
kill this asshole, I will.

Carry snatches the gun from Jackson's hands. Levi turns and
only has enough time to flinch.

Carry has the gun to his head.

CLICK! CLICK! CLICK! CLICK!

Empty.

The room is silent. Levi still clinches his eyes closed.

CARRY (CONT'D)

You didn't load the gun.

Levi opens his eyes, surprised to be alive.

He and Carry lock eyes. Carry raises the gun and swings
down to club Levi's head.

Levi grabs Carry's wrist. Carry pushes forward onto him.
Levi resists with his gun pressed flat against Carry's chest.
Levi's back slams against the wall. POP! The silenced bullet
rips through Carry's skull.

ELIZABETH

Oh, shit!

JACKSON

Carry!

Carry's limp body falls onto Levi.

Ben jumps to the wardrobe and frantically feels for the gun.

ELIZABETH

Ben!

He turns around to see Levi raising his gun.

Jackson tackles Levi to the ground grabbing the gun. POP!
A bullet pierces the drywall.

The two struggle over the pistol between their bodies.

Elizabeth hits the deck.

Ben ducks to the side of the wardrobe, he reaches over and finds the gun.

POP! POP! Levi's bullets tear through Jackson's stomach.

He SCREAMS out and rolls off of Levi.

BEN

Jackson!

Elizabeth slides under the bed.

Jackson continues to SCREAM in anguish.

Ben looks around the edge of the wardrobe. Levi raises his gun to Ben. Ben ducks back holding the gun to his chest. POP! POP! The corner of the wardrobe explodes into splinters.

Jackson slides towards the hall holding his bleeding gut.

Ben points the gun around the corner without looking and fires. POP! POP! POP! POP!

Levi crawls onto the balcony as Ben's bullets pierce the bathroom door.

Levi sits against the wall on the balcony.

Carry's blood seeps out of his mouth onto the white carpet.

ELIZABETH

Ben, are you okay?!

BEN

I'm fine! Help Jackson.

Elizabeth scuffles out from the bed into the hallway.

Levi turns over to get on all fours and slowly peers into the room.

Ben sits with his back to the wardrobe, gun at his chest.

LEVI

Ben?!

Ben hesitates.

BEN

...Yeah?!

LEVI
No more shooting.

Ben is silent. His hands shake violently.

LEVI (CONT'D)
Things can only end bad if we keep
this up.

INT. UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - NIGHT

Elizabeth quickly helps Jackson down the hallway.

He whimpers silently through clenched teeth.

JACKSON
I'm gonna die. I'm gonna die. I'm
gonna die.

ELIZABETH
Shut up! You're gonna be alright.
Okay?

Jackson moans as they move down the stairs.

ELIZABETH (CONT'D)
Say 'I'm gonna be alright'.

His hand is completely red. It's bad.

ELIZABETH (CONT'D)
Say it!

Elizabeth is as scared as he is.

INT. ELLIOTT'S ROOM - NIGHT

Ben's eyes water and his face glows red.

LEVI
I'm calling it, Ben.

A gun flies across the room and lands within Ben's sight.
If it came to a race, Ben could get to the gun first.

LEVI (CONT'D)
I know you're not a bad guy. I'm
not gonna have this get any worse
than it already is.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Elizabeth and Jackson burst through the door.

She sets him down against the wall. He is growing pale and the blood soaks deeper through his clothes.

Elizabeth pulls up his shirt, blood gushes from the wound. She grabs a stack of kitchen towels and presses them to his stomach. He SCREAMS out.

ELIZABETH

Hold these!

Jackson presses the towels harder onto his gut.

She runs to the phone, picks it up and dials the three numbers.

Dial TONE. She slams the phone, picks it up and dials again. TONE.

He whimpers softly clenching his stomach.

She looks at him gravely.

INT. ELLIOTT'S ROOM - NIGHT

Ben stares at the gun.

LEVI

It can only end badly, Ben. I'm leaving the choice to you.

He breaths quick and shallow breaths.

BEN

Okay. Okay...

Ben looks at the gun intensely.

Something's wrong.

BEN (CONT'D)

...Where's the silencer?

LEVI

What?

BEN

Where's the silencer?!

Levi holds his own gun.

The room is still.

LEVI

Well, it was worth a try wasn't it?

POP! POP! POP!

The lamp shatters and a bullet breaks through the wood right next to Ben's head.

He looks at the lethal bullet hole.

He shoots blindly towards Levi. POP! POP!

Levi ducks back onto the balcony.

Ben slides under the bed and continues to shoot at Levi.
POP!

He darts to the door staying low.

Levi takes aim, but it's too late. He chases after Ben.

Ben sprints down the hallway. He trips down the stairs and rolls to the first floor.

His gun flies out of his hands into the darkness.

Levi stops at the top of the stairs and takes aim at Ben.

POP! CRASH! A vase shatters as Ben darts for the front door.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Elizabeth consoles Jackson as he grows weak. The sound of CRASHING from the living room steals her attention.

ELIZABETH

I have to go get help.

He grabs her arm tight.

She returns her focus to Jackson. He stares into her eyes helplessly.

JACKSON

Please, don't leave me.

EXT. ROBERT'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Ben runs from the front door. He hops over the furniture and runs behind a moving truck.

Jake stands up in the back of the jeep.

Levi runs out just behind Ben. POP! POP! CLICK! CLICK!
CLICK!

A bullet pierces Ben's leg and he falls to the grass. The echo of the silenced bullets CRACKS through the air.

Jake pulls towards Ben, but his leash holds him back.

The lights of a neighbor's house light up.

Ben crawls along the grass attempting to lift himself to his feet.

Levi walks up to the wounded Ben. He tucks the gun in the back of his pants. He straddles Ben's stomach, holding down his arms, and strikes him in the face.

Jake BARKS from the Jeep pulling on his leash.

Levi strikes Ben again.

Jake pulls harder and BARKS louder. The metal ring of his collar flexes.

Levi punches harder with every word. Jake BARKS louder.

LEVI

You. Piece. Of shit. Bastard.

Ben's face is a red pulp.

Jake breaks free from the leash and leaps from the Jeep.

Ben squirms beneath Levi.

LEVI (CONT'D)

...You stupid shit.

Levi pulls the gun out and raises it to strike Ben. Jake jumps into him biting his arm and knocking him off Ben. Jake snarls as he sinks his teeth into the flesh.

Levi SCREAMS out. He flips Jake over slamming him into the ground. Jake keeps his jaws lock on Levi's arm. Levi punches the dog in his head with all of his strength. Jake releases his bite and lets out a sharp WHIMPER. Levi stands up and kicks Jake in the ribs.

Ben lifts himself from the ground standing on one leg.

Levi kicks Jake again and again, harder and harder. He YELPS with every blow.

Ben tackles Levi to the ground.

Jake struggles to get back up. He collapses back to the ground.

Levi and Ben struggle on the grass. Ben loses more and more blood through his leg. Levi manages to get on top.

Ben gets in one good punch. Levi goes for his neck. Ben struggles and swings at Levi. Levi presses his knees onto Ben's arms.

He squeezes Ben's throat tight. Ben gasps for air.

Levi's eyes are filled with a hot anger.

Ben silently tries to swallow air. He struggles fiercely under Levi's tight grip.

His eyes begin to glaze over as he stares into space. His mouth hangs open gagging desperately.

Levi squeezes harder.

Ben is helpless.

POP! Levi's neck rips open. His grip loosens and Ben gasps in air. Blood flows out from Levi's trachea. He grabs for his neck to stop the bleeding, but it's no use.

It flows down over his suit as he falls back onto the ground. His body convulses and twitches as the crimson liquid flows. It seeps through his clothes and over his brass nameplate. He gargles his own blood uncontrollably.

Elizabeth stands at the front door with Ben's gun still pointed forward.

ELIZABETH

I was aiming for his head.

Levi's body slowly stops moving.

Elizabeth runs across the lawn to the wounded fighters.

Ben crawls over to Jake. Jake breaths heavily, his head rests against the ground.

Jake weakly licks Ben's beat face.

ELIZABETH (CONT'D)

Are you okay?

She looks down at Ben's leg. Half of his shorts are stained red.

SIRENS can be heard a few blocks away.

Ben begins to slip into unconsciousness.

ELIZABETH (CONT'D)

Ben.

She grabs him by the head as his eyes close.

ELIZABETH (CONT'D)

Ben, stay with me.

BEN

(hoarsely)

Where's Jackson?

Elizabeth can't bring herself to tell him.

The blue and red lights turn the corner of the street towards the house. The SIRENS grow louder.

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM - DAY

Detective Curtis holds the door open for Ben as he enters the room on a pair of crutches.

Curtis pulls out the chair for Ben and he takes a seat.

Curtis sits down across from him.

DETECTIVE CURTIS

Alright Ben, the doctors have cleared you for questioning. So, it's time to really get to the bottom of the whole thing.

BEN

Yeah, I guess it's time.

DETECTIVE CURTIS

Ben, you've known me for a while. I'm a man of the law.

BEN

I don't think we need to drag this out. I could just--

DETECTIVE CURTIS

Now, hold on. I agree with you there, we can just get right on down to the skinny of this whole thing. But, I want you to know, I'm a man who believes in punishment. I don't care who you are, and you might have done it for the best of reasons... But at the end of the day, if you broke the law, you deserve to be punished according to the law.

BEN

I understand.

DETECTIVE CURTIS

Elizabeth killed Levi Lemoine.

Ben hangs his head.

DETECTIVE CURTIS (CONT'D)

And it just makes my gut turn that we won't be able to punish that man according to the law. If someone broke into your home, and killed your brother, and your neighbor. And we had witnesses say they saw him choking you. Doctor said you were inches from your life. Ben, if I were Elizabeth, I would have killed that man right then and there too. She didn't do a single thing wrong.

BEN

My home?

DETECTIVE CURTIS

I'm sorry. When you inherited your father's house, I figured you would have moved out of your old place. Not that there is anything wrong with your little house there on Magnolia.

BEN

...Right.

DETECTIVE CURTIS

Anyway, it appears that Levi was working under someone by the code name Uncle Phoenix.

INT. LEO'S ROLLER WORLD - NIGHT

Phoenix skates for his life across the rink.

Three Police Men chase after him.

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM - DAY

DETECTIVE CURTIS

We were unable to catch him. He's a very fast skater. Anyway, I know this has been a traumatic experience for you, and this is going to be a long process.

(MORE)

DETECTIVE CURTIS (CONT'D)

But a few months after all the court work, this will all feel like just a bad dream. I'm sure of it.

EXT. BOCAGE COUNTRY CLUB - DAY

SUPER: A FEW MONTHS AFTER ALL THE COURT WORK

Golfers play on every hole.

Patrons lounge by the pool side.

Rallies of tennis carry out on the clay courts.

INT. LEVI'S OFFICE - DAY

Ben sits at the desk. A slim stack of papers sit before him.

He is entranced by the papers.

A LAWYER sits across the desk from him.

LAWYER

Mr. Lovelace. Do not feel obligated to any decision. The price is very competitive, but the club is yours. Only do exactly what you want to.

BEN

You know, I've never been further than a couple miles outside of Bocage.

LAWYER

I'm sure you have a deep connection to the club.

BEN

I used to be scared to leave. This place is all I ever knew. So many bad things happened to me here, but I still felt safe.

LAWYER

Sometimes, the unknown can be scarier than the familiar no matter how bad the familiar is.

BEN

Well, the familiar has been pretty bad, and I've had my fair share of things I never thought could happen. I'm ready for the unknown.

INT. CLUBHOUSE - DAY

FX: Slow Motion 96fps

Ben walks through the foyer with the papers in his hand.

He tosses them to a group of business men.

Members walk through the foyer enjoying themselves.

Ben gives Twin, now in a security uniform, dap and a big hug.

He sees Jeff, Stan, and Marty.

He flips them the bird.

Spencer carries a large box labeled POOL PUMP.

Ben grabs spencer making him drop the box and gives him a big hug.

Ben walks out into the bright daylight.

EXT. BOCAGE - DAY

Ben walks out of the country club.

Elizabeth and Jake wait in her Jeep. The top is down and the back is packed with baggage. Her hair is down and she sports a pair of ray bans.

Ben hops into the Jeep.

In the back amongst the luggage are two urns. One reads: TOBIAS MCGUINESS. The other: JACKSON MCGUINESS

ELIZABETH

We all set?

BEN

Let's do it.

She puts it into gear and they take off.

We pull away into the sky to get an aerial view of Bocage.

We can see members enjoying the pool. Games of tennis rally on the courts. The driving range is full. The greens of the golf course stretch out surrounded by houses.

The Robert's house can be seen. Ben's house. The entrance to the neighborhood. Elizabeth's Jeep pulls out of the entrance and speeds down the highway out of frame.

We see all of Bocage. The whole story beneath us.

FADE OUT.