ACT SIX

56 INT. WHITE SUV - NIGHT

56

The Brunette drives fast. Tires glide dangerously over wet road. She checks the rearview, then over to Holden.

SC. 1

BRUNETTE

You hit?

Holden quickly wipes tears from his face, careful not to let on that he was crying. Even now, he wants to impress her.

BRUNETTE (CONT'D)

Holden. Are you hit?

HOLDEN

(shaky)

No, I -- I don't think so.

(then; realizing)

Kevin. We gotta go back --

BRUNETTE

Your friend is fine. They're not after him.

HOLDEN

So that loaded gun was gonna be, what? A warning shot?

She doesn't answer. Doesn't need to.

HOLDEN (CONT'D)

... who are you?

BRUNETTE

My name's Willa.

HOLDEN

No... who are you?

She looks over at Holden, reads the desperation in his eyes.

WILLA

I'm someone who wants to help you. Someone who can help you. But you'll have to trust me.

HOLDEN

And why the hell should I do that?

WILLA

Because I just saved your life.

Well, okay. Holden faces front, eyes watching the road sweep under the SUV as his mind revisits the parking lot.

HOLDEN

(overwhelmed)

... they were gonna shoot him. They were gonna kill him unless I did something --

WILLA

They needed validation. Proof that you have what they're looking for.

HOLDEN

But I don't.

Willa throws him a sideways glance.

HOLDEN (CONT'D)

I don't.

Clearly, she doesn't believe him.

HOLDEN (CONT'D)

What, you think I can stop a bullet?

WILLA

Not yet.

HOLDEN

Did all of you escape from the same mental hospital?!

(then)

I can't even drive a car!

WILLA

Have you heard of psychokinesis?

HOLDEN

... You mean like Jean Grey?

Willa shoots Holden a glance like he just spoke Chinese.

WILLA

Who?

(shakes her head; idiot)
The ability to influence the physical environment without physical interaction. They believe you're capable of this... whether you are aware of it or not.

HOLDEN

What do you believe?

WILLA

(a beat)

That you're in way over your head.

She's not wrong. Holden stares ahead, truly unable to speak. There's far too much to process here.

HOLDEN

Where are you taking me?

WILLA

(beat)

I'm taking you to someone who can help you.

Holden shakes his head, finally at the end of his rope.

HOLDEN

I just want to go home.

Willa remains silent.

HOLDEN (CONT'D)

Hey. You hear me? I said take me home.

WILLA

I can't take you home. That's the first place they'll look for you.

HOLDEN

What about my <u>family</u>? Luke, my mom and dad --?

WILLA

They're safer without you.

HOLDEN

Then I... I've gotta warn them.

I've gotta do something.

(beat)

Stop the car.

Willa ignores him. Holden's ready to erupt.

HOLDEN (CONT'D)

Stop the car.

She steps on the gas. The speedometer CLIMBS...

//END

58.

HOLDEN (CONT'D)
I said STOP THE CAR!!

Holden SMASHES his fist against the window, and as he does --

ANGLE ON THE REAR TIRE as it EXPLODES. THE SUV LURCHES VIOLENTLY -- swerving -- one set of tires LIFTING OFF from the pavement before SLAMMING back down.

From the back of the SUV the surveillance equipment CRACKLES, shooting SPARKS like we saw with the MRI.

Holden reacts as Willa pulls off onto the shoulder --

57 EXT. SIDE ROAD - NIGHT

57

Holden and Willa jump out of the car.

START ____

HOLDEN

How'd you do that?

Willa walks around to examine the tire -- which has MELTED, dripping gooey rubber down to the asphalt.

WILLA

I didn't, Holden. You did.

He shoots her a long, hard look.

HOLDEN

Tell me how?

Willa takes a beat. Knows what she's about to say will change Holden's life forever. Finally:

WILLA

Did you think your coma was an accident?

Holden is thrown. Because up until now, yeah. He DID.

WILLA (CONT'D)

You were chosen, Holden. You were chosen to be a part of something bigger than you ever could've imagined.

(then)

Isn't that what you've always wanted?

Holden flashes back to that night on the water tower, dreaming of a bigger life. But how she could know that??

MI

HOLDEN

How did you --?

(then)

So they were <u>right</u>? Those guys back at the bar...?

WILLA

Most people never know the true power of the subconscious mind. Come with me and you'll find out.

A beat as Holden considers. Then:

HOLDEN

And if I don't?

WILLA

I won't be able to protect you.

HOLDEN

From them.

WILLA

From <u>yourself</u>. You weren't the only one who went into a coma that night.

Holden can't believe what he's hearing, like a series of rugs being pulled out from under him. One after another.

WILLA (CONT'D)

You were one of twelve.

HOLDEN

(almost afraid to ask)
... What happened to the others?

WILLA

Some of them never regained consciousness. Others simply self-destructed. One girl... the most recent... burned to death in her sleep. Consumed in a fire that she started while unconscious.

(a beat; heavy)

She was fourteen years-old.

ON HOLDEN as this lands. TERROR now creeping in.

WILLA (CONT'D)

What about you? Start any fires

recently?

(off Holden's look)

That's a defense mechanism.
(MORE)

WILLA (CONT'D)

It happens when you're agitated. But that's the least of what you're capable of.

Holden shakes his head. He's at his breaking point, both overwhelmed and emotionally exhausted.

HOLDEN

No. No, I don't want this. I just want things to go back to the way they were. Back to normal. (then; emotional)
I want my old life back.

Holden turns and starts down the empty road, away from Willa.

WILLA

I'm sorry, Holden. I can't give
that to you. No one can. But I
can give you answers. The coma,
your recovery -- all of this
happened for a reason.
 (measured)
Don't you want to know why?

Holden stops. He turns back.

HOLDEN

I thought I did.
 (then; shrugs)
Guess I outgrew it.

WILLA

Holden, please. I can help you.

But Holden has already resumed walking.

HOLDEN

Thanks for saving my friend's life. But if I see you again, I'm calling the cops.

MEND Sc. 2

ON WILLA, watching him go. Helpless to go after him. And we get the sense there's genuine WORRY with her as we SMASH TO:

58 INT. HOLDEN'S HOUSE - LATER THAT NIGHT

58

The house is dark. Quiet. Everyone's asleep. Holden gently locks the front door behind him. Starts to head up the stairs... but something catches his eye. We move into --

THE LIVING ROOM