

WILD CAMPING

Written by

Suzy Miller

72 Medway Drive, Forest Row, RH18 5NX  
+44 (0)7525 059 634

**EXT. CORNISH CAMPSITE WOODS - DUSK**

Lush early Autumn as the leaves prepare to change greens for gold and red.

Soft FOOTSTEPS CRUNCH on the forest track. A woman's white-skinned HAND brushes against swaying wild flowers.

Her BARE FEET step lightly, Indian style clothing of natural cotton and silk flowing around her bangled ankles, careful to avoid stepping on the wild MUSHROOMS.

Harmony.

Meet KALI (40s), her long fair hair in a braided plait draped over one shoulder.

Her feet stop by a RABBIT caught in a snare. Dead.

Kali's hands enfold the Rabbit's corpse, stroking its ears.

The darkness of the leafy forest floor trembles with fleeting flickers of light, as if something lives just beneath the surface.

We sink down past the dead Rabbit and Kali's feet.

Below the toadstools that periscope up from white MYCELIUM fungal threads, infiltrating the dark soil.

ALL COLOUR GONE, NOW IN BLACK AND WHITE INFRARED.

The mycelium threads glow white and ethereal. They expand at speed.

A dark shape in the black earth becomes visible as mycelium envelopes it in a white shimmering blanket, defining it's shape against the dark soil.

A human skull.

The SOUND OF VOICES TUNING IN. A thousand indecipherable whispers, interconnected like the glowing threads of twisted mycelium.

One female voice cuts through the murmur.

MYCELIUM WOMAN (V.O.)  
Stop them.... Forgive me.....

**EXT. HOUSE - DAY**

An old 1997 Mercedes CAMPER VAN with a prominent JUST STOP OIL LOGO hand painted on the side, parked in the driveway of a nondescript suburban house.

**INT. VAN - CONTINUOUS**

Two bodies lie beneath a large duvet at the back of the Van. Their breathing causes the duvet to subtly rise and fall.

The LOUD BANG of a fist hitting the van window from the outside.

The reverberation causes a red APPLE precarious in a fruit bowl to wobble free. It rolls along a counter top, bounces onto the head of a sleeping ALICE(25).

Alice's EYES SNAP OPEN. She sits bolt upright. Short dark hair with a temper to match, a coiled spring of a girl.

Alice is half South Asian, half white middle-class intellectual. She wears a crumpled GRADUATION GOWN. She still has the PhD Tudor Bonnet half on her head.

Through the window, a MALE VOICE, well-spoken English with a South Asian lilt.

JOHN (O.S.)

10 minutes. Don't make us late. This was your idea remember?

Alice scrambles out of bed in a panic. Someone else is still visibly under the duvet.

Alice curses, accidentally knocks over an almost empty bottle of vodka onto Joseph Conrad's "Heart of Darkness". Shakes the pages to dry them.

ALICE

Fuck fuck fuck --

Alice slams the book in a drawer and grabs some clothes off the floor. She is about to shout at the body under the duvet, but stops. Pulls up the end and tickles a large pink GIRL'S FOOT.

SOPHIE (20s) - shoots up like a Mummy awoken from it's casket. Lurid synthetic pink pajamas, lush golden locks of hair in total disarray. Clearly Sophie helped Alice drain the vodka last night.

Alice speed-dresses into organic cotton track suit bottoms and a t-shirt announcing: "The only invisible force I believe in - is Wifi".

ALICE (CONT'D)  
 Why did I think 'family time' would be  
 a good idea?

Sophie stares blearily back at her.

ALICE (CONT'D)  
 Yeh. I know. Guilt. He'll be beeping  
 his horn in a minute. We have to get  
 ready. Now!

Alice begins grabbing dirty pans and plates and shoving them in  
 random cupboards.

Stuck on the cupboard doors are photos, selfies of Sophie and  
 campaigners - without Alice - at a JUST STOP OIL rally holding  
 PEACEFUL PROTEST banners, and some spooky looking infrared  
 photos of Alice alone, with white luminescent skin.

Alice stops to gaze for a moment at a photo of herself  
 winning a science prize. The newspaper headline "PROMISING  
 PHD STUDENT FOLLOWS IN MOTHER'S FOOTSTEPS".

She absent-mindedly opens a high up cupboard, which almost  
 empties itself on her head with a huge bag of chocolates.  
 She's embarrassed. Crams the cupboard shut.

Always faces Sophie when she speaks:

ALICE (CONT'D)  
 It was cheaper to buy a big bag.  
 They're organic.

Sophie scowls as she picks up a scary large PINK DILDO.

ALICE (CONT'D)  
 It was a joke. We can recycle it.

Sophie makes a WTF? expression.

ALICE (CONT'D)  
 No really. We can use it as a, a --

Alice grabs the dildo and mimes as she comes up with  
 suggestions. Holds it horizontally against a cupboard door:

ALICE (CONT'D)  
 -- a towel rail?

Plonks it in a saucer, upright.

ALICE (CONT'D)  
 Candle mould?

Points it 90 degrees out from a wall and pushes a toilet roll onto it.

ALICE (CONT'D)  
Loo roll holder?

She's finally raised a smile from Sophie. Alice bungs the dildo into a drawer which contains bars of chocolate and an OFFICIAL LOOKING ENVELOPE addressed to Sophie.

Alice peers through the van window.

ALICE (CONT'D)  
He's actually doing it.  
(turning to face Sophie)  
He's bringing that fucking loony  
conspiracy theorist Afghani witch. So  
much for 'family time'.

#### **EXT. HOUSE - CONTINUOUS**

Next to the van in the driveway is a small ELECTRIC CAR. Alice's sweet-natured cheery dad JOHN (50s), of South Asian descent, holds the passenger door open like the gentleman he is.

Afghan refugee AISHIA (40s), her head in a colourful scarf, wearing a loose embroidered black dress with sleeves, approaches from the house.

Aishia is shrouded in a translucent MOSQUITO NET that completely covers her.

JOHN  
Is that some kind of religious, or  
cultural Afghani garment you're  
wearing if you don't mind me asking?

AISHIA  
They're using mosquitoes as bio-  
weapons.

JOHN  
Oh. Who are?

AISHIA  
Illuminati. Wake up.

Aishia ignores the open passenger door, and instead opens the back door of the car and climbs in. John is clearly disappointed.

THE SLIDING OF A VAN DOOR. Alice approaches, trying not to lose her temper with her dad. Indicates Aishia in the car.

ALICE

What?

John indicates to keep her voice low.

JOHN

We can't leave her on her own.

ALICE

She's a room-for-refugees house guest dad. She came on a plane, not in a leaky boat. She can housesit.

John folds his arms. He's not budging.

ALICE (CONT'D)

This is my way of making it up to you for being so --

JOHN

For barely talking to me for the last three years.

ALICE

Exactly. I've neglected us as a family. Please dad --

John unfolds his arms and closes the car door with Aishia still inside. Alice isn't going to win this one.

ALICE (CONT'D)

Why is she wearing a mosquito net?

JOHN

Cultural, religious...

Alice knows he's lying.

JOHN (CONT'D)

I'm driving in front. I'm not breathing in the chip fat from that stinky van. What's wrong with vegetable oil from Sainsburys?

ALICE

It was free from the local chippy. Recycling. You have the sat nav coordinates I sent you?

JOHN

Yes. But, why can't we just go to my brother's place in --

Alice stares at him, folds her arms. John sighs. He's not going to win this one.

**INT. VAN - CONTINUOUS**

Alice enters the van and grabs an apple from the fruit bowl. Bites into it, still talking. Sophie screws up her face, staring at Alice's lips.

ALICE

Hurry up, he's waiting in the car. Bet that witch has put a curse on me, so she can get the house for herself.  
EUUGH!

Alice spits out chewed apple and stares at the WRIGGLING MAGGOTS inside.

ALICE (CONT'D)

Sophie I've told you not to pick the ones off our tree. Get the organic ones from Waitrose.

Alice goes to check under the bed, but Sophie leaps up and stands in front, blocking access.

ALICE (CONT'D)

Is your camera stuff under there?

Sophie nods.

ALICE (CONT'D)

We're set then. Great you're bringing the van Sophes. Saves us being gassed by my Dad's toxic aftershave.

There's a pause. Sophie stares hard at Alice. Alice writhes a little. This is hard for her.

ALICE (CONT'D)

Yeh, and, O.K. I'm just glad you're coming. You know.

She strokes a lock of Sophie's long hair but then stops, awkward.

ALICE (CONT'D)

That was nice, last night. I'm glad we, you know, I enjoyed it, we're properly dating --

Sophie finally speaks. With her hands. British Sign Language (BSL). Her hands say:

SOPHIE (BSL)  
Does he realise?

Alice looks confused.

ALICE  
What do you mean? I didn't get that?

Sophie clearly doesn't believe her. She accentuates her sign language to repeat herself, but this time, WE HEAR SOPHIE'S VOICE OVER.

NB. SOPHIE'S V.O. IS ONLY HEARD BY US WHEN SHE SIGNS TO ALICE - IT'S WHAT ALICE IS HEARING IN HER HEAD.

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)  
Does he realise?

The uncomfortable silence is broken by

JOHN'S CAR HORN BEEPING

**EXT. COUNTRY LANE - DAY**

DISTANT RUMBLE OF THUNDER. Wheels SQUEALING slipping in mud as an ESTATE CAR with a shiny NEW RED CANOE on its roof, fails to get up a narrow hill.

Behind the estate car is John's small electric car and then behind that, the Camper Van.

**INT. JOHN'S CAR - CONTINUOUS**

Stationary in his Electric Car, John adjusts a HEARING AID as he tries to listen to the radio.

RADIO NEWS PRESENTER V.O.  
The Lancea virus outbreak appears to be under control and the government has confirmed no lockdowns will be required --

John switches off the radio.

JOHN  
I didn't even know this part of Cornwall existed. I still think we should have gone to my brother in Cleethorpes.



Aishia sits in the back seat on the passenger side. She wears ear pods and is only half listening to John, engrossed watching videos on her phone.

JOHN (CONT'D)  
They'll make it up the hill.  
Eventually. Sat Nav says we're close.

Aishia leans forwards to surreptitiously sniff the air near John. She screws up her nose.

JOHN (CONT'D)  
Are you sure Aishia you wouldn't  
rather be sitting up front? You could  
move seats whilst we're stationary?

AISHIA  
It stink.

JOHN  
(indicates car in front)  
Yes. Dirty fuel. But Alice will help  
change that.

Aishia wafts the smell away from her nose. John is oblivious that it's his aftershave that's the problem here.

JOHN (CONT'D)  
If anyone can find ways to save the  
planet, it will be Alice.

Aishia snorts derisively.

AISHIA  
She will sell out and work for Dark  
Forces. They all do.

The car in front SQUEALS as it tries again to get up the slippery hill. Aishia fiddles with one of her earpods that's loose.

#### **INT. VAN - CONTINUOUS**

Stuck behind John's car immobile in front of them, Sophie is in the driving seat of the van. She still wears her pink pajamas and her hair is untamed.

Sophie uses a 'True Mirror' set up on the dashboard so she can lip read Alice without moving her head to the side, but struggles because Alice speaks with a mouth full of chocolate.

ALICE

He thinks buying an electric car and recycling is all you need to turn back climate change. Middle-class activism makes me puke. At least you, you know, go on marches and shit.

Impatiently, Alice peers through the windscreen and doesn't notice Sophie roll her eyes.

ALICE (CONT'D)

I mean your activism stuff is cool and everything, but it's science that's gonna save us.

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)

But I thought you're PhD research was on making people like me never be born?

ALICE

Oh come off it. My work on GJB2 mutations is about stopping people with Keratitis-ichthyosis-deafness syndrome from going blind.

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)

I can't lip read that.

ALICE

You and your Deaf friends don't want the GJB2 deaf gene changed so it won't cause deafness anymore, I get that, but blindness as well?

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)

You're only researching it because of your mum.

ALICE

So I'm as ambitious as she was. What's wrong with that? Anyway, her work was on DFNA5 genes.

Sophie does a huge fake yawn.

ALICE (CONT'D)

She never finished her research and the drug company owns it.

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)

You're going to work for the enemy? They rely on Big Oil to make their drugs.

ALICE

I'm going to get them to let me carry on her work when they see what I've achieved. I'll be curing cancer. Who cares who pays for it?

Sophie shakes her head. She's not convinced.

ALICE (CONT'D)

Hey, I promise. I won't let anyone misuse my research.

Alice tries to beep the horn but Sophie blocks her.

**EXT. CAMPSITE - DAY**

A remote Cornish campsite. A small store on the site, an office, and a barn. A large Teepee and a collection of tents that look fresh from an end of season sale at Millets.

A temporary GAZEBO acts as a makeshift vaccination clinic.

**INT. GAZEBO - CONTINUOUS**

A small group of CAMPERS are being jabbed by a NURSE who wears a uniform sporting a red PC logo.

Amongst the Campers are two parents, CAMPER FATHER and CAMPER MOTHER, with their teenage children CAMPER SON and CAMPER DAUGHTER.

The teenagers are giggling as they mess about throwing an ugly CLOWN RAG DOLL. Their mother indicates for them to stop.

Standing apart is Kali, the same woman we saw in the opening sequence, agitated. She signals to the Nurse to hurry up. Stares out towards the entrance to the Campsite. Breathes deeply.

KALI

(wistfully)

Alice.

Kali picks up an apple from a large oil drum with an "EAT ME" sign on the side and bites into it with a CRUNCH.

**INT. VAN - DAY**

CRASH of Thunder. Rain plummets down on the van. Still stationary.

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)  
 Sometimes people want to do good. But  
 they make compromises --

ALICE  
 My PhD research is going to stop  
 Deaf people going blind. And that  
 can only be a good thing, right?

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)  
 Shame about the side effects.

Sophie twists her left hand into a weird shape and does a zombie  
 impression.

ALICE  
 Fuck off Sophes. Science is trial  
 and error. And it was only  
 temporary hand Spasticity.

Alice leans across and tries again to beep the horn, Sophie  
 stops her, knocking the True Mirror out of position.

ALICE (CONT'D)  
 Let's just enjoy 'family time', OK?

SOPHIE  
 Why did you invite me Alice?

Sophie puts the True mirror back into position to see:

TRUE MIRROR REFLECTION

Alice has her hand hiding her mouth so Sophie can't lip read.

ALICE  
 Because you are the kindest, most  
 honest person I've ever met.

Sophie pulls Alice's hand away from her mouth. Alice grins. Says  
 nothing, then swiftly outmaneuvers Sophie and BEEPS the horn.

**INT. CAR - CONTINUOUS**

John reacts, angry.

JOHN  
 So impatient. Just like her mother.  
 But her friend Sophie is a lovely  
 girl. A good influence.

AISHIA  
 Friend?

JOHN

Yes. Good friends. Must be, to put up with Alice. You have to make allowances, for genius. See the good in them.

Aishia shakes her head at John's naivety. Her loose earpod falls out and she fumbles trying to grab it.

JOHN (CONT'D)

Look, you can wear that mosquito net in the front as well. I'm getting a sore neck trying to have a conversation.

Aishia tries to recapture the earpod that has lodged itself into the netting.

The Estate Car in front REVS and then stalls.

JOHN (CONT'D)

I've had enough. We are going to stay with my brother in Cleethorpes.

Aishia almost has the earpod, but then it flies out of her hand and onto the floor.

JOHN (CONT'D)

As soon as this car moves forwards I'm turning around.

The Estate Car in front REVS and begins to move up the hill, wheels spinning.

JOHN (CONT'D)

Right, let's get out of here.

**INT. VAN - CONTINUOUS**

Alice watches John begin to try to turn around, but he needs the Estate Car to get further up the hill as he's blocked in by Sophie's van. He waves for Sophie to move back.

ALICE

No fucking way is he bailing now. I'm not going to fucking Cleethorpes.

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)

Why? We can have 'family time' there?

**EXT. COUNTRY LANE - CONTINUOUS**

Before John can turn his car around, the Estate Car ahead slides back again towards John's car.

**INT. VAN - CONTINUOUS**

ALICE

We are expected here. It's too late to cancel. Oh, Fuck, no Dad!

Alice stares in horror out of the window.

**EXT. COUNTRY LANE - CONTINUOUS**

SQUEAL of breaks as the Estate Car skids, stops inches away from hitting John's car.

Alice breathes out. Relieved. Then:

ALICE

No! Dad!

The car has stopped, but the CANOE KEEPS COMING.

**INT. JOHN'S CAR - CONTINUOUS**

John instinctively moves his head to the side to avoid being decapitated as the canoe

CRASHES through John's passenger window.

JOHN

Oh bloody hell!

The sound of TINKLING GLASS. John brushes off the shards from his hair and clothes.

Remembering Aishia, he cautiously turns his head towards the back seat.

The Canoe is sticking right across where Aishia was sitting.

Aishia herself is bent down low having just retrieved her ear pod, shattered windscreen glass all over her.

JOHN (CONT'D)

Thank goodness! You are alright?

Aishia sits up next to the prow of the canoe.

AISHIA

I left behind a war zone to come here.

She replaces her earpod.

**EXT. LANE - LATER**

A TOW ROPE SNAPS tight as the van takes up the tension.

**INT. CAR - NIGHT**

John wafts away the smell of stinking vegetable oil from the camper van now towing them.

The nylon car blanket across the front windscreen provides little protection from the elements. John has to stick his head out of the driver's window into the rain to see where to steer.

Aishia brushes broken glass off her mosquito net, spattered by rain coming in through the driver's window.

AISHIA

So. This is holiday in England.

**EXT. ROAD - NIGHT**

A branch SNAPS in the storm and CRASHES to the ground, next to a temporary-looking sign in the hedgerow: "CAMPING WITH KALI".

**INT. VAN - CONTINUOUS**

Alice is using her phone as a satnav.

ALICE

Great signal even though we're in the sticks. We turn right up --

Sophie nods towards the windscreen.

**EXT. ROAD - CONTINUOUS**

The "CAMPING WITH KALI" sign glows in their headlights.

**EXT. CAMPSITE ENTRANCE - CONTINUOUS**

The van enters the campsite, towing John's car.

A long pause.

An engine RUMBLE. A BLACK VAN with three aerials sticking out of the roof blocks the exit.

**INT. VAN - NIGHT**

Alice lies on her back asleep in the bed, her eyes twitching.

**EXT. WOODLAND - DAY (INFRARED)**

BLACK AND WHITE INFRARED. Coal black tree trunks and branches stark against bright white leaves - their chlorophyll creating a candy-floss glow in the infrared light.

An APPLE, which looks GREY in infrared, hangs from a branch. Alice strokes the apple, her skin glowing white and luminescent. She wears a SCIENTIST'S LAB COAT that also glows.

She curiously notices the dark bruising visible beneath the grey skin of the apple through the outer layer.

But her eyes go further, beyond the Apple. She focuses on a white MYCELIUM polystyrene-looking COFFIN ahead, shrouded in ivy and Deadly Nightshade.

Alice approaches the Coffin. Cautiously, she slides the coffin lid away from her.

She SCREAMS as SOMETHING WITH A FLASH OF A FURRY TAIL CATERWAULS and shoots past her.

Alice instinctively flings the apple into the air and flails her arms trying to protect her head from its descent.

Recovering her composure, Alice peers cautiously into the Coffin.

A white woman in her 30s who looks similar to Alice - it's her DEAD MOTHER's corpse. Her luminescent white skin covered with MYCELIUM threads and OYSTER MUSHROOMS growing out of her body.

The GREY LIPS move. Alice leans in. The lips mouth the same phrase silently. Alice repeats the phrase as she lip reads:

ALICE  
"Forgive Me".

The EYES OF THE CORPSE spring open.



**EXT. CAMPSITE - DAY**

A glorious misty dawn breaks over the silent tents. The only movement is a slight creaking from within the camper van.

**INT. VAN - CONTINUOUS**

Sophie's two bare feet stick out from under the duvet, facing downwards. Her front end is invisible, busy under the duvet delivering oral pleasure.

Sticking out the other end of the duvet is Alice's head, eyes closed. Fast asleep.

Alice lets out a loud SNORE. The duvet stops moving.

A loud YELP from Alice, now fully awake. She scrambles out of bed.

ALICE  
You fucking bit me!

Sophie pulls back the duvet to reveal an expression of complete indignation.

Angry, Alice jumps out of bed wearing her long t-shirt. Sophie claps her hands to get Alice's attention.

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)  
You fell asleep on me!

Alice faces away whilst pulling on her track suit bottoms.

ALICE  
So much for your 'non-violent communication'!

Sophie spies something on the back of Alice's right hip. She pulls down the top of Alice's tracksuit bottoms to reveal a tattoo in a love heart, with the name "GARY".

Alice is defensive.

ALICE (CONT'D)  
It was years ago. I never said I was always a lesbian.

Sophie stares at her, hurt. Alice picks up her mobile phone.

ALICE (CONT'D)  
Shit. No charge. I plugged us into the mains. No electric. No wifi! Fuck!

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)  
You're such a dick sometimes. It can't  
be from your dad. He's a sweetheart.

Alice makes for the side door to leave. She pauses, looks back at Sophie, who still looks hurt.

ALICE  
For fuck's sakes. I only knew I liked  
girls when I met you. You should be  
validated, shouldn't you?

Without waiting for a response, Alice exits the van.

**EXT. VAN - CONTINUOUS**

Breathing in the fresh early Autumn air, Alice sets off towards the woods. She notices the Black Van with the aerials parked in front of the entrance/exit.

She walks past her dad's electric car still attached to the tow rope, parked in front of a tatty FADED RED CANOE on a trailer.

**INT. TEEPEE - CONTINUOUS**

Alice's head peeps into the Teepee. John snores surrounded by yoga mats. Alice smiles fondly at him.

A sleeping bag lies empty on the other side of the tent. No sign of Aishia.

Alice moves on. The sound of BUZZING in the tent.

John SLAPS his neck. He drowsily scratches the insect bite that is already forming a red lump.

**INT. VAN - CONTINUOUS**

Sophie begins to extract the dirty plates Alice stacked into the cupboards. She opens the drawer with the dildo in it, and pulls out the official looking letter, addressed to her.

She hesitates, puts it back, and instead picks up the dildo along with a marker pen from the drawer. Begins to write along the side.

**EXT. CAMPSITE WOODS - CONTINUOUS**

Dew drips from Oak and Sycamore. Pine needles crunch. A blackbird's ecstatic song.

Alice puts her hand against the trunk of an apple tree, and is still for a moment. Screws up her face, curious, puts her ear to the trunk.

A faint MURMURING of intermingled voices. She breaks free, as if from a spell.

ALICE  
Must still be hungover.

Kneeling down next to a fallen log, Alice puts her face up close to some OYSTER MUSHROOMS.

ALICE (CONT'D)  
My old friends. Pleurotus ostreatus.

As if in response, the mushrooms spurt a fine white dust into her face. She withdraws quickly.

A CRASH of undergrowth as a Metal Bowl lands next to her. The bowl overflows with wild garlic roots, other muddy medicinal plants and an assortment of mushrooms.

Aishia stands shrouded in her mosquito net, looming over Alice.

AISHIA  
I find this bowl. I can make medicine now.

Alice recovers herself, scrambles to her feet.

ALICE  
Look, Asha.

AISHIA  
AIIISHIIA!

ALICE  
Yeh, whatever. Look. Woman to woman. I'm concerned about my dad. He's still vulnerable from my mum's death.

AISHIA  
Twenty five year ago?

ALICE  
Well, yeh, he's a sensitive man.

AISHIA  
You will betray him. I sense it.

ALICE  
Listen here, I know your game --

They hear a strange human sound.

KALI (O.S.)

OMMMM

Alice stops dead. Both women listen.

Following the sound through the trees, Alice and Aishia spy Kali, meditating alone in a clearing, her long plait coiled in her lap like a snake.

The leaves on the forest floor flutter around her, as if some energetic force throbs beneath the surface.

CRASHING undergrowth makes them spin around. Something is coming towards them through the bushes.

Sophie appears, lugging her camera and tripod. Alice puts her fingers to her lips to silence her.

Sophie expertly sets up her camera on a tripod and gets Kali into frame - which through Sophie's live view on the back of the camera, is in infrared - black and white, luminescent, surreal.

Sophie is spooked as Kali turns to face the camera and glares into the frame, looking directly at her.

CLICK as she takes the photo.

**EXT. CAMPSITE. TENTS - DAY**

As Kali walks towards her office, Alice follows her like an adoring puppy. Kali smiles but doesn't give Alice the attention she clearly craves. Sophie is confused by Alice's behavior.

ALICE

Thank you for inviting us. I'm sure we'll all have a relaxing healing time. It's very generous of you. But there's only one Teepee and my dad isn't really with Asha - -

KALI

It's the only spare tent.

ALICE

I promised him glamping --

KALI

I didn't know he was bringing a guest.

Just before Kali moves to enter her office, she pauses.

KALI (CONT'D)

Apologies, for being in a rush. We have gong yoga shortly. I'm so glad you arrived in time. You'll be better off here.

SOPHIE (BSL)

What do you --?

ALICE

(interrupts)

Just one more thing. I can't get any reception. No internet? No electricity?

KALI

The storm took everything down. It's only temporary. Come and join in?

John and Aisha have caught up. They stare at Kali, confused.

KALI (CONT'D)

The gong yoga.

**EXT. CAMPSITE WOODS - DAY**

Birds tweet. Wind rustles the tops of the trees. John and Aishia sit on a log and watch horrified at what they see.

Through the LIVE VIEW of Sophie's Camera IN INFRARED, Kali is giving a yoga class to the Campers in the woods. Kali chants something incomprehensible as they extricate themselves from positions they are not used to.

She hits the Gong to bathe them in sound vibrations.

CLICK.

The Viewfinder travels over the Campers stretched out on mats. It's clear they are in a certain amount of pain. Something white flickers around them.

Lying on a mat, Camper Mother holds her stomach with one hand, and Camper Father's hand with the other. Camper Father gives his wife an 'it'll be ok' smile of reassurance.

CLICK.

Alice is trying to join in but clearly yoga is not her thing. She gives Sophie a big false smile.

CLICK.

The Viewfinder moves to John near by. He is wearing a thin shirt that seems almost transparent in the infrared, twitching slightly, as if something is crawling under his skin.

CLICK.

Next to him through the Viewfinder is Aishia. Draped in the mosquito net, she holds a small pentagram made from wood bound with willow, pointing in the direction of Kali.

Without turning, Aishia SLAPS John's hand as he tries to scratch his oozing insect bite.

CLICK.

**EXT. VAN - LATER**

Sophie is arranging her camera equipment into its protective case. Camper Daughter approaches, curious.

**EXT. CAMPSITE - NIGHT**

A waxing almost full moon spills its white light over the handful of tents.

**EXT. CAMPSITE FIRE - NIGHT**

Aishia has made a ROARING CRACKLING campfire and is using a ladle to stir a potion in the iron pot.

Sophie has her laptop with her. Aishia enjoys watching John and Sophie gang up against Alice.

ALICE

Why can't you all just enjoy being in nature?

JOHN

Yoga? You told me glamping!

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)

You said it was wild camping!

JOHN

A retreat?

ALICE

No-one's forcing you to join in.

Sophie grabs a spoon and begins to BANG BANG it against the metal bowl. They all stare at her. Sophie indicates to look around them at the other campers, still BANGING loudly.

There is no reaction. Not a flicker.

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)  
Why are all the other Campers deaf?

Alice is genuinely surprised.

ALICE  
Maybe some tick-box thing? For funding? Who cares if the rest of them are deaf! Better for you?

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)  
They won't talk to me. The girl just signed so I'd know this is a silent retreat.

ALICE  
A silent retreat?

Sophie nods.

JOHN  
I'm not keeping silent.

ALICE  
Well if they're deaf dad, it doesn't really matter if you speak, does it? Is that soup ready yet, I'm starving.

John expectantly holds out a tin cup towards Aishia.

AISHIA  
It's for your wound.

Aishia indicates the large red lump forming on John's neck.

AISHIA (CONT'D)  
Stupid English.

ALICE  
Don't let her talk to you like that Dad.

JOHN  
Well she's been through a lot --

ALICE  
Listen, Asha..

AISHIA  
AIEEEESHIA!

ALICE  
I know you think you're a witch or  
something --

Aishia SLAMS the ladle against the iron pot, almost knocking it  
out of the fire.

AISHIA  
My grandmother was a witch of immense  
power --

Sophie sits opposite Aishia. She interrupts as she signs:

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)  
Was she a white witch?

Aishia looks at Alice.

AISHIA  
What is deaf English saying?

ALICE  
Don't call her that.

AISHIA  
OK. So what is English who not hear  
sound, saying?

ALICE  
She asked if your grandmother was a  
white witch.

AISHIA  
Hmmm. More... Grey.

ALICE  
That doesn't give you the right to be  
rude to people.

Aishia ROARS with laughter at the hypocrisy. Alice doesn't get  
it.

Sophie tries to show Alice her laptop screen with the surreal  
infrared photos of Kali. Alice is disinterested, still angry  
with Aishia.

As Aishia dips a cloth into the potion, Sophie moves around the  
fire to sit next to her to show Aishia the photos. Aishia is  
disturbed by the images.



AISHIA

There is evil in this place.

Sophie is surprised by her reaction. She signs to Alice to explain.

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)

Tell her it's infrared. It's supposed to look weird.

ALICE

She's doing a masters in photography. Likes this infrared stuff.

Alice drops her head down so Sophie can't lip read.

ALICE (CONT'D)

Can't see the point of taking photos of stuff you can't see with the human eye.

Aishia stares at the images.

AISHIA

It is light stalking. Seeing beyond the visible world.

ALICE

The only invisible force I believe in is --

JOHN

-- wifi.

John gives Aishia a parental 'what can I say?' look.

JOHN (CONT'D)

She is all scientist like her mother. Didn't even believe in Father Christmas.

Alice squirms under their joint gaze.

ALICE

Well he doesn't exist, does he?

They all stare at her, as if she has blasphemed.

ALICE (CONT'D)

OK, OK. I'll find out when the power will be back on so you can all watch videos on your phones. I'm going to try out some wild dancing. Wanna come?

Blank looks. As Alice stomps off, a sudden GUST OF WIND shakes the side of the teepee behind them and makes the fire CRACKLE.

**EXT. CAMPSITE WOODS - NIGHT**

That same breeze causes the leafy woodland floor to shudder. Ivy suspended from the trees, trembles.

Camper Father sits cross-legged alone on the ground, licking a greasy black substance from the inside of a tin cup, relishing every lick as if it were chocolate. He looks up guiltily when he realises Camper Mother is standing staring at him.

CAMPER MOTHER (BSL)  
What's happening to us?

Camper Father guiltily licks the inside of the cup.

**EXT. CAMPSITE - NIGHT**

Alice passes John's Car. The synthetic blanket covering the windscreen has disappeared.

Walking through the campsite normal looking Campers play ball, cook on fires. But they are sweating heavily for a cool early autumn night.

Alice notices a synthetic blanket just like the one from her dad's car windscreen, being melted down on a stove.

She sees some Campers coming out of the site shop, the open door left FLAPPING. Her attention moves to the BEAT OF DRUMS.

**EXT. CAMPSITE WOODS - CONTINUOUS**

The POUNDING of drum beats BOOM BOOM, throbbing through the trees as Alice follows the sound. It gets louder as she enters into a clearing.

ALICE'S BARE FEET MOVE AWKWARDLY

Alice sways at the edge of the dancers, now barefoot. A Camper plays the bongo drums. Kali plays a didgeridoo and randomly bangs the gong as Campers move in strange angulated ways.

**EXT. TEEPEE - NIGHT**

Distant drums. John washes dishes in a bowl by the fire. Sophie sits staring into the flames.

JOHN

Her mother was the same.

John waves his hand to get Sophie's attention.

JOHN (CONT'D)

Alice doesn't commit to anything other than her work. She is rubbish at relationships. You, however, you can see the goodness in her.

John smiles at Sophie's embarrassed reaction.

JOHN (CONT'D)

Yes of course I realise now that, well, you are more than just good friends. And the truth is, Alice knows I would not disapprove if she told me about you being together.

Sophie smiles, confused.

JOHN (CONT'D)

Because she knows I'm more likely to be booking the Registry Office and organising a wedding party.

Sophie smiles. She holds out her hand, indicating John should pass her a plate to dry up. He hands across the bowl of washed plates with a tea towel.

JOHN (CONT'D)

Telling me would make your relationship more committed than she is ready to accept.

The plate John is washing slips from his hands and cracks onto the ground. He ignores it.

JOHN (CONT'D)

I worry for her.

John throws the broken plate into the dead embers of the fire pit, and watches Sophie draw with a stick in the fire ashes. A stick woman with a pregnant bump.

JOHN (CONT'D)

Oh! Alice is pregnant?

Sophie shakes her head 'no'. Points the stick at the bump.

JOHN (CONT'D)

You're pregnant?

Sophie smiles, shakes her head again. She mimes rocking a baby, and points at John. Then at the pregnant bump.

JOHN (CONT'D)

Ah! Alice. Yes? Alice as a baby. Is that right?

Sophie confirms. She points at Alice's stick mother and destroys the image with the stick. John's face moves from confusion to horror.

JOHN (CONT'D)

No. Oh my goodness, no, she can't believe that? She can't.

Sophie holds John's stare, unwavering.

JOHN (CONT'D)

I told her that her mother died at birth. I didn't say it was her fault. But that's what she believes?

Sophie nods. John leaps up, distracted, unable to stay still.

JOHN (CONT'D)

No wonder she is so insecure. So difficult. So obsessed with being a success in her science. I never thought, I, I should say something?

Sophie shakes her head.

JOHN (CONT'D)

You're right. She probably doesn't even realise it herself. And it's so not true. Bloody hell.

John sweats profusely. Rubs the plaster stuck over the bite on his neck.

The GONG VIBRATES out over the campsite. Sophie stands.

JOHN (CONT'D)

You going to try the dancing?

Sophie shakes her head 'No' and mimes running away and hiding. John comes closer to make sure she can clearly see his lips.

JOHN (CONT'D)

Whatever you do, Sophie, don't let Alice put you second to her work. For her sakes, as much as yours.

As Sophie leaves, John leans down and picks up one of her long blonde hairs from the ground. He sniffs it.

**EXT. CAMPSITE WOODS - CONTINUOUS**

Kali demonstrates ecstatic dance by throwing her body about wildly in a frightening, but also beautiful, liberated way.

Driven by some internal discomfort, the group of Campers begin to really let go. It's infectious. Alice loosens up. Her arms flailing. Bare feet gliding over the soft earth.

Alice is in full flow, dancing like a wild thing. She comes to a stop, breathless. Realises the music has ended. The Campers are resting on the ground, amused.

Kali smiles at her. Alice continues to catch her breath. Smiles back.

**INT. TEEPEE - NIGHT**

Aishia, John and Sophie sit inside the Teepee. There is a COMMOTION from the Campers from outside. GRUNTING. Fighting over something. No-one in the Teepee seems keen to investigate.

The entrance flap is NOISILY pulled aside making them all jump. Alice enters.

AISHIA

What's happening outside?

ALICE

Just some campers having a disagreement. How am I supposed to know?

AISHIA

This place, it is evil.

ALICE

Oh will you stop it with the voodoo crap!

Aishia turns towards John.

AISHIA

That woman. Kali. She is one of them.

JOHN

One of who?

AISHIA  
Illuminati. Wake up!

ALICE  
The only thing wrong with this place  
is the wifi doesn't work.

Alice is angry at their blank stares. She stomps around the inside of the Teepee.

ALICE (CONT'D)  
Alright. Have it your way. We'll leave  
first thing and go to bloody  
Cleethorpes, if that's what you want?  
Who needs natural woodland when you  
can have a back garden full of gnomes  
and hanging baskets from Homebase?  
What's the point of drumming and  
dancing when we can all sit in my  
uncle's kitchen and listen to the  
Archers? Pack your stuff. We're  
leaving at dawn.

KALI (O.S.)  
I'm afraid not.

Alice, John and Aishia stare at Kali, framed in the doorway of the Teepee.

KALI (CONT'D)  
I said already. You are safe here.  
Just after you arrived there was an  
emergency Government Lockdown. You're  
not going anywhere.

#### **EXT. CAMPSITE ENTRANCE - NIGHT**

Alice, John, Sophie and Aishia stare at the Black Van with the  
aerials, which now has added a physical barricade across the  
entrance and is parked beside it.

ALICE  
Why are there barricades?

KALI  
To enforce the lockdown.

SOPHIE (BSL)  
Lockdown for what?

Sophie is surprised when Kali responds to Sophie with BSL whilst speaking.

KALI (BSL + SPEAKING)  
The Lancea virus. A five day circuit breaker.

AISHIA  
4 days more we prisoner?

KALI  
The barricade is there as a reminder until the lockdown ends.

AISHIA  
Why black van?

KALI  
This is all just precautionary. Unfortunately too many people no longer respect public safety for the greater good. Selfishness is a gene we have yet to tame.

ALICE  
When will the electricity be back on?

KALI  
I'll get the back up generator working at dawn so you can shower.

**EXT. SHOWER BLOCK - DAY**

The sound of the GENERATOR ROARS.

**INT. KALI'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS**

A RABBIT'S HEAD WITH EARS stares out from the inside of a FOOD PROCESSOR. The rest of the rabbit's dead body crammed in around it.

Kali puts the plug into an extension lead. BANGS the lid firmly on the top of the blender. Pushes the 'on' switch.

The processor WHIRRS. The glass container clouds with blood and fur.

**EXT. SHOWER BLOCK - CONTINUOUS**

Aishia wearing earpods sits at a picnic table near a bank of plug sockets, her phone plugged in to recharge.

Alice carrying a towel, rushes towards her.

ALICE  
So, we have WIFI?

AISHIA  
Only electric. I download before we  
come here.

ALICE  
Shit.

Alice heads into the shower block.

AISHIA  
Stupid English.

Alice pretends she didn't hear.

**INT. SHOWER BLOCK - CONTINUOUS**

The WHOOSH of water on Alice's head.

With the rush of water in her ears, Alice doesn't hear the GROANS of CAMPER MOTHER who staggers in pain into the shower block.

Entering a cubicle next to Alice, Camper Mother get some relief as she showers slumped on the floor, still with her clothes on.

**EXT. SHOWER BLOCK - CONTINUOUS**

Aishia scans around suspiciously to see the coast is clear, and then focuses on watching her phone screen.

**VIDEO ON PHONE:**

**INT. RESTAURANT (VIDEO)**

A PHONE CAMERA VIDEO in low light, taken from the angle of a restaurant table. We hear the video SOUND through Aishia's earpods:

A tipsy AMERICAN PETROCHEMIC PHARMA EXEC (30s) wears a baseball cap with a large red PC LOGO on the front. His MALE DATE is not in vision, except for his hands which intermittently appear in front of the camera, a braided friendship bracelet on one wrist.

The Petrochemic Exec is oblivious to the fact that the phone is covertly filming him.



A large mirror behind the Exec reflects out-of-focus restaurant guests and a waiter passing through. A RED APPLE is visible on a small plate on the table.

PETROCHEMIC PHARMA EXEC

Keep work separate from play they say  
but hey, fuck it. It's good to talk  
shop to a fellow exec. Making my trip  
to Great Britain worthwhile. Was it  
Tinder or --?

MALE DATE (O.S.)

Cupid. So yeh, like I said, I worked  
for Pasteur when the whole Dengvaxia  
thing hit. Messy.

PETROCHEMIC PHARMA EXEC

Philippines, right? How many kids?

The Male Date slides the braided bracelet around on his wrist  
with his free hand.

MALE DATE (O.S.)

Died? About a hundred and thirty.

The Petrochemic Pharma Exec takes a glug of wine.

MALE DATE (O.S.) (CONT'D)

But you, you're working on something  
really cool now, right? You hinted  
earlier? Saving humanity from cancer,  
liver disease --

PETROCHEMIC PHARMA EXEC

From the evils of petrochemicals, yeh.  
It's hush hush right now. Even the  
trials are secret. You bite your  
nails?

MALE DATE

Eh, yeh.

PETROCHEMIC PHARMA EXEC

Me too.

MALE DATE (O.S.)

PetroVax right? A petavalent mRNA?

PETROCHEMIC PHARMA EXEC

Name's not confirmed yet. Fucking  
miracle drug. So you'll get your  
PetroVax jab, and Boom! Immune to  
petrochemical toxins.

MALE DATE (O.S.)

What do you mean?

PETROCHEMIC PHARMA EXEC

Well you like eating food that has petrochemicals in, right? Processed shit, chicken nuggets full of TBHQ, all the stuff that tastes good, yeh? And that polyester mix shirt you have there, the chemicals are absorbed by your skin etc yadiya. But with this new jab, you'll be completely safe.

MALE DATE (O.S.)

Wow. A miracle. Like, most people don't realise how they're getting drip-fed poison every day by all these oil-based chemicals, but yeh, you'll be saving them from their own ignorance, right?

PETROCHEMIC PHARMA EXEC

But there's this side effect.

MALE DATE (O.S.)

Always! yeh? So, you'll want to get rid of that?

PETROCHEMIC PHARMA EXEC

That's the best part. That's where the real profits are.

MALE DATE (O.S.)

Cool. So you want the side effects? Worked those out through Gain of Function?

PETROCHEMIC PHARMA EXEC

Close. Directed Evolution. We need to refine the side effects still - but we don't want to get rid of them completely cause that's what's going to keep the money pouring in.

MALE DATE

Petrochemic has a drug to control the side effects?

PETROCHEMIC PHARMA EXEC

I knew you'd be smart. Even from the photo.

MALE DATE (O.S.)

So like, deliberately setting fire to forests and having the fire brigade know in advance, kind of thing? So they can put the fire out?

PETROCHEMIC PHARMA EXEC

Yeh. Kind of. You've beautiful eyes, you know that?

MALE DATE (O.S.)

Er, thanks. So wow! Genius!

PETROCHEMIC PHARMA EXEC

It's just business man. But we will be saving people from cancer. It's for the greater good.

MALE DATE (O.S.)

Is it ethical?

PETROCHEMIC PHARMA EXEC

What?

MALE DATE (O.S.)

Do you know what that means?

PETROCHEMIC PHARMA EXEC

Hey, enough shop talk. Tell me. What kind of guys do you like to hang with?

MALE DATE (O.S.)

What would you say if I told you I've just recorded our whole conversation?

PETROCHEMIC PHARMA EXEC

What the fuck? Give me the --

The Male Date puts his hand over the phone.

MALE DATE (O.S.)

I streamed it. It's already out there.

He takes his hand away.

PETROCHEMIC PHARMA EXEC

You're kidding me, right? I'll just say, I'm on a date. Everyone lies on dates. You're kidding me, right?

MALE DATE (O.S.)

It's for real.

The Petrochemic Pharma Exec stands up, so we only see his groin and his angry waving hands.

PETROCHEMIC PHARMA EXEC  
 You fucking asshole! I liked you. You  
 fucking lying asshole! I feel abused  
 man.

MALE DATE (O.S.)  
 You're worried about me not being a  
 real date?

Petrochemic Pharma Exec bends low to make eye contact with the O.S. Male Date. He's very close to the camera.

PETROCHEMIC PHARMA EXEC  
 Honesty matters man. Honesty matters.  
 Asshole. Like coming on a date and  
 not being real, fuck, now that's  
 unethical. You fuck.

He slams his hands on the table. The RED APPLE in the fruit bowl vibrates, and bounces off the plate and rolls off the table.

**EXT. VAN - DAY**

AN APPLE picked up from the ground and put back in the big apple barrel by Alice, wet hair, carrying a towel.

**INT. VAN - CONTINUOUS**

Alice enters the van drying her hair. Sophie is agitated. Her open laptop shows the woodland infrared photos.

The Mycelium appears as a white mesh under the infrared light, in areas where the leaves have been moved aside. And it also completely covers the bodies of the Campers lying on their yoga mats.

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)  
 Something's wrong with this place. We  
 need to get out of here.

ALICE  
 Not you as well? You've been infected  
 by that mad witch.

The Mycelium is more prevalent in Aishia, spreading up under the skin of her legs and torso, and covering almost the whole body of John.

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)  
 I changed the settings in  
 Lightroom. It looks like mycelium.  
 Growing up under our skin.

Alice peers at the computer screen. The only people the Mycelium spores are Kali and Alice, except for some strands climbing up Alice's right leg.

ALICE  
 How do I know you haven't just  
 photo-shopped that or something, to  
 make me break lockdown rules?  
 Mycelium doesn't grow under human  
 skin.

Sophie is shocked. Angry.

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)  
 You didn't even tell your dad we're  
 dating. He guessed, by the way.

ALICE  
 See, I didn't need to make a big thing  
 about it, did I?

Alice grabs a purse.

ALICE (CONT'D)  
 I'm going to get some food from the  
 shop, you coming?

No need for sign language. Sophie's looks says it all.

**EXT. CAMPSITE SHOP - DAY**

Approaching the site shop, Alice notices the padlock on the door is broken.

Camper Son and Camper Daughter sit on the grass nearby. Camper Daughter rummages through a cloth bag from which she pulls out a box of frozen pizzas. Camper Son pulls out a box of frozen chicken nuggets.

**INT. CAMPSITE SHOP - CONTINUOUS**

Alice enters the site shop to find most of the shelves are bare, except for a handful of organic products, bottles of vegetable oil, and some fresh unwaxed fruit. A freezer appears empty.

Intrigued, she brushes off some ice from the bottom of the freezer to reveal a remaining box with two small cheap pizzas.

Through the open shop doorway, Alice sees outside that Camper Daughter and Camper Son now hungrily gnaw on pizzas and chicken nuggets, still frozen and raw.

**EXT. CAMPSITE WOODS - DAY**

Walking alone in the woods, Alice spies the empty tin mug. Picks it up and sniffs the oily residue inside, crumples up her nose at the smell.

By the LARGE GONG Alice locates Kali, polishing the shaft of the gong mallet with a cloth.

ALICE

Never imagined you in lycra doing this yoga stuff.

KALI

PhD supervisors have many sides to them not always revealed to their students. And you wouldn't catch me dead wearing lycra.

ALICE

Why are the teenage campers eating raw pizzas?

Kali reverently puts down the gong mallet.

KALI

How the hell should I know? Teenagers love pizzas. Maybe their parents didn't teach them how to cook.

ALICE

Why were you so insistent I came.

KALI

Do your family know that I was your research supervisor?

ALICE

I didn't want them to think it was anything to do with my work.

KALI

Isn't it? I always hoped there would be a way for us to work together. As equals.

Alice finds it hard to hide her pleasure.

KALI (CONT'D)

I invited you here to become connected to the fabric of life. Why wait until our bodies rot and are sucked into the wood-wide-web when right now whilst still alive, we can infuse our spirits with the forces of nature? While we still can. Before the climate kills us all.

Very slowly, Kali breaks off small pieces of the mushroom and begins to chew them.

ALICE

But science will be able to --

KALI

It's too late Alice. You are a scientist. You know that climate change is way too advanced for us to do anything more than just try to make the remaining time more profitable for humanity. That's why you moved your focus to gene research.

ALICE

I've got more chance of funding for my GJB2 project.

KALI

Where you can potentially equal your mother's seminal research on the DFNA5 genes.

Alice shrugs. She won't deny it.

KALI (CONT'D)

And what does your girlfriend think about your own research?

ALICE

Well, she's nervous. I mean I've told her a hundred times it's not about stopping Deaf babies being born, but --

Kali grabs the gong mallet and begins to whack the gong to punctuate her words as she speaks with passion.

KALI

(GONG!)

She is right! We must cast off the eugenic thinking, the 'common sense' ableism, editing out the kinds of people that medical science and society categorize as diseased or genetically contaminated.

(GONG!)

Removing the existence of those of us accused of having 'bad genes'.

ALICE

But -- ?

KALI

(GONG)

Bad genes don't necessarily lead to bad lives, just as good genes don't necessarily lead to good lives.

Kali hands Alice the mallet.

KALI (CONT'D)

Science must not be judge and jury. It is our servant, not our master.

ALICE

Why are the other campers deaf?

KALI

Because they are part of my community.

Kali pulls back her hair to reveal a hearing transmitter behind one ear.

KALI (CONT'D)

I didn't lose my hearing till I was twelve. I have an implant. I don't have to rely on lip reading anymore, and no 'deaf accent' to give me away. The wonders of science!

ALICE

This isn't just a retreat, is it?



**EXT. CAMPSITE OFFICE - DAY**

Aishia's face pressed against the glass of a window into Kali's office. She doesn't like what she sees.

**EXT. CAMPSITE - LATER**

Kali and Alice stroll together from the woods through the campsite, like colleagues discussing a shared project.

KALI

I couldn't tell you about it before. It's still top secret.

ALICE

I get that. So you're testing the drug on these volunteers to --

KALI

--to eliminate cancer.

ALICE

So you're running a drugs trial?

KALI

It's mRNA genetic therapy at its best. I'm just gathering enough data to move forwards with larger trials.

ALICE

So you vaccinated them before we arrived?

KALI

Of course. The vaccine, it was based on the DFNA5 --

ALICE

My mother's work? You're carrying on her work?

KALI

Yes. And maybe, just maybe, I can persuade Petrochemic to bring you on board.

Alice is blown away.

ALICE

Wow, so, when will the trial data be ready?

KALI

As soon as the lockdown ends. This campsite has been in my family for years. So it was a perfect place to run a case study.

Kali stops. Doesn't look at Alice as she speaks slowly.

KALI (CONT'D)

I want you to be part of this project. It will make your career.

She looks directly at Alice.

KALI (CONT'D)

This is your mother's legacy. Don't waste it.

Alice stares back, her gaze lost in the the dark pools of Kali's eyes.

**EXT. ORANGE TENT - DAY**

Sophie shakes out dust from a small rug, framed by A LARGE ORANGE TENT. The SOUNDS OF SOBBING AND GROANS emanate from inside the Orange Tent but Sophie does not react.

SILENCE. Sophie's perspective. No sound, as she watches Alice enter Kali's campsite office.

Sophie moves away. We hear again the SOBBING AND GROANS from the tent.

**INT. TEEPEE - NIGHT**

Aishia packs belongings into her bag. Sophie is unable to stop her. Alice stands blocking the entrance to the Teepee.

John is twitchy and irritated, ignoring the commotion. He searches for something in his rucksack. Sniffs at the contents.

ALICE

Dad's car is illegal to drive and has a dead battery. And you're not taking the van.

AISHIA

Then I walk.

ALICE

Leaving now would be breaking the law.

(MORE)

ALICE (CONT'D)

We're not going to be irresponsible  
and ignore the science.

AISHIA

I saw certificates on office wall.  
She Big Pharma. This place, it  
evil.

SOPHIE(BSL + V.O.)

Tomorrow it will be just three more  
days of lockdown.

AISHIA

She Big Oil.

ALICE

Well which one is it then?

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)

They're the same thing.

ALICE

Don't encourage her. Let the witch  
do what she wants.

John is still rifling through his rucksack.

Sophie hesitates, she pulls out the official looking ENVELOPE.  
She hands it to Alice who pulls out the letter, and reads it.

ALICE (CONT'D)

For Christ's Sakes! Sophie, what the  
fuck?!

Aishia grabs the letter and reads it.

AISHIA

You going to prison?

SOPHIE (BSL & V.O.)

I may only get a fine.

Alice ignores Aishia's raised hands requesting a translation.

SOPHIE (BSL & V.O.) (CONT'D)

It's only a first offense.

ALICE

They stick you in prison just for  
being there.

Alice moves around, agitated.

ALICE (CONT'D)

Look, all this Just Stop Oil stuff, it's fine and everything - but you said you wouldn't get arrested. I can't be hanging out with criminals.

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)

Non-violent direct action is the only way to create real change.

ALICE

Don't you get it? Science is our best chance. Not blocking roads. Jesus!

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)

We can't just do nothing?

ALICE

Some save-the-planet rebel you are. You wear synthetic pajamas --

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)

They're second hand. Like my van. Not like your designer organic cotton --

ALICE

Organic cotton releases less CO2 --

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)

-- just one of your organic t-shirts uses thousands of liters of water --

ALICE

Mostly rain-fed, actually --

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)

My jymjams came from a skip!

Sophie is distracted by John who pulls a bottle from his rucksack. Alice is too intent on winning the argument to notice.

ALICE

You wash with chemical-laden shampoo for fucks sake. You think you're better than me because you go on marches --

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)

Better than being a pretend eco-warrior. Organic this and save the world with science that --

John takes the top off his bottle of LYNX AFTERSHAVE.

ALICE

So you want me to get arrested?

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)

Sometimes you have to be a pain in the  
ass just to be heard.

A LOUD GLUGGING. They turn their heads towards the sound.

John is drinking his aftershave.

Sophie and Aishia struggle to stop him. Aishia SCREAMING at  
him. Alice hesitates, shocked.

**INT. KALI'S OFFICE - NIGHT**

Alice charges in through the door, in a panic.

ALICE

We need an ambulance, how do we  
call --

KALI

I'm sure that won't be necessary.  
We have a first aid kit.

Kali is all yogic calm.

ALICE

But my dad just drank his fucking  
aftershave.

Alice stares at A SHOTGUN hanging from a wall.

ALICE (CONT'D)

What the fuck is going on here?

KALI

Association is not causality. You  
know that.

Kali abruptly moves towards a desk drawer and removes something.

ALICE

You got me to bring my family into  
the middle of a fucking drug's  
trial --

KALI

I couldn't say anything. Very hush  
hush. NDA. You understand.

ALICE

Don't 'NDA' me. My dad isn't part  
of your trial.

Kali turns towards Alice, who notices that what Kali's taken out  
of the drawer is a blue battery powered vibrator. On the desk is  
a green concoction in a jug.

Kali turns back to the green drink and uses the vibrator as a  
smoothie blender

ALICE (CONT'D)

My father has just poisoned himself  
drinking --

WHIRR BUZZ. Kali is running the blender off battery power.

She shouts over the noise:

KALI

Needs must, when the generator's off.

Kali pours a glass of the green sludge and offers it towards  
Alice with one hand, her other still holding the vibrator. Alice  
refuses the drink.

KALI (CONT'D)

Imagine. Owning your own home?  
Anywhere in the world?

Kali remains staring at Alice, green smoothie dripping off the  
vibrator onto the floor.

KALI (CONT'D)

You'll never get that working zero  
hour contracts at a University.

Kali walks slowly towards Alice. Up close face to face. Alice is  
mesmerized.

KALI (CONT'D)

PetroChemic pay well for good science.

Alice absorbs this.

KALI (CONT'D)

Is he actually ill?

Alice snaps out of it, remembers her father.

Sophie runs into the office. She Signs to Alice:

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)  
 He's fine. Just sitting staring at  
 the fire. He hasn't even been sick.

ALICE  
 So we don't need to try and get an  
 ambulance?

KALI  
 It would take hours during a  
 lockdown. He'd be in more danger in  
 a hospital than staying here.

Sophie doesn't disagree.

ALICE  
 O.K. We'll just keep an eye on him  
 then?

Sophie looks suspiciously at Kali, holding the blue vibrator.

KALI  
 Perhaps he was just deficient in  
 some mineral or other? Or mistook  
 it for brandy?

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)  
 He doesn't drink.

Sophie's attention is drawn to a large AQUARIUM covered by a  
 dark cloth.

Alice walks around the office interested in the scientific  
 accolades on the walls branded with the red PC logo.

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.) (CONT'D)  
 Alice?

No sign of wanting to leave yet. Sophie hesitates. Angry, she  
 stomps off.

An expensive computer plugged into a battery looks out of place.

ALICE  
 So you have internet? Hard-wired in?  
 Electricity?

KALI  
 Battery power. No internet though.  
 Google won't add much to what I've  
 created. It's already patented.

Alice is unable to hide her excitement.

ALICE  
You're really that close?

Alice notices the the computer screensaver has floating graphics of spike proteins with the quote:

*"'Innovation is the real driver of progress.'* - Bill Gates".

ALICE (CONT'D)  
Sophie's noticed mycelium, with her camera infrared. It's, well it looks like it's climbing under our skin.

KALI  
That's ridiculous.

ALICE  
I know, right? But I was wondering if it's a side effect or --

KALI  
Don't get distracted Alice. The drug has some growing pains, but we can fix that. Together. If you choose to join the project.

Kali moves over to the office door and opens it.

KALI (CONT'D)  
But it's a big commitment. You may want to discuss it with your girlfriend. I assume she is, your girlfriend?

Alice nods. Realising she is supposed to leave, Alice obediently moves past Kali, but stops when Kali puts her hand on her shoulder.

KALI (CONT'D)  
I don't know if I can trust you, Alice? Your mother, she betrayed the integrity of her work.

ALICE  
What do you mean?

KALI  
I need to be sure. That you won't make the same mistakes.

There is a pause as Alice realises that Kali's hand is still on her shoulder.



KALI (CONT'D)

Your mother's work was seminal. Such a shame. Dying that way. Abandoning her child. And her work.

ALICE

Dying in childbirth isn't abandoning me, not really.

Kali's face expresses a flicker of confusion.

Through the doorway, a group of Campers are seen BANGING on the side of the large Oil Tank which RINGS HOLLOW.

KALI

The oil for the generator's run out. More is on the way. No more hot showers for now I'm afraid.

**INT. TEEPEE - DAY**

John sleeps soundly, though he is noticeably sweating. Alice smiles as she stares at him through the open doorway. Reassured.

**INT. CAMPSITE SHOP - DAY**

Alice pulls the pizza box free from the icy freezer.

**INT. VAN - DAY**

Alone in the van, Alice opens a drawer and pulls out a bottle of lavender essential oil. She drips some over one of the two small pizzas in the box.

**EXT. CAMPSITE SHOP - DAY**

Alice lays the two pizzas close to the two teenagers, who are lolling in the grass. She sniffs one of them, and then adds some more lavender oil for good measure. The two small pizzas lie as if bait for wild animals.

The teenagers watch her cautiously. Then they sniff the air. Camper Son grabs one of the pizzas, whilst Camper Daughter turns her nose up at the second one that smells of lavender oil, and tries to grab some of the pizza from her brother.

Alice's expression is more of curiosity than concern.

ALICE (PRE-LAP).  
 Tertiary butylhydroquinone.  
 Commonly known as E number 319.  
 It's in loads of processed foods.

**EXT. TEEPEE. CAMPFIRE - DAY**

John is seated behind Sophie. He leans against the side of the Teepee and absent-mindedly chews on a bread roll. It's hard for the others to see him clearly because Sophie is seated in front of him on a rug with her laptop open.

ALICE  
 Derived from petroleum. Basically,  
 it's like using lighter fluid as a  
 preservative.

JOHN  
 So what is going on here?

ALICE  
 I haven't been totally honest with  
 you.

Aishia can't help but GUFFAW loudly.

ALICE (CONT'D)  
 Kali is working on a drug to cure  
 cancer. The Campers are part of a  
 trial. Imagine. Whole populations  
 immune to cancer, thanks to the  
 power of the DFNA5 deaf gene.

JOHN  
 But that's what --

ALICE  
 Yes. It was.

AISHIA  
 What?

JOHN  
 It was what Alice's mother was  
 working on. It was her dream.

AISHIA  
 So why is drug making people eat  
 raw pizzas?

ALICE

Well it isn't, is it? And Dad  
didn't have any of the drug so it  
must be down to something else.

John peers over Sophie's shoulder. He is horrified at what he  
sees on Sophie's laptop.

JOHN

What in heaven's name is this? You can  
see me naked!

ALICE

You're not naked dad.

JOHN

You can see through my clothes!

IN THE INFRARED PHOTO on Sophie's laptop, John's skin through  
his clothes looks white, with the mycelium under his skin which  
covers almost his whole body.

Sophie points to a large thicker concentration of it around the  
bite on John's neck.

JOHN (CONT'D)

Why can't you just take normal photos  
Sophie. And what is all this stuff  
climbing over my body?

ALICE

Under your skin. We think it's --

Sophie waits for Alice to admit it.

ALICE (CONT'D)

We think it may possibly be, well, it  
might be, Mycelium.

Sophie nods, vindicated.

AISHIA

Connector of Wood Wide Web. Trees  
communicate, share nutrients, warning  
each other of droughts, pests --

ALICE

Yeh, so the question is --

AISHIA

Made from same substance in bodies of  
insects --

ALICE  
Chitin, yes, so --

AISHIA  
The biggest living organism on whole  
planet --

ALICE  
Yeh, we know --

JOHN  
So that made me want to drink my  
aftershave?

Aishia pulls out a very chewed *Beach Boys* C.D. from John's  
pocket.

ALICE  
It could be. You see dad. This is  
my chance to --

Aishia waves the chewed C.D.

AISHIA  
He try to eat C.D. He infected.

JOHN  
It was one of my favorites. Ruined.

ALICE  
What's more interesting is why the  
mycelium isn't attracted to Kali. And  
only a little bit to me.

AISHIA  
Is part of evil science plan?

Alice is about to react, but takes a calming breath.

ALICE  
I don't think so. Kali didn't seem to  
know anything about it. Maybe this  
could be my contribution?

Alice paces around the fire, turning her head to allow Sophie to  
lip read.

ALICE (CONT'D)  
This is something incredible. Don't  
you see? I shouldn't be even telling  
you this. It's top secret.

AISHIA  
She turn people into Petro-Zombies.



John's mouth. He has been chewing on the ends of Sophie's hair inside his burger bun. He is mortified.

ALICE

What the hell's wrong with you dad?

AISHIA

Bite on his neck. That is how he infected. He will become petro-zombie.

ALICE

That's ridiculous, like most of what comes out of your mouth.

Aishia stands and goes face to face with Alice, threatening.

AISHIA

Who are you to talk. You don't treat him well. You have nothing to say.

Before Alice can respond, Sophie gets between them, signing to Alice.

SOPHIE (BSL & V.O.)

Ok, Ok, we still have to get through this till lockdown ends. So, Einstein, how do we stop the mycelium from invading our bodies?

#### **EXT. CAMPSITE FIRE - NIGHT**

The shadowy forms of Campers come and go, as they aimlessly wander about, as if inebriated. BURLY CAMPER saunters past sucking on a tube of toothpaste like it's a popsicle.

#### **INT. VAN - LATER**

Into bin bags Alice is putting Sophie's self-care products containing petrochemicals, much to Sophie's dismay. Her makeup, skin creams, even her synthetic pink pajamas. Alice shows her the labels of ingredients to justify the raid.

As Sophie tries to reclaim her deodorant, Alice shakes her head. This is the only way.

Reluctantly, Sophie holds up various items and Alice confirms with a nod they need to go into the bin bag: washing powder; vitamin pills; synthetic clothing; polystyrene packaging; cucumbers with a wax coating; milk --

Sophie protests.

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)  
Milk? You're kidding?

ALICE  
Contains antibiotics and pesticides.  
Made using oil byproducts.

Sophie tugs at a Monster Energy Drink she wants to rescue.

ALICE (CONT'D)  
Red food colouring E129 made from coal  
tar.

Alice wins the battle and the can goes into the bag.

**INT. TEEPEE - CONTINUOUS**

Sophie reluctantly holds another bin bag open as Alice raids John and Aishia's respective stash of: sun cream; shampoo; shaving foam; lipstick; aspirin; antihistamines; nylon tights; sunglasses; toothpaste.

**EXT. TEEPEE - NIGHT**

Emotionally exhausted, wearing ill-fitting cotton clothes from Alice's suitcase, the group stand outside the TeePee.

JOHN  
And throwing this away will help?

ALICE  
I'm betting that the reason Kali and I are not attracting the Mycelium is because we don't eat or wear products that contain petrochemicals.

John still looks bewildered.

ALICE (CONT'D)  
Dad, this way we are just making sure. I mean we are totally safe. There is no way Kali or PetroChemic would put us in danger, right? But let's see if this stops the mycelium?

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)  
This is just another science experiment to you, isn't it?

ALICE  
See it as an opportunity to be healthier.

AISHIA

If you are right, then you are not so stupid as I thought.

Alice looks vindicated.

ALICE

All science involves trial and error. No great discoveries were made without some sacrifices. Even if Kali is a bit, well, extreme, we're not in any danger, are we?

JOHN

But the other Campers were eating raw junk food.

ALICE

But it's not doing them any harm, is it?

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)

Can't you see? Nature has been enslaved by science? Would you're mother really have been OK with this?

ALICE

Nature is serving science. And yes. Should would. She was a scientist.

John is twitching nervously. They follow his gaze. A group of equally twitchy Campers approach.

Sophie steps forwards and offers them the bags of loot, which they take gratefully. As they retreat, John makes a grab at one of the bags and pulls out some SHAMPOO and begins to drink it.

The other campers start to fight over the contents of the bags. Aishia grabs John's arm and pulls him into the Teepee, as Sophie snatches the shampoo bottle off John.

Nervously, Sophie and Alice back away from the fray and begin to re-enter the Teepee.

A lone BUM SNIFFER CAMPER grabs Alice by the waist and sniffs her right hip through her track suit. Alice pushes him away.

ALICE (CONT'D)

Fuck off. Creep.

Bum Sniffer Camper retreats. Sophie looks worried.



ALICE (CONT'D)

My tattoo. Made with chemical inks.  
How was I to know back then?

Alice walks away into the Teepee. Sophie slides the shampoo bottle into her jacket pocket.

Kali stands in the shadows. Watching.

**EXT. CAMPSITE PERIMETER - NIGHT**

A large metal chain-link fence cuts off escape from the woods. A BUZZING electrical sound can be heard.

**EXT. VAN - NIGHT**

A scribbled paper sign is stuck to the van door. "TRUTH MATTERS".

Alice tries to open the side door. It's locked. She bangs. No response.

As Alice reluctantly opens the back door of John's car, Aishia looms out of the darkness, making her jump.

Aishia indicates the Black Van with the aerials on its roof, next to the barricaded entrance.

AISHIA

Scrambled communications. Only police and army use that.

ALICE

You are so paranoid. It's actually quite funny.

AISHIA

Think, stupid English. Why would there be guards at remote campsite?

ALICE

Like Kali said. People got fed up with lock-downs so they have to enforce them now.

AISHIA

With guns?

Alice begins to protest, but Aishia disappears back into the darkness.

**EXT. CAMPSITE CLEARING - NIGHT**

Kali is luminescent in the moonlight as she strikes some impressive yoga poses, silhouetted against the sky.

**INT. OFFICE - NIGHT**

Sophie is sneaking into Kali's empty office. She approaches the large covered aquarium.

**EXT. OFFICE - CONTINUOUS**

Two Campers are fighting over a bottle of shampoo. When some of it spills on the ground, one of them begins to lap it up like a dog.

The second Camper glugs from the bottle and casts it aside, empty. Then sniffs the air. Moves towards the open door of Kali's office.

**INT. OFFICE - CONTINUOUS**

Sophie lifts up the cloth over the aquarium. Jumps back as now THOUSANDS of mosquitos SWARM inside.

Behind Sophie, the Two Campers are moving up behind her. One stumbles on a chair. But Sophie hears nothing. Remains transfixed by the mosquitos.

The two Campers come closer, sniffing the air.

Sophie covers the acquarium up again. Turns. SCREAMS.

KALI (O.S.)  
Get out of my office.

The Two Campers see Kali and sheepishly shuffle out. Kali gives Sophie a quizzical look.

Shaken, Sophie indicates wanting to wash.

KALI (CONT'D)  
We'll have to wait for more oil.  
Now run along.

**INT./EXT. VAN - NIGHT**

Sophie has the bed to herself in the van, lying asleep. She does not hear the METALLIC SOUND of the van radio arial being broken off. Nor the driver's door being wedged open with a knife.

**EXT. VAN - CONTINUOUS**

A metal knife is being used to push the driver's door apart just enough to allow a thin piece of arial wire looped at the end, to slip inside the door towards the inside lock.

Success.

**INT. VAN. CAB - CONTINUOUS**

A woman's hand scrabbles in the glove box for a KEY. The key goes into the ignition.

**INT. VAN. BACK - CONTINUOUS**

Sophie wakes suddenly in the back, as the van vibrates.

**INT. JOHN'S CAR - CONTINUOUS**

THE ROARING of the van engine wakes Alice. She scrambles out of the car to see the van backing up towards the site entrance, driven by Aishia, with a woozy John next to her.

**INT. VAN CAB/BACK - CONTINUOUS**

Inside the van we can hear Sophie BANGING on the partition door. The gears GRIND as Aishia struggles to drive the thing in reverse.

Sophie runs to the back of the van and climbs on the bed and opens the curtains.

TWO LARGE RIFLES are pointed right at her as the van backs towards the armed Guards at the entrance.

Alice sees Sophie frozen in fear, the guns pointed directly at her.

**EXT./INT. VAN - CONTINUOUS**

A COUGH AND SPLUTTER as the van engine fails and stops. Sophie remains frozen to the spot, as the rifles are lowered.

Alice sighs with relief. She appears at the cab window, holding her hand out for the keys.

ALICE

Plenty of vegetable oil in the shop,  
if you want to fill up next time you  
try to steal the van.

Reluctantly, Aishia clammers out of the driving seat and hands back the keys.

Aishia grabs John's arm to stop him staggering towards the barricade. John calls out to the Guards, barely visible in the darkness.

JOHN

This is not bloody China. Why are you  
keeping us here?

AISHIA

(to Alice)

This is no lock-down. This is lock-in.

As Aishia and John walk away, Alice stares bewildered at Sophie who looks at her through the back window of the van.

ALICE

It's for the safety of all of us.

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)

What are the mosquitos for?

Alice is confused. Sophie yanks the curtains closed.

Alice stares at the Black Van and the barricades.

ALICE

Shit.

**INT. VAN - DAY**

Sophie sits on the front of the bed, as Alice tentatively enters the van.

ALICE

Just come to get some chocolate.

Alice opens the drawer. She sees the Dildo and picks it up. Sophie keeps her gaze locked on to Alice.

The dildo has "Alice" written clearly along the side. Sophie doesn't even blink.

ALICE (CONT'D)

Ok, maybe yes, I've been a bit of a --

She waves the silicone dick. Sophie agrees. Alice sits next to Sophie on the bed.

ALICE (CONT'D)

I just wanted more than zero hour contracts as a lecturer. I want to move out and buy my own home. A place for --

Alice squirms, but she gets the words out.

ALICE (CONT'D)

A place for both of us.

Sophie stands. Alice grabs at her hand, waiting till she turns before speaking.

ALICE (CONT'D)

What's wrong with that? You want the truth, Sophes? I don't want to live with my dad for the rest of my life. I'm one of the good guys. Obviously I'll only work for a company that isn't destroying the planet. You know that. I want to be like my mum, using science for the greater good.

Sophie begins to pull something out from under the bed covered in brown paper.

ALICE (CONT'D)

Look I know this isn't the family holiday I planned --

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)

Happy Anniversary.

Alice looks confused.

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.) (CONT'D)

It's been 3 months since we first met.

Alice is awkward about Sophie's enthusiasm for their relationship reaching such a meager milestone.

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.) (CONT'D)

Actually I was going to give it to you for your birthday next month but now seems --

Alice pulls off the brown paper covering the package. Sophie stares at Alice's expression, trying to decipher her reaction.

It's a solar panel and wind turbine kit designed for camper vans to go 'off grid'.

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.) (CONT'D)

We can recharge the van batteries.  
And I need to charge my laptop --

Alice cuts Sophie short as she playfully leaps onto her, pushing her backwards onto the bed, squealing with delight.

**EXT. VAN - DAY**

The solar panels and mini wind turbine are connected to the van battery. Alice and Sophie hug excitedly as the turbine blades begin to turn in the breeze.

Aishia plugs a charger into John's car, watched by Alice.

ALICE

We'll have to tow Dad's car. No  
need to charge it.

Aishia ignores her.

**EXT. VAN - EVENING**

The sun glints off the solar panels, glitters and dies as night falls.

**INT. JOHN'S CAR - EVENING**

A drugged-looking John lolls in the back seat of his car, no windscreen, with Aishia at the wheel. She turns on the electric engine.

With a satisfied look, Aishia pushes John so he topples sideways onto the back seat. Ducking down as far as she can with her eye line just above the dashboard, there is no sign of the guards at the entrance.

Aishia puts the car into gear and floors the accelerator pedal.

The car lurches BACKWARDS.

The tip of the faded red canoe SMASHES through the back windscreen, impaling the car. The trunk lid springs open.

**INT. VAN - NIGHT**

Alice is asleep next to Sophie, her eyelids flickering.

**EXT. WOODLAND - NIGHT (INFRARED)**

Alice in her lab coat walks through the woods in the infrared black and white landscape. The white coffin luminescent in the moonlight.

Cautiously, Alice pushes the coffin lid away from her without getting too close. No cat this time. Slowly she approaches and looks inside.

SNARLING and GROWLING, a small DOG makes Alice leap away.

She pushes the lid back over the corpse. The coffin goes quiet, but she can hear movement from inside.

A blackened rotting arm thrusts out of the white shroud holding a hypodermic syringe, reaching towards Alice.

Her Mother's head is revealed through the broken coffin. The head rolls sideways to face Alice.

Silently her Mother mouths again the words "Forgive Me". She raises her arm into the air and plunges the syringe towards her neck.

**INT. TEEPEE - NIGHT**

Alice is raging around the teepee screaming at John, who is woozy drinking Aishia's tea. Aishia glares at Alice from her sleeping bag.

ALICE

Tell me the truth dammit. There was a needle. She stabbed herself. I saw it.

JOHN

You can't know that. It's impossible.

ALICE

Tell me what happened to mum.

JOHN

A horrible accident, no-one to blame.

ALICE

So she didn't die in childbirth?

John is too tired and too stoned to carry on with the lie.

JOHN

We could do nothing to stop her. We just have to accept it.

ALICE

Why have you lied to me all these years?

John fiddles with his hearing aid.

JOHN

I can't hear you.

ALICE

Yes you can. Why did you lie?

JOHN

Because. Because it was the kindest thing to do.

ALICE

Kind?

Aishia zips open her sleeping bag and stands, still shrouded in her mosquito net, turning on John.

AISHIA

You lie about her killing own mother?

JOHN

I never thought she'd think that.

ALICE

Why lie about her suicide?

JOHN

I didn't want to accept it was real.

AISHIA

The Holy Quran forbid suicide.

ALICE

Tell me what happened.

JOHN

I could, now, perhaps.

John rubs his neck. Blood seeps out from under the plaster.

JOHN (CONT'D)

If you give me back my aftershave?

ALICE

What? So you can drink the rest of it?



John jumps up, suddenly angry. Rushes out of the Teepee.

**EXT. TEEPEE - CONTINUOUS**

John kicks at the fire embers and stomps off towards the campsite entrance. A bewildered Alice follows after him, with Aishia in tow.

**EXT. CAMPSITE ENTRANCE - CONTINUOUS**

John is stomping angrily towards the blocked site entrance.

JOHN

You don't give me what I need so I'll go and get some myself!

ALICE

Stop, Dad. Let's just talk --

JOHN

Oh now you want to talk. But only about what is best for you. You are nothing like your mother. In the end, she made the right decision, to stop her research. But she just couldn't live with it.

Alice is on the verge of tears. John begins to sob. His shoulders heaving.

JOHN (CONT'D)

She knew her work was being used by monsters. She'd made it all worse. You were only a few weeks old. She believed she had failed you. Failed a whole generation.

ALICE

She stabbed herself with a needle?

JOHN

You cannot know that! So much blood. Into the jugular. Perfect hit.

ALICE

You hid the truth because you didn't want me to know my mum was a quitter.

JOHN

No! No! Your mother had courage. She had the courage to admit she had made a mistake. She just didn't know how to make things right.

Camper Son staggers close by and throws up into the bushes. The vomit is a dark black colour. He saunters off, dribbling.

AISHIA

So, this is holiday in England?

Aishia gently takes John's hand, and leads him like a lamb back towards the Teepee.

Sophie is staring at the commotion through the back window of the van.

**EXT. CAMPSITE FIRE - NIGHT**

Around the fire sit John and Aishia. Sophie is missing. Alice is very quiet.

Alice takes the mug John is holding. Aishia goes to stop her, but then leaves her to it. Alice sips some of the tea, before handing it back to John.

ALICE

Dad says it helps him with the cravings. Seems you are a white witch after all.

AISHIA

More - grey.

ALICE

As long as we all stay clean from the toxins, you should be ok without the net. It's the mycelium that's the problem here.

Aishia stands, her angry face glowing in the firelight.

AISHIA

Yes. How convenient. Blame nature. You get good job with Petrochemic. Just like my husband did back home in Afghanistan. Great pensions. Real prospects.

Suddenly Aishia seems drained of energy and slumps down onto the ground.

AISHIA (CONT'D)

Shame about company always covering up their mistakes.

ALICE

What mistakes?

AISHIA

My husband, burnt alive in bio lab. It was hit by a mortar. That what they said.

John and Alice stare at Aishia.

AISHIA (CONT'D)

The truth? Yes? Huh! What is that, these days? The truth?

JOHN

What happened, Aishia?

AISHIA

It was not mortar. The lab was blown up by Petrochemic. To hide their experiments gone wrong.

Aishia looks at Alice.

AISHIA (CONT'D)

You want to know what experiments?

Reluctantly, Alice nods.

AISHIA (CONT'D)

My husband never talk about work. Except for one time. One night he come home, afraid. Like he gone crazy. He take things out of cupboards, drawers, shelves and throw them out into the trash. He even started pulling off his own clothes. He wouldn't say why, just kept repeating that we have to cleanse ourselves. He emptied out many belongings from flat, lay naked on wooden floors. Sobbing. The next day he pulled his uniform out of trash, put it on and went to work. I never saw him alive again.

Alice goes to speak, thinks better of it. Sips more of John's tea.

**INT. VAN - CONTINUOUS**

Sophie is tidying up in the van, making the bed.

She doesn't hear the BANG of the side door being opened. But she does feel it. She freezes, turns slowly to see who is entering the van.

**EXT. CAMPSITE FIRE - CONTINUOUS**

Alice turns to her dad. He offers her his cup again, but she shakes her head.

Alice stands again, swaying.

ALICE  
What's in this tea?

AISHIA  
Mushrooms, of course.

ALICE  
So you're getting him hooked on drugs?

AISHIA  
Mushrooms not addictive. Stu --

Aishia stops herself. Alice staggers off unsteadily, heading towards the van.

**EXT. JOHN'S CAR - CONTINUOUS**

Alice wobbles past John's car with it's trunk open. Her attention is caught by her reflection in the CAR WING MIRROR.

She sees her face morph into the face of her young Mother. The lips in the mirror are moving. Mesmerized, Alice copies the lip movements and says out loud:

ALICE  
Stop. Them.

The reflection of her mother disappears and is replaced by Alice's own face, with Burly Camper right behind her.

Alice spins around as Burly Camper thrusts a silicone dildo into his mouth, chewing on the end.

In her lightly drugged haze, Alice focuses on the words "ALICE" on the side of the dildo sticking out of the Camper's mouth.

A GUTTURAL SCREAM comes from inside the van.

**EXT. VAN - CONTINUOUS**

The side door is open. SCREAMS emanate from within.

**EXT. CAMPSITE FIRE - CONTINUOUS**

Aishia and John also react to the SCREAMING coming from the van.

**EXT. VAN - CONTINUOUS**

Alice runs as fast as she can towards the van, but is veering off on all sides and taking a less than direct route.

**INT. VAN - CONTINUOUS**

Alice pulls herself in through the open side door and sees Two Campers chewing Sophie's hair, as she flails around trying to get them off.

Aishia puts her head around the door and sees what's happening.

Sophie makes guttural HOWLS of pain as the Campers pull and chew at her golden locks.

Aishia pulls a pair of scissors from a pocket and hands them to Alice, who raises the scissors as if to stab the Campers.

AISHIA

No! Stupid English! Cut her hair!

Alice leaps into the fray and begins cutting Sophie's hair to free her. Sophie screams even more, trying to stop her.

Alice has to push away the Campers and Sophie's hands but finally she frees her, and drags her out of the van leaving the Campers munching on the golden locks.

**INT. SHOWER BLOCK - NIGHT**

Sophie shivers in the cold shower as Alice stands in front of her and washes her remaining butchered locks with organic shampoo, rubbing it hard into Sophie's scalp.

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)

It was just one wash. It's the only one that makes my hair feel nice.

Alice turns the shower off and wraps a towel around Sophie. Uses a smaller one to dry her hair.

ALICE

Look when we get home I'll report --

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)

What? Right a letter to your M.P.? You have to take action. You have to make things right.

Alice signs without speaking.

ALICE (BSL)

I don't know how to make it right.

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)

I thought that maybe knowing your mum's death was nothing to do with you, might make you less of a dick. But I was wrong.

Sophie pulls the small towel off her now short hair and pushes it into Alice's hands.

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.) (CONT'D)

Ask her about the mosquitos.

ALICE

What mosquitos?

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)

Ask Kali.

Sophie pulls the larger towel around her and leaves.

**EXT. VAN - NIGHT**

Alice approaches the van, but the side door SLAMS shut in her face.

**INT. JOHN'S CAR - NIGHT**

Alice sleeps fitfully curled up in the back of John's car. She is unaware of Burly Camper sniffing the air near her, then moving on.

CLANKING METAL SOUNDS. Alice wakes, sleepy and annoyed.

**EXT. CAR/VAN - CONTINUOUS**

Approaching the van with a torch, Alice spies dark shapes moving. She shines the torch light on them.

She sees TWO MALE CAMPERS, ordinary looking guys in their 30s, siphoning off remnants of vegetable oil fuel from the van.

One of them tastes it and then spits it out disgusted, and pulls out the tube from the tank abandoning the theft.

ALICE

What the hell are you doing?

The two men scuttle away.

More BANGING noises of Gerry cans and fuel caps being removed. Alice makes out Burly Camper siphoning off fuel from an old Landrover.

She stares confused, watching as he greedily drips the last drops from the hose he is siphoning from, into his open mouth.

**EXT. WOODS - NIGHT**

Kali calmly meditates cross-legged in the woodland clearing. Alice whacks the GONG loudly. Kali opens her eyes, annoyed.

ALICE

What the fuck is going on here? These side effects are not under control.

KALI

I think you were right about the mycelium --

ALICE

It's not just junk food they're craving. I saw them drinking fucking diesel!

Calmly, Kali rises and walks towards her office. Alice is shocked at Kali's complete lack of concern.

**INT. KALI'S OFFICE - NIGHT**

Alice sits by the desk, deflated. Kali watches fascinated as hundreds of larvae in her uncovered aquarium continue to hatch into mosquitoes.

KALI

It's time to choose which side of history you want to be on, Alice.

Alice's eyes shift towards the aquarium of mosquitos.

ALICE

My dad. It was via the mosquito bite, wasn't it? That he got, well, 'vaccinated'? It was attracted to his stinky petro-aftershave?

Kali stands straight and strokes her long plait.

KALI

One must have escaped.

ALICE

So it's not just the mycelium that's attracted to people full of petrochemicals?

Kali moves back towards the Aquarium.

KALI

It transferred some blood from a vaccinated Camper to your father in that one lucky bite.

ALICE

And how exactly is that fortunate?

KALI

Well, because now we know that mosquitoes really can be vectors. Or at least, these specially bio-engineered little mozzies can.

ALICE

So that's how you plan to spread it? Through the mosquitos?

KALI

Do you know how difficult it is to herd people into vaccination centers? Like herding cats! Using natural vectors is, well - more organic.

Alice stands and walks around the office. She notices a large set of keys hanging on the office wall, one of them the Red Key.

ALICE

But my dad. I can't keep him 100% organic forever. When will his cravings stop?

KALI

It can't be the drug.



ALICE  
But it must be.

Kali begins to pour rabbit blood into the aquarium. Alice moves over next to the desk.

KALI  
You deserve more from life Alice.  
Don't reject what the universe is offering.

Kali turns towards Alice, and her manner is authoritarian. She SLAMS her hands down on the desk.

KALI (CONT'D)  
Work with me, and you will be on the right side of history. You'll validate the seminal research of your mother.

Kali leans forward, brings her face up very close to Alice's, peering straight into her eyes.

KALI (CONT'D)  
Make her proud. Together, we can change the course of humanity. Cancer free at last.

Suddenly, Kali smiles.

KALI (CONT'D)  
I think I can get you some funding. To investigate your mycelium theory. I'm sure you'll find some answers through your research.

As Kali moves away to pour more rabbit blood into the aquarium, Alice's expression betrays that she no longer believes a word Kali is saying.

#### **EXT. CAMPSITE PERIMETER - NIGHT**

Alice and Sophie have reached a perimeter of the woodland. Sophie indicates the large metal mesh fence that prevents them going any further.

Alice touches the fence and is thrown backwards into the bushes with the force of the shock. She gets to her feet, wobbly, hair standing on end.

SOPHIE (BSL & V.O.)  
Electricity's working fine for the fence.

Sophie gives her a 'do you get it now?' look, and walks back towards the campsite.

**EXT. ORANGE TENT - NIGHT**

Alice and Sophie walk silently towards the TeePee, passing the Orange Tent. Sophie is distracted by wild shadows from inside the Tent.

**INT. ORANGE TENT - CONTINUOUS**

Two Campers - Camper Mother and Camper Father - lean over the prone body of Camper Son lying on his back. His legs are convulsing.

They are watched by a horrified Camper Daughter, SOBBING.

**EXT. ORANGE TENT - CONTINUOUS**

Sophie moves towards the Orange Tent. Alice stops her.

ALICE

Leave them alone.

SOPHIE (BSL & V.O.)

I know it's hard for you. Hard to accept that just maybe, Kali is not working for the benefit of mankind. Just because science is your God, doesn't mean you should trust all his foot soldiers.

The shadows are now still. Silence. The girls walk on.

**INT. ORANGE TENT - CONTINUOUS**

A blood covered PENKNIFE lies clutched in the hand of the now motionless Camper Son. A gaping wound in his stomach.

His father pulls something brown and shiny from his son's mouth, half chewed. His son's liver.

The parents are clearly distressed. But the father is fascinated by the liver. Camper Daughter is also drawn to it.

**EXT. OFFICE - DAY**

Camper Mother, Father and Daughter remonstrate in BSL to Kali, who calmly nods as if agreeing with them. She puts her hand up to suggest they wait a moment, and disappears into her office.

The three Campers fidget, sweating, withdrawal symptoms. Kali reappears all smiles. She graciously hands them all a tube of Crest whitening fluoride toothpaste.

Camper Daughter is furious as her parents greedily consume the contents.

CAMPER DAUGHTER (BSL)  
My brother is dead and you are paid  
off with toothpaste?!

Camper Father tries to snatch his daughter's toothpaste from her, but she resists. Guiltily, she undoes the lid and begins to suck on it like a popsicle.

**EXT. CAMPSITE - DAY**

Camper Father, Camper Mother and Camper Daughter carry the body of Camper Son, encased in Mycelium Coffin. It looks like a polystyrene coffin, just like the one in Alice's dreams. However, this one has blood seeping through.

**EXT. CAMPSITE FIRE / CAMPSITE - CONTINUOUS**

Alice is sombre sitting by the fire next to Sophie and John. Aishia is opening foil parcels she has cooked in the fire, to reveal eggs coddled inside orange skins.

Sophie's hair looks terrible. John approaches, stares at the makeshift funeral.

JOHN  
Somebody died?

ALICE  
Process of elimination says it was  
the boy who kept throwing up.

JOHN  
But what killed him?

John accepts an egg in an orange skin from Aishia.

AISHIA  
Vaccine kill him.

ALICE

We haven't had the drug so we'll be ok.

Alice can't help glance nervously at John.

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)

So you don't believe it's the mycelium causing this? It's the drug?

ALICE

It can happen with drug trials.  
We'll keep clean of oil products.  
We'll be fine.

Sophie begins to protest, but Alice leans across and kisses her gently on the lips. Sophie is shocked, but happy.

JOHN

Sophie and I, we are already planning the wedding.

Alice glances at Sophie, who maintains a straight face for about 30 seconds, and then cannot suppress a huge grin. John laughs.

A SCUFFLING SOUND kills their mood, as the Coffin is dropped into the ground. Camper Daughter places her Clown Rag Doll onto the coffin lid.

JOHN (CONT'D)

Your mother was buried in a mycelium coffin.

Alice stares at him, shocked.

Camper Mother throws herself on the coffin, weeping.

Not visible to John, Aishia, Sophie and Alice, the lid cracks and reveals the bloodied corpse of the boy.

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

When activated by groundwater after burial, it would have broken down in about 45 days.

Camper Father pulls his wife off the coffin, as Camper Daughter tries to put the pieces of the coffin lid back together.

Some of her brother's intestines have spilled out of the wound in his stomach.

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

Enzymes and bacteria hosted in the mycelium broke down any toxins in your mother's body. Cleansed her remains. Assimilated them into the earth.

AISHIA

Reconnect with nature. Become part of wood wide web of life.

John seems overwhelmed with emotion. He stands and walks back towards the tents.

Aishia moves to follow him. Alice grabs her arm to stop her.

AISHIA (CONT'D)

I came as a refugee as a guest to your family. Don't treat me like a thief.

ALICE

Dad's all I have left.

AISHIA

My grandmother raised me. And she is always with me. Your mother is close.

Aishia pulls her arm free and leaves.

Camper Daughter can't resist it. She grabs something from the coffin, retrieves her clown doll, and scuttles away from her grieving parents.

As Camper Daughter rushes past Alice, she drops something dark and shiny. As she scrabbles to pick it up, Alice sees it is a human kidney.

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)

What was that?

ALICE

Nothing.

**EXT. WOODLAND CLEARING - DAY**

Alice storms through the undergrowth noisily towards Kali, who remains serene.

ALICE

That boy that was throwing up what looked like oil. Is that what killed him?

Kali sighs like a headmistress in despair of her pupils.

KALI  
An unfortunate incident.

ALICE  
What killed him?

KALI  
An unlucky reaction. No-one else  
has been harmed. You can see that  
for yourself.

ALICE  
So, it was the vaccine?

KALI  
There are always the unlucky ones with  
any trial. His family will be  
compensated.

ALICE  
He was one of the teenagers who was  
eating frozen pizzas. Raw.

KALI  
Teenagers love pizza.

ALICE  
So you said. They're addicted to the  
TBHQ, aren't they?

KALI  
We can reduce that.

ALICE  
They're addicted to all  
petrochemicals. Not just E-numbers.  
To Oil.

KALI  
I hadn't factored in human greed to  
my formula, but a few adjustments  
and it will work perfectly.

ALICE  
Side effects from your drugs trial?

KALI  
It's temporary. Very rare.

ALICE  
So why make me believe it's the  
mycelium? Have you just been lying  
to me this whole time?

KALI

Alice. You know this is highly classified. I have an antidote but it needs refining. That's why I want you to join my team.

ALICE

Then tell me the truth. Tell me how you made this drug.

Alice is close to Kali, who imperceptibly breathes in Alice's scent.

KALI

Essential oils. 100 percent organic cotton clothes. Avoiding products contaminated with petrochemicals is something that unites us.

Kali gently loosens a large oyster mushroom from its purchase on a log, strokes the mycelium fronds on its base.

KALI (CONT'D)

The mycelium from oyster mushrooms - as you well know it breaks down --

ALICE

-- breaks down petrochemicals. So what's that got to do with your vaccine?

KALI

I genetically combined the mycelium with human genes, to make the human gut able to do what the mycelium does so elegantly. To also breakdown oil products.

ALICE

So the campers are able to eat junk food and drink diesel without being harmed?

KALI

Mankind is no longer poisoned by oil.

ALICE

You've found a way to make humans immune to petrochemical poisons, using the mycelium?

KALI

All great discoveries are through standing on the shoulders of giants.

ALICE

But the side effect. They're addicted. To oil.

KALI

Without your mother's research to combine the anti-cancer genes, none of this would have been possible.

ALICE

Why did the girl steal a kidney from her brother's coffin?

KALI

Where the petrochemicals are most accumulated. They crave them. There was a rough autopsy. That's how she accessed it.

ALICE

So, she wants to eat it to get her fix? For fucks sakes!

KALI

Precisely! She only needs to wait till the delivery arrives. They really don't have any self control, banging on that oil tank day and night.

Suddenly, Kali grabs Alice by the hands and swings her around playfully.

KALI (CONT'D)

We must live for the now. Your mother's work laid the foundations of freeing us from our susceptibility to petrochemical harm. A legacy that I've continued.

Kali comes to a halt, both women panting.

KALI (CONT'D)

A Green Transition is years away. This vaccine will save countless lives from cancer and other petrochemical induced illnesses.

Tenderly, Kali takes Alice's hand in hers.

KALI (CONT'D)

It's a miracle.

The look in Alice's eyes indicates that she kind of agrees.



KALI (CONT'D)

I'm waiting for Petrochemic to confirm you can join the team, to refine the antidote. It needs a fresh mind to help perfect it.

As Kali moves away, Alice looks around nervously. Afraid.

**EXT. APPLE TREE - DAY**

Alice sits alone in the branches of an apple tree, staring out at the dark tree tops. She sees an apple suspended above her and picks it.

She bites into it cautiously, checking to see if there are any bugs. All clear. She chews on the apple whilst speaking.

ALICE

What did you do, Mum? What did you do?

**EXT. APPLE TREE - LATER**

Back on the ground, Alice leans against the apple tree as if listening to the bark. Faint MURMURINGS.

HANDS grab at her waist.

Alice is pinned to the trunk of the tree by Burly Camper whilst Bum Sniffer Camper pulls down the top of Alice's tracksuit bottoms to reveal her 'Gary' tattoo.

Alice struggles to cry out with her face pressed against the bark, unable to wriggle free.

Bum Sniffer Camper let's his tongue loll out, and as if savoring a delicious big lollypop, he slowly licks the tattoo on Alice's hip.

Alice SHRIEKS as Bum Sniffer Camper opens up a Swiss Army Knife, the blade glinting in the sunlight. But Burly Camper is hungry and impatient.

Keeping his arm pushing Alice against the tree he ducks down and opens his mouth to take a good bite.

Bum Sniffer Camper pushes him away, indicating he wants to use the knife to get in deeper.

Alice CRIES OUT but her voice echoes off the trees. No-one is coming to save her.

Suddenly APPLES begin to plummet from the tree branches, bombing the two Campers. The distraction is just enough for Alice to wriggle free.

She kicks them both away and runs like hell out of the woods.

The two Campers try to give chase, but tree roots trip them up. Apples continue to rain down on them with force.

**INT. VAN - CONTINUOUS**

Still terrified, Alice clambers noisily into the van and immediately grabs the small bottle of LAVENDER OIL and rubs it on her tattoo.

Alice turns to see Sophie, who stares at her from where she sits up on the bed.

Alice climbs next to her, allows Sophie to wrap her arms around her as Alice quietly sobs.

**EXT. CAMPSITE - DAY**

Kali thanks SKINNY CAMPER as he clambers down from a tree. An infra-red surveillance camera now overlooks the tents.

Kali gives the jittery Camper a small bottle of white spirit as thanks. He rips off the top and glugs it.

Kali looks up at the black cable that runs from the camera all the way through the trees to her office.

**EXT. CAMPSITE FIRE - DAY**

Sophie and Aishia eat a tin of organic soup by the fire. Alice and John stare into the flames.

ALICE

Maybe we need to try something different?

JOHN

When I drink Aishia's tea, I feel less afraid. Maybe this is all a terrible dream?

ALICE

Getting shitfaced isn't a good strategy Dad.

AISHIA

Drugs should never be used wrong.  
Military used LSD to make soldiers not  
follow orders.

ALICE

I saw that Youtube video. Royal  
Marines on LSD. They were so funny.

AISHIA

They didn't know they were given drug.  
Not funny for them.

ALICE

Well I thought it was --

Alice pauses. Sighs.

ALICE (CONT'D)

I guess not. Look, I've been thinking.  
I studied a PhD because I wanted to  
bring something new to science. That  
means thinking outside of the box.  
Being brave with ideas.

Alice turns to Sophie.

ALICE (CONT'D)

You helped me see what I didn't want  
to hear. With your light stalking.  
Maybe there really are more invisible  
forces than wifi?

Alice pulls a mushroom out of Aishia's bowl.

ALICE (CONT'D)

We know that Kali has pumped some drug  
into them all that's making them crave  
oil, but maybe the mycelium isn't part  
of that? Maybe it's a symptom, not a  
cause?

Alice strokes the mycelium sprouting from the mushroom's stalk.

ALICE (CONT'D)

What if, what if the mycelium isn't  
our enemy here? What if, some part of  
my mother is connected to the mycelium  
that ingested her body?

Alice crouches down next to Aishia by the fire.

ALICE (CONT'D)

Aishia.

Aishia smiles wryly. Alice has pronounced her name correctly at last.

ALICE (CONT'D)

I want you to help me to connect with  
the Wood Wide Web.

**EXT. CAMPSITE. WOODS - DAY**

Alice stands in the woods with her hands outstretched between two huge trees, ivy draped around her.

Sophie is glued to the viewfinder of her infrared camera, pointed at Alice. John sips tea seated next to Aisha on a log before a crackling fire.

JOHN

Do you think she will really connect  
with her mother through the Mycelium  
network?

Aishia shrugs.

JOHN (CONT'D)

But aren't you a, a white, or a 'grey'  
witch? Like your grandmother?

Aishia covertly pulls a small booklet out from her pure wool cardigan pocket entitled: "*The Dummies Guide to Alchemy and Witchcraft*".

A BUBBLING CAULDRON

Aishia whips up a mean potion, accompanied by incomprehensible incantations.

Alice is still in her Christ-like pose, as Aishia offers her a cup of the potion. Alice takes a sip.

She remains still for a moment. Then violently vomits it up. Aishia nods approvingly.

AISHIA

That means is ready. We begin.

Aishia CHANTS, occasionally glancing at her opened book of spells.

Two MALE CAMPERS watch from the clearing, curious.

Alice experiences everything through a distorted mushroom-induced lens where she sees everything around her in the stark, ethereal light of infrared.

ALICE

You've shown me the past through my nightmares. Now show me the future.

The ivy moves towards and around her, cradling her, climbing underneath her loose cotton clothes. Wrapping around her buttocks and down the top of her tracksuit bottoms.

ALICE (CONT'D)

Give me guidance. It's what mother's do. Help me out here.

Suddenly Alice begins to SCREAM.

She struggles but is held fast by the ivy that has wound around her wrists.

Smoke is coming from under her tracksuit, which makes Alice SCREAM even louder.

John wades in and pulls the ivy from her, getting covered in it as he wrenches his daughter free. They get their breath back near the fire.

ALICE (CONT'D)

She wasn't brave dad. She abandoned us then and she's still not here for us now.

John clearly wants to defend his dead wife, but can't find the words.

A fight breaks out nearby between the two Male Campers. One of the men tries to drink from a bottle of *Byredo Flowerhead hair perfume*, the other tries to steal it for himself, but accidentally spills the perfume over his face.

The other Camper proceeds to bite into his face, eating up the perfume-soaked skin.

John grabs Alice's arm and heads out of the woods, followed by a confused Sophie with her camera, and Aishia tucking her book of spells back into her cardigan pocket.

#### **INT. VAN - DAY**

The 'Gary' tattoo on Alice's right hip is now so burnt that it's indecipherable. Sophie bathes it. Smiling.

ALICE

The mycelium could break down the petrochemicals, get rid of the addiction. So why doesn't it?

Sophie pulls Alice's face towards her.

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)  
You're mother didn't create our  
addiction to oil.

ALICE  
Why won't she help us?

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)  
If you want your mother to break  
the laws of nature then you'll need  
to give her some kind of hope that  
something will change.

She softly kisses Alice.

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.) (CONT'D)  
That you will change.

**EXT. TEEPEE - DAY**

John and Aishia sit by the smoldering fire.

JOHN  
Her mother always did hate tattoos.

AISHIA  
At least she safe now from petro  
zombies.

JOHN  
Technically they are not actually  
zombies because -

AN ENGINE ROAR - they look up to see a small oil tanker at  
the entrance.

**EXT. CAMPSITE ENTRANCE - DAY**

Kali waves in a PC logo'd tanker. A hose is pulled out to  
replenish the campsite oil tank. A secure lock is SNAPPED SHUT  
and locked with the RED KEY.

The armed guards stand at the entrance.

**EXT./INT VAN - NIGHT**

Under the Hunter's Moon, the first full moon of winter. Alice re-  
attaches the tow rope to the tow bar on the back of the Van. As  
she turns around, Kali stands facing her.

In the background behind Alice, Sophie sits in the driving seat of the van, cleaning the inside of the windscreen. She can see Alice and Kali reflected in the True Mirror.

KALI

I've been looking for you Alice.

Kali pulls an envelope from the folds of her garment.

ALICE

My mother wouldn't have wanted her research to be used like this.

KALI

Your mother tried to destroy her research.

Alice looks surprised.

KALI (CONT'D)

Your father probably didn't know. She tried to destroy it all. I've spent years piecing it back together. It's my efforts that have furthered science, not hers.

Kali holds out AN ENVELOPE towards Alice. Sophie is watching them in the True Mirror reflection. Alice takes the envelope and opens it. She GASPS.

Kali smiles, satisfied.

KALI (CONT'D)

It's our contract.

Alice is still gobsmacked by the contents of the contract. She's tries to say something, but no words come out.

KALI (CONT'D)

Assistant Director of Research and Development for Strategic Operations and mRNA Scientific Planning at Petrochemic Pharma. And a pay packet to match.

ALICE

Who is the Director of Research and Development I'll be assisting?

KALI

Well me of course. Surely you didn't think I was just some struggling scientist experimenting in the woods in between yoga classes on a university salary?

Sophie flinches as Kali strokes Alice's face, tenderly.

KALI (CONT'D)

We'll work well together. Funded by PetroChemic. As all your work has been.

Alice looks up and sees the glint of the True Mirror and Sophie's reflection. She tries to stop Kali from speaking.

ALICE

Let's talk about this in the office --

Kali looks straight past Alice at the reflection of Sophie, so Sophie can read Kali's lips, but she Signs just to make sure.

KALI (BSL AND SPEAKING)

You will be able to afford a lovely house for you both. No more stinky van.

Sophie turns and goes into the back of the van.

KALI (CONT'D)

Well I'll leave you two love-birds to enjoy your last night. Bring the signed contract when you're ready.

Kali walks jauntily towards the office.

Alice rushes over to the van, but Sophie SLAMS the van side door shut. Alice bangs on the side but the door is locked.

ALICE

It was the only way to get the funding!

Alice slides down onto the ground in a heap.

ALICE (CONT'D)

Why shouldn't they pay for my research to do good things? Sophie, please!

She ROARS with rage and slams her fists into the ground, frightening some twitchy Campers who shuffle off quickly.



**EXT. CAMPSITE - NIGHT**

Night-vision security cameras show Kali as she walks past the tents and approaches the office.

**INT. KALI'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS**

Alice puts her head through the doorway - no sign of Kali. She doesn't see that someone is inside, flat against the wall by the door.

Alice walks in and notices the screen for the security camera Kali has installed, plugged into a large battery. She sees Kali walking back through the campsite.

Alice grabs the set of keys off the hook, one of them being the distinctive Red Key. We notice that the Shotgun is missing from its place on the wall.

Alice jumps when she spies Camper Daughter behind the door.

She sees that Kali's desk drawer is open, and Camper Daughter is holding the bag of cocaine and a syringe and needle still in their wrapper.

Camper Daughter pulls a bloodied Swiss Army Knife out of her pocket. As Camper Daughter slowly approaches her, Alice pins herself against the wall, afraid.

Camper Daughter doesn't open the knife. She hands it across to Alice, who gingerly takes it.

ALICE (SPEAKING & BSL)  
I'm going to find a way to stop this.

Camper Daughter stares at Alice as if she is delusional, and slips out of the open door.

**INT. CAMPSITE OFFICE - CONTINUOUS**

As Kali enters her office, she pauses. The keys for the oil tank are on the hook on the wall, but Kali doesn't notice that the red key is missing. She is too furious about seeing her desk drawer open and her cocaine stash stolen.

Furiously, Kali BANGS shut the office door and CLANGS the bolts across making it secure. She takes a device from her pocket that looks like a remote control.

KALI  
Fucking junkies.

Kali pushes the remote and a light flashes on the door locks.

**EXT. VAN - NIGHT**

Alice stands outside the van's open sliding door holding the contract as Sophie stands inside the van holding a blanket.

ALICE

I got the key to the tank. Once I've signed the contract I can give the Campers access to the oil to reduce their cravings while I try to sort out this mess.

Sophie hands her the blanket.

ALICE (CONT'D)

If I sign this Sophie's, we can move into an actual house. Of our own. Don't you want that? I can do more good from the inside --

The van door SLAMS shut.

**INT. ORANGE TENT - NIGHT**

Camper Mother and Father sit holding each other's hands, confused by the slight contortions of their fingers and wrists. Twisted.

They appear drugged and are surrounded by empty squeezed out bottles of Paul Mitchell dry wash waterless shampoo.

Camper Daughter is furiously signing, trying to get their attention, but they seem confused and unresponsive.

CAMPER DAUGHTER (BSL)

I can't do this anymore. The cravings are too strong. It's just getting worse.

Frustrated by their lack of a reaction, she storms out of the tent.

**EXT. CAMPSITE - NIGHT**

Camper Daughter sits huddled on the ground rocking back and forth in grief and pain. She is clutching the ugly Clown Rag Doll in her arms.

Alice watches her, moving the red key between her fingers.

**EXT. KALI'S OFFICE - NIGHT**

Alice approaches the office door and through the window sees Kali is inside. The leaves of an APPLE TREE behind the office RUSTLE and the apples quiver, as if about to fall. Alice walks towards the tree.

**EXT./INT. BARN - CONTINUOUS**

Alice sees a dilapidated barn behind the office, next to the apple tree. She opens the creaky wooden door and stands, shocked.

Piles of MYCELIUM COFFINS. Empty and waiting.

On shelves at the back, she sees BOTTLES OF OIL RICH DRINKS - petro-versions of Alcopops. Alice opens one of the bottles and sniffs the contents. Screws up her nose.

**INT. KALI'S OFFICE - NIGHT**

Alice sits at Kali's desk. The contract in front of her. A pen in her hand.

Kali watches the monitor screen showing the night-vision camera-view of the campsite, with Campers sniffing around the oil tank.

KALI

Thieving little shits. They have the opportunity to make history, and this is how they behave.

Kali is a little twitchy. She turns to face Alice and pushes on a remote. The door locks CLICK.

ALICE

Why do you restrict the oil? Why are you keeping the Campers in a state of withdrawal?

Kali pulls out a small pack of white powder taped underneath the Aquarium. She cuts it into lines on the desk. Looks across at Alice and gives a 'go on' hand signal.

ALICE (CONT'D)

Ok, so... you, you keep their addiction withdrawal at a high level because --

Kali offers Alice a line of coke. Alice shakes her head.

ALICE (CONT'D)

-- it's so when the mosquito's feed  
off the Campers their blood will be  
more, more potent?

Kali claps applause at Alice working it out for herself.

ALICE (CONT'D)

But why haven't you given them the  
antidote yet?

KALI

It's not the right time.

ALICE

I need you to let us go.

KALI

But I don't want you to go.

ALICE

Then, then I'll stay. But let them go.

KALI

At dawn, the security will leave.  
Everyone will be free to depart, if  
that's what they want.

ALICE

I've seen the coffins.

KALI

Just a back up plan. If things didn't  
go as expected.

ALICE

And has it?

KALI

My antidote vaccine is almost ready.  
With your help, we'll have it perfect  
in no time. It will remove the  
addiction, so humanity is safe from  
the toxins from oil, no more cancer,  
with no side effects. Bingo.

ALICE

But I thought you didn't want to have  
to use vaccines. You have the  
mosquitos?

KALI

When it comes to moderating the side-effects, the addiction to oil, getting them to take those vaccines should be simple enough. They'll be queuing up for them. They need to be more targeted so we'll stick to the old fashioned way, with a needle.

Kali sniffs up a line of coke.

ALICE

You'll need millions of doses. Who will pay for it?

KALI

Governments, of course. Without PetroChemic, most of the democratic leaders of the world would lack the funds to remain in power. After all, they already used tax payers money to fund my original vaccine.

ALICE

Obviously I realise there are always some unlucky people who have a bad reaction, but this just feels so wrong.

KALI

There will always be the unlucky ones - but we must work towards the greater good.

ALICE

If I sign this, you have to let everyone leave alive.

KALI

If you sign the contract, your family will go free. With an NDA, obviously. Only that much I can guarantee.

Alice leans back and puts down the pen.

ALICE

I don't think I can do this Kali.

KALI

But you have to. Without you, I can't refine the antidote. And we have to do it fast. Otherwise --

ALICE  
Millions will become addicted to  
oil without any restraint.

KALI  
Yes. And Petrochemic have a  
deadline I have to meet.

ALICE  
Just tell them the antidote isn't  
ready yet.

KALI  
The marketing campaign is fixed.  
Government contracts signed. My  
hands are tied.

ALICE  
There are other scientists who can  
help you.

KALI  
No, it has to be you.

Alice takes a deep breath. Picks up the pen.

KALI (CONT'D)  
I shall be sharing my Nobel Prize  
with your mother for her  
contribution. And with you, of  
course.

Alice hesitates.

ALICE  
What are you talking about? I haven't  
worked on this research --

Alice is distracted by what she sees on the surveillance screen.

ALICE (CONT'D)  
Hang on, what, what's happening?

#### **ON THE INFRARED SURVEILLANCE MONITOR**

Camper Daughter sits on a log with the bag of white powder.

Kali goes to the screen and remotely zooms in on the camera  
image. Camper Daughter has cut her clothes to reveal her bare  
stomach.

KALI  
Interesting.

**ON THE MONITOR**

They watch Camper Girl mix the cocaine in water and pull it up into a syringe.

ALICE

What did you mean, share your Nobel prize with me?

**ON THE MONITOR**

Camper Girl injects the cocaine into her stomach.

KALI

I will share it all with you, all the accolades.

ALICE

Is she trying to get high? What's going on?

KALI

She appears to be using it as an anesthetic.

**ON THE MONITOR**

Camper Daughter opens up her Swiss Army Knife.

KALI

Victorians thought it was a wonder drug. They could do eye surgery --

ALICE

We, we need to stop her?

Alice runs to the door, but the bolts won't open. They are electronically held in place.

ALICE (CONT'D)

You fucking psycho! Let me out of here.

KALI

This is no way to behave in a job interview, Alice.

**ON THE MONITOR**

Camper Daughter is starting to slice open her own stomach, watched by a crowd of Campers with no intention of intervening.

KALI

We did this together. You and I.

ALICE

What the fuck are you talking about?

Panicking, Alice is rooting through the desk drawers, trying to find some way to help her escape from the room.

#### **ON THE MONITOR**

Camper Daughter pushes her free hand inside the slit in her belly. She roots around in her own guts, trying to locate something.

Alice sees Camper Mother and Camper Father fail to get through the other campers to their daughter. She sees that their HANDS ARE TWISTED unnaturally.

ALICE

Those side effects --

KALI

It wasn't just your mother's work that was pivotal Alice.

ALICE

My deaf gene research. Fuck. So the mosquitoes only infect anyone who -- you used my research? Only bites people who have the deaf gene and stink of peterochemicals?

KALI

You don't think I'd create a world-wide addiction for 100% of the population, before I'd refined the antidote to control it? That would be irresponsible. Twenty percent of the UK population is a more reasonable amount to get started with.

ALICE

You fucking bitch. You used my research for your fucked up petro-zombie drug.

Alice angrily makes a move towards Kali, who floors her swiftly and expertly, winding her badly.

Kali pins Alice to the ground with a belly twist yoga pose, both legs out to one side, arms spread, head turned towards Alice who is pinned under the weight of Kali's body.



Kali elegantly rises to her feet and holds out her hand. Alice staggers to her feet unaided. Breathless. Watching the screen.

KALI

My variations on your research, that's what sold the project to PetroChemic. And got me promoted. And it's why you are part this, whether you like it or not.

Alice trembles. Horrified.

On the monitor screen, Camper Daughter is now using both hands, sorting through the intestines she has pulled out onto her lap.

She has located something large and shiny.

KALI (CONT'D)

It's where the oil she's consumed is most concentrated. Her liver.

Kali pulls the remote from her pocket.

KALI (CONT'D)

I won't force you Alice. This will be the pinnacle of your career. Targeting vaccines by genetic makeup, that is an innovation that will change the world.

ALICE

But at what cost?

KALI

As long as their shareholders are happy, PetroChemic are not bothered about the details.

The door automatically CLICKS so the bolts can now unlock. Alice forces herself to look away from the screen where Camper Daughter is sniffing her liver like it smells of roses.

Trying not to vomit, Alice yanks back the locks and rushes out of the office.

#### **EXT. CAMPSITE - NIGHT**

Sophie is desperately trying to SIGN to Camper Daughter sitting on the log, but the other Campers block her access.

Alice tries to locate Camper Daughter. The tent area is empty.

Sophie dashes over to the large Gong and whacks it hard. Camper Daughter feels the vibrations through the log and is disorientated.

Alice hears the gong and follows the sound. She screams at the Campers to let her through. Camper Mother and Father are still unable to push through to get to their daughter.

**INT. CAMPSITE OFFICE MONITOR / EXT. CAMPSITE - CONTINUOUS**

ON THE MONITOR: Kali watches on the screen as Alice silently screams at Camper Daughter. But Camper Daughter now looks straight at the camera, directly at Kali.

She holds her own liver in her hands. Kali stares back, mesmerized.

Camper Daughter begins to voraciously devour her liver, like a rabid coyote ripping into a stray cat.

**EXT. CAMPSITE - CONTINUOUS**

Alice struggles free and watches helpless as the Campers descend upon Camper Daughter, fighting over her fresh oil-rich liver. She looks across at Sophie.

Alice's expression is of utter defeat. Sophie walks away from the carnage, leaving Alice alone.

Camper Mother and Camper Father hang back, distraught. They face each other, both pull out a Swiss army knife each. In unison, they pull open the blades and stare into each others eyes.

**INT. KALI'S OFFICE - NIGHT**

KALI opens the office door even wider. She moves over to the Aquarium and calmly removes the lid, setting the BUZZING mosquitoes free.

**EXT. CAMPSITE - NIGHT**

A makeshift stage has been set up on the campsite with electricity created from the camper van solar panels and mini-turbine charged car battery, powering a Karaoke microphone and speaker.

John is fidgeting on a chair. A few Campers skulk in the shade curious, dried blood on their faces. Sophie is collecting some underwear that had been hung out to dry outside the van, half watching Alice.

Alice stands on the small stage holding the mike. She nods towards Aishia, who turns on the Karaoke machine.

The POP MUSIC INSTRUMENTAL opening to a Rick Astley song BLARES OUT of the speaker. Flustered, Aishia turns it off, leaving only the microphone live.

ALICE

Ok, here goes. The truth. I didn't want to date a bloody Deaf girl. I didn't want to date an eco-activist who gets herself arrested.

Sophie tries to pretend she doesn't want to know what's being said.

ALICE (CONT'D)

I've studied and researched for years and I could be someone. Not just a dead woman in a coffin digested by worms and fungus. I could be somebody.

Frustrated, Sophie approaches Alice and indicates for her to move the mike away from her mouth so she can lip read. Alice keeps the mike up close.

ALICE (CONT'D)

I want to leave a legacy, not just the potential of one like my mum.

Sophie is furious. She signs for Alice to translate. She indicates for Aishia to repeat the words so she knows what Alice is saying. Aishia shakes her head.

ALICE (CONT'D)

I want to earn money and have a house and have babies like everybody else.

Sophie clambers on the staging and pulls the mike away from Alice's mouth. Alice pulls it back, close to her mouth.

ALICE (CONT'D)

Science is solid. Trustworthy. Reliable. I put my faith in science.

Sophie grabs the mike again, holding it away from Alice's mouth.

Alice speaks without sound, so only Sophie can 'hear'.

ALICE (CONT'D)

(mouths the words)

I was wrong.

Sophie hesitates. She pushes the mike back in front of Alice's mouth and nods.

ALICE (CONT'D)  
 (now audible)  
 I was wrong.

Sophie puts her hand on Alice's diaphragm and with her other hand, indicates to speak up louder.

ALICE (CONT'D)  
 (shouts)  
 I WAS WRONG. I'm sorry. Forgive me.

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)  
 That's a good start. The truth. But it's not enough.

ALICE  
 How do I live in a world where the institutions we should trust act like psychopathic entities? I don't have your courage Sophes.

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)  
 I see your courage.

Alice stares at her Dad, seated in front of the stage.

ALICE  
 Dad, you said I was nothing like my mother - but you're wrong. I know exactly how she felt.

JOHN  
 No - she was a coward. She deserted us. It was too much for her. But not for you Alice.

ALICE  
 She fucked up the world then bailed on us.

JOHN  
 She didn't do it all alone Alice. Find forgiveness in your heart.

ALICE  
 Have you forgiven her?

JOHN  
 Yes. I have.

Alice looks up and sees Camper Mother and Camper Father watching her. Expressionless. Swatting mosquitos that BUZZ around them.

ALICE

Don't you see, it's hopeless.

Alice drops the microphone and runs into the woods.

**EXT. CAMPSITE. WOODS - CONTINUOUS**

Under the waning moon, Alice runs through the woods. Something flickers and moves beneath her feet. The tree branches CREAK. Leaves RUSTLE.

Alice is in a rage. She tears at Oyster mushrooms pulling them off the logs and ripping them to shreds in her hands.

ALICE

Fuck useless fucking fungi fuck --

Alice stops abruptly. She sees the abandoned Clown Doll lying on the ground. She slumps down and cradles it. Despite her best efforts not to, Alice begins to cry. But then stops herself.

Alice pulls out the Swiss Army Knife from her pocket, stained with Camper Son's blood. She opens the blade. She feels in her neck for the jugular.

Sophie enters the clearing and sees Alice. She begins to run towards her.

Raising the knife, Alice closes her eyes, and plunges it

INTO THE CLOWN DOLL

Relieved, Sophie slumps beside her. She pulls an organic chocolate bar out of her pocket and offers it to Alice.

Alice shakes her head. She lies down and puts her head to the ground, as if listening. Sophie lies down next to her, facing her, also with her ear to the ground.

The faint WHISPERING of indistinguishable voices.

As they lie on the ground, Alice pulls out the Red Key from her pocket and hands it to Sophie.

ALICE (CONT'D)

We can open the oil tank. Maybe escape while they're drinking the oil?

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)

That's a shit plan.

ALICE

How can I make this right when it's so totally hopeless? All of it?

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)

Just keep trying. Keep being a pain in the ass.

Something catches Alice's eye. Wavy Caps sprouting next to her. Alice picks them gently.

ALICE

Not quite LSD. But close enough.

**INT. VAN - NIGHT**

Seated on the double bed at the back of the van are Sophie and Alice. Aishia and John are squashed close to each other standing in the narrow space, looking very - comfortable.

JOHN

Are you sure she won't just let us leave at dawn?

Alice nods, reluctant but clear.

ALICE

But we have to think about the ethics of this.

They all stare at Alice, gobsmacked.

AISHIA

Do you drink my magic tea?

ALICE

The hallucinogenics in those doses are poisonous. It might kill them.

AISHIA

They volunteer. Stupid English.

ALICE

Innocent people who are in this situation because they trusted the 'science'.

JOHN

Why are we going to make them high?

ALICE

If this works, they should be confused enough for us to get them to leave the camp.

JOHN

Like the LSD soldiers?

ALICE

We can use them as cover.

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)

But, won't they be shot?

ALICE

At least some might escape?

JOHN

The alternative is that none of us, including them, are leaving here able to tell our tale, so a few casualties is not that bad an option.

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)

Can't we try to persuade them all to detox and give up petrochemicals?

ALICE

Detox like us? If they did, maybe then, so could the rest of humanity?

JOHN

Imagine. Everyone spurning oil products. A toxic free world.

They look thoughtful for a moment.

Gradually, Sophie's expression changes to match Aishia's expression, to match Alice's and even John's.

SOPHIE (BSL)

No fucking chance.

**EXT. WOOD - NIGHT**

Sophie and Alice gather magic mushrooms.

**EXT. CAMPSITE FIRE - NIGHT**

Aishia concocts a bubbling cauldron. Alice hands Sophie the Red Key.

**EXT. VAN - NIGHT**

John pours VEGETABLE OIL into the fuel tank of the Van.

**EXT. CAMPSITE - NIGHT**

Sophie sees the trunk of John's car is still open. She SLAMS it shut. We linger on the trunk for a moment.

**EXT. CAMPSITE. OIL TANK - NIGHT**

Sophie and Aishia pour the cauldron concoction into the oil tank.

**EXT. CAMPSITE - NIGHT**

John stands by the Barrel of Apples. He looks around furtively, and buries something deep inside the barrel.

**INT. KALI'S OFFICE - NIGHT.**

Her face up close to the glass, Kali watches a loan mosquito buzzing in the aquarium.

Kali's head is yanked back roughly by her hair.

Kali SCREAMS and struggles as Camper Mother pins her to the ground by her hair, whilst Camper Father moves towards Kali's stomach with his open Swiss Army Knife, pulling aside her loose clothes.

Just as he is about to plunge the knife into Kali's belly, a GUN SHOT flings him backwards. Skinny Camper holds Kali's shotgun, shaking from the reverb of the shot.

Camper Mother rushes to her dying husband as Kali scrabbles to her feet and backs out of the office with Skinny Camper, indicating he wants something to eat as a reward.

**EXT. TEEPEE - NIGHT**

Alice looks very reluctant. Aishia holds her phone plugged into a battery pack.

AISHIA

Watch video. Then you will wake up.



ALICE

This is ridiculous. Some sting operation on a Pharma Exec, recorded undercover. It's just conspiracy nonsense.

JOHN

Watch it. For me.

Alice's face reflects the flickering image from the screen. Her expression moves from annoyance to concern as she listens to the video.

PETROCHEMIC PHARMA EXEC (V.O.)

But there's this side effect.

MALE DATE (V.O.)

Always! yeh? So, you'll want to get rid of that?

PETROCHEMIC PHARMA EXEC (V.O.)

That's the best part. That's where the real profits are.

MALE DATE (V.O.)

Cool. So you want the side effects? Worked those out through Gain of Function?

Alice pushes the phone back into Aishia's hands.

ALICE

This is stupid. I'm a scientist, not a conspiracy theorist. Let's just get the hell out of here.

She leaves the tent.

**EXT. OIL TANK - NIGHT**

Campers are BANGING on the side of the oil tank, angry that they haven't been allowed to drink the latest delivery.

**EXT. VAN - NIGHT**

Sophie hands Alice the Red Key.

Alice walks towards the Oil Tank. Kali appears suddenly, standing before the tank, smiling.

KALI

You seem to have forgotten to return  
the key to the tank.

Alice keeps walking towards Kali and the oil tank.

ALICE

What kind of 'science' is this? To  
vaccinate millions of people with  
something new and barely tested. It  
doesn't make any sense?

KALI

It makes sense to PetroChemic. They  
are legally beholden to their  
shareholders to make money. If you  
want a Hippocratic oath, become a  
fucking doctor.

Alice gets closer.

KALI (CONT'D)

You can still join me, Alice. If you  
don't, how will we tame their  
addiction?

ALICE

Tame?

Alice stares hard at Kali. She finally gets it.

ALICE (CONT'D)

There is no 'antidote' is there?  
Just another vaccine to ease the  
symptoms.

KALI

We have to try and make this work  
Alice.

ALICE

But not get rid of it entirely.

Kali BANGS her hand on the side of the tank, impatient.

KALI

You and I. To do the right thing. Why  
won't you work with me?

Kali seems almost lost for a moment. Pleading.

ALICE

For the same reason my mother tried to  
destroy the data.

(MORE)

ALICE (CONT'D)

The same reason she was so wracked  
with guilt she killed herself.

**INT. VAN - CONTINUOUS**

In the driving seat, Sophie has her camera recording video. The camera is focused on the Oil Tank and entrance to the campsite, visible in infrared black and white on her laptop in real-time.

**EXT. CAMPSITE. OIL TANK - CONTINUOUS**

ALICE

You used Gain of Function to create  
the side effects that you wanted and --

KALI

Directed Evolution, but you're on the  
right track.

ALICE

You don't want to remove their  
addiction. You want to keep them in  
a state of withdrawal using your  
antidote vaccines to limit the side  
effects.

Kali smiles. Happy Alice 'gets it'.

ALICE (CONT'D)

This isn't about helping people to  
not be poisoned by petrochemicals.  
It's about ensuring an ongoing  
state of managed addiction, a  
secure market for oil and petro-  
products to feed this human  
compulsion so no green transition  
is going to get in the way of  
PetroChemic's profits.

KALI

You understand, don't you? Science  
must make compromises. How can we tell  
millions of people that it's too late,  
even if we did stop using oil?

Alice avoids making eye contact, trying not to listen.

KALI (CONT'D)

How can we tell them it's gone too  
far? There is no turning back. You are  
a scientist. You know the facts.

Kali moves up close.

KALI (CONT'D)

So why not enjoy the time we have left and let Petrochemic pay for it? You are a realist Alice. Not delusional like your girlfriend trying to get Governments to do what they should have done thirty years ago.

ALICE

How will you get away with this?

KALI

Today Thalidomide is a wonder drug against leprosy and cancer. The world is very forgiving.

Kali holds her hand out for the key.

KALI (CONT'D)

Science will always win over nature. Enhancing nature.

Alice is now in front of Kali, looking her straight in the eyes.

ALICE

This isn't enhancing nature, this is enslavement.

Alice is aware of the Campers fidgeting around them. She reconnects her eye contact with Kali.

ALICE (CONT'D)

True scientists are brave enough to admit when we've totally fucked up.

Alice moves even closer, practically touching noses.

Kali is enjoying being this close to Alice. She speaks softly, almost tenderly.

KALI

Sign the NDA, and you and your family will live long and happy lives. Just stay clean of petrochemicals.

Slowly, Alice pulls out from her pocket the bottle of John's remaining aftershave.

ALICE

You better have this then.

Alice SPRAYS the aftershave into Kali's eyes and face. Kali chokes and splutters, momentarily blinded.

As she clears the liquid from her stinging eyes, Kali sees a group of Campers sniffing. They move towards her.

Alice rushes over to the oil tank pulling out the Red Key to open up the tank.

She hears SCREAMING. The Campers are fighting over who can get the next bite out of Kali's face.

Alice bangs hard with the aftershave bottle against the tank and some of the Campers react to the vibrations. Alice signs and shouts:

ALICE (BSL + SHOUTS) (CONT'D)  
Dinner time!

As the Campers sniff the oil, they drop Kali and her missing face to the ground.

They rush hungrily to the oil tank and grab the hose sections Alice is handing out so they can suction it out from the tank. They begin to consume the oil.

**INT. VAN - CONTINUOUS**

Alice climbs in through the side door of the van. Aishia and Sophie are sitting in the Cab.

AISHIA  
Your zombies enjoy their feast. But  
mushrooms not work.

The three women stare through the van windscreen at the Campers showing no signs of being high.

SOPHIE (BSL + V.O.)  
Maybe they are immune? Maybe only your  
dad was sensitive?

Alice looks around inside.

ALICE  
Where's my dad?

She stares at the oil tank.

ALICE (CONT'D)  
Shit. No!

Sophie and Aishia follow her gaze.

**EXT. OIL TANK - CONTINUOUS**

John appears at the fuel tank. He puts a fuel line into it and sucks the end to siphon out the fuel, alongside the other Campers.

**EXT. VAN - CONTINUOUS**

Alice leaps out of the van and SCREAMS at John.

ALICE  
Stop dad! Stop!

Aishia steps down beside her from the cab. Alice is sobbing.

ALICE (CONT'D)  
He just couldn't stay clean.

Aishia shakes her head.

AISHIA  
No. You wrong. He is strong.

Alice looks back at her father.

**EXT. OIL TANK - CONTINUOUS**

John smiles back at them. He lifts up a FIRE HYDRANT - and fills it with the liquid from the tank.

Alice runs over, dodging Campers who are greedily slurping up the last of the oil they siphoned into camping cups.

John hands Alice a full extinguisher, and carrying one himself he nods towards the security guards behind the barrier.

**EXT. CAMPSITE ENTRANCE - NIGHT**

Together, Alice and John open fire with the extinguishers, spraying oil all over the Guards before they have time to react.

The Campers smell the oil and rush towards the Guards.

A few GUN SHOTS are fired as the Guards are overcome by the Campers, who fall upon them hungrily.

**EXT. OIL TANK - CONTINUOUS**

Alice and John are struggling with the slippery oil soaked ground. They both fall simultaneously.

As he falls, John instinctively fires off the extinguisher, and sprays oil all over Alice.

JOHN  
Oh bloody hell!

As Alice also hits the ground, she unwittingly sprays oil all over John.

ALICE  
Fuck!

Around them the Campers have already chewed most of the oil soaked flesh off the Guards.

Still no sign of being affected by the mushrooms.

The Campers sniff the air, turn their noses towards the oil soaked Alice and John.

**EXT. CAMPSITE - CONTINUOUS**

Alice and John struggle to stay upright. They slip and slide in the oil as the Campers close in.

They try to spray oil at the Campers, but their extinguishers are on empty. They back away until they are up against the Apple Barrels.

**EXT. CAMPSITE. APPLE BARRELS - CONTINUOUS**

In desperation, John pulls the chewed C.D. out of his pocket as if to throw it as a weapon. Alice grabs it off him with a WTF expression, and indicates the apples in the barrel.

Shoving the C.D. in her tracksuit pocket, Alice makes use of the full barrels of apples and throws them at the Campers. John joins in, but they are futile weapons against the approaching hoard, looking for a much tastier dessert.

**INT. VAN - CONTINUOUS**

Aishia and Sophie watch terrified from the van. The bloody engine still won't start.

**EXT. CAMPSITE - CONTINUOUS**

Alice indicates for John to make a run for it.

ALICE

Go! Now!

John runs like hell towards the Van.

**EXT. VAN - CONTINUOUS**

John dashes up to the side door and clambers in, but when he turns, he sees with horror that Alice is leading the Campers away, allowing him to escape.

**EXT. CAMPSITE. OIL TANK - CONTINUOUS**

Alice, covered in oil, reaches the Oil Tank but is pinned up against it, with no way out.

**INT. VAN - CONTINUOUS**

Aishia SLAMS the side door and locks it shut. She jumps into the front cab, refuses to give John the keys, while Sophie tries in vain to open the passenger door from the inside.

Sophie stares stunned on the computer screen, as the Campers approach Alice, slowed only by her desperate SIGN LANGUAGE.

A white mesh of Mycelium is visible on the infrared screen, covering the ground, showing up strongly against the spilled oil.

AISHIA

What is she is saying with her hands?

Aishia is watching Alice trying to communicate with the Campers.

**EXT. CAMPSITE. OIL TANK - CONTINUOUS**

The Campers have satisfied some of their hunger, but they still want more oil. They hesitate though, as Alice speaks to them only with her hands.

ALICE (BSL)

You can get free of this addiction and come off oil altogether.

**INT. VAN - CONTINUOUS**

John is struggling to get the van keys off Aishia. He impulsively kisses her, which so surprises her that he manages to grab the keys.



But then Sophie grabs the keys from John, unlocks the drivers door and jumps out of the Van.

**EXT. VAN - CONTINUOUS**

Sophie runs towards Alice, but then starts to slip and slide on the oily ground.

**EXT. CAMPSITE. OIL TANK - CONTINUOUS**

Alice shakes her head at Sophie..

ALICE  
"No! Get the fuck out of here!"

Alice continues signing to the Campers.

ALICE (BSL) (CONT'D)  
Think of your children. Think of  
humanity.

Alice gesticulates again at Sophie and shouts:

ALICE (CONT'D)  
Please. Go.

Sophie turns to see that some of the Campers are now outside the van trying to get in, cutting off her escape. They appear drugged, but more like they are on speed than mushrooms.

**INT. VAN - CONTINUOUS**

John and Aishia watch Alice and Sophie, helpless, as the group of Campers continue to try and get into the van. John fails to start the engine.

JOHN  
Maybe this van only runs off stinky  
chip fat?

AISHIA  
Mr Diesel invented engine to run from  
peanut oil. Keep trying.

**EXT. VAN - CONTINUOUS**

SOPHIE SLIPS TO THE GROUND. She gets up COVERED IN OIL.

The Campers trying to get at John in the van turn their attention to Sophie, and begin to approach and sniff the oil glistening from her body.

Alice stares powerless as Sophie backs away from the Van.

John jumps out of the van and dashes towards the Barrel of Apples.

**EXT. CAMPSITE - CONTINUOUS**

John reaches into the barrel of apples and pulls out a bottle of *Eternity for Men* aftershave. He rips off the top, sniffs it longingly. Then pours the contents over the apples.

**EXT. VAN - CONTINUOUS**

John rolls the aftershave sodden apples over the oily ground like he's in a bowling alley. The Campers momentarily lose interest in Sophie. They sniff the apples and gather them up like sweeties.

Sophie hesitates. She stares across at Alice. Alice shakes her head.

TWO HANDS GRAB SOPHIE from behind.

John drags a struggling Sophie back towards the Camper Van whilst the Campers are busy sucking on apples.

Sophie tries to struggle free but John won't let her go.

JOHN

Don't let her die for nothing, like her mother. Let's get out of here alive.

**INT./EXT. VAN - CONTINUOUS**

Aishia helps John pull the oily Sophie into the van and SLAM the doors shut - with John on the outside, with the keys in his hands. He locks the door.

He looks over at Alice as the Campers close in. Alice stares at her father.

ALICE

I forgive you mum. You didn't make this shit show alone. I haven't done enough myself to stop it. I'm sorry.

Alice disappears under a mass of writhing bodies. Her voice still audible:

ALICE (CONT'D)

I forgive you --

Sophie tries to wind down the window to escape, but it's jammed. Aishia pulls on her arm, indicates to look at the laptop screen. John stops dead in his tracks.

The Campers begin to freeze, as if in suspended animation.

ON THE LAPTOP SCREEN IN INFRARED

A mass of GLOWING WHITE MYCELIUM spreads up from the soil and smothers the Campers. It covers their whole bodies at incredible speed.

No sign of Alice.

John also writhes strangely as mycelium covers the outside of his body, visible to the naked eye. John takes a deep breath and closes his eyes.

JOHN

Save your daughter. Don't abandon us again.

The mycelium covers his face, forming a cocoon around his whole body.

**INT. VAN - CONTINUOUS**

Sophie and Aishia watch the computer screen in amazement as the petrified Campers covered in now visible Mycelium, become immobile, dribbling oil from their silent lips.

**EXT. CAMPSITE. OIL TANK - CONTINUOUS**

From under the frozen Camper bodies, something moves. An arm appears raised with a hand covered in oil.

One of the frozen Campers licks the hand, but remains otherwise still.

The arm is followed by the oily body of Alice, a bit chewed and bloody, but not critically injured.

**INT. VAN - CONTINUOUS**

Sophie manages to open the window and clambers out.

**EXT. CAMPSITE. OIL TANK - CONTINUOUS**

Confused, Alice emerges from amid the inert bodies. Sophie stands before her.

The Campers begin to move. They vomit oil. Alice panics.

ALICE

Fucking hell Sophes, what do I have to do to keep you alive? Fucking get back in the van!

Sophie refuses to move. Alice grabs Sophie's arm and pulls her away towards the van.

ALICE (CONT'D)

I can't even manage a family holiday without putting you all at risk of having your insides munched up by petro-zombies and unleashing a deadly drug that could destroy humanity.

Alice gives up trying to pull Sophie. She's still scared of the Campers who are beginning to move their limbs.

ALICE (CONT'D)

Fuckin' ell, Sophes.

SOPHIE (BSL & V.O.)

Stop trying to do it all alone. We are all still here.

Alice looks about. She sees that the awakening Campers are coming back to consciousness as if from a deep sleep. They are no longer trying to eat her, or anyone else covered in oil.

She looks at Sophie. Can't quite believe it.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

My mum?

Sophie nods.

ALICE

She's absorbed the toxins. Broke down the addiction. But where's dad?

Sophie nods towards the man-sized shroud of mycelium close by. Alice rushes over to John, madly pulls away the white stuff from his face, and is relieved to see his cheery smile.

He manages to push his arm up through the mycelium cocoon and dangle the car keys, which Alice takes from him.

JOHN

In Nature, we look after each other.  
We never give up on our children.

He then vomits oil.

**EXT. JOHN'S CAR - LATER**

John opens the rear seat door of his electric car, brushing mycelium from his clothes. Waits for Aishia to get in to the back seat.

Aishia instead opens the front passenger door.

John seats himself in the driving seat. Smiles at Aishia.

**EXT. VAN - NIGHT**

Alice leans into the van's cab and grabs her phone from the glove box, throws Sophie the van keys, but now moves away from the van and runs back towards the Campers.

**INT. VAN - NIGHT**

The van engine finally ROARS and Sophie revs the engine. She looks at the laptop screen with the Mycelium now withdrawing from the Campers bodies.

**EXT. CAMPSITE ENTRANCE - CONTINUOUS**

The Campers rip out the aerials from the roof of the Black Van.

Alice hands Burly Camper her phone.

As the aerials crash onto the ground, the phone signal is back. The phone buzzes with a thousand notifications.

Alice can't help but glance back at Aishia in the car, who is nodding "I told you so".

Alice SIGNS to the Campers:

ALICE (BSL)

Tell the world. Be heard. Be a pain in  
the ass.

Burly Camper begins to LIVE STREAM the awakening Campers, who take the opportunity to SIGN on camera.

BUM SNIFFER CAMPER (BSL)  
"PetroChemic, you are a bunch of total  
fucking --

**INT. JOHN'S CAR - CONTINUOUS**

John looks at Aishia, apologetic.

JOHN  
Yes. This is camping in England.

**EXT. CAMPSITE ENTRANCE - CONTINUOUS**

Sophie REVS again and drives slowly towards the barriers, to get closer to Alice. Then SLAMS ON THE BRAKES.

Alice sees a horrified look on Sophie's face through the windscreen and turns towards the entrance.

The END OF A SHOTGUN.

Kali, CHEWED FLESH HANGING OFF HER FACE, stands facing them holding the shotgun directly at the front windscreen. Alice freezes.

THE GUN IS RAISED AGAINST KALI'S BUTCHERED FACE

Aimed at Sophie in the driving seat.

**INT. VAN / EXT. CAMPSITE ENTRANCE - CONTINUOUS**

Sophie is frozen with fear, looking down the barrel of the gun.

Alice leaps in front of the gun barrel. Kali smashes her with the butt of the shot gun and resumes her aim.

Alice lies concussed, holding her bruised head.

The van engine stalls. Desperately Sophie tries to restart the engine whilst Kali prepares to fire.

Alice scrabbles to her feet but falls, still stunned.

KALI'S FINGER ON THE TRIGGER

Kali's POV - something blurs her vision. She swipes away BITS OF MUSHROOM which disintegrate.

Alice stares mesmerised at Kali's face from which even more MUSHROOMS ARE SPROUTING.

Panicking, Kali tries to stop the incessant growth. Huge canopies that PULSATE.

Through the other campers, Camper Mother strides forward, still covered in her husbands blood. Carrying the remains of the Clown Doll. She stands in front of Kali who tries to read Camper Mother's immutable gaze.

The glint of Camper Mother's Swiss Army Knife Blade. Before the knife meets flesh, Kali staggers backwards, and fires the gun.

Camper Mother tumbles to the ground, bleeding. Kali drops the gun, trying to pull the mushrooms off her skin.

Sophie is enraged. The engine ROARS. She puts the van into gear and prepares to drive directly at Kali.

Alice sees Sophie's murderous intent. She waves her down.

ALICE (BSL)

She's not worth it Sophes. You believe in peaceful protest. Not running people over with your van!

SOPHIE (BSL)

Maybe peace doesn't work.

ALICE (SIGNS)

It's OK. My mum's got this.

Sophie takes a deep breath. Holds back.

Kali can barely see, the mushrooms covering her face.

Alice notices mycelium has covered her leg and the pocket of her track suit trousers. She pulls out the chewed Beach Boys CD.

Alice takes aim and spins the CD towards Kali's face pustulating with fungi.

Impact.

Kali's whole head EXPLODES INTO A MILLION SPORES that FILL THE SCREEN.

#### **EXT. WOODS - DAY**

The mushroom Spores dissolve into CONFETTI. White netting flutters around Aishia's face. REVEAL it's a WEDDING VEIL.

Church bells ring. John and Aishia enjoy a hippy-style woodland wedding. A heavily bandaged Camper Mother is Maid of Honor.

John raises her veil to gaze at her now un-shrouded face, and smiles.

Alice catches the bouquet. She offers it to Sophie, who gives her a wry smile.

**EXT. WOODS. CLEARING - DAY**

In a woodland clearing, fire embers glow and charcoal has been crushed up in a small bowl.

ALICE (O.S.)

OWWW!

Alice is face down over Sophie's lap. Sophie dips A NEEDLE into the charcoal and tattoos Alice's left hip.

Sophie smiles as she continues to jab the needle into Alice's flesh, finishing off a wonky tattoo that reads: "Sophie".

**INT. PHONE RECORDING. HOTEL ROOM - DAY**

A PHONE RECORDING of Alice who sits across a small table in a nondescript hotel room. The interviewer's hands occasionally visible wearing a braided friendship bracelet. The voice is that of the Male Date from the opening scene.

MALE DATE (O.S.)

I apologize. For being cautious. I'm not used to PetroChemic employees coming clean.

ALICE

I'm not an employee.

MALE DATE (O.S.)

Then what are you?

ALICE

A Stupid English?

Male Date laughs awkwardly. Alice does not.

ALICE (CONT'D)

I saw that video you did on the PetroChemic guy. 45 million views, before Youtube took it down?

MALE DATE(O.S.)

Something like that. But this will be bigger.



ALICE

At least you don't have to go under cover and deceive this time, to get to the truth.

MALE DATE (O.S.)

If scientists and pharma execs told the truth in the first place, we wouldn't have to. You do realise, your career is over.

ALICE

I'm not a fucking idiot.

MALE DATE (O.S.)

Sorry. I'm, I'm really grateful --

ALICE

Promise me. People will see this.

The Male Date slides the braided bracelet around on his wrist with his free hand.

MALE DATE (O.S.)

Most of social media relies on Big Pharma advertising bucks --

ALICE

Promise me.

**EXT. CARPARK - DAY**

John's electric car with the windscreen repaired, is parked in a large full carpark. John, Aishia, Alice and Sophie clamber out of the car.

A BUZZING sound.

As they walk around towards THE CAR BOOT, the BUZZING SOUND becomes louder.

**EXT. CARPARK - ENTRANCE - CONTINUOUS**

A sign saying EDEN CENTRE CARPARK with a sign next to it saying: "FULL".

**EXT. CARPARK - CONTINUOUS**

The open boot of John's car is SLAMMED shut. Alice, Sophie, John and Aishia walk away carrying their respective bags.

**INT. EDEN CENTRE - DAY**

From the branches of exotic trees, the buzz of hundreds of tourists far down below.

Alice senses something. She looks up into the branches.

The HUMMING of insects.

A MOSQUITO with a red luminous abdomen, quivers on a leaf.

CUT TO BLACK SCREEN

The BUZZING of a mosquito.

**END**