

NO MAN IS AN ISLAND

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FIRST DRAFT

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IN BLACKNESS

A MAN WHISTLES a beautiful, soothing, mysterious tune, an almost indescribable tune. It's perfect in every musical sense.

TITLE APPEARS:

"No man is an island, entire of
itself; every man is a piece of the
continent, a part of the main... I
am involved in mankind, and
therefore never send to know for
whom the bell tolls; it tolls for
thee."

- John Donne

FADE IN:

EXT. GRASSY HILL - LOS ANGELES - MORNING

A HOMELESS MAN

-- black, shabby clothing, worn down shoes, wears a large cape with a hood and looks somewhat like a monk, walks slowly and relaxed.

He WHISTLES the same tune as heard before.

There is something special about him, especially his eyes, they are very blue, clear blue, no distinct pupil can be seen.

He goes up the grassy hill. Over the hill we see the freeway, extremely busy.

We move in, SLOWLY, on the HOMELESS MAN, he stands still, his eyes opens wider.

EXTREME CLOSE UP

The EYE of the HOMELESS MAN SHIMMER, and it turns into...

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. AERIAL VIEW OF LOS ANGELES - MORNING

We close in on earth, we go fast through the clouds, birds fly by, we descend to the freeways.

We see the many different variations of these magnificent creations.

The 405 merge with the 101, the overpass is filled with cars, moving slowly, moving fast.

Multiple street scenes, a JITTER of cars going on and off the freeway, almost like ANTS hectically running around.

EXT. FREEWAY - DAY

We see people in their cars through the windshield.

Some people DRINK their COFFEE, some SMOKE.

One man SHAVES while he drives, another is ON THE PHONE.

A woman ORGANIZES HER PAPERS and another tries to WRITE ON HER LAPTOP while a third LIGHTS her CIGARETTE while she PUTS OUT the OLD ONE.

A young female PUTS ON HER MAKE-UP while another COMBS HER HAIR.

A kid in a backseat PLAYS with his GAME BOY ADVANCE, another WATCHES the HEAD REST MOUNTED TV.

A lot of people EAT; sandwiches, bagels, donuts and Nutri-Grain.

A woman, with one hand holding the steering wheel AND a pen and a piece of paper, the other hand firmly holding a cell phone, tries to write SIMULTANEOUSLY as she drives.

The people are OBLIVIOUS of one another.

CUT TO:

EXT. 101 NORTHBOUND - DAY

SUPER TITLE: 4.45 PM

The traffic moves slowly, bumper to bumper.

GABRIELE PANCHERO

-- Hispanic, in his early thirty's, drives his old crappy beige Toyota Corolla, a ROSARY in his right hand.

He's casually dressed, tries to look more well-off than he really is.

Next to him, on the left side is

MARTIN ANDERSON

-- white, in his forty's, he drives a new black Mercedes S 600 with a hand polished walnut dashboard and skies and a snowboard strapped to the car rack.

He wears a Brioni suit and Prada glasses, his large golden wedding ring shimmers on his left hand.

On GABRIELE'S right side is

REBECCA POINTE

-- late twenty's, beautiful blond girl, in her red Ford Mustang.

Her black tank-top shows a bit more than a teenage dad would approve of.

She steers the car with her knees while she puts on her make-up.

Suddenly the traffic clears and everyone speeds up.

The three look at each other.

MARTIN watches GABRIELE squeeze his ROSARY hard.

He looks down on his left hand, and he spins his WEDDING RING around.

REBECCA waves at them, they nod.

The traffic now moves at a normal pace.

INT. SUV (MOVING) - DAY

Not very far ahead of them, TWO YOUNG GUYS, drive a Ford Expedition with a trailer with two jet-ski's on it, they discuss LOUDLY over a trite issue, not paying very good attention to the traffic.

SLOW MOTION

Suddenly they hit a small shiny OBJECT.

It is something we've never seen before, it's pointy but it doesn't seem to have any sharp edges.

The TIRE EXPLODES.

The driver loses control over the vehicle and the trailer flips over, sending the jet-ski's flying right towards GABRIELE'S car.

INT. REBECCA'S CAR (MOVING) - DAY

With fear in her eyes REBECCA tries to signal to GABRIELE about the oncoming danger.

INT. GABRIELLE'S CAR (MOVING) - DAY

Much too late GABRIELE realizes the danger.

GABRIELE looks down at his ROSARY.

GABRIELE

Oh my God...

He lets go of it.

One of the jet-ski's fly's straight through his windshield, SMASHING EVERYTHING in its way.

EXT. FREEWAY - DAY

The other jet-ski CRASHES into the divider and EXPLODES.

INT. MARTIN'S CAR (MOVING) - DAY

MARTIN steps on his breaks but before the car reacts he drives straight into the ball of fire.

MARTIN

No!

INT. REBECCA'S CAR (MOVING) - DAY

REBECCA panics and covers her face with her arms and hands.

She is also caught in the fire.

REBECCA screams.

END SLOW MOTION

FADE OUT:

WHITE SCREEN

FADE IN:

INT. HALLWAY - APARTMENT COMPLEX - LOS ANGELES - DAY

SUPER TITLE: 7 AM

It's a run down apartment complex, in many places the paint has come off the walls and the carpet is very dirty.

GABRIELE, newly shaved, a ROSARY in his RIGHT hand and a cross around his neck, wearing khaki pants and a normal white short sleeved shirt.

He stands in the doorway to his apartment.

His wife JUANITA

-- late twenty's, Hispanic with beautiful long dark hair wears a dressing gown and his TWO kids

JOAQUIN and ELVIA

-- around nine and twelve years old, stand next to their mother, both of them yawning.

They all look at him.

GABRIELE
(speaking Spanish)
I have to go...

Juanita looks down at the children.

GABRIELE
(cont'd)
I'll try to get an advance today...
But...
(a beat)

He leans down and kisses his children.

He looks at his watch.

He leaves in a hurry, JUANITA motions the kids inside and closes the door behind them.

INT. GYM - RECEPTION - LOS ANGELES - DAY

SUPER TITLE: 7.20 AM

REBECCA, with a lovely white smile, wears a very low-cut tank top with her hair put up in a KNOT, sits behind the front desk.

She rehearses lines from a paper in front of her.

REBECCA
Oh, no, I couldn't, it's...

The PHONE RINGS and she picks it up.

REBECCA
Good morning and welcome to Go-
Go's, how may I help you?

At the same time MARTIN, wearing a modern FILA sport outfit, walks in.

He walks up to her and hands her his membership card.

REBECCA takes the card then turns the chair and leans in behind the desk.

REBECCA
(whispering)
Mom, I've told you not to call me
here...

She slides MARTIN'S card through the machine.

REBECCA
(cont'd)
I have to go... I'll call you
later.

MARTIN'S membership information appears on her screen, "LIFETIME PLATINUM MEMBER".

REBECCA
Welcome Mr. Anderson, how are you
today, Sir?

She hands him his card.

MARTIN
Busy, as usual.

He continues to the men's locker room.

REBECCA
Well, have a great work out.

MARTIN
Thanks.

As the door closes behind him.

REBECCA sighs and picks up the phone.

INT. GYM - DAY

SUPER TITLE: 7.35 AM

MARTIN is on a treadmill, he runs fast.

He has an iPod attached to his arm, the headphones dangle from his side.

He is on the phone.

MARTIN
I know it's important for them...
I'll be there...

He hangs up and sets the phone, the latest model from Sony Ericsson, on the front of the treadmill.

GABRIELE enters the busy gym, now wearing blue shorts and a white T-shirt with the emblem "Go-Go Gym", he carries a set of white towels.

MARTIN
Hey! Can you hand me a towel?

MARTIN'S phone rings and he picks it up.

MARTIN
(on the phone)
Yeah?

GABRIELE walks over and hands him one of the towels he carries.

GABRIELE
Here you go.

MARTIN grabs the towel and nods at GABRIELE.

MARTIN
(on the phone)
Of course... That needs to be done
by the time I get in...

GABRIELE continues through the gym, he hands off towels to the people working out.

MARTIN
(cont'd)
...in half an hour.

MARTIN puts down the phone and wipes the sweat off his face, still jogging.

INT. GYM - RECEPTION - DAY (LATER)

REBECCA is on the phone.

REBECCA
I can't come home mom...
(a beat)
You know I have the audition!

She starts to do her nails.

REBECCA
(cont'd)
This is what I have to do! Mom...
(a beat)
Please... I gotta go!

She hangs up and puts down the nail polish and picks up her purse.

She takes out her MEDS.

She turns around and takes out a couple of pills and swallows them without any water.

She stands up and walks over to the window and opens it up.

She takes a deep breath.

INT. GYM - DAY (LATER)

A WHITE DOVE flies in through an open window.

It flies straight towards MARTIN.

MARTIN
(startled)
What the hell!

He tries to wave it off but it seems determined to land.

MARTIN jumps off the treadmill, he trips and FALLS DOWN ON ONE knee.

GABRIELE sees what's going on and runs over to MARTIN.

GABRIELE
Are you all right?

MARTIN looks up at GABRIELE.

MARTIN
Get that thing out of here!
(a beat)
And have your windows closed from now on!

He stands up and walks off.

GABRIELE looks at MARTIN'S phone, then he reaches for it.

GABRIELE
Sir, your phone?

MARTIN stops, feels his pocket and then turns around and walks over to GABRIELE.

GABRIELE stands with his hand out, the phone in his palm.

MARTIN grabs the phone without looking at GABRIELE and walks back.

MARTIN
(mumbling)
Thanks.

GABRIELE watches as MARTIN walks off.

The WHITE DOVE sits quietly and watches GABRIELE.

He grabs it and runs over to the window with it, the WHITE DOVE struggles to get out of his grip.

GABRIELE
(speaking Spanish)
Fly!

He let's go of the WHITE DOVE and it flies away, high up into the sky.

INT. LAW OFFICE - DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES - DAY

SUPER TITLE: 11 AM

The office is located on the 25th floor of a large curtain wall building.

It's a breathtaking view, the ocean seems to be part of the giant mirror glassed sky scrapes in the background.

There are piles of papers on the desk, the room is overall messy.

MARTIN sits in his big, black leather chair, he stares blankly out in the air while he plays with a pencil.

He is now well dressed in a Brioni suit and newly shaved, his haircut is perfect.

The phone shows all lines "ON HOLD".

There's a KNOCK on the door and MARTIN turns his head towards the door.

INT. GYM - RECEPTION - DAY

SUPER TITLE: 11 AM

GABRIELE walks in from the gym area with a pile of dirty towels in his arms.

GABRIELE
Hey... How's it going?

REBECCA doesn't seem to notice.

GABRIELE
(cont'd)
Another audition?

Without looking up she answers him.

REBECCA
An important one!

GABRIELE walks past her and into the laundry room.

GABRIELE

Good luck!

And the door slams shut behind him.

INT. LAW OFFICE - DAY

MARTIN leaves his chair and slowly walks up to the door.

He opens it.

Outside stands his middle-aged secretary CAROL, looking somewhat worried.

CAROL

Mr. Anderson, is everything
alright?

MARTIN

Sure, why?

CAROL

Well, you have a lot of calls
waiting...

MARTIN looks over his shoulder at the phone.

Next to it he sees a picture frame, a PHOTOGRAPH of his
FAMILY.

MARTIN

I've been busy...

He closes the door and turns around.

INT. OUTSIDE MARTIN'S OFFICE - DAY

Carol stands speechless, she shakes her head.

She turns around and sees the rest of the office workers
watching.

They QUICKLY return to their work.

INT. LAW OFFICE - DAY

MARTIN walks over to the desk and puts the PHOTOGRAPH of his
FAMILY away in one of the drawers.

He moves over to one of the windows, he still ignores the phone, he stares blankly ahead of him.

Suddenly a "SNAP", he BREAKS the pencil in two.

INT. GYM - RECEPTION - DAY

SUPER TITLE: 2.30 PM

GABRIELE puts down a sign on the floor, it says "CAUTION WET FLOOR".

He starts to mop the floor.

He watches REBECCA organizing some papers on the desk.

GABRIELE
Leaving?

She looks up at him.

REBECCA
Soon...

GABRIELE
Me too...
(a beat)
Has Mr. Oyco been in today?

REBECCA
No.

GABRIELE freezes.

GABRIELE
OK.

He slowly continues with what he was doing.

INT. LAW OFFICE / HALLWAY - DAY

SUPER TITLE: 2.50 PM

MARTIN walks through a busy office space.

He is in a hurry.

CAROL runs after him.

MARTIN
(on the phone)
I'm on my way... I know it's
important for the kids...
(a beat)
Well if you hadn't fucked that ---
(interrupted)
Nothing! I'll be there soon.

He hangs up the phone and presses the button for the elevator.

CAROL catches up with him.

She tries to catch her breath.

CAROL
So, I've cancelled the meetings on
Monday, but on Tuesday Stevenson's
are coming.

The elevator door opens and MARTIN walks in, he turns around and puts on his Prada glasses.

MARTIN
Don't worry... I'll be here. Call
me if there are any problems.

He presses the "BOTTOM FLOOR" button.

CAROL
Have a good...

The door closes.

EXT. GYM - PARKING LOT - DAY

SUPER TITLE: 3 PM

GABRIELE, he wears khaki pants and a normal white short sleeved shirt, walks across the parking lot.

In front of him, a QUARTER on the ground.

He STOPS and looks around.

He leans down to pick it up when REBECCA appears from the side of the building.

GABRIELE sees her and immediately stands up, the QUARTER still on the ground.

GABRIELE
(embarrassed)
Heading home?

REBECCA barely notices him.

She stops and takes out a pack of cigarettes and a lighter.

REBECCA
Oh, Gabriele, I didn't see you. No,
I have the audition.

She pulls out a cigarette and puts it to her lips and lights it.

REBECCA
Want one?

GABRIELE
No thanks. Good luck with the
audition.

REBECCA walks over to her car.

REBECCA
Thanks.

GABRIELE glances at the QUARTER, he looks around.

Then QUICKLY leans down and picks it up and puts it in his pocket.

INT. GARAGE - DAY

SUPER TITLE: 3 PM

MARTIN makes sure that the skies and snowboard are properly strapped to the car rack.

INT. MARTIN'S CAR (MERCEDES S 600, 2004) (MOVING) - DAY

The car is full of old cardboard boxes from McDonald's and Jack in the Box, the backseat is a mess, toys everywhere.

He DRIVES OFF FAST and he almost CRASHES into an oncoming car.

He steps on his breaks and stands still for a short while, the other driver HONKS it's horn.

MARTIN looks at himself in the rear view mirror.

He shakes his heads.

He drives off again, a lot slower this time.

He checks the street carefully before entering it.

EXT. PARKING LOT - DAY

GABRIELE tries to unlock his car but the key is jammed.

He HITS the side of the car hard.

GABRIELE
(to himself)
Damn it!

He pulls up his ROSARY from one of his pockets and clenches it.

The door opens.

GABRIELE is startled, confused he looks around.

He looks down at his ROSARY, then up toward the sky.

INT. REBECCA'S CAR (FORD MUSTANG, 1999) (MOVING) - DAY

The car is nice and tidy, leather seatings, a Chai Tee Latte from Starbucks is in the cup holder.

REBECCA is on the phone while driving on 101, annoyed by the heavy traffic and the conversation she's having.

She takes a big drag from her cigarette.

REBECCA
(on the phone)
Mom, I'm running late...
(a beat)
We've had this conversation...

She opens the window and throws out the cigarette butt.

REBECCA
(cont'd)
I gotta go, talk to you later.

She hangs up and starts to fiddle with her purse.

EXT. FREEWAY - DAY

MARTIN and GABRIELE drive after one another, they merge in on 101, right next to REBECCA.

They all glance at each other.

GABRIELE recognizes them and waves at REBECCA, she doesn't seem to notice him.

MARTIN is oblivious.

INT. REBECCA'S CAR (MOVING) - DAY

REBECCA DROPS her PHONE and leans down to pick it up, when looking up she's very close to GABRIELE'S car and she SWERVES back into her lane.

She looks at him for a reaction.

INT. GABRIELE'S CAR (MOVING) - DAY

GABRIELE unaware of what just happened, smiles at her.

She gives him a weak smile back.

INT. MARTIN'S CAR (MOVING) - DAY

MARTIN sees something that shimmers on the road a head of him, he barely misses the OBJECT.

MARTIN
Fuck these roads!

EXT. FREEWAY - DAY

Half a mile ahead of them, a huge TRUCK appears, the TRUCK hits the same OBJECT as seen before and ALL the tires on the left side EXPLODE.

The TRUCK SKINS out of control, going from one side of the freeway to the other, it CRASHES INTO CARS while other cars try to get out of the way.

INT. TRUCK (MOVING) - DAY

The TRUCK DRIVER

-- a large bearded man in his fifty's with a trucker cap on his head tries WITH ALL HIS POWERS to TAKE CONTROL over his vehicle.

Horrified he sees THE TRAILER OUT OF CONTROL in the rear view mirror.

TRUCK DRIVER
Please God, no...

EXT. FREEWAY - DAY

The trailer CUTS LOOSE from the TRUCK.

It FLIPS OVER and slides along the road.

People barely avoid to crash into it.

Cars honk their horns, tire squeaking.

The trailer blocks the entire road.

A car almost hits another car and the other driver gives him the finger.

MARTIN, GABRIELE and REBECCA stop almost at the exact same time, they are next to each other with their windows down.

It's a gridlock.

INT. GABRIELE'S CAR (TOYOTA COROLLA, 1987) - DAY

GABRIELE'S car is an old crappy and run-down Toyota Corolla but very neat and clean inside.

GABRIELLE nervously touches his ROSARY'S.

GABRIELE
Now what?

INT. MARTIN'S CAR - DAY

Martin looks at his watch, a Rolex Sea-Dweller.

It shows 3.15 PM.

He hits the steering wheel.

MARTIN
God damn it...

INT. REBECCA'S CAR - DAY

REBECCA looks at her digital watch mounted in her car.

It also shows 3.15 PM.

She shakes her head.

EXT. FREEWAY - DAY

The same HOMELESS MAN as seen before walks onto the freeway.

He still WHISTLES and the noise from the traffic slowly fades out.

He walks up from behind, he passes all the other vehicles, when he reaches GABRIELE'S car he suddenly stops and looks straight ahead.

He stands there for a while without saying anything or moving a single muscle.

GABRIELE is aware of the HOMELESS MAN'S presence but pretends not to see him although he's standing less than a couple of inches away.

HOMELESS MAN
Looks like a bad accident, it may
be a while...

GABRIELE doesn't respond.

HOMELESS MAN
(cont'd)
You wouldn't happen to have any
spare change would ya?

GABRIELE looks at him, the HOMELESS MAN looks him STRAIGHT IN THE EYES.

GABRIELE can't take his eyes off the HOMELESS MAN, he looks dirty but clean, poor but rich, sad but happy, he is EVERYTHING and NOTHING at the same time.

GABRIELE feels his pocket, feeling the quarter, but he IGNORES it.

GABRIELE
No... Sorry...

GABRIELE raises his eyebrows, wondering.

The HOMELESS MAN looks through GABRIELE'S window all the way to MARTIN who now is aware of their "conversation".

HOMELESS MAN
How 'bout you?

INT. MARTIN'S CAR - DAY

MARTIN looks around in his car, there is both spare change and some dollarbills laying around.

He answers without looking at the HOMELESS MAN.

MARTIN
No...

EXT. FREEWAY - OUTSIDE THE CHARACTER'S CARS - DAY

The HOMELESS MAN turns his head and looks at REBECCA.

INT. MARTIN'S CAR - DAY

MARTIN'S POV

When the HOMELESS MAN turns his head MARTIN looks over.

He sees a small CIRCLE on the HOMELESS MAN'S neck, it's hard to say if it's a scar or a tatoo.

MARTIN raises his eyebrows.

EXT. FREEWAY - OUTSIDE THE CHARACTER'S CARS - DAY

REBECCA couldn't help overhearing their conversation but tries to ignore the HOMELESS MAN.

She pretends to be on the PHONE, mumbling something no one could make any sense of and points to the PHONE in an apologetic way.

The HOMELESS MAN turns away from her and looks up towards the sky, he covers his eyes with his dark hand in protection of the sun.

HOMELESS MAN
Beautiful weather today, isn't it?
It's really clear!
(a beat)

As speaking to everyone.

(cont'd)

Well, I guess I'm off then... I
wish you all a good day!

And off he goes, slowly he walks through the jam-packed
street.

They all watch him walk down the street.

Once and a while he stops by a car but most of the people
seem to ignore him.

INT. REBECCA'S CAR / MARTIN'S CAR / GABRIELE'S CAR - DAY

REBECCA'S CAR:

REBECCA puts away her PHONE.

REBECCA looks to her left, GABRIELE watches her.

GABRIELE

Quite a character huh?

REBECCA

Definitely...

GABRIELE

But maybe we all are?

REBECCA

Maybe...

GABRIELE

Hope you're not in a hurry?

REBECCA

Actually, I am.

MARTIN (O.S.)

Aren't we all...

Thinking that they couldn't hear him he is startled when
GABRIELE answers him.

GABRIELE

So, what's your big hurry then?

MARTIN'S CAR:

MARTIN looks to his right for the first time and their eyes
meet.

MARTIN
Vacation...

REBECCA'S CAR:

REBECCA
(to her self)
Oh, poor you...

GABRIELE'S CAR:

GABRIELE
Vacation? Where to?

MARTIN'S CAR:

MARTIN points to the roof.

MARTIN
Aspen...

GABRIELE
Lucky you...

REBECCA'S phone RINGS, MARTIN and GABRIELE turn their attention to REBECCA.

REBECCA'S CAR:

REBECCA picks up the phone.

REBECCA
Hello... Hello?
(a beat)
Hello?!

She looks at her phone, the battery is dead.

REBECCA
Damn it!

GABRIELE watches her and he can see her disappointment.

GABRIELE
Missed an important call?

REBECCA throws her phone on the seat next to her.

She leans back, closes her eyes and rests her head against the headrest.

She sighs loudly.

EXT. FREEWAY - OUTSIDE THE CHARACTER'S CARS - DAY

MARTIN opens his door and walks towards REBECCA'S car.

When he passes GABRIELE'S car he pulls out his phone from the inside pocket of his jacket, the small Sony Ericsson shimmer in the sunlight.

GABRIELE watches him.

MARTIN leans over REBECCA'S car.

MARTIN
Need a phone?

INT. REBECCA'S CAR - DAY

Not prepared for the sudden encounter, REBECCA jumps in her seat.

She looks up at MARTIN, then down at the phone.

REBECCA
I don't have their number. Thanks anyway!

MARTIN
You sure? Dial zero and maybe get the number?

REBECCA
They're not listed.

He turns and is just about to walk back when ---

REBECCA
Mr. Anderson right?

MARTIN turns around.

MARTIN
Yeah, but how --
(interrupted)

REBECCA
Welcome to Go-Go's, how may I help you?

MARTIN raises his eyebrows.

MARTIN
(chuckles)
The receptionist.

REBECCA
It's Rebecca.

MARTIN
Hi Rebecca, I'm Martin.

At the same time as REBECCA is about to offer MARTIN her hand a NEWS HELICOPTER fly's by, very low.

The noise is swift but loud.

MARTIN takes a step back and looks up.

INT. NEWS HELICOPTER - DAY

The news reporter is a young, eager and fast talking guy in his early thirty's.

NEWS REPORTER
...the trailer has broken lose and
is now blocking the entire
northbound freeway...the traffic is
also moving slow southbound...

EXT. FREEWAY - DAY

People pop their heads out through their windows, they try to get a glimpse of the NEWS HELICOPTER.

EXT. FREEWAY - OUTSIDE THE CHARACTER'S CARS - DAY

GABRIELE gets out of his car and leans against the hood of his car.

MARTIN walks back towards his car.

GABRIELE
It sucks being stuck here!

MARTIN stops and puts his phone back into his pocket.

MARTIN
Yeah...

GABRIELE
So you had a good work out?

Confused, MARTIN looks at GABRIELE.

MARTIN
How do...

GABRIELE
I work there too, quite a
coincidence, isn't it?

MARTIN looks over at REBECCA.

MARTIN
It sure is...

INT. REBECCA'S CAR - DAY

REBECCA watches them both.

She looks in the rearview mirror and lets her long hair fall to her shoulders.

Then she pulls out her cigarette pack and a lighter from her purse.

EXT. FREEWAY - OUTSIDE THE CHARACTER'S CARS - DAY

REBECCA steps out of the car and walks up to MARTIN and GABRIELE.

Halfway there she stops and lights her cigarette.

MARTIN and GABRIELE are both very aware of REBECCA'S arriving presence.

REBECCA wears a black, short, tight skirt.

Her legs are beautiful.

The low cut tank top and her "wonder bra" make her look a lot younger than she really is.

Overall she's stunning.

INT. HONDA CIVIC (CAR IN FRONT) - DAY

A young surfer in his small Honda Civic adjusts his rearview mirror and follows REBECCA as she walks.

He smiles with his entire face.

EXT. FREEWAY - OUTSIDE THE CHARACTER'S CARS - DAY

Neither MARTIN or GABRIELE can take their eyes off of her.

REBECCA
(to MARTIN)
We got cut off earlier... Sorry
about that...

MARTIN
Don't worry about it.

REBECCA
I hope it's not a bad acci ---

A LOUD SIREN SOUNDS.

A police car comes screaming down the emergency lane followed by two fire trucks and one ambulance and another police car in tow.

REBECCA
(loud)
I hope no one's hurt.

GABRIELE
I can't see from here.

MARTIN walks over to his car.

INT. MARTIN'S CAR - DAY

He opens the passenger door and takes out a pair of binoculars from the glove compartment.

Next to the binocular is a holster with a GUN in it.

When he comes back he hands over the binocular to GABRIELE.

MARTIN
Have a look.

GABRIELE jumps up on the hood of his car and sits down and makes himself comfortable.

He looks through the binocular.

GABRIELE
It seems to be a truck, its trailer
flipped over.

MARTIN
They'll probably have to tow it.

REBECCA
How long will it be you think?

MARTIN
Hard to say, maybe an hour, IF
we're lucky.

REBECCA
An HOUR! I'll be late...

GABRIELE hands over the binocular to MARTIN.

GABRIELE
The paramedics are not doing
anything.

MARTIN
Then nobody's hurt!

REBECCA
Good, it'll go faster!

MARTIN and GABRIELE look at REBECCA, she's dead serious.

A car horn is heard very close and they are all startled.

They turn around to see what's going on.

An OLD MAN in his old Buick Stationwagon, with his head out
the window, yells at a YOUNG MAN who stands outside his Jeep
Wrangler.

OLD MAN
Hey! You! Don't get out of your
car!

YOUNG MAN
What? We're stuck!

OLD MAN
So what? What if it clears, then
everybody has to wait for you!

YOUNG MAN
Cut it out, leave me alone!

OLD MAN
Don't tell me ---

A POLICE CAR passes by and slows down when he sees them, the old man freezes.

The police car stops.

The POLICE OFFICER, with his Aviator glasses and hat on inside the car, watches the two men but turns to MARTIN, GABRIELE and REBECCA.

Curiously he watches them.

POLICE OFFICER
You okay? Need help with something?

He takes off his Aviator glasses.

His eyes, clear blue, shimmer in the sunlight.

REBECCA
No...

MARTIN
Thanks...

GABRIELE
Yeah....but thanks!

They look at each other with a small smile on their faces.

The OLD MAN and the other MAN goes about their business.

POLICE OFFICER
Alright. Just make sure you'll be
in your cars when it's starts to
move, OK?

MARTIN curiously looks at the POLICE OFFICER, when he turns his head MARTIN recognizes something.

The POLICE OFFICER has the same SCAR as the HOMELESS MAN.

The POLICE OFFICER drives off, slowly.

MARTIN don't know what to think and shakes it off.

GABRIELE
You can't do anything without THEM
breathing down your neck!

MARTIN
Some bad rendezvous with THEM?

GABRIELE

Well...

REBECCA

Yeah, let's hear...

REBECCA leans against GABRIELE'S car.

GABRIELE

Why don't you have a seat?

REBECCA

Can I?

GABRIELE

Sure!

(to MARTIN)

You too...

Soon, with some effort, they all sit on the hood of GABRIELE'S Toyota.

GABRIELE

So, it's sometimes hard to explain to people about discrimination...

He looks at his dark hands.

GABRIELE

I've been pulled over so many times that I stopped counting, how about you?

MARTIN

Once, speeding...

REBECCA

I was going 95 miles/h...

GABRIELE and MARTIN look at REBECCA with wide open eyes.

MARTIN

Really?

REBECCA

Yeah... But all the officer said was to go a bit slower from now on.

GABRIELE

Why do you think that is?

REBECCA

Well, I don't know...

GABRIELE
Maybe it has something to do with
who you are?

He looks at her closely.

REBECCA
I hope not... Or...
(a beat)
I mean...

She puts out her cigarette against the back of the cigarette pack.

GABRIELE
I've never gotten a ticket either,
but I've never speeded, just been
pulled over, being checked out!

MARTIN
Well, bad luck maybe?

GABRIELE snorts.

GABRIELE
I don't think so...

GABRIELE jumps down from the hood and stands in front of the car and looks toward the accident.

GABRIELE
It's all about appearances.

He closes his eyes and sighs.

INT. RECEPTION - OFFICE BUILDING - DAY (FLASHBACK)

GABRIELE sits in a grey and stale waiting room with a lot of other applicants.

All of them are WHITE.

GABRIELE watches them, he tries to make eye contact and maybe strike up a conversation.

They all look either straight in front of them, staring at nothing, or they read their own resumes, or just look down at the floor.

GABRIELE gives up and leans back and stares at the ceiling.

A female assistant enters.

Everybody straightens up and eagerly awaits her announcement.

ASSISTANT
Mr. Pank... Pansjo...

GABRIELE looks around, he stands up.

GABRIELE
Mr. Panhero!

BACK TO:

EXT. FREEWAY - OUTSIDE THE CHARACTER'S CARS - DAY (LATER)

MARTIN rests against the windshield, REBECCA walks back and forth in front of the car.

GABRIELE watches her.

He starts to drum a short melody on the hood of the car.

They both look at him.

MARTIN joins in, not as good as GABRIELE, but at least he tries.

REBECCA smiles.

MARTIN smiles back, uneasy.

DISSOLVE TO:

FLASHBACK 1: INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Martin lays on his king size bed, it's made and he is fully dressed, he stares at the ceiling.

He taps his fingers rhythmically against the bedsheets.

On the wooden floor we see an alarm clock and a picture frame.

The alarm clock shows 2.48 AM.

The picture is of MARTIN and his FAMILY.

Except for the bed, alarm clock and the picture frame, the room is totally empty.

The door squeaks and slowly opens.

A thin shred of light finds its way to MARTIN'S face, he lies motionless.

MARTIN'S daughter JILL

-- wears her pajamas and a TEDDY BEAR hangs from her hand, she stands in the doorway.

MARTIN slowly turns his head.

His hand is still.

MARTIN
Pumpkin?

She slowly enters the room, she tips on her toes to the bed and gives him the teddy bear.

JILL
I can't sleep...

He looks into her small shimmering eyes, she's a copy of her mother.

An image of his wife appears in his daughters face.

MARTIN quickly puts his hand in front of his eyes and sighs.

DISSOLVE TO:

FLASHBACK 2: INT. MARTIN'S HOUSE - DAY

MARTIN opens the front door.

MARTIN
I'm ---
(interrupted)

MARTIN listens carefully, there is some noise coming from the kitchen.

He recognizes the noise, it's the sound of his wife while having SEX.

Slowly he enters the kitchen area, revealing his wife ANDREA, skirt up, being TAKEN FROM BEHIND against the kitchen table by their NEIGHBOR.

CUT TO:

FLASHBACK 1: INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

JILL
Daddy? What's wrong?

MARTIN grabs her and holds her tight.

Tears fall from his cheek, he CRIES SILENTLY, desperately he tries to hide his sorrow from his daughter.

MARTIN
Nothing pumpkin... Nothing...
Everything will be alright...

BACK TO:

EXT. FREEWAY - OUTSIDE THE CHARACTER'S CARS - DAY

GABRIELLE
Hey. You there?

MARTIN snaps out of his thoughts.

MARTIN
Yeah, I...
(a beat)
I was just thinking...
(to REBECCA)
Could you hand me the binocular?

She walks over to the car and hands him the binocular.

EXT. PLACE OF THE ACCIDENT - DAY

MARTIN'S POV

A lot of people are working on the trailer, FIREMEN, POLICE OFFICERS and TOW WORKERS all run around in, what it looks like, TOTAL CHAOS.

A CRANE is on it's way to lift the trailer to an upright position.

EXT. HOOD OF CAR - DAY

MARTIN puts down the binocular.

MARTIN

There we go, we'll soon be out of here.

REBECCA

What do you mean?

MARTIN

They're clearing the road...

REBECCA walks over to her car, she opens the door.

EXT. PLACE OF THE ACCIDENT - DAY

The weight of the trailer is too much for the crane to handle and the CRANE COLLAPSES.

A LOUD CRASH is heard.

A TOW WORKER throws himself aside, barely escaping being caught under the trailer.

FIREMEN and POLICE OFFICERS run around trying to figure out what to do.

EXT. FREEWAY - OUTSIDE THE CHARACTER'S CARS - DAY

REBECCA

What was that?

EXT. HOOD OF CAR - DAY

MARTIN looks through the binocular and sees the trailer in the same position as before, and the crane broken in half.

MARTIN

We're gonna be here a while longer...

MARTIN walks towards his car and enters the front seat.

INT. MARTIN'S CAR - DAY

MARTIN

I think my kids left some candy here.

He searches the backseat, it's full of toys, all in a very big mess, not the way you would think an expensive Mercedes would look like inside.

He finds two bags of M&M's and an old Pop Tart in the backseat pocket.

MARTIN
M&M's anyone?

GABRIELE
Sure.

MARTIN throws the bag of M&M's to him.

He puts back the old Pop Tart and sits down in the front seat of his car.

MARTIN looks curiously at REBECCA.

He moves his right hand and adjusts the rear view mirror so he can see her without looking directly at her.

GABRIELE opens the bag and grabs a fist full.

EXT. FREEWAY - OUTSIDE THE CHARACTER'S CARS - DAY

MARTIN gets out of his car and walks up to the others.

REBECCA turns and looks at him.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. KITCHEN - DAY (FLASHBACK)

REBECCA, now ten years younger, stands by a calendar.

Her mother sits by the kitchen table, smoking, she barely finishes one cigarette before she lights another.

REBECCA
...and on Wednesday night, you have
to drive me to San Antonio...

Her mother doesn't seem to listen, she's so tired that she barely can keep her eyes open.

REBECCA

(cont'd)

...and down there we should go to
Dallas, it's a great opportunity
for me at the theatre there!

REBECCA too wrapped up in her self, doesn't notice that her
mother is exhausted.

BACK TO:

EXT. FREEWAY - OUTSIDE THE CHARACTER'S CARS - DAY

REBECCA, slowly coming back from what she was thinking about.

GABRIELE jumps down from the hood of the car.

He hands REBECCA the bag of M&M's.

REBECCA

No thanks.

GABRIELE puts them in his pocket.

MARTIN sits up.

MARTIN

(to REBECCA)

So, where were you heading?

REBECCA

I have... Or had, an audition.

GABRIELE walks back and forth in front of the car.

MARTIN jumps down from the hood of the car.

MARTIN

Is it too late?

REBECCA follows.

REBECCA

Not yet... But soon.

MARTIN walks over to the side of the road.

He looks at a dead WHITE DOVE that lays in the grass next to
the freeway.

He leans down and strokes it over its back.

Suddenly it comes to life, flapping its wings.

MARTIN, startled, falls back, and starts to laugh.

REBECCA
What was that?

MARTIN watches the WHITE DOVE fly away.

MARTIN
Nothing...

He walks back to his car.

EXT. PLACE OF THE ACCIDENT - DAY

The trailer is being turned to an upright position.

The paramedics leave.

The TOW WORKERS gets into their truck and tows the TRAILER to the side of the road.

The FIREMEN clear the rest of the road.

POLICE OFFICERS start to wave at the traffic to start to move.

EXT. FREEWAY - OUTSIDE THE CHARACTER'S CARS - DAY

REBECCA sees the cars in front slowly starting to move.

She walks towards her car.

REBECCA
It's moving! We better get in the cars. Nice to meet you...

MARTIN walks over to his car and gets in.

REBECCA also gets into her car.

MARTIN
You too... Good luck to you!

GABRIELE stands in between for a while, then he also enters his car.

GABRIELE
Drive safe!

EXT. FREEWAY - DAY

The traffic slowly moves forward.

They pass a big sign, "WARNING ACCIDENT AHEAD".

INT. MARTIN'S CAR (MOVING) - DAY

MARTIN'S POV

MARTIN looks at the sign, strangely he can't see what it says, all he sees is his WIFE in the frame of the sign, she WEEPS.

He shakes his head and closes his eyes, when he looks at the sign again the image is gone.

INT. REBECCA'S CAR - (MOVING) - DAY

REBECCA'S POV

REBECCA is also perplexed of what she sees.

She sees her mother, JOANN, in the hospital, with tubes going into her mouth.

Her mother suddenly opens her eyes and stares at REBECCA.

A long and cold chill runs through REBECCA'S spine.

She shakes her head and the image disappears.

INT. GABRIELE'S CAR (MOVING) - DAY

GABRIELE'S POV

GABRIELE sees his oldest child, sitting in a room filled with other kids, they all smoke pot.

GABRIELE looks down, when he looks up again everything is back to normal.

EXT. FREEWAY - DAY

As seen from the NEWS HELICOPTER:

The traffic clears and they all drive at a normal pace.

FAST MOTION

The same accident as seen before repeats itself.

The SUV hits the small shiny OBJECT and the TIRE EXPLODES.

The driver loses control over the vehicle and the trailer flips over, sending the jet-ski's flying right towards GABRIELE'S car.

GABRIELE'S car gets smashed.

The other jet-ski explodes against the divider and MARTIN'S and REBECCA'S cars become engulfed in the fire.

END FAST MOTION

FADE OUT:

WHITE SCREEN

FADE IN:

EXT. GRASSY HILL - NEXT TO THE FREEWAY - DAY

The grassy hill is extremely green, the grass is soft.

MARTIN, GABRIELE and REBECCA are about 30 yards from the freeway, but they seem to be in another world.

MARTIN slowly opens his eyes, the bright sunlight hurts his eyes and he covers them with his hand.

MARTIN
What happened?

REBECCA sighs loudly, sits up fast and puts her hand to her forehead.

REBECCA
Ouch...

GABRIELE lays on his stomach, he turns his face, he now faces MARTIN.

MARTIN slowly opens his eyes again.

They look at each other, and then around.

GABRIELE
Are you guys alright?

MARTIN

I think so...

REBECCA shakes her head.

MARTIN and GABRIELE sits up.

They all face the freeway.

What they see is a blur of blue and red lights, fire and smoke.

They can't really distinguish if it's their cars they see.

EXT. FREEWAY - SCENE OF THE ACCIDENT - DAY

REBECCA'S car is upside down, on fire, one wheel is still turning.

MARTIN'S car is almost unrecognizable, only the steel interior shows that it's a burnt out car.

Bits and pieces of the car are scattered all over the freeway.

GABRIELE'S car stands in the middle of the road, below the windshield it looks normal, but instead of a roof we see the jet-ski sticking up, and the driving area mangled.

It is very quiet.

All we hear is the sound of one of REBECCA'S wheels turning.

Smoke billows from REBECCA'S and MARTIN'S cars.

Behind are the cars that barely avoided to crash into them, they create a huge grid lock.

EXT. FREEWAY - DAY

Once again the same HOMELESS MAN as seen before walks onto the freeway, he walks through the traffic jam.

He still WHISTLES the same tune as heard before and the noise from the traffic slowly fades out.

He walks up to the wrecked cars, stops, looks straight ahead.

He stands there for a while.

He doesn't say anything or move a single muscle.

EXT. GRASSY HILL NEXT TO THE FREEWAY - DAY

REBECCA, MARTIN and GABRIELE watches the HOMELESS MAN curiously.

In the blur of everything, the HOMELESS MAN is crystal clear, almost shining.

EXT. FREEWAY - DAY

The HOMELESS MAN turns and starts to walk towards them.

EXT. GRASSY HILL NEXT TO THE FREEWAY - DAY

He stops in front of them, looks them all in the eyes, one at a time.

They all look at each other.

HOMELESS MAN
Why are you guys sitting here all
alone?

They sit in silence, staring at him.

HOMELESS MAN
(cont'd)
Can I join you then? While waiting
I mean...

He sits down in front of them.

He pulls back his hood and reveals his bald and shiny head.

HOMELESS MAN
(cont'd)
You wouldn't happen to have any
spare change would ya?

He looks straight into MARTIN'S eyes.

MARTIN looks down at the ground.

The HOMELESS MAN turns his head and looks at REBECCA.

She turns around, she looks for her purse.

The HOMELESS MAN turns away from her and looks up towards the sky, he covers his eyes in protection of the sun.

GABRIELE
Do we know you?

In the background we hear people who honk their horns.

HOMELESS MAN
Beautiful weather today, isn't it?
It's really clear!
(a beat)

As speaking to someone else.
(cont'd)
Well, what do you know?

And off he goes, slowly he walks through the jam-packed street.

They all watch him walk down the street.

Just as before he tries to get some attention from the people inside the cars but most of the people ignore him.

INT. NEWS HELICOPTER - DAY

The helicopter hovers above the scene of the accident.

NEWS REPORTER
...three cars, two which are burned
out, and the other...
(a beat)
It looks like a jet-ski!

The news reporter looks at the pilot.

The pilot shakes his head.

EXT. GRASSY HILL NEXT TO THE FREEWAY - DAY

GABRIELE looks around, he feels the grass around him.

He searches for something.

Behind him, suddenly, a YOUNG BOY

-- around ten years old, blond sway hair, clear blue eyes,
wearing a white Tuxedo, stands behind them.

He reaches out to GABRIELE, in his hand is the ROSARY
GABRIELE was looking for.

GABRIELE, startled at first, reaches out for his ROSARY.

GABRIELE

Thanks...

The YOUNG BOY nods.

MARTIN and REBECCA turn around, with wide open eyes they both stand up.

MARTIN

Kid! What are you doing here?

REBECCA looks at MARTIN, then back at the child.

REBECCA

Where are your parents? And why are you dressed like that?

The YOUNG BOY steps forward and walks past them, he doesn't answer.

REBECCA, MARTIN and GABRIELE all catches a sun flare, when they get their vision back the boy is gone, vanished into thin air.

MARTIN

Where did he go?

They look at each other, confused.

EXT. FREEWAY - SCENE OF THE ACCIDENT - DAY

The TWO YOUNG DRIVERS of the SUV stand behind a police vehicle.

One of them cries, he leans against the vehicle, he has problems to stand up straight.

He is in SHOCK.

EXT. GRASSY HILL NEXT TO THE FREEWAY - DAY

MARTIN, GABRIELE and REBECCA watch the mess.

MARTIN

What's up with him?

REBECCA

Nobody got hurt...

GABRIELE

Somebody should tell him!

EXT. FREEWAY - SCENE OF THE ACCIDENT - DAY

A POLICE OFFICER walks up to one of the YOUNG DRIVERS and puts his hand on his shoulder.

POLICE OFFICER
There's nothing you can do, it
wasn't your fault...

INT. NEWS HELICOPTER - DAY

The NEWS HELICOPTER descends.

NEWS REPORTER
We're trying to get closer...
(a beat)
It's definitively a jet-ski! I
wonder if anyone possibly could be
alright. The road will for sure be
closed for several hours.

The NEWS HELICOPTER flies along the traffic jam, which now stretches miles and miles.

EXT. GRASSY HILL NEXT TO THE FREEWAY - DAY

MARTIN watches what's going on with curiosity.

He walks toward the scene of the accident.

GABRIELE turns to him.

GABRIELE
Where are you going?

REBECCA is preoccupied, she still searches for her purse, now more frenetically.

MARTIN doesn't seem to hear, he looks straight ahead and walks away slowly.

He doesn't seem to come closer.

He walks faster.

The faster he walks the further away from where he wants to go he seems to get.

MARTIN
(to himself)
What is this?

He begins to run.

He looks back over his shoulder and sees GABRIELE and REBECCA still standing right next to him.

They both look at his feet in astonishment.

He looks down.

His feet are moving but he's not touching the ground.

He stops and turns around.

MARTIN
Did you see that?

GABRIELE slowly nods, REBECCA is paralyzed.

MARTIN tries to run the other direction.

He's not going anywhere.

The image around them becomes blurry.

They can no longer see the scene of the accident, or anything else for that matter.

REBECCA
What's happening?

GABRIELE
I... I don't know...

REBECCA walks over to MARTIN.

MARTIN
It seems like we're stuck here... I
don't get it...

REBECCA
Maybe if we walk together.

GABRIELE turns around.

GABRIELE
Good idea!

He walks over to them.

Together, arm in arm, they start to walk.

INT. NEWS HELICOPTER - DAY

The news reporter's POV

We see the wrecked cars, the emergency vehicles and the traffic jam.

The GRASSY HILL next to the freeway is EMPTY.

NEWS REPORTER
(to the pilot)
Not much more to see here!

The NEWS HELICOPTER makes a sharp turn and flies towards the ocean.

When making the sharp turn the news reporter sees three people on the grassy hill.

NEWS REPORTER
(cont'd)
Wait!

The sun hits him and he's temporarily blinded.

The pilot slows down.

When his vision clears the people are gone.

He is confused.

NEWS REPORTER
(cont'd)
Nevermind, lets get outta here!

The pilot complies.

EXT. GRASSY HILL NEXT TO THE FREEWAY - DAY

MARTIN
We're not getting anywhere!

MARTIN stops.

GABRIELE
Patience!

REBECCA
We have to try!

MARTIN releases himself from their grip and sits down.

MARTIN

It's no use...

GABRIELE

You don't strike me as a person who gives up that easily?

MARTIN

Don't even think about talking to me as you know me! What we need to do is figure out what's going on!

GABRIELE

Maybe if you were to calm down...

MARTIN stands up.

MARTIN

Don't you --
(interrupted)

REBECCA moves in between them.

REBECCA

Guys!

MARTIN

He's talking to me like I'm a jani -
--

MARTIN stops himself.

GABRIELE

Like a what?!

MARTIN

Nevermind! You don't even know me!

GABRIELE

I'm not the only one...

GABRIELE

Come on guys, we're stuck here, we should help each other!

MARTIN angrily makes a run for it. He's not getting anywhere.

He starts to walk in circles.

EXT. AERIAL VIEW OF THE GRASSY HILL - DAY

We see the three characters through some kind of transparent "sphere".

They move around and talk, but no sound leaves the "sphere".

We see them, they don't see us.

EXT. GRASSY HILL NEXT TO THE FREEWAY - DAY

GABRIELE and REBECCA sits down.

They watch MARTIN who walks in circles.

GABRIELE

Don't laugh, don't complain, and
don't condemn, but understand! What
is there to understand I ask you?

REBECCA shakes her head.

REBECCA

I don't know. All I know is that
something happened on the freeway,
and now we're here... In this
place!

MARTIN

It doesn't make any sense, why
can't we get out of here?

They look up at him.

He stops and turns to them.

MARTIN

(cont'd)

Don't just sit there, do something!

GABRIELE

Talk about a 180!

Suddenly the ground begins to shake.

MARTIN falls to the ground.

REBECCA

What?

It stops.

All is clear, they now can see their surroundings.

EXT. FREEWAY - SCENE OF THE ACCIDENT - DAY

The POLICE OFFICER turns his attention to them.

EXT. GRASSY HILL NEXT TO THE FREEWAY - DAY

They watch him.

MARTIN stands up and walks down towards the scene of the accident.

GABRIELE and REBECCA stand up and watches him leave.

EXT. SCENE OF THE ACCIDENT - DAY

He walks by the paramedics, people around don't even look at him.

MARTIN looks around, he tries to make eye contact.

Nobody but the POLICE OFFICER seems to notice MARTIN.

The POLICE OFFICER walks up to him.

POLICE OFFICER
I don't think you want to see
this...

He looks straight at him, MARTIN sees the distinct blue eyes, they clearly resembles the HOMELESS MAN'S eyes.

MARTIN
Who are you?

The POLICE OFFICER smiles slightly.

He moves out of MARTIN'S way and reveals MARTIN'S burnt out car.

Now the scenario becomes more clear, the BLURRINESS disappears.

MARTIN takes several steps back.

He can barely gasp what he sees.

MARTIN sees himself in the car, a burnt corpse, the only thing telling him it's him is the shimmering WEDDING RING.

MARTIN

My...

(a beat)

WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON!?

EXT. GRASSY HILL NEXT TO THE FREEWAY - DAY

SLOW MOTION

REBECCA and GABRIELE run down the grassy hill, for what it seems like, an eternity.

END SLOW MOTION

EXT. FREEWAY - SCENE OF THE ACCIDENT - DAY

They see what MARTIN sees.

The accident looks totally different from what they've earlier seen.

They turn to each other and look into each others eyes, total confusion.

GABRIELE runs over to his car.

A crane lifts the mangled jet-ski.

Underneath it, a dead and crushed GABRIELE lays, bloody, almost unrecognizable.

GABRIELE shivers and covers his eyes.

GABRIELE

(speaking Spanish)

God help me...

REBECCA turns to her car.

She falls to her knees when she realizes that her body is still inside the burnt out car.

REBECCA

Am I... Am I dead?

MARTIN looks around.

MARTIN

I SAID, what the HELL is this?

MARTIN runs over to one of the PARAMEDICS and tries to grab him.

His hand goes straight through him.

MARTIN stands motionless, looking at his hand, and then at the PARAMEDIC.

The PARAMEDIC is unaware of MARTIN'S presence, he once more moves his hand through the PARAMEDIC, it's like going through thin air.

The PARAMEDIC walks straight through MARTIN towards the TWO YOUNG DRIVERS.

MARTIN is baffled.

GABRIELE runs to him.

GABRIELE
What's happening?

MARTIN looks at him, in despair.

MARTIN
I don't know...

The POLICE OFFICER suddenly stands in front of them all, divided into three.

He reaches out and touches their foreheads.

A warmth they never felt before overwhelms them.

They all close their eyes.

POLICE OFFICER
I'll show you...

Suddenly the ground underneath them disappears, it's like they themselves are at the same place and the earth beneath them lowers at an incredible speed.

EXT. AERIAL VIEW OF LOS ANGELES - DAY

They look down, it seems like they are standing in mid air.

REBECCA (SPIRIT), on her knees, touches what it seems like a transparent ground, she feels with her hands along the emptiness, it is soft and hard at the same time.

MARTIN (SPIRIT) reaches over to GABRIELE (SPIRIT), afraid to lose his balance and fall.

They HOLD each other.

The POLICE OFFICER is now transformed back into one person.

POLICE OFFICER
Do you see?

He points below them.

They all look down. Confused.

REBECCA (SPIRIT)
See what?

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
I see LA...

POLICE OFFICER
Look beyond that!

At first, they only see the freeway with its many cars going on and off it.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)
Wait...

Suddenly the cars starts to transform.

Soon they see MILLIONS of ANTS running across the freeways in LA.

MARTIN looks up at the POLICE OFFICER.

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
Is this supposed to be a joke?

POLICE OFFICER
No, no joke.

MARTIN looks down again.

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
Then what?

The POLICE OFFICER once again divides himself into three and stands in front of them.

He moves in to touch their foreheads.

MARTIN hesitates and takes a step back.

POLICE OFFICER

Don't...

MARTIN FALLS of the "EDGE".

MARTIN (SPIRIT)

HELP!

MARTIN'S POV

He sees the five of them, they stand in midair, they all look down on him.

GABRIELE moves towards the "EDGE", trying to save him.

REBECCA looks up at the POLICE OFFICER, he doesn't move a single muscle.

MARTIN closes his eyes.

INT. MARTIN'S CAR (MOVING) - DAY (FLASHBACK)

All three of them sit cramped in the backseat of MARTIN'S Mercedes.

The POLICE OFFICER sits in the passenger seat.

MARTIN, unaware of their presence, drives and is on his cell phone.

POLICE OFFICER

This is you!

MARTIN (SPIRIT) is speechless, he looks at GABRIELE (SPIRIT) and REBECCA (SPIRIT), they too are speechless.

MARTIN (SPIRIT)

But... Didn't I fall?

The POLICE OFFICER ignores him.

ULTRA RAPID

While everything around them seems to be going in an incredible speed, they themselves move in a normal pace.

POLICE OFFICER

This is what it has come to... Your day, passing by, and you're not even noticing it...

The car leaves home in the morning.

It enters the freeway, gets stuck, bumper to bumper.

The car arrives at the gym.

MARTIN leaves the car.

Through the windshield, like in a drive-in theatre, our characters watch MARTIN work out, take a shower and get dressed.

He enters the car again and drives to work.

Once again he leaves the car, the characters watch MARTIN go through the crowd of people in the lobby of his office building.

He is in the elevator.

He enters his firm, he sits by his desk, he talks on the phone, he goes out for lunch, he talks on the phone some more.

He heads home, gets stuck in traffic, he comes home ONLY to sit down once again, this time in the couch.

His wife and children are present, but not for him.

He eats in front of the TV, he passes out, wakes up in the middle of the night and slips into the bed next to his wife.

END ULTRA RAPID

POLICE OFFICER

See...

MARTIN (SPIRIT)

That's the wa ---
(interrupted)

The POLICE OFFICER snaps his fingers and everything changes.

INT. REBECCA'S CAR - DAY (FLASHBACK)

REBECCA stands outside the car with a cigarette in her mouth, she fiddles with her purse.

REBECCA (SPIRIT)

B... But, that's me, it's me this
afternoon...

REBECCA pulls out her keys and opens the door and sits down.

POLICE OFFICER
So... You remember?

He looks at her with a peculiar smile.

REBECCA (SPIRIT) tries to touch herself on the shoulder, but the hand goes straight through.

MARTIN chuckles.

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
Won't work.

REBECCA (SPIRIT)
What is this, who are you, and
where are we? What have you done to
us?

POLICE OFFICER
Not me, you...

The POLICE OFFICER gestures with his hand "QUIET".

REBECCA (in the front seat) starts the engine, and, before she drives off, she pulls out her MEDS and swallows a couple of pills.

MARTIN (SPIRIT) and GABRIELE (SPIRIT) look over at REBECCA (SPIRIT).

REBECCA (SPIRIT) angrily looks at the POLICE OFFICER.

REBECCA (SPIRIT)
It's not fair!

POLICE OFFICER
Fair? Let me tell you what's not
fair!

REBECCA (SPIRIT) freezes.

The POLICE OFFICER turns around and the surroundings changes.

INT. TEXAS - VICTORIAN HOUSE - BEDROOM - SECOND FLOOR - DAY
(FLASHBACK)

The room's wallpaper is pink, the queen size canopy bed is covered with white pillows and plush toys, the cover is also pink, matching the wall-paper.

The walls are covered with drawings of horses and castles.

The floor is filled with dolls and different clothing for them.

In the middle of the room is REBECCA, now TEN YEARS OLD, she screams her lungs out.

REBECCA (YOUNG)
NO! NO! I wont do it...

Her mother JOANN is in the doorway, she holds a large load of laundry, she looks a lot older than she really is.

Her face speaks of an inner pain.

EXT. OUTSIDE THE WINDOW - DAY

REBECCA (SPIRIT) and the others hovers in mid air, they watch with great amazement through the window.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)
Where are we?

MARTIN (SPIRIT) looks around, speechless.

REBECCA (SPIRIT)
Where I grew up.

INT. TEXAS - VICTORIAN HOUSE - BEDROOM - SECOND FLOOR - DAY
(FLASHBACK)

REBECCA splits into two, whereas one stops crying and turns and looks straight at them, through the window, while the other still screams her lungs out.

REBECCA (TWELVE YEARS OLD)
Fair? You call this fair!?

And she points towards her tired mother.

Her mother walks into the room, puts down the laundry basket, and gets down on her knees and starts to clean up the mess.

REBECCA, angrily stands up and walks out, in the doorway she stops and looks back at her mother.

Her mother shakes her head.

EXT. OUTSIDE THE WINDOW - DAY

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)
Is that you?

REBECCA (SPIRIT) looks down at her feet.

EXT. GARDEN - BELOW THE WINDOW - DAY

The garden is surrounded by a big cornfield, the wind is blowing rather heavy and the leaves rustle in the wind.

There are toys and gardening tools laying around in the garden.

The HOMELESS MAN sits in a hammock.

He calls out to them.

HOMELESS MAN
Hey!

Startled they all turn around.

Without knowing how, they start to descend towards him.

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
You again?

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)
Who are you?

REBECCA (SPIRIT)
And what do you want from us?

The HOMELESS MAN stands up and levitates towards them.

HOMELESS MAN
I guess it's your turn Gabriele...

GABRIELE (SPIRIT) shockingly looks at the others.

REBECCA (SPIRIT) seems relieved.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)
How do you know my name?

The HOMELESS MAN turns around and points out towards the field.

HOMELESS MAN

It doesn't matter, can you hear
what I hear?

At first the three only hear the wind blowing through the
cornfield.

But slowly children's laughter appears.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)

It's my...

The HOMELESS MAN looks back at him.

HOMELESS MAN

Yes it is...

EXT. MEXICO - GABRIELE'S HOMETOWN - DAY

The three look straight ahead, they don't really realize
where they are right now.

The field in front of them is now much smaller, it's a maize
field.

Suddenly, from the field, a small child comes running towards
them, he laughs.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)

Joaquin!

JOAQUIN runs straight through them.

They all gasp and stand motionless.

Not far behind, chasing him, is GABRIELE, he's now five years
younger and looks a lot more healthier and happier.

He's somewhat out of breath but he has a big smile on his
face.

He also runs straight through them.

Once again the gasp and they turn around and follow them.

Behind them, a small house, a cottage almost, not fancy at
all but it looks very cozy and well taken care of.

GABRIELE catches up with JOAQUIN and grabs him and starts to
tickle him.

The door opens and out comes his daughter ELVIA and his wife JUANITA.

ELVIA runs over to help her brother.

JUANITA laughs.

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
Where are we?

GABRIELE (SPIRIT) looks at him.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)
We are in Mexico, where I used to live...

REBECCA (SPIRIT)
Why did you leave?

GABRIELE (SPIRIT) looks at the HOMELESS MAN.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)
I don't know...

The HOMELESS MAN takes a step forward.

Suddenly the surroundings transform.

EXT. GRASSY HILL - NEXT TO THE FREEWAY - DAY

The three sit in the grass, the HOMELESS MAN stands in front of them.

They look around.

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
OK, it's time for you to explain what the hell is going on?

HOMELESS MAN
Not hell my friend...

REBECCA (SPIRIT)
What's happening to us?

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)
Are we dead?

The HOMELESS MAN'S face slowly starts to transform, first to the YOUNG BOY we saw before.

They gasp and stare at him.

MARTIN (SPIRIT)

What?

The face transforms into the POLICE OFFICER.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)

You again...

Then he becomes MARTIN, and then GABRIELE, and finally he becomes REBECCA.

REBECCA (SPIRIT)

This is too much...

REBECCA (SPIRIT) starts to cry.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT) puts his hand on her shoulder.

In an instant the HOMELESS MAN'S face has changed back to his old self.

MARTIN (SPIRIT)

Is this a dream?

HOMELESS MAN

You're not dreaming...

(a beat)

But almost...

MARTIN (SPIRIT) looks at him.

MARTIN (SPIRIT)

Please tell us what's going on?!

The HOMELESS MAN nods.

HOMELESS MAN

What is the last thing you remember?

REBECCA (SPIRIT)

I was stuck in traffic and when it finally cleared there was a big accident...

MARTIN (SPIRIT)

A big explosion....

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)

I just remember a loud crash...

The HOMELESS MAN looks back towards the freeway.

HOMELESS MAN
 Well, you're right, you guys were
 in a big accident.
 (a beat)
 And at this moment you didn't make
 it...

MARTIN (SPIRIT) stands up.

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
 You're saying we're dead, but we're
 all right here?

HOMELESS MAN
 But no one but I can see you... An
 you can't go anywhere, not without
 my help anyway!

GABRIELE (SPIRIT) also stands up.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)
 Wait, at this moment you said?

The HOMELESS MAN smiles.

REBECCA (SPIRIT) looks up.

REBECCA (SPIRIT)
 You're saying we could go back?

The HOMELESS MAN looks down at her.

HOMELESS MAN
 Well...

MARTIN (SPIRIT) looks at her, then at the HOMELESS MAN.

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
 Is this "limbo" or something?
 (a beat)
 And WHO are you?

Without answering the HOMELESS MAN puts out his hands and
 leans back, slowly he falls to the ground.

Just when he is about to hit the ground a loud "SPLASH" is
 heard.

EXT. OCEAN - DAY

They find themselves in the middle of an ocean.

As far as the eye can see, no land can be seen.

Gasping for air, they don't know if they should laugh or cry.

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
This is crazy...

The HOMELESS MAN splashes some water at them.

At first GABRIELE (SPIRIT) is confused, then he splashes right back at him.

REBECCA (SPIRIT) and MARTIN (SPIRIT) joins in, the HOMELESS MAN is overtaken and he bursts into laughter.

The others also laughs.

A moment of joy.

The HOMELESS MAN suddenly flies out of the water, stops and hovers above them.

They watch in astonishment.

HOMELESS MAN
I'm glad to see you still know how
to enjoy yourself...

They look at each other.

HOMELESS MAN
(cont'd)
Consider yourself cleansed!

They all look up towards the blue sky, they float on their backs, enjoying every second of it.

MARTIN (SPIRIT) feels the water around him when he suddenly moves his arms through thin air.

EXT. GRASSY HILL NEXT TO THE FREEWAY - DAY

They lay in the thick grass.

They look around.

The HOMELESS MAN is gone.

They feel their clothes and look at each other, their clothes are all dried up.

Suddenly the YOUNG BOY appears in front of them, still dressed in his fancy white Tuxedo.

Baffled they look at him, and then behind him.

At the site of the accident it is like time has stood still, everything is just the way it was when they last saw it.

YOUNG BOY
Are you ready?

GABRIELE (SPIRIT) looks up at him.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)
Ready for what?

The YOUNG BOY stretches out his arms.

The wind increases, the leaves in the trees behind them rustle.

The before so very blue sky now becomes darker, dark clouds swiftly rolls in.

A loud thunder is heard.

They all quickly stand up.

REBECCA (SPIRIT) moves closer to MARTIN'S (SPIRIT) side.

REBECCA (SPIRIT)
What's happening?

MARTIN (SPIRIT) looks at her and gives her an indecisive smile.

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
I don't know...

GABRIELE (SPIRIT) looks towards the sky, it's completely black.

A LIGHTNING comes crashing down, very close to them.

The YOUNG BOY doesn't flinch.

REBECCA (SPIRIT) jumps and screams.

REBECCA (SPIRIT)
Stop this!

The YOUNG BOY moves his head, locks eyes with REBECCA (SPIRIT).

YOUNG BOY
Don't be afraid!

GABRIELE (SPIRIT) moves closer to the others, apparently shaken by what's going on.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)
Easy for you to say!

The YOUNG BOY gives him a corky smile and raises his hands higher.

The wind becomes stronger, it almost pulls them apart, REBECCA (SPIRIT) grabs MARTIN'S (SPIRIT) hand.

Their eyes meet.

Suddenly their feet leaves the ground.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT), afraid of falling, grabs MARTIN'S (SPIRIT) shoulder.

They all hover and the YOUNG BOY seem to be in some sort of trance, his eyes becomes more and more white.

A big smile appears on his face.

YOUNG BOY
Here we go!

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - NIGHT (FLASHFORWARD)

The room feels cold, the walls are dark, the only light comes from the heart monitor next to the bed.

It shows an irregular heart beat.

REBECCA'S mother, JOANN, lays in the bed.

She looks far from healthy.

The YOUNG BOY, MARTIN (SPIRIT), GABRIELE (SPIRIT) and REBECCA (SPIRIT) stand in the corner of the room.

REBECCA (SPIRIT)
Mother!

REBECCA (SPIRIT) runs over to her mothers side and tries to grab her hand, once again she can't touch anything, and her hand goes straight through.

REBECCA (SPIRIT)
Damn this!

The YOUNG BOY moves in closer.

YOUNG BOY
You're the only one she has.
(a beat)
Just like she was the only one you
had when you were growing up.

REBECCA (SPIRIT), with tears in her eyes, looks back at the YOUNG BOY.

REBECCA (SPIRIT)
What's wrong with her?

YOUNG BOY
She's been like this ever since you
got that job you so desperately
wanted.
(a beat)
No one knows why...

REBECCA (SPIRIT) looks at her mother and tries to caress her face, but all she can feel is the cold air.

MARTIN (SPIRIT) and GABRIELE (SPIRIT) look at each other, then at REBECCA (SPIRIT).

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)
Are you OK?

REBECCA (SPIRIT) clears her throat and wipes her face.

She stands up.

REBECCA (SPIRIT)
I want to go back!

The YOUNG BOY walks over to the heart monitor and puts his hand on it.

YOUNG BOY
Are you sure? I thought THIS was
what you wanted?

His hand glows.

REBECCA (SPIRIT) stares at the monitor, so does GABRIELE (SPIRIT) and MARTIN (SPIRIT).

The image flicker and it dissolves to --

INT. REBECCA'S BATHROOM - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

It's like any other bathroom, white and sterile.

REBECCA looks at herself in the mirror, she takes a zip of water and swallows.

She puts back her MEDS in the bathroom cabinet. It is filled with all kinds of medications.

She leaves the bathroom and enters the living room area.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Two candles illuminate the small living room, there are only a few decorations and the furniture seems old.

An OLDER GENTLEMAN sits in the sofa.

He looks at her.

REBECCA starts to unbutton her blouse, the gentleman reacts and unties his shoe laces.

INT. NURSING HOME - NIGHT (FLASHFORWARD)

REBECCA (SPIRIT) puts her body in the way of the heart monitor.

MARTIN (SPIRIT) and GABRIELE (SPIRIT) looks away awkwardly.

YOUNG BOY

Tough huh...

(a beat)

What about YOU?

MARTIN (SPIRIT) and GABRIELE (SPIRIT) look at the YOUNG BOY, he's peering his eyes into MARTIN'S (SPIRIT).

Everything becomes blurry.

And then --

INT. MARTIN'S GARAGE - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

The garage is almost empty, except for two small bicycles and some ski equipment, and MARTIN'S car.

MARTIN (SPIRIT), GABRIELE (SPIRIT) and REBECCA (SPIRIT) stand next to MARTIN'S Mercedes.

INT. MARTIN'S CAR - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

MARTIN sits in his car, unaware of their presence, the garage door is closed behind him.

In his hand he has his gun, a GLOCK 18, he pulls out the magazine, looks at it and makes sure there are live rounds in it.

He puts back the magazine and cocks it.

Slowly he moves the gun to his head, his hand TREMBLES.

The closer it gets TO HIS HEAD the more it trembles.

He's losing it.

He can't do it.

He drops the gun and puts his face in his hands and cries heavily.

He hits the steering wheel hard with his hands.

Suddenly MARTIN transforms into the YOUNG BOY, he opens the door and leaves the car and walks over to the others.

INT. MARTIN'S GARAGE - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

MARTIN (SPIRIT) turns around, not wanting to face the others.

REBECCA (SPIRIT) walks over to him and puts her hand on his shoulder.

YOUNG BOY
The American dream...
(a beat)
Or what do you say Gabriele?

GABRIELE (SPIRIT) looks over at him.

His face turns dark.

When REBECCA (SPIRIT) looks back at them the scenario changes once again.

EXT. AMERICAN/MEXICAN BORDER CONTROL - DAY (FLASHBACK)

GABRIELE, with his family, walk with their heads held up high.

GABRIELE has all of their passports and a GREEN CARD in his hand.

They enter American soil with a big smile on their faces.

GABRIELE turns around and sees how other Mexicans are denied entry.

He lowers his head.

Beside him stands the YOUNG BOY, GABRIELE (SPIRIT), MARTIN (SPIRIT) and REBECCA (SPIRIT).

They all look at him, GABRIELE is unaware of their presence.

YOUNG BOY
So, the land of dreams?

GABRIELE (SPIRIT) reaches out for himself, tries to feel his own face, nothing, emptiness.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)
So I thought...

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. GYM - DAY (FLASHBACK)

GABRIELE walks through the gym and picks up sweaty towels, and mops the floor when needed.

A bunch of guys in their early twenty's, wearing the latest work-out clothes, are working out.

One of them does bench presses.

They push each other loudly.

GUY #1
Three more, you can do it!

GUY #2
Come on!

One of them finishes a banana and throws the peel towards a garbage bin but misses.

At the same time GABRIELE passes by.

He looks down, the peel doesn't lie far from his feet.

The GUY looks at GABRIELE.

GUY #1
Hey you, pick that up will you?

The other guys stop working out and put their attention on GABRIELE.

GABRIELE stands still for a while, he doesn't say anything.

GUY #2
Come on, it's your job, isn't it?

GABRIELE bites his lip and leans over and picks it up and throws it in the bin.

He walks off.

The GUYS chuckle and laugh.

BACK TO:

EXT. AMERICAN/MEXICAN BORDER CONTROL - DAY (FLASHBACK)

The YOUNG BOY turns around and walks away.

YOUNG BOY
Come with me!

The others also turn around, GABRIELE hesitates, he watches him self and his family slowly moving away from him and the border.

Then he turns and joins the others.

EXT. DIFFERENT LANDSCAPES - DAY

As they walk, the surrounding starts to change, it's like they walk through time, trapped in a bubble where they can't be touched or touch anything.

They walk through a green meadow, a desert, along a winding river, an old forest.

YOUNG BOY
It's easy to forget about what
really matters...

They all look around, everything they see is very beautiful.
Their eyes wander.

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
But, I've been following my dream
all my life! How can that be wrong?

The YOUNG BOY stops, and so do the others.

The surrounding doesn't stop changing, it keeps on
transforming.

It becomes more rural, they enter a big city.

They float through the narrow streets.

We see people, in their business suits, almost running, they
try to get wherever they are going as fast as they possibly
can.

Some of them are on their phones, paying no attention to the
people around them.

They are oblivious of one and another.

YOUNG BOY
It's when you forget about
everything else...
(a beat)
Then your dreams become
worthless...

The three stand in a circle, looking out on the world around
them.

The world is not looking back.

YOUNG BOY
Gabriele, you remember how you were
with your family in Mexico?

GABRIELE (SPIRIT) looks back at him, he nods.

YOUNG BOY
(cont'd)
When is the last time you've played
with them like that?

He lowers his head.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)
I can't remember...

INT. LOS ANGELES - GABRIELE'S APARTMENT - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

The apartment is small and the kitchen and living room is combined.

MARTIN (SPIRIT), GABRIELE (SPIRIT) and REBECCA (SPIRIT) stand in the middle of the living room area.

JOAQUIN plays on the couch, GABRIELE and his wife sit around the kitchen table.

On the table is a bunch of bills.

ELVIA stands next to GABRIELE and pulls his arm.

ELVIA
(speaking Spanish)
Daddy! Daddy! Come play!

GABRIELE is quiet, JUANITA caresses his forehead.

Suddenly GABRIELE pulls back his head and moves his arm towards himself.

He goes to the bedroom and slams the door behind him.

JUANITA pulls ELVIA to her, she has tears in her eyes.

JOAQUIN runs over to them.

JUANITA
(speaking Spanish)
He has a lot on his mind...

REBECCA (SPIRIT) puts her hand on GABRIELE'S (SPIRIT) shoulder.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)
I didn't mean to...

Suddenly the YOUNG BOY starts to transform, he grows taller, his skin turns darker, soon he has transformed into HOMELESS MAN.

He divides himself into three and now stands in front of them all.

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
You again!

HOMELESS MAN
Close your eyes!

They close their eyes and everything goes dark.

EXT. ASPEN SKI RESORT - DAY (POSSIBLE FUTURE)

The snow is blistering white, the sky is clear blue, the slopes are newly prepared.

MARTIN and his two kids, JILL and JAKE, comes down a slope fast.

Our characters are next to them, floating in the air.

MARTIN (SPIRIT) points at him himself.

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
But... I'm with them!

The HOMELESS MAN smiles slightly.

HOMELESS MAN
Are you really?

MARTIN (SPIRIT) looks back at him with a curious look, the others raise their eyebrows.

HOMELESS MAN
This is where you were heading,
right?

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
Yes, if this is Aspen.

HOMELESS MAN
And your work?

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
I... I'm on vacation...

HOMELESS MAN
Really...

He looks down toward the slopes.

A MUFFLED RINGING SOUND is heard.

MARTIN stops in the middle of the slope and with some effort he pulls out his cell phone from the inside pocket of his ski jacket.

He looks a head of him, at JILL and JAKE who are now further down the slope.

MARTIN
 (into the phone)
 Yes?
 (to JILL and JAKE)
 Hey, wait up!
 (into the phone)
 No, don't let him sign that! It's
 just not time for that, listen to
 me, this is what I want you to
 do...

While MARTIN is on the phone we follow JILL and JAKE, they are going really fast now, pushing each others limits.

Having no one to tell them to stop, the "game" soon goes out of control and JILL loses control over her ski's.

Going so fast that she doesn't know how to stop she steers to the side of the slope, towards the trees.

Without the capability to handle the situation JILL CRASHES into a tree.

JAKE
 Jill! Dad... HELP!

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
 No! Jill!

MARTIN (SPIRIT) wants to jump out of the "sphere" but the HOMELESS MAN grabs his arm.

HOMELESS MAN
 It's too late...

MARTIN (SPIRIT) angrily looks back at him.

Trying with all his powers he finds it impossible to get out of the HOMELESS MAN'S grip.

The HOMELESS MAN has him in a firm grip and stares him straight in the eyes.

HOMELESS MAN
 You weren't paying attention... And this is not the first time, this is just what could happen... How are children supposed to learn right from wrong if their parents aren't there for them?

REBECCA (SPIRIT) looks at the HOMELESS MAN.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - SAN FRANCISCO - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

The room is small, two beds next to each other, the room looking like any other hotel room.

MARTIN lays on the bed with his laptop in his lap, typing, he's oblivious of what goes on around him.

JILL and JAKE play on the bed next to him.

The HOMELESS MAN, MARTIN (SPIRIT), REBECCA (SPIRIT) and GABRIELE (SPIRIT) watches from the corner of the room.

JILL

Dad...

He doesn't answer.

Too wrapped up in his work.

JILL

Dad?

JILL grabs JAKE'S arm and they walk toward the door.

JILL opens it.

JAKE

(whispering)

Where are we going?

JILL looks back at MARTIN then down at JAKE, then they leave, closing the door quietly behind them.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)

You didn't notice that!

MARTIN (SPIRIT)

Well... No...

All of a sudden MARTIN snaps out of his thoughts and looks around, confused.

MARTIN

Jill?! Jake?!

He puts down the laptop and stands up, moves to the bathroom, opens the door, the bathroom is empty.

Nervously he starts to spin his wedding ring.

He opens the door out to the hallway and puts out his head.

MARTIN
Jill! Jake!

MARTIN (SPIRIT) faces the others.

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
Well, they hadn't gone far, I found
them OK?!

GABRIELE (SPIRIT) looks disapproving at him.

REBECCA (SPIRIT) doesn't say anything.

MARTIN (SPIRIT) turns to the HOMELESS MAN.

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
I'm getting sick and tired of this!
You don't know what it's like to be
me? You have no idea what it takes
to be where I --
(interrupted)

HOMELESS MAN
Where you WERE! Remember,
everything isn't really the way you
are used to right now is it?!

The HOMELESS MAN snaps his fingers.

EXT. SPACE - DAY

SPACE - the ultimate emptiness.

MARTIN (SPIRIT), GABRIELE (SPIRIT) and REBECCA (SPIRIT) are
speechless, they stare blankly out into nothing and
everything at the same time.

They are surrounded by stars and planets, the stars shine
like the love of God, they can see the stardust, they can
almost touch it.

The Milky Way looks amazing and Earth looks beautiful, the
great oceans are shimmering BLUE.

It is very quiet.

The HOMELESS MAN'S cape blows in the wind, although there is
none.

He snaps his fingers.

A LOUD BANG is heard, far away a bright light FLASHES.

They all stare right into the light.

The light becomes brighter, moving closer to them, it becomes larger, still no sound, just bright light.

REBECCA (SPIRIT)
What's happening?

The HOMELESS MAN smiles.

HOMELESS MAN
The end...

MARTIN (SPIRIT) looks over at him.

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
What?

HOMELESS MAN
This is what can happen at anytime,
anywhere in the Universe, and you
have no control over it what so
ever!

Suddenly the light hits Earth and the planet EXPLODES into a million pieces.

MARTIN (SPIRIT), GABRIELE (SPIRIT) and REBECCA (SPIRIT) cover their eyes in protection of the bright light and the explosion but nothing seems to be able to touch them.

The bits and pieces go past them.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)
Is it really gone?

He snaps his fingers again and everything is back to the way it was.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT) sighs loudly.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)
That's a mind-blower...

Suddenly REBECCA (SPIRIT) breaks down and falls to her knees, she cries.

REBECCA (SPIRIT)
Stop this, I want it to stop...
(a beat)
Why are you doing this? What have I
done? What have we done?

GABRIELE (SPIRIT) and MARTIN (SPIRIT) walks over to her, GABRIELE (SPIRIT) sits down next to her and MARTIN (SPIRIT) leans down and pulls out a handkerchief from his inner pocket and hands it to her.

Not really wanting to, she reaches out for it.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)
Why us?

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
Yeah, why us?

HOMELESS MAN
What is it that makes human beings
believing themselves being so
special?
(a beat)
Do you think you guys are the only
ones?

MARTIN (SPIRIT) raises his eyebrows.

REBECCA (SPIRIT), still sobbing, looks up.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT) puts his arm around REBECCA'S (SPIRIT) shoulder.

She smiles and blushes.

She blows her nose.

MARTIN (SPIRIT) looks down at her and then up again at the HOMELESS MAN.

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
What do you mean!? Stop talking in
riddles!

HOMELESS MAN
What if I were to tell you that
this happens to people all the
time?

GABRIELE (SPIRIT) can't believe what he hears, neither can the others.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)
What?!

The HOMELESS MAN looks at him, he smiles.

HOMELESS MAN
Your wife has been here!

GABRIELE'S (SPIRIT) eyes opens wide.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)
WHAT?

HOMELESS MAN
Yeah, we had a nice talk about
little bit of this and that.

MARTIN (SPIRIT) stands up and takes a couple of steps towards
the HOMELESS MAN.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT) follows him.

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
It's time for you to explain
yourself...
(a beat)
NOW!

Face to face with the HOMELESS MAN, MARTIN (SPIRIT) angrily
looks deep into his eyes, he has problem focusing, no pupil
can be seen.

His blue eyes now turn darker, it's almost like they reflect
the surface that surrounds them - SPACE.

For a second MARTIN (SPIRIT) sees stars in the HOMELESS MAN'S
eyes.

MARTIN (SPIRIT) is stunned.

The HOMELESS MAN gestures to them to come closer and sit down
next to him.

REBECCA (SPIRIT) slowly crawls over.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT) sits down next to her.

MARTIN (SPIRIT) still stands and looks down at them.

HOMELESS MAN
Come on, sit down, I'll explain
everything!

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
I guess I don't have a choice...

HOMELESS MAN
You always have a choice...

MARTIN (SPIRIT) sighs and sits down next to them.

The HOMELESS MAN makes a circle with his finger in front of them.

They all quietly watch, wondering what he is doing.

Soon, a small ring starts to unfold, when the HOMELESS MAN removes his finger a small version of the Earth takes his finger's place.

HOMELESS MAN

This is where you live and breathe!

He puts his finger in the middle of the ring and a bright light appears, it is the Sun.

Then he repeats the same thing over and over again until he has our entire solar system drawn out, a three dimensional image of the Universe.

HOMELESS MAN

You call this your Solar System,
how many of these do you think
exists out there, or here I mean?

They look at each other, confused.

MARTIN (SPIRIT)

We don't know, alright, come on
already!

HOMELESS MAN

The closest star is, what you've
named it, Alpha Centauri, so far
you haven't been able to prove if
it's only a star or if it has it's
own solar system around it...

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)

Yeah... So?

HOMELESS MAN

Well, what I'm trying to say is
that you, people, know so little
but claim to know it all! Living
life the way you think is right!

MARTIN (SPIRIT) shakes his head.

MARTIN (SPIRIT)

Well, how are we suppose to live
our life then?

HOMELESS MAN
With a bit more humility...

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
I treat my personnel with respect!

HOMELESS MAN
No, be humble to your self! That's
what I'm trying to say! You are
nothing in this big everything,
space is so big and there is so
much going on out there that you
can't even start to imagine!

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)
How are we supposed to handle it?

HOMELESS MAN
Life has no meaning, within this
lies its meaning.

REBECCA (SPIRIT)
What? You're telling us that there
is no purpose for us to live?

The HOMELESS MAN lowers his head.

HOMELESS MAN
Haven't you heard a single word
I've been saying?

He looks up at her.

HOMELESS MAN
When you realize that life has no
purpose you will truly want to
live!

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)
It doesn't make any sense...

HOMELESS MAN
Well, think about it Gabriele, when
have you been truly happy?

GABRIELE'S (SPIRIT) eyes starts to wander.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)
Well...

HOMELESS MAN

When you haven't been thinking
about WHAT will make you happy,
right?

GABRIELE (SPIRIT) locks eyes with him.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)

Maybe your right...

REBECCA (SPIRIT)

But it's almost like saying that
ignorance is bliss?

HOMELESS MAN

Not at all, it's the total
opposite...

He stands up and the others follow his move.

The HOMELESS MAN points towards Earth.

From a point of view they never seen before, they all look at
our planet.

At this very moment it is just a small, little insignificant
sphere.

It is so distant.

Suddenly they start to move, slowly at first but soon their
speed increases enormously.

Closing in on Earth, they pass the moon, and then a
satellite.

Through this the three stand close to each other, now, more
than before, they enjoy the "ride".

They descend through the atmosphere, through the clouds, it's
almost dreamlike.

We see North America, then California, then LA, soon its
freeway system becomes clear.

EXT. AERIAL VIEW OF LOS ANGELES - DAY

Once again the three of them find themselves hovering in mid
air.

Below them, LA's hectic and busy lifestyle appears as out of
a dream.

Not so far away from them they see all the airplanes lined up for landing at LAX.

All these huge air crafts circling LA, nowhere to go but down.

It is somewhat of a bizarre sight.

HOMELESS MAN
Remember this?

MARTIN (SPIRIT) looks over and once again he sees the circle shaped scar on the HOMELESS MAN'S neck.

He sits down, soon the other joins him.

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
The ants...

REBECCA (SPIRIT) laughs.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT) smiles.

The HOMELESS MAN ignores them.

HOMELESS MAN
Not only that...

They look at each other, sitting close to one another, MARTIN (SPIRIT) has his hand on REBECCA'S (SPIRIT) shoulder and GABRIELE (SPIRIT) is leaning against her.

REBECCA (SPIRIT)
It's weird, at work I didn't even
look in your direction Gabriele...

GABRIELE (SPIRIT) puts his hand on her shoulder.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)
Don't worry about it...
(a beat)
It's the way it is!

REBECCA (SPIRIT) puts her hand on his.

REBECCA (SPIRIT)
But it shouldn't!

MARTIN (SPIRIT) reaches out his hand, he holds it in front of GABRIELE (SPIRIT).

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
Sorry...

GABRIELE (SPIRIT) hesitates.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)
Hey guys, it's not me you should
apologize to!

He grabs MARTIN'S (SPIRIT) hand and holds on to it.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)
(cont'd)
This is so much bigger than us
three, we are here for another
reason than realizing that we have
been treating each other like shit!

The HOMELESS MAN sits down next to them.

HOMELESS MAN
He's got a point...

They all look at him.

MARTIN can't take his eyes off the scar.

HOMELESS MAN
(cont'd)
This is just the culmination of it
all! This is were you all have to
take a stand!

REBECCA (SPIRIT) smiles.

REBECCA (SPIRIT)
To be or not to be...

MARTIN (SPIRIT) looks at her and lays his hand on hers.

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
That is the question...

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)
And he's saying that we have the
choice to choose whether we want
that or not...

The HOMELESS MAN rises.

MARTIN (SPIRIT) follows and puts his hand on the HOMELESS
MANS shoulder.

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
Tell me. The circle, what is it?

The HOMELESS MAN smiles and motions to his neck, he follows the circle with his finger.

HOMELESS MAN
The circle of life of course.

REBECCA
What are you talking about?

She stands up.

A WHITE DOVE comes flying against them.

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
It's... I've seen it before...

GABRIELE
Me too...

The HOMELESS MAN puts out his arm and the WHITE DOVE lands on it.

He moves it towards his face and they snuggle.

REBECCA (SPIRIT) walks up to the HOMELESS MAN.

REBECCA (SPIRIT)
Is it yours?

HOMELESS MAN
Nothing is anyone's... That's the cycle I've been talking about!

REBECCA (SPIRIT) looks back at the others.

MARTIN (SPIRIT) walks up to them and pets the WHITE DOVE.

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
(to the WHITE DOVE)
Hey there, I didn't mean to scare you earlier today, I wasn't being myself, OK?!

REBECCA (SPIRIT) smiles.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT) also stands up.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)
(to the WHITE DOVE)
I didn't mean to be so rough when I threw you out the window, sorry, it won't happen again, I swear!

The HOMELESS MAN smiles and raises his arm.

The WHITE DOVE puts out its wings, and with a few wing beats the WHITE DOVE is far away.

They all watch it fly away.

The HOMELESS MAN turns to them, he looks them all in their eyes, he has a peculiar smile on his face.

HOMELESS MAN
Your turn!

Just when MARTIN (SPIRIT) is about to open his mouth, the "solid foundation" they were standing on suddenly disappears underneath them and they all FALL.

The HOMELESS MAN calmly remains at the same place, he watches them as they become smaller and smaller.

Too far away from each other to be able to reach one another, MARTIN (SPIRIT) desperately tries to grab REBECCA (SPIRIT).

He can't reach.

They see the HOMELESS MAN waving at them.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT) turns around, not wanting to fall on his back.

GABRIELE'S (SPIRIT) POV

The ground approaches quickly.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)
Is this it!? Is this it!?

REBECCA (SPIRIT) and MARTIN (SPIRIT) have also managed to turn around and fall face down.

They start to distinguish the different freeways, soon even the cars.

They approach Highway 101.

They see their cars, stuck in traffic, in front of them the truck with the trailer, flipped over.

Right before they are about to hit the ground ---

FADE TO:

WHITE SCREEN

FADE IN:

EXT. FREEWAY - DAY

SUPER TITLE: 4.45 PM

Back to where we started.

The traffic moves slowly, bumper to bumper.

GABRIELE is in his car, on his right side is REBECCA and on his left side is MARTIN.

The traffic clears and everyone speeds up.

The three look at each other, confused.

MARTIN watches GABRIELE squeeze his ROSARY hard.

He looks down on his left hand, and he spins his WEDDING RING around.

REBECCA waves at them.

They nod, not knowing if they have been dreaming or not.

They all drive at a normal pace.

INT. MARTIN'S CAR (MOVING) - DAY

MARTIN looks a bit pale.

He carefully scans the road ahead of him.

He see's the SUV with the jet-ski's on a trailer behind it.

MARTIN

No way...

Before he knows it he finds himself engulfed in the explosion.

GABRIELE and REBECCA doesn't have time to react either.

FADE TO:

BLACK SCREEN

We hear a low hissing sound, and a rhythmic beat, it "BEEPS" steady and regular.

FADE IN:

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

There are three beds next to each other, the room has bright grey walls, the floor is white, marble.

Next to each bed is a heart monitor, and other medical monitoring equipment.

REBECCA lays in the middle bed, bandage around her head, and suction cups attached to her forehead, her eyes are closed but her eyes are moving under her eyelids.

Next to her, on the right, we see GABRIELE. Both arms in casts, his eyes are also closed.

MARTIN, on her left, his entire face and head wrapped with bandages, all you can see is his eyes, they are closed.

A NURSE stands next to REBECCA, she checks her pulse.

A DOCTOR enters the room, they exchange looks.

The NURSE slowly shakes her head.

The DOCTOR walks up to REBECCA.

He puts his hand on her forehead, slowly he caresses her.

He stops and looks at his watch.

DOCTOR
It doesn't look good...

The NURSE puts REBECCA'S arm back along her side, gently she tucks it in.

NURSE
No. It doesn't...

They look at each other and then at the three injured in their beds.

They turn around and walk towards the door.

When they reach the door we pull back to reveal REBECCA (SPIRIT), MARTIN (SPIRIT) and GABRIELE (SPIRIT).

They stand along the wall.

The HOMELESS MAN is next to them.

The NURSE and the DOCTOR doesn't see them and walk out through the door.

REBECCA (SPIRIT) takes a step forward.

The HOMELESS MAN reaches out and grabs her by her shoulder.

HOMELESS MAN

Wait...

She turns around, she has tears in her eyes.

MARTIN (SPIRIT) and GABRIELE (SPIRIT) stares at themselves.

HOMELESS MAN

This is really it...

He lets go of REBECCA (SPIRIT) who steps back.

MARTIN (SPIRIT)

We were really in an accident... I thought...

(a beat)

I don't know what I thought...

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)

(to the HOMELESS MAN)

How are we doing?

REBECCA (SPIRIT)

You heard the doctor, it doesn't look good, or at least not for me that is...

She struggles to hold back her tears.

HOMELESS MAN (SPIRIT)

He's right... It was a horrible accident, it's a miracle you're still alive...

MARTIN (SPIRIT)

But are we really?

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)
 Yeah, everything feels so real, but
 when I'm looking at myself, laying
 there...

(a beat)
 I just don't know what to believe
 or think anymore...

He crouches, and slides slowly along the grey wall until he
 hits the cold marble floor.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)
 (cont'd)
 This goes against all my beliefs,
 I'm Catholic you know!

He looks at the HOMELESS MAN.

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
 And I don't even believe...

REBECCA (SPIRIT)
 Me neither...

The HOMELESS MAN takes a couple of steps forward, he now
 stands between them (SPIRITS) and themselves.

HOMELESS MAN
 Religion separates people, it's
 believing in something that brings
 us together...
 (a beat)
 No matter what those beliefs are...

They all look at him.

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
 So, what will happen to us?

MARTIN (SPIRIT) joins GABRIELE (SPIRIT) on the cold marble
 floor.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)
 Will I ever see my family again?

While the others are eager to know what's going on REBECCA
 (SPIRIT) walks over to the window and looks out.

EXT. OUTSIDE HOSPITAL WINDOW - DAY

REBECCA'S (SPIRIT) POV

The same WHITE DOVE as seen before fly's towards the window.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

REBECCA'S (SPIRIT) eyes widen.

EXT. OUTSIDE HOSPITAL WINDOW - DAY

REBECCA'S (SPIRIT) POV

When the WHITE DOVE comes closer it slows down and lands on the window ledge.

It looks straight at REBECCA (SPIRIT), it's plumage is shining, this WHITE DOVE is not like any ordinary dove.

In the blink of an eye the WHITE DOVE transforms to REBECCA'S mother JOANN, but only for a second, barely noticeable.

JOANN

It's OK, I forgive you...

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

REBECCA (SPIRIT) can't resist it any longer, she starts to cry hard and falls to her knees.

MARTIN (SPIRIT) and GABRIELE (SPIRIT) are startled.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)

Rebecca, what's wrong?

GABRIELE moves towards her and tries to put his arm around her.

She pushes him away.

REBECCA (SPIRIT)

Leave me alone!

MARTIN (SPIRIT)

(to the HOMELESS MAN)

What have you done to her?

Looking worried at REBECCA (SPIRIT).

HOMELESS MAN (SPIRIT)

Why don't you ask her...

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
Rebecca, what happened?

She still doesn't respond.

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
(cont'd)
We can't help you if you don't tell
us what's wrong...

GABRIELE (SPIRIT) looks towards the window.

He stands up and walks over to it.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)
Hey, guys, look, it's the dove!
It's right here, outside the
window!

REBECCA (SPIRIT) looks up.

REBECCA (SPIRIT)
Leave her alone!

GABRIELE (SPIRIT) looks back at her, then at MARTIN (SPIRIT)
and the HOMELESS MAN.

He steps away from the window.

REBECCA (SPIRIT) dries her wet cheeks and stands up and
slowly walks over to the window.

She opens it.

The WHITE DOVE sits still, it watches her with curious eyes.

REBECCA (SPIRIT) looks back at the others, they too are
watching curiously.

She turns to the WHITE DOVE and reaches out for it, her hand
trembles slightly.

The WHITE DOVE makes a low noise, "co-co", REBECCA (SPIRIT)
moves closer, her hand now right next to the WHITE DOVE.

The WHITE DOVE spreads out its wings and jumps up on her arm.

REBECCA (SPIRIT) slowly turns around to face the others.

REBECCA (SPIRIT)
Look, it knows me...

She pets it gently.

The others don't really know how to behave.

MARTIN (SPIRIT) walks over to the bed where he is laying,
GABRIELE (SPIRIT) joins him.

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
I guess I got pretty burned...

GABRIELE (SPIRIT) tries to lift the blanket but once again he
can't touch anything.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)
I guess so...
(a beat)
I look pretty messed up too...

REBECCA (SPIRIT) walks over to them.

REBECCA (SPIRIT)
Maybe it's not meant for us to go
back?

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)
What?
(to the HOMELESS MAN)
That's what all this has been
about, right?

The HOMELESS MAN joins them by the side of the bed, he looks
down on REBECCA (laying in the bed) and then at her heart
monitor.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)
(cont'd)
For us to eventually be able to go
back I mean...

HOMELESS MAN
Maybe, maybe not...

MARTIN (SPIRIT) walks over to the same side of the bed as
where the HOMELESS MAN stands.

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
Cut this crap! We are getting sick
and tired of your games, you
haven't even said who you are, we
don't know anything, what's going
on, what will happen to us?

HOMELESS MAN
It's all about choices...

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)
Then I choose to live!

The HOMELESS MAN smiles.

HOMELESS MAN
It's not that simple...

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
Then tell us what to do...

REBECCA (SPIRIT) walks over to the window, puts her hand out and lets go of the WHITE DOVE.

With big wing beats the WHITE DOVE flies away.

REBECCA (SPIRIT)
He's telling us to let go of
everything we once believed...
(a beat)
It's not until we let go, til' we
can be truly free...

The HOMELESS MAN puts out his arms.

HOMELESS MAN
Somebody's been listening...
(a beat)
Good luck!

The HOMELESS MAN vanishes and the room starts to change, the walls disappear and everything turns darker.

FADE TO:

BLACK SCREEN:

FADE IN:

INT. TUNNEL - DAY/NIGHT

Only a small ray of light can be seen at the end of the tunnel.

The walls are indistinct and we are not sure what they are made of.

REBECCA (SPIRIT) (O.S.)
Guys! Are you there?

MARTIN (SPIRIT) (O.S.)
Yes. I'm here! Gabriele?

GABRIELE (SPIRIT) (O.S.)
I'm here too! Where are we? I can't
see anything...

REBECCA (SPIRIT) (O.S.)
Me neither...

The small ray of light increases and they can see each others
silhouettes.

REBECCA (SPIRIT)
Let's walk towards the light.
(a beat)
Here, take my hand!

She reaches out both her hands.

MARTIN (SPIRIT) reaches her right hand first, then GABRIELE
(SPIRIT) grabs her left hand.

Together they walk towards the light.

The light becomes brighter as they move closer.

While they walk MARTIN (SPIRIT) starts to see things, as
looking through himself, laying in the hospital bed.

He stops.

REBECCA (SPIRIT)
What's wrong?

MARTIN
I... I don't know... Don't you
see...

REBECCA
See what?

Simultaneously GABRIELE (SPIRIT) experiences the same thing,
he can see through his own eyes while laying in the hospital
bed.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

MARTIN and GABRIELE'S eyes are wide open.

Indistinctive voices and a low ringing can be heard.

They slowly turn their heads toward each other, their eyes meet.

GABRIELE
(week)
We're back...

Several people stand around REBECCA, they are all dressed in white.

Doctors, nurses and specialists discuss loudly.

Confused and worried they look at her heart monitor, one doctor reads her journal.

With worried eyes MARTIN and GABRIELE look at REBECCA.

INT. TUNNEL - DAY/NIGHT

REBECCA (SPIRIT) pulls both MARTIN'S (SPIRIT) and GABRIELE'S (SPIRIT) arm.

They don't move.

REBECCA (SPIRIT)
Guys! What's going on, tell me, I
want to know? What do you see?

MARTIN (SPIRIT) holds REBECCA'S (SPIRIT) hand firmly.

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
You're not waking up...

REBECCA (SPIRIT)
What are you talking about? I'm
wide awake, I assure you...

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
No, not here, at the hospital...

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)
Something's wrong...

At the end of the tunnel we see a silhouette, it has its arms spread out.

The silhouette slowly moves closer to them.

REBECCA (SPIRIT)
What are you talking about? Let's
go, hurry, before it's too late...

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)
Too late?

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
Go where?

REBECCA (SPIRIT) starts to pull them harder.

REBECCA (SPIRIT)
All your questions will be
answered...
(a beat)
Come on, hurry!

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

REBECCA seizes.

The doctors move in, they hold her down.

Her eyes are wide open but only the whites of the eyes can be seen.

MARTIN and GABRIELE watches her, they are horrified.

REBECCA'S body moves violently in the bed.

The nurses run back and forth between cabinets and the bed.

A nurse prepares a syringe.

She hands it to one of the doctors.

Another doctor stands in the doorway, he screams for more personnel.

DOCTOR IN THE DOORWAY
Get me Dr. Roughani, NOW!

INT. TUNNEL - DAY/NIGHT

MARTIN (SPIRIT) can't feel REBECCA'S (SPIRIT) hand anymore.

She moves away from them.

Both MARTIN (SPIRIT) and GABRIELE (SPIRIT) reach out for REBECCA (SPIRIT) but something holds them back, she is too far away, they can't reach her.

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
Rebecca, no! Fight it, you can do
it!

MARTIN (SPIRIT) tries to step forward but something pushes
him to the ground, he FALLS DOWN ON ONE KNEE.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT)
We're supposed to go back!

REBECCA (SPIRIT) smiles.

MARTIN (SPIRIT)
Think of your mother!

REBECCA (SPIRIT) stops and turns around.

REBECCA (SPIRIT)
That's what I'm doing! That's
exactly what I'm doing!
(a beat)
You take care of yourselves,
alright!

She turns around.

All MARTIN (SPIRIT) and GABRIELE (SPIRIT) sees is her
silhouette.

GABRIELE (SPIRIT) helps MARTIN (SPIRIT) up.

Hand in hand REBECCA (SPIRIT) and the other silhouette slowly
move towards the light.

They become ENGULFED in the light.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

REBECCA stops to seizure.

The doctors and nurses stand next to her, unknowing what to
do next or expect.

MARTIN and GABRIELE has their heads turned to her and each
other.

A tear falls from GABRIELE'S eye, it falls along his cheek
and down to the bed sheet.

Suddenly, REBECCA sits up and takes a deep BREATH.

The doctors and nurses watch in astonishment.

MARTIN'S eyes widens, so does GABRIELE'S.

REBECCA slowly falls to her back again, with a smile on her lips she slowly and deeply exhales.

Her eyes are wide open.

The heart monitor goes blank and the repeatedly "beeping-sound" now transforms into a constant "BEEP".

She is gone.

MARTIN and GABRIELE look at each other.

They turn their heads and look straight up at the ceiling.

One of the doctors move in and closes REBECCA'S eyes.

EXT. SANTA MONICA - HOUSE - PORCH - DAY

MARTIN, his wife ANDREA and their two children, JILL and JAKE stand on the porch to a beautiful suburban house.

In the driveway we see MARTIN'S new car, a SAAB 9-5 Stationwagon and his WIFE'S Lexus RS 400, the lawn is newly mowed and the hedge is well cut.

MARTIN hugs his wife and children, they all cry.

They look at each other and smile through their tears.

INT. GO GO'S GYM - MR. OYCO'S OFFICE - DAY

GABRIELE stands in the doorway, he has a big grin on his face.

MR. OYCO
Gabriele, what can I do for you?

GABRIELE
Nothing, I just wanted to tell you
that I'm never coming back, I'm
going home!

MR. OYCO
If you think...

GABRIELE leaves the office.

MR. OYCO is speechless.

GABRIELE walks through the gym, he passes the young crowd of guys who were working out earlier.

One of them throws his towel in front of GABRIELE.

GUY #1
Hey, pick it up will ya'?

GABRIELE stops.

He looks down at the towel, then over at them.

He leans down, and just as he is about to reach for the towel he starts to tie his shoelace instead.

He looks over at them again.

GABRIELE
Do it your self!

He stands up and walks off.

The guys look at each other, not knowing what to say.

GABRIELE has a big smile on his face.

EXT. TEXAS - FORT WORTH - CEMETARY - DAY

It's a wonderful late summer day, the wind blows slightly.

The green leaves in the trees rustle.

REBECCA'S mother JOANN sits next to a grave.

The inscription on the gravestone reads:

"IN LOVING MEMORY OF REBECCA POINTE - Beloved daughter -

My word

Making little comfort

To my bone

Thin girl

Lost but not gone

Begging

For breath

March 6 1975 - September 12 2004"

JOANN slides her hand along her daughters name.

JOANN
Hope you found peace...

FADE OUT:

WHITE SCREEN

FADE IN:

EXT. DROTTNINGGATAN - STOCKHOLM - SWEDEN - TRAFFICJAM - DAY

The HOMELESS MAN walks through the jam packed street.

He walks up to a Volvo 740 Stationwagon and knocks on its window.

The woman inside rolls down her window.

WOMAN
Ja?!

The HOMELESS MAN smiles.

FADE TO BLACK.