

CANDLEWOOD

Written by

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Three sisters - ISLA (16) big, curious eyes, ELLIOT (13) edgy pixie cut, and JUNE COLE (10) freckled redhead - stand panting in mismatched bathing suits on the overhang of a rocky cliff. Their eyes are locked on what's below.

ELLIOT

Shit.

ISLA

You know there used to be a town under there?

JUNE

I heard they doomed a river and covered the town with water.

ELLIOT

You mean damned a river.

ISLA

Cemetery's under there too. Power company filled the valley with water before they could dig up the people. Lake's full of ghosts now.

CANDLEWOOD LAKE is twenty-five feet below them. It's eleven miles long, framed by the rolling green hills of Connecticut. The blue-green water shimmers in midsummer sun.

Isla stands taller, a determined look on her face.

ISLA (CONT'D)

Ready?

JUNE

Not yet.

ELLIOT

Don't be a baby.

JUNE

It looks way higher up here.

The girls fall silent. Finally -

ISLA

One... Two.

June squeals.

ISLA/ELLIOT/JUNE

THREE!

Isla and Elliot LEAP into the air, SCREAMING as they go. June STAYS on the rock - nervously hops from one foot to another as she watches her sisters PLUNGE -

2 EXT. CANDLEWOOD LAKE - UNDERWATER - CONTINUOUS 2

- Deep into the water. Millions of tiny bubbles envelop them. Elliot kicks her way to the top. Isla sinks to the bottom.

3 EXT. CANDLEWOOD LAKE - CONTINUOUS 3

Elliot BREACHES, splashing wildly, coursing with adrenaline.

ELLIOT
WOOO.

June smiles as she watches. Elliot looks up to see her.

ELLIOT (CONT'D)
CHICKEN!

JUNE
AM NOT.

Elliot laughs. Moments pass as they settle.

JUNE (CONT'D)
Where's Isla?

Elliot treads water, looks around for her sister. No sign of Isla. Elliot takes a deep breath and NOSE DIVES -

4 EXT. CANDLEWOOD LAKE - UNDERWATER - CONTINUOUS 4

- Down towards the lake floor. Her eyes strain against the murky water. At the bottom of the lake she spots Isla sitting perfectly still. She holds a large rock to anchor herself.

Isla's eyes are open. She's looking up at the light. The sun pierces the water, glows on the kicking legs of Elliot, who swims towards her. Grabs Isla's arm. Tugs hard.

Isla doesn't move. Elliot tugs again. Finally, Isla lets go of the rock. Kicks towards the surface.

5 EXT. CANDLEWOOD LAKE - CONTINUOUS 5

They breach. Isla heaves in air. Smiles. Face in the sun. June shouts from the cliff face -

JUNE
Isla!

ELLIOT
What the fuck?

ISLA
Wanted to see how long I could hold
my breath.

ELLIOT
Dick wad.

Elliot splashes her. Isla dodges, chuckling. Swims towards shore where their CANOE is tied to a nearby tree. Elliot rolls her eyes. Follows.

6 EXT. CANDLEWOOD LAKE - SHORE - LATER

6

The girls sit in a pile. June's head on Isla's lap, Elliot's back against Isla's.

Elliot practices the blues on a dented harmonica held together on one end with a paperclip. June guides an ant from one hand to another. A pile of rocks and feathers are collected at her feet.

Just then, Elliot's bulky BABY-G WATCH beeps. She stops playing. Looks at it.

ELLIOT
We gotta go.

ISLA
Mom can wait.

ELLIOT
You crazy?

ISLA
I'll go when I want to go.

Just then, the SOUND of a motor approaching. Isla lifts her arm to shield the sun as a small YELLOW SEA PLANE flies towards them. The girls sit up, watching as it descends.

JUNE
Mr. Winters.

The plane - a two-seater on floats - touches down on the lake. It barely splashes as it lands on the water's surface.

ELLIOT
Goddamn that's cool.

ISLA
Haven't seen him fly all summer.

The plane continues motoring down the lake, taxiing home. Its wake reaches the bank. Splashes against the girls' shins.

7 EXT. CANDLEWOOD LAKE - COLE FAMILY DOCK - DAY 7

Isla and Elliot paddle the canoe towards a small sandbank next to their wooden dock.

They run aground. Step out of the canoe into knee-deep water.

ELLIOT
Damn. I think mom beat us.

Elliot ties the canoe to a tree. June reaches into the canoe. Folds her towel around the rocks and feathers she collected.

JUNE
She promised to buy pancake mix.

Elliot notices Isla staring at Mr. Winter's DOCK across the cove. A pontoon boat is tied to one side of the dock. Tied to the other side is the same yellow sea plane that landed in front of them.

8 INT. COLE FAMILY LAKE HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY 8

A well-kept Connecticut home. Floral couches and nautical maps. Windows everywhere - views of the lake.

June stands on a chair. She peers down into a paper grocery bag on the table. Elliot helps her mother, PENNY COLE (40s), tired but self-possessed, with groceries. *

JUNE
I can't find it. I'll die if you forgot.

Penny pulls a box of pancake mix from a grocery bag, lowers it before June's nose. June hugs it to her chest. Kisses it.

JUNE (CONT'D)
Thank god.

PENNY
Not every day, June bug. Gotta watch that figure.

She playfully smacks June's butt.

ELLIOT
I'm gonna watch mine get real big.

Elliot smacks her own butt. June laughs. Penny moves to the counter. Glances at Isla, who silently lounges on the couch.

PENNY
You gonna help or you just gonna
lay there?

Isla pushes herself up from the couch. Moves towards Penny.

PENNY (CONT'D)
(re: groceries)
Should be enough for two days.

Isla leans against the counter, moody.

PENNY (CONT'D)
I need you to take care of your
sisters. I'm a phone call away.
Hal's right down the street and
said he'd check in.

ISLA
Mmhm.

PENNY
A real answer, please.

ISLA
Yes, Penny.

Isla avoids eye contact. Penny glances at Isla.

PENNY
Trust me, baby. It'll get better
once the divorce is over.
(then)
Anyway, you're learning some real
independence. It'll help when you
start school in a few weeks.

ISLA
I heard they have a big drug
problem there. Teen pregnancies.
Weapon checks.

PENNY
Isla. It's Westchester.

ISLA

I need more money.

PENNY

I just gave you sixty dollars.

Isla shrugs. Penny huffs. Takes \$60 from her wallet. Hands it to Isla, who glances at the oven clock, moves to leave.

ISLA

Gotta go to work.

PENNY

(calling after her)

Realtor's coming this weekend. Keep it tidy, please.

9

INT. HAL'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - AFTERNOON

9

Golden light streams through dust. Sky-high stacks of yellowed papers and Vietnam War protest photographs - home to a beatnik hippie who lived for world peace and LSD.

HAL HOWIE (60's) is pot-bellied in a too-tight polo from the 70's. He wears headphones and sits before an amateur radio setup - microphone, amplifier, old mixing board. A cigarette hangs from his mouth. He looks at the lake, lost in thought.

Isla sits on the floor beside him. She sorts through a stack of old files. Finally, Hal collects himself. Isla looks up as Hal flips a switch. Music swells. A decades-old introduction to Hal's living room radio station broadcast -

HAL

(into a mic)

Good afternoon, everybody. It's August 2, 1992 and a beautiful afternoon here in northwest Connecticut. You're listening to 1080AM, home to the Candlewood Lake Show, where nothing exciting ever really happens. I'm your host, Hal Howie. Joining me in the studio is my trusty assistant, Ms. Isla Cole.

Isla smiles.

HAL (CONT'D)

In lieu of our normal show, I'd like to take this time to memorialize someone we lost. As you may have already heard --

Hal's voice cracks. Isla puts down what she's doing, not expecting this news.

HAL (CONT'D)
 I'm sorry. It's with a heavy heart
 that I announce the passing of Mr.
 Rife Winters. Rife was 72 years
 young.

Confused, Isla's eyes flick to the window. Through the trees she can see Mr. Winter's yellow seaplane, still docked. She looks back to Hal, who's pulled himself together.

HAL (CONT'D)
 He was a fighter pilot and a four-star general in the U.S. Air Force. Although he flew combat missions during the Korean and Vietnam Wars, we still managed to be friends.

Hal pauses, reflective. Isla hangs on his every word.

HAL (CONT'D)
 If you knew him, you knew of his laugh. Of his stiff martinis. And of his love for Nina Simone. We will miss you, Rife. But one day, we'll reunite on the other side, when we're all free.

Hal hits play on Nina Simone's "I Wish I Knew How it Would Feel to Be Free." Takes a drag of his cigarette. Sinks into his chair as the music swells and smoke swirls around him.

ISLA
 When did he die?

HAL
 Three days ago.

Isla stands. Moves closer as if to comfort Hal without knowing how.

SIMONE
 ... *I wish I would know how/ it would feel to be free...*

ISLA
 But we saw him flying this morning.

HAL
 Couldn't have.

Hal looks up at Isla. Simone's singular voice sings out --

SIMONE

*...I wish I could break all the
chains holding me...*

Hal stands. Puts his cigarette in his mouth and innocently takes Isla's hand. Twirls her. Isla grins.

HAL

That's it.

They dance. Hal watches Isla. Twirling through the dust and the sun and the cigarette smoke.

SIMONE

*...I wish I could say/ all the
things I should say / say 'em loud,
say 'em clear / for the whole round
world to hear...*

10 EXT. COLE FAMILY LAKE HOUSE - DECK - MORNING 10

June and Elliot sit at an outdoor table. Isla dumps a few pancakes from the skillet onto June's plate. June lifts a pancake to the light. Examines the golden-brown sides.

JUNE

9.3.

ELLIOT

I give them a 7.

ISLA

Yeah right. They're perfect 10's.

June puts her pancake down. Pours out half the syrup.

ISLA (CONT'D)

Easy. We gotta make our rations last.

ELLIOT

Why? Mom just gave you more cash.

ISLA

I spent it.

ELLIOT

On what?

ISLA

None of your business.

ELLIOT
Tell me or I'll call mom.

ISLA
God, you're such a snitch.

Elliot stands up. Moves just inside -

11 INT. LIVING ROOM - SAME

11

- Picks up the house phone.

ISLA
Elliot, come on.

Elliot starts dialing a number -

ISLA (CONT'D)
Jesus christ.

- Puts the phone to her ear.

ISLA (CONT'D)
I bought a fake ID.

Elliot puts the phone down. Moves back outside.

12 EXT. DECK - CONTINUOUS

12

ELLIOT
Show me.

ISLA
No.

JUNE
Where'd you get it?

ISLA
My friend's cousin's boyfriend.

ELLIOT
You idiot.

JUNE
Why do you need that?

ISLA
Because I'm leaving.

ELLIOT
We're all leaving.

ISLA
I'm not going to Westchester.

Elliot snorts. Sits back down to her pancakes.

ELLIOT
You're so full of shit.

JUNE
Are you running away?

ISLA
Running away makes it sound pretty
juvenile.

The girls take a few bites. June speaks with her mouth full.

JUNE
Where you gonna go?

ISLA
Some place mom can't tell me what
to do.

JUNE
Can you buy me lotto scratchers
before you leave?

ISLA
Sure.

ELLIOT
You'll get five miles from here,
shit your panties and run home.

ISLA
I'm not you.

ELLIOT
Whatever. You're too broke anyway.

Isla reaches for a pair of binoculars in the center of the table. As she peers out across the lake -

ISLA
I'm gonna live off my radio show.

ELLIOT
Hal's letting you have a radio
show?

ISLA

It'll be about ghosts. People will call in all over the country and tell me their ghost stories. I'll go investigate. Stay in their haunted houses. Won't need to pay rent that way.

(then)

I'll start with Mr. Winter's house.

JUNE

There's no ghosts in Mr. Winter's house.

Isla puts the binoculars down. Shrugs.

ISLA

Plane wasn't flying itself.

ELLIOT

So is he letting you or not?

ISLA

He will.

ELLIOT

You don't know how.

ISLA

Hal gave me a tape recorder to practice. He's gonna teach me.

Isla pauses. Looks at the trees. The wind is picking up.

ISLA (CONT'D)

I heard that on windy days, you can see the chimney tops of Dudleytown down below the water.

JUNE

Dudleytown?

ISLA

That's what the town's called. It's near that old truck. The rusted-out one.

June stares at Isla. Shivers. Just then, a distant sound of a motor firing. Their eyes flash across the lake. The sea plane is starting to taxi away. Isla grabs the binoculars.

ISLA (CONT'D)

Fuck.

JUNE
Isla! That's the worst word.

ELLIOT
No, cunt is.

ISLA
I didn't see anyone come down.

Isla stands and watches the plane taxi out of the cove.

ISLA (CONT'D)
Damn.

She grabs a pancake off the table. Moves towards the stairs.

ELLIOT
Where you going?

ISLA
I'm going to find Dudleytown.

Elliot looks back out the window at the blowing trees. Grabs a pancake. Bolts down after Isla. June follows.

13 EXT. CANDLEWOOD LAKE - CANOE - MORNING

13

Isla and Elliot paddle full speed against the wind and into the wide-open water of the lake. June white-knuckles the canoe's edges. Tiny white caps spray the girls' faces.

ELLIOT
You ever seen lightening hit water?
Turns people into french fries.

JUNE
I think we should go back.

ISLA
We're nearly there.

June wipes rain from her cheeks, until -

ISLA (CONT'D)
There it is.

Isla points to the shore. On it is a rusted-out chassis of a century-old truck at the base of a wooded cliff. Isla puts on a pair of goggles. Leans over, sticks her face in the water.

JUNE
Careful, Isla.

ELLIOT
She can't see shit.

Isla lifts her head, takes a breath, goes back under. Just then, the sound of a motor approaching. Elliot looks up towards the sky. Shakes Isla.

ELLIOT (CONT'D)
Plane's coming in.

Isla looks up to see the plane headed their way. It dips lower as it comes in for landing. Bobs violently in the wind.

Just as it touches down, a giant GUST catches a wing. Suddenly, the tail of the plane FLIPS over the nose. A violent SOMERSAULT. With a massive SPLASH, the plane settles upside down a mere fifty feet away.

ELLIOT (CONT'D)
Holy shit.

Stunned silence. But only for a second.

ISLA
PADDLE!

Isla and Elliot paddle with all their might. The plane is half-afloat. Isla scans the water. No sign of life.

ISLA (CONT'D)
Look!

Isla points to a HEAD bobbing in the water. The girls paddle towards the injured PILOT who clings to the plane's floats.

ISLA (CONT'D)
Hey!
(then)
Hello? Can you hear me?

The Pilot turns to see the girls. This is SKY WINTERS (30's), with curly black hair and a bleeding GASH on her forehead. She is unfamiliar. A person of color in this all-white Connecticut town. Blood covers her face. June SHRIEKS.

Suddenly, a speed boat arrives. In it, two FISHERMEN rushing to help. They reach over the hull for the Woman. Off the girls, watching the Fishermen lift the Woman to safety.

14

EXT. COLE FAMILY DOCK - AFTERNOON

14

The wind has died down. Isla, June and Elliot sit huddled on the bow of a CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY power boat. Their empty canoe is tied to the back of the boat with a tow line.

OFFICER MARGE FLANNAGAN (mid 30's), with a slicked back bun that frames her hardened face, drives. As they approach the Cole's dock -

MARGE
Here we are.

Marge skillfully pulls alongside the dock. Elliot gets up and reaches over - catches the cleats. June and Isla jump out. Elliot follows.

Marge unties the canoe's tow rope. Hands it to Isla. The three girls face her, unsure what to say.

MARGE (CONT'D)
I'm gonna have to come back
tomorrow. Take a statement.

ELLIOT
What'd we do?

MARGE
You witnessed a crash.

ELLIOT
We gonna get arrested?

MARGE
No. I just have to investigate any
accidents on the lake.

ELLIOT
Are you sure?

MARGE
Sure of what?

ELLIOT
That you're not going to arrest us.

MARGE
You didn't do anything wrong.

ELLIOT
That's what you think.

Elliot takes out her harmonica. Plays as she walks away. Isla looks across the cove to Mr. Winter's dock. A Lake Authority Tugboat tows the plane - still upturned - towards it.

ISLA
Who is she?

MARGE
Who?

ISLA
The pilot.

Marge turns towards the dock. Looks back at Isla.

MARGE
That's Rife Winter's daughter.

ISLA
I've never seen her around.

MARGE
She's been gone a long time.

15 EXT. THE COLE'S LAKE HOUSE - PORCH - MORNING

15

Isla, Elliot and June lounge in lawn chairs. Elliot plays scales on her harmonica. Isla records Elliot with a portable tape recorder. Elliot stops playing.

ISLA
I'm Isla Cole, witness of a mysterious seaplane crash. And that was Elliot, with her shit rendition of the scales in C major. Stay tuned for updates on the ghostly pilot.

Isla stops recording. Elliot rolls her eyes, annoyed.

JUNE
Did you get it?

ISLA
I got it.

ELLIOT
She's not even a ghost.

ISLA
I have to hook my audience.

ELLIOT
Play it back.

Isla rewinds the tape. Presses play on the recording.

JUNE
(to Elliot)
Why do you always carry that thing?

ELLIOT
Cuz one day, I'm gonna go to
prison. And when I do, I need to
have my harmonica with me.

ISLA
Says the girl who's scared to be
five minutes late.

Elliot glares at her. June reaches down for the pair of binoculars by her side. Gazes across the lake.

JUNE
Why do you want to go to prison?

ELLIOT
I don't want to. I just feel it in
my gut. It's gonna happen for me
one day. Almost happened yesterday.

ISLA
That's bullshit. If you don't want
to go to prison, don't do something
illegal.

ELLIOT
It's not always up to us.

ISLA
Of course it is.

ELLIOT
If it's so up to us, why are we
leaving this place?

ISLA
I'm leaving on my own terms.

ELLIOT
We don't have a choice and you know
it.

On the tape recorder, Elliot finishes playing the scales.

ISLA (O.S.)
 I'm Isla Cole, witness of a
 mysterious seaplane crash. And that
 was Elliot, with her shit rendition
 of the scales in C major. Stay
 tuned for updates on the ghostly
 pilot.

Isla smirks. Just then,

PENNY (O.S.)
 (calling out)
 Girls?

Elliot looks down at her watch.

ELLIOT
 Mom's early.

16

INT. THE COLE'S LAKE HOUSE - KITCHEN - MORNING

16

The three of them enter to find Penny and Officer Marge. Penny's arms are crossed. She taps her foot, distressed.

JUNE
 Mom!

June runs over. Buries herself in Penny's skirt. Isla glances nervously at the mess in the kitchen.

ISLA
 I thought you weren't coming back
 til tonight.

PENNY
 I was headed to court when I got
 the call. I had to make sure you
 girls were okay.

ISLA
 We're fine, mom.

MARGE
 This will only take a few minutes.

PENNY
 Hal told me there were 30 mile an
 hour winds when you were out there
 in the canoe.

ISLA
 It came up all of a sudden.

PENNY

It was 9am, Isla. What the hell
were you thinking?

ELLIOT

I told her we shouldn't go.

ISLA

Shut up, Elliot.

PENNY

Do not speak to your sister that
way.

JUNE

We were looking for Dudleytown.

PENNY

What?

JUNE

The ghost town.

Penny stares at her girls, frustrated.

PENNY

I had to postpone the hearing for
this. Do you know how that looks to
a judge? To your father's lawyers?

Isla's face flushes. Marge looks to the floor, uncomfortable.

PENNY (CONT'D)

Who was flying the plane?

MARGE

Rife's daughter.

PENNY

Did she live?

MARGE

Got away with a broken leg.

PENNY

She could have killed them.

They let that sit. Finally, Penny motions to Marge.

PENNY (CONT'D)

You said you had some questions.

MARGE

Penny... I think it might be best
if Isla and I speak privately.

(then)

I need straight answers.

Penny is still. Then she turns towards the door, resigned.

PENNY

I'll be in the driveway until
you're done.

17 EXT. THE COLE'S LAKE HOUSE - PORCH - DAY

17

Isla sits across from Marge at the table. It's still covered in plates and pancake remnants from the day before. Isla is withdrawn. She rests her chin on her knee. Bats at a fly.

ISLA

Why'd you have to call her?

MARGE

I'm sorry. Part of the rules.

Isla presses record on her tape recorder that's on the table.

MARGE (CONT'D)

Is that a tape recorder?

Isla ignores her question. Examines Marge's bare fingers.

ISLA

You ever been married?

MARGE

No.

ISLA

Why not?

MARGE

Never found the right person.

Isla nods. Looks across the lake.

ISLA

Is she going to start living there?
Now that her dad's gone.

MARGE

I don't know her plans.

ISLA
So you know her?

Marge reaches over. Hits stop on the recorder.

MARGE
I'm supposed to be asking you the questions.

Isla quiets. Marge opens her notebook.

MARGE (CONT'D)
Did you hear anything strange before the crash? Unusual engine sounds, no sounds at all?

18 INT. PENNY'S CAR - DAY

18

Penny waits next to her car, pensive. Hal is down the road raking leaves. He notices Penny. Moves towards her.

HAL
All alright?

Penny is jogged from her daydream.

PENNY
Hi. Yeah. Marge is in there now. Didn't want me hanging around in the state I'm in.

Penny rolls her eyes. Hal smiles warmly.

PENNY (CONT'D)
Can I tell you a secret?

HAL
Alright.

PENNY
I was actually relieved... I have a panic attack every time I see him. But then you called.

HAL
I timed it that way.

Penny laughs half-heartedly.

PENNY
I'm doing my best, Hal. It's just me now. Their father's useless.

HAL
You're doing a fine job.

PENNY
Tell my daughter that.

HAL
Girls hate their mothers at
sixteen.

PENNY
How do you know?

HAL
I don't.

Penny smiles, appreciative.

HAL (CONT'D)
I'll keep an eye on things. Just
shout if you need anything.

19 INT. HAL'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

19

Isla arranges papers on the floor. Hal pours two coffees.

HAL
You drink coffee?

ISLA
No.

Hal dumps in cream and sugar. Hands one to Isla.

ISLA (CONT'D)
Do you know Rife Winter's daughter?

HAL
Sky?

ISLA
Is that her name?

HAL
Sky Winters.

ISLA
What do you know about her?

Hal is quiet.

ISLA (CONT'D)
 You know everything about this
 place.

HAL
 Sky left when she was your age.

ISLA
 What happened?

HAL
 I don't know the story.

Isla looks at Hal, skeptical. Takes a sip of her coffee.

ISLA
 Mm.

HAL
 It's good for you.

ISLA
 Hey, can I be a guest today? On the
 radio? I was at the accident. It's
 big news around here. You could ask
 me about it.

HAL
 Alright. Sure.

Hal pulls out a chair for Isla. Places a mic in front of her.
 Gives her headphones. Flips on a switch.

HAL (CONT'D)
 Go ahead, get the jitters out.

Isla is quiet. She leans forward. Takes a breath.

ISLA
 This is Isla Cole. Reporting to you
 from a dusty, no good corner of
 nowhere.

HAL
 (laughing)
 Hell, you don't need practice.

Elliot holds an airhorn before her. She points it at nearby
 FISHERMEN floating in the cove. Sounds a deafening BLAST.
 June covers her ears. The Fishermen motor away.

JUNE
Why'd you do that?

ELLIOT
That's our fish.

Elliot puts the airhorn down. Tunes a pocket radio that sits on the dock to a clear station.

JUNE
Do you think if the house doesn't sell, mom and dad will get back together?

ELLIOT
Don't be stupid. They're getting divorced.

JUNE
Maybe not though.

ELLIOT
Definitely.

June is quiet. As the music on the radio fades -

HAL (O.S.)
Here with me I've got my trusty assistant, Isla Cole, who witnessed the recent plane crash in Candlewood Lake.

ISLA (O.S.)
Hi.

June and Elliot look at each other, lit up. The two listen, faces close to the speaker, enrapt by their sister.

HAL (O.S.)
Can you tell us what happened?

ISLA (O.S.)
Well, my sisters and I. That's June and Elliot. We were eating pancakes when the winds picked up.

June nudges Elliot excitedly.

ISLA (O.S.) (CONT'D)
So we go out to follow a lead for my new radio show.

HAL (O.S.)
You have a new radio show?

ISLA (O.S.)

It's coming out soon. Anyway, we're out there by Atchison Cove when out of nowhere, the plane comes in for a landing behind us.

Just then, Elliot sees something across the cove. She picks up her binoculars. Looks towards Mr. Winter's house.

JUNE

What is it?

ISLA (O.S.)

Wind was blowing like you've never seen. But we weren't worried.

ELLIOT

Someone's in the driveway.

Through the binoculars, we see what Elliot is looking at --

21 EXT. RIFE WINTER'S HOUSE - DRIVE WAY - SAME - INTERCUT 21

A car has pulled into the driveway of Mr. Winter's house.

ISLA (O.S.)

And all of a sudden it flips. Tail over nose. Just like that.

June tugs the binoculars from Elliot, who resists. Elliot watches as a MAN gets out of the car.

ELLIOT

A man's getting out of the car.

JUNE

Who is he?

ISLA (O.S.)

So we start paddling like crazy. Cuz the plane's sinking fast, you know?

JUNE

C'mon, my turn.

Elliot shrugs her off. Watches as the Man moves to the trunk of the car. Pulls out a pair of crutches.

ISLA (O.S.)

And that's when we see her head bobbing in the water.

The Man moves to the rear passenger side. Helps Sky Winters out from the back of the car. A cast is around her leg.

JUNE
What's happening?

ELLIOT
He's helping her to the front door.

ISLA (O.S.)
We didn't know she was Rife
Winter's daughter. So right then,
she's just this bleeding stranger.

June grabs the binoculars out of Elliot's hands.

ISLA (O.S.) (CONT'D)
I think she's still in the
hospital.

JUNE
The man's leaving.

HAL (O.S.)
Might be interesting to get her
take on it all.

ISLA (O.S.)
Yeah, I'm planning to. You know,
once she gets home.

22 INT. THE COLE'S LAKE HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT 22

June paces nervously. Isla peers out across the dark lake.

ISLA
You're not coming.

ELLIOT
Come on, Isla.

ISLA
June will get us caught.

JUNE
No I won't!

ISLA
I'm going for a closer look. Alone.

23

EXT. CANDLEWOOD LAKE - COVE - NIGHT

23

Isla, June and Elliot in the canoe. They paddle across the cove. In the darkness - a cacophony of crickets and Katydids.

JUNE

(whisper)

I shouldn't have come.

ELLIOT

WooOo. I'm the ghost of Dudleytown.

JUNE

Stop it, Elliot.

ISLA

We're close. Tie us up.

Elliot grabs a dock cleat. Expertly ties off their canoe.

24

EXT. MR. WINTER'S DOCK - CONTINUOUS

24

The girls hop out. They stare at the upside down plane that bobs in the water beside them. Its slender yellow floats are the only part of the plane they can see.

ISLA

Come on.

They creep up the dock. The wood SQUEAKS loudly underfoot.

25

EXT. RIFE WINTER'S HOUSE - LAWN - CONTINUOUS

25

The lights are on in the house but they can't see anyone.

ELLIOT

She's probably in bed.

Isla looks up at the deck above them. Makes for the stairs.

ELLIOT (CONT'D)

Isla!

Isla continues. Elliot and June grimace. Follow after her.

26

EXT. RIFE WINTER'S HOUSE - DECK - CONTINUOUS

26

They tip-toe up the steps and creep across the deck. Isla crouches down, peers through the glass of the side door. Inside, she can see an empty kitchen. They whisper.

JUNE
You see her?

ISLA
No.

SKY (O.S.)
Who's there?

June SCREAMS. Isla covers June's mouth with her hand. Sky stands on crutches further up the deck. She shines a MARINE SPOTLIGHT into their eyes.

SKY (CONT'D)
Who are you?

ISLA
We're... We're your neighbors.

Sky eyes June's life vest. Then spots their canoe.

SKY
You paddle here?

ISLA
Yeah.

SKY
From where?

ISLA
The house across the way.

Isla tries to get a good look at Sky, but Sky is a shadowy form behind the spotlight.

SKY
What's your name?

ISLA
Isla Cole.

June and Elliot take a step back. Isla is frozen.

ISLA (CONT'D)
I was hoping I could ask you a few questions.

SKY
Questions?

Isla is quiet. Sky moves closer.

ISLA
I've got a radio show. I'd love to
interview you -

SKY
Did my crash entertain you?

Isla doesn't budge. Sky moves closer.

SKY (CONT'D)
I suggest you leave, Isla Cole.

Elliot grabs Isla's shirt. Isla spins. The girls race away.

27 EXT. CEDAR LANE - MORNING

27

Isla walks down the road. Bends her shitty fake ID in the sun. Flimsy plastic. Just then, the SOUND of a chainsaw.

MAN (O.S.)
INCOMING.

A MAN (40's) is high up in a tree. The tree CRACKS as he slices through it with his chainsaw. GLENN BAILEN (18), tall and lean, stands on the road, guides the tree down with a rope. Isla watches it CRASH. Follows the rope to Glenn's arms, gleaming with sweat.

GLENN
Hey.

ISLA
Hi.

GLENN
She's down now. All safe for you to pass.

ISLA
Thanks.

28 INT. IGA - CASH REGISTER - MORNING

28

Isla places her groceries on the conveyer belt before a zitty CASHIER (19) wearing a UCONN t-shirt.

ISLA
We have an account here. Under Penny Cole.

The Cashier types some letters on his register. Nods.

CASHIER

That it?

Isla lifts a six pack of beer. Places it on the conveyer belt. Tries her best to act casual. The Cashier eyes her.

CASHIER (CONT'D)

ID?

Isla fishes her ID out of her back pocket. Hands it over.

CASHIER (CONT'D)

Your name's Sunny Bluebell?

ISLA

Yeah.

CASHIER

I can't do it.

ISLA

What do you mean?

CASHIER

This is fake.

ISLA

No it's not.

Isla tries to snatch it out of his hand.

CASHIER

Jesus.

ISLA

Give it back.

CASHIER

Alright. You can have it back.

He takes out a pair of scissors. Cuts the ID in half. Hands it back to her.

Isla moves through the employee parking lot. Spots a UCONN bumper sticker on an old Honda. Takes out her house keys. Scratches them down the driver's side.

30 EXT. CEDAR LANE - DAY

30

Scorching hot sun on pavement. Isla breathes heavily as she walks along the side of the road. She's sweating. Weighed down by two heavy grocery bags. She stops to take a break.

ISLA

Fuck.

31 INT. CEDAR LANE - GLENN'S JEEP WRANGLER - DAY

31

Glenn drives. He still wears his tree service shirt. His Wrangler looks like it's been passed down through a family of boys. Lifted tires. All the windows have been removed.

Up ahead, he sees Isla walking towards him, carrying the groceries home. He turns down the music. Slows as he nears.

GLENN

Want a ride?

Isla turns. Flushes at the sight of him. Continues walking.

ISLA

I'm good.

Glenn puts the Jeep in reverse. Slowly drives alongside her.

GLENN

You're two grades below me, right?

ISLA

Yeah.

GLENN

I remember you from middle school.

Glenn puts the car in park.

GLENN (CONT'D)

Come on. It's too hot to walk.

32 INT. CEDAR LANE - JEEP WRANGLER - DAY

32

Dappled sunlight filtering through summer leaves.

ISLA

(yelling over the wind)

I tried to buy beer.

GLENN
 (yelling back)
 You have a fake?

Isla holds up her cut fake ID. Glenn takes it from her.

GLENN (CONT'D)
 I like your name.

ISLA
 Shut up.

Isla smiles. Grabs it back from him. Puts one foot up on the seat. Sticks her hand out the window.

Glenn glances at her, then reaches behind the seat for a six pack of beer. There are three bottles left in the carrier.

GLENN
 There's only three left. But
 they're yours.

He hands the carrier to Isla. She takes it in her lap.

ISLA
 How'd you get this?

GLENN
 I have an older brother. He buys
 beer for me sometimes.

Isla nods. Her hair whips wildly around her face.

ISLA
 I have cash.

GLENN
 Don't worry about it.

33 EXT. COLE FAMILY DOCK - DAY

33

Isla, June and Elliot load groceries into the canoe.

ELLIOT
 How'd you get the beer?

ISLA
 My fake.

ELLIOT
 Bullshit.

ISLA

How else would I have gotten it?

JUNE

Who was that boy?

ELLIOT

What boy?

JUNE

I saw a boy drop Isla off.

ELLIOT

Who?

ISLA

No one.

ELLIOT

Was there a boy or wasn't there?

JUNE

I saw him! He has big muscles.

June flexes. Isla rolls her eyes. Gets into the canoe.

ELLIOT

I don't get why we're going back there.

JUNE

She's scary.

ISLA

We crept up on her at night. I'd be scary too.

ELLIOT

She might kill us.

ISLA

She's not going to kill us.

JUNE

She might. With her crutches.

ISLA

Hal said she left when she was my age. I want to know why.

34

EXT. RIFE WINTER'S DOCK - DAY

34

The girls haul the groceries out of the canoe. Isla looks up at the house. Picks up one of the bags.

ISLA

Let's go.

The three of them move quietly down the long walkway -

35

EXT. RIFE WINTER'S HOUSE - LAWN - CONTINUOUS

35

Across the lawn, towards the house. They speak in whispers.

ELLIOT

I'm staying here.

JUNE

Me too.

Elliot and June stop walking. Isla continues -

36

EXT. RIFE WINTER'S HOUSE - DECK - CONTINUOUS

36

As she reaches the house -

SKY (O.S.)

You know what trespassing is?

Isla looks up. Sky is hanging over the railing, watching her. The gash on her head is now a bloody line, stitched together.

ISLA

We came to say sorry. You know, for the other night.

Sky is quiet. Looks over at Elliot and June further down the lawn. Isla holds up the bag of groceries.

ISLA (CONT'D)

We brought you some groceries. Figured you could use some, with your leg and all.

SKY

I'm not interested in being on your radio show.

ISLA

We're just here as neighbors.

Sky looks at the groceries. Considerers.

SKY
Come around front. I'll let you in.

37 INT. RIFE WINTER'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY 37

Sky moves towards a couch. The girls follow, taking it in. It's a well-kept time capsule. 70's shag rug. Tartan sofas. Model planes, medals of honor. Sky sits. Sees them staring.

SKY
I'm Sky, by the way.

JUNE
We know.

SKY
And you?

JUNE
I'm June.

ELLIOT
Elliot.

ISLA
We were at the crash.

Sky looks at Isla. Makes pretend goggles with her hands.

SKY
I remember.

Isla flushes, embarrassed.

SKY (CONT'D)
You girls grow up here?

ELLIOT
Yeah. But mom's selling the house.

JUNE
Our parents are getting divorced.

ELLIOT
Our dad's an asshole.

ISLA
It's our mom, actually.

Sky looks at them, amused.

SKY
I see.

ISLA

We're sorry about your dad.

ELLIOT

Yeah. We're sorry.

SKY

It's fine. He was an asshole too.

Sky takes a sip of water. Isla studies her. Relaxed and assured. Broad shoulders and cutoff jeans.

ISLA

The investigator came to ask me questions the other day. You know, about the crash.

SKY

Who was it?

ISLA

Marge Flannagan.

SKY

That so.

ELLIOT

Are they gonna let you fly again?

SKY

They better. I'm a bush pilot.

JUNE

What's a bush pilot?

SKY

I do transports and rescues in hard to reach places.

ISLA

Where?

SKY

Canada, mostly.

ELLIOT

That's a job?

JUNE

Sounds scary.

SKY

That's why I do it.

ELLIOT

If you do all that flying, how come
you crashed into the lake?

ISLA

(scolding)

Elliot.

SKY

It's a valid question. I was
rushing to leave. Got careless.

JUNE

But you just got here.

SKY

I'm just back for the plane.

JUNE

Why's everyone rushing to leave?

SKY

Who else is?

June and Elliot look at Isla.

ISLA

I don't want to leave.

(then)

I just want to get the fuck out of
here.

Sky looks at Isla. Smiles.

SKY

I know exactly what you mean.

ISLA

So what, you're gonna fix it?

SKY

Gotta turn it over first.

ELLIOT

How?

SKY

Need to get some supplies together.

Ropes, pulleys, so on.

(then, to Isla)

Sooner I get it up and running,
sooner I can go.

38

INT. HAL'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - AFTERNOON

38

Hal sits at his mixing board. Puts away an album. Isla stands on a chair, dusting a ceiling fan. She coughs.

ISLA
Jesus.

Isla hops down. Moves towards the sliding glass door that leads to the porch. Pulls it open. Takes a deep inhale. Notices a big coil of rope on the lawn below.

ISLA (CONT'D)
I'm done for the day. Can I have my money?

She turns back around to face Hal.

HAL
I saw you three crossing the lake this morning.

Isla is quiet. Hal pulls out his wallet.

HAL (CONT'D)
Next time you do that, can you please let me know?

ISLA
Why?

HAL
I told your mother I'd keep an eye out.

Isla rolls her eyes. Hal doesn't hand over the money.

HAL (CONT'D)
So? Will you?

ISLA
We're going back today.

Hal hesitates, then hands her ten dollars. Isla pockets it.

39

EXT. HAL'S HOUSE - EVENING

39

Isla walks out of Hal's house, then pauses. Looks towards the rope she saw earlier. Glances around, then picks it up off the ground. Stays low as she makes her way up the steps.

40

EXT. RIFE WINTER'S HOUSE - DOCK - DAY

40

Sky sits on a beach chair. She draws plans to flip the plane in a notebook. Below it, she writes a list of materials.

JUNE (O.S.)

Hi, Sky.

Sky looks up to see the girls paddling towards her.

SKY

Hi.

ISLA

We brought you some rope.

Elliot hops out and ties them up. Isla gets out. Moves towards Sky. Holds the rope for her to inspect.

SKY

How long is it?

Isla looks to June. Hands her one end.

ISLA

Run this down the dock.

June takes off down the dock until the rope is taught.

JUNE

(calling out)

This long.

SKY

That's good. Where'd you get it?

ISLA

Stole it from my boss. I work at his radio station.

SKY

So you work for Hal.

ISLA

You know him?

SKY

He and my dad were best friends. I used to work your job.

Isla pauses, turning this over.

ISLA

He pays shit.

SKY
I remember.

Isla looks at Sky, then back towards the plane.

ISLA
We want to help you.

With what? SKY

ISLA

SKY
What's in it for you?

ISLA

ELLIOT
One for each of us.

Sky spits in her hand. Holds it out for the girls to shake.

SKY Deal.

The girls trade looks, excited, Spit in their hands, Shake,

41 EXT. BIFFE WINTER'S HOUSE - DECK - DAY

41

The barbecue smokes. June, Elliot, Isla and Sky sit on lawn chairs eating grilled corn. Sky reaches for a beer. Pops the lid on the arm of the chair. Hands it to Isla, who takes the beer, surprised.

SKY
Got another?

Isla hands Sky a second beer. Sky pops it open for herself.

SKY (CONT'D) ISLA
Cheers. Cheers.

They clink bottles. June and Elliot stare at them.

ELLIOT
I'm going to prison one day.

For what? SKY

ELLIOT

Dunno yet. But I got my harmonica
for when I do.

SKY

You'll have to do something real
bad if you want to go to prison.

ELLIOT

Why?

SKY

Because you're a white girl.

ELLIOT

So?

SKY

So if I trespassed, I might go to
prison. You three trespassed, and
all you got was a scolding. That's
just how it goes.

JUNE

That's no fair.

SKY

No, it's not.

ELLIOT

Maybe I'll go for killing Isla.

SKY

Now we're talking.

(then)

Hey, can I ask you something?

The girls look. Sky bares her teeth - full of corn and charr.

SKY (CONT'D)

Do I have anything in my teeth?

The girls crack up. Finally, they settle.

ISLA

Why'd you leave here so young?

Everyone stops. Looks at Isla. Sky wipes her mouth her hand.

SKY

My mom died when I was twelve.

JUNE

That's so sad.

SKY

Thank you.

JUNE

Was she a black lady?

ISLA

June!

JUNE

What? I saw a picture.

SKY

Mom was black. Dad was white. I'm a mix of both.

ELLIOT

Cool.

ISLA

You left because your mom died?

SKY

I left because my Dad found out I was gay. We didn't get along after that.

The girls are quiet. Unsure what to say. Finally -

SKY (CONT'D)

(to Elliot)

So do you play that harmonica or do you just carry it around with you?

JUNE

Oh, she's so good. Just wait.

Elliot pulls out her harmonica. Glances at Sky, bashful.

SKY

Go on, let's hear it.

Elliot starts to play Otis Redding's "Sitting on the Dock of the Bay." June bobs to the music. Sky smiles, watching.

ISLA

(to Sky)

You were making a list of supplies, right? On the dock earlier?

Sky looks at Isla.

ISLA (CONT'D)
 Can I see it?
 (then)
 You can't drive.

SKY
 Can you?

ISLA
 Least I can walk.

Sky grins. Rips the list from her notebook, hands it to Isla -

42 INT. HAL'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - AFTERNOON

42

Isla scrubs caked up dust from the mixing board with a toothbrush. Hal puts a coffee on the desk in front of Isla.

HAL
 That's looking brand new.

Isla is quiet. Hal sits, studying her. Isla keeps scrubbing.

ISLA
 Why didn't you tell me the truth?

HAL
 What?

Isla puts the toothbrush down. Stares at Hal a beat.

ISLA
 You and Sky's dad were best friends. She used to work for you. You said you didn't know the story.

HAL
 What story's that?

ISLA
 Well, that Sky's gay. And Rife didn't like it.

HAL
 Sorry. Just didn't feel like digging up Rife's business.
 (then)
 How's the plane repairs going.

ISLA
 Why don't you ask her yourself?

Hal is quiet. Reaches across his desk. Grabs a cigarette. Isla strikes a match, lights it for him. Hal hands her a pair of headphones. Puts on his own. Clicks the record button.

43 INT. RIFE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - SAME

43

Sky lays on her father's couch, broken leg elevated. The radio is on. Hal's voice crackles.

HAL (O.S.)
Good afternoon, everybody. It's another sunny afternoon. You're listening to 1080AM, home to the Candlewood Lake Show...

Sky mouths the words, remembering -

HAL (O.S.) (CONT'D)	SKY
Where nothing exciting ever	Where nothing exciting ever
really happens.	really happens.

Sky smiles.

HAL (O.S.) (CONT'D)
I'm your host, Hal Howie. It's 79 degrees and 3pm on the dot. Joining me in the studio is the woman you all know and love, my trusty co-pilot, Ms. Isla Cole. Say hello to your fans, Isla.

ISLA (O.S.)
Hi, fans.

Sky chuckles. Hugs a pillow to her chest. Closes her eyes.

HAL (O.S.)
Any updates on the plane crash today?

Isla hesitates. After a moment -

ISLA (O.S.)
No updates. Summer's almost over.
Little over three weeks til the kids go back to school.

44 EXT. COLE FAMILY LAKE HOUSE - DRIVEWAY - AFTERNOON

44

Isla walks down the hill from Hal's house. Sees Elliot and June up ahead in the driveway. They're leaning against the railing, shouting out at the lake before them.

JUNE
ECHOOOOO.

The sound travels across the water. Hits the land across the cove and ricochets back. *ECHOOOOO.*

ELLIOT
SUCK IT.

SUCK IT. June and Elliot giggle. Isla comes up next to them.

ISLA
FUCK MY MOTHER.

The lake shouts back. *FUCK MY MOTHER.* June and Elliot quiet.

ISLA (CONT'D)
You hear me on the radio?

JUNE
Yeah, we heard the whole thing.

ISLA
How'd I sound?

Elliot imitates Isla with a high, squeaky voice.

ELLIOT
Summer's almost over... Little over
three weeks and the kiddos go back
to school.

ISLA
Yeah right.

Just then, the SOUND of tires behind them. The girls turn to see Glenn's Jeep coming down the hill towards them.

ELLIOT
What's he doing here?

ISLA
Don't know.

Glenn parks. Hops out.

GLENN
Hey, Isla.

ISLA
Hi.

Elliot snickers. Glenn blushes.

ISLA (CONT'D)
 These are my sisters. June and
 Elliot.

GLENN
 Hi. I'm Glenn.

JUNE
 I like your car.

GLENN
 Thanks.

The four of them stand there, awkward. Finally -

GLENN (CONT'D)
 So um. There's a party. Tomorrow
 night. I was wondering if you
 wanted to go.

June and Elliot crack up. Glenn turns red. Finally -

ISLA
 Will you take us to the hardware
 store?

45 INT. GLENN'S JEEP WRANGLER - DAY

45

Glenn and Isla sit up front. Sir Mix-A-Lot's "Baby Got Back" plays on the car stereo. Elliot and June mouth the words.

ELLIOT
*Oh, my, God Becky. Look at her
 butt.*

JUNE
*It is so big, she looks like. One
 of those rap guys' girlfriends.*

ELLIOT
 (over the wind)
 TURN IT UP.

Isla and Glenn reach for the volume at the same time. Glenn's hand brushes hers. Isla pulls away. Glenn cranks the music.

ELLIOT (CONT'D)
I like big butts and I cannot lie.

JUNE
You other brothers can't deny -

GLENN

When a girl walks in with an itty bitty waist, and a round thing in your face, you get sprung.

Isla laughs. Glenn looks over at her, sheepish. Elliot and June stick their arms out the roof. Their hands cup the air.

46

EXT. RIFE WINTER'S HOUSE - LAWN - AFTERNOON

46

Sky sits on a lawn chair watching the lake.

HAL (O.S.)

Co-Pilot?

Sky turns. Sees Hal approaching. Uses her crutches to stand. Hal's face breaks into a broad smile at the sight of her.

HAL (CONT'D)

Look at you.

SKY

Hi Hal.

HAL

Thought I'd come see you myself.

SKY

Didn't feel the need to call first?

HAL

Never have called ahead.

SKY

Never have called.

They're quiet for a moment. Sky looks at Hal.

SKY (CONT'D)

Your hair is short.

HAL

Yeah. When it thinned the ponytail
gave the impression I was in
denial.

Sky half-laughed.

HAL (CONT'D)

God. You look so much like your
mother.

(then, moving closer)

How many stitches?

Sky tilts her head down and away from him.

SKY
Not so many.

Hal backs up, awkward. Changes the subject.

HAL
Heard you were up in Canada.

SKY
How'd you hear that?

HAL
Your dad showed up one Sunday
shaking his paper at me. He said
'Hal. You'd never believe it. Sky's
a bush pilot now. Girl landed in
the pitch black in a blizzard.
Rescued two men. The Prime Minister
of Canada is giving her a medal.'

SKY
It was minus 76 degrees.

HAL
We were so proud. Rife took me up
in the plane that night. Brought a
bunch of Roman Candles with him.
Lit them out the window like a
teenager. Little fireballs shooting
all over the lake. Scared me half
to death. Goddamn lunatic.

Hal pauses, reflective. Sky softens.

SKY
I know how close you were with my
father.

HAL
I didn't realize I only had one
friend.

SKY
You might have to get a dog now.

Hal laughs.

HAL
Any plans for a memorial?

SKY

Not really, no. I've got his ashes.
Maybe I'll do something with them.

HAL

You gonna stick around for a while?

SKY

House is going on the market next
week. Selling it as is - everything
minus the plane. Leaving soon as
it's fixed.

Hal nods sadly. Finally -

HAL

I wish I'd done a better job of
talking to him.

SKY

About what?

HAL

Well, about - you know. What
happened and all that.

SKY

About me liking women?

(then)

Turns out your hippie politics were
bullshit.

HAL

He knew what you would face, Sky.
What you already faced. Who was I
to tell him anything about how to
raise you?

Sky looks away, pained.

HAL (CONT'D)

He missed you. So did I.

SKY

I should get back inside.

HAL

Sure. Can I help you?

SKY

I got it.

Sky drops her crutch. Hal leans down to pick it up.

HAL
Here, let me --

SKY
Really. I can handle it.

Sky bends down on her good leg. Picks it up.

HAL
It was good to see you, co-pilot.

Sky turns and walks away.

47 INT. HARDWARE STORE - AFTERNOON

47

Small and local. Isla looks over Sky's list as they wander down an aisle. June and Elliot have their arms full of parts. Glenn trails holding a length of chain.

GLENN
If you're felling trees, I can help.

ISLA
We're not felling trees.

June pretends she's got a giant chainsaw. Cuts down Elliot's legs, who falls to the floor. Pretends she can't walk.

ISLA (CONT'D)
Get up, Elliot.

They move up the aisle. Elliot crawls as June hacks.

GLENN
If you tell me what it is, maybe I can help.

ISLA
We got it. Thanks though.

They land at the cash register. Dump it all down before MR. DANNER (55), hardware store owner, who acknowledges Glenn.

MR. DANNER
Glenn.

GLENN
Mr. Danner.

MR. DANNER
You the Cole girls?

ELLIOT

No, we're the Bowl girls.

ISLA

You're such children.

(then, to Mr. Danner)

We're the Coles.

MR. DANNER

Saw your house is on the market.

The girls quiet. Glenn glances at Isla.

ISLA

You gonna buy it?

MR. DANNER

No. I just noticed.

Mr. Danner finishes ringing them up.

MR. DANNER (CONT'D)

That'll be \$46.20.

ISLA

Oh. I've only got \$36.

Isla checks her pockets. Fishes out some quarters.

MR. DANNER

I can send your dad a bill if you'd like.

ISLA

No. Thanks.

ELLIOT

Maybe you shouldn't have spent it all on your bogus ID.

Isla stares daggers at Elliot. Glenn reaches into his back pocket. Hands Mr. Danner ten dollars.

GLENN

Here.

ISLA

Thanks.

GLENN

No problem.

48

EXT. COLE FAMILY LAKE HOUSE - DRIVEWAY - TWILIGHT

48

Glenn's Jeep pulls into the drive way. The girls all hop out.

JUNE

Bye Glenn.

ELLIOT

Thanks for babysitting.

June snickers. She and Elliot disappear into the house. Isla hangs back. Glenn stays in the driver's seat.

ISLA

I'll go to the party.

GLENN

Yeah?

ISLA

Yeah.

GLENN

I'll pick you up at 9.

ISLA

Do you want my number? You know, in case-

GLENN

Yeah.

(then, searching)

I don't have a pen.

ISLA

I have one.

Isla pulls a pen from her shorts.

ISLA (CONT'D)

Give me your hand.

Glenn holds out his hand. Isla takes it in hers.

ISLA (CONT'D)

You're a little sweaty.

GLENN

Here, lemme--

Glenn pulls his hand away. Wipes it on his shirt. Gives it back to Isla, who writes her number across his knuckles.

ISLA
There. It's working.

Isla finishes. Releases Glenn's hand. Glenn stares at his tattooed knuckles. Looks up at Isla.

GLENN
Cool.

ISLA
See you tomorrow.

49 INT. THE COLE'S LAKE HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS 49

The house is a mess. Towels, books and shoes are scattered everywhere. June and Elliot kneel on the couch, watch Isla through the window. As Isla enters -

ISLA
Nosy shits.

ELLIOT
You done fiending for peen?

June jumps up and spins around. Wraps her arms around herself, moves her hands up and down. Shimmies.

JUNE
Oh Glenn. I love you Glenn.

ELLIOT
More like this.

Elliot jumps up next to her. Humps the air.

ELLIOT (CONT'D)
Glenn. Oh. Give it to me Glenn.

ISLA
Come on, let's go to Sky's.

ELLIOT
Now?

ISLA
Yes, now.

June leans down to pick a fallen pillow off the floor.

ELLIOT
Leave it.

June and Isla look at her. Elliot reaches for a liter of soda on the coffee table. Drains it upside down onto the floor.

JUNE
What you are doing?

ELLIOT
Realtor's coming tomorrow.

Isla watches her. Elliot drops the empty bottle on the ground. Isla turns towards the door. The girls run after her.

50 EXT. RIFE WINTER'S HOUSE - DECK - NIGHT

50

Isla knocks on the door. No answer.

ELLIOT
Maybe she's asleep.

JUNE
What if she fell?

Isla tries the door. It's unlocked. She pushes it open.

51 INT. RIFE WINTER'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

51

The girls creep inside.

ELLIOT
This is my first time breaking and entering.

ISLA
Sky? You here? It's us.

Isla eyes an open prescription bottle on the kitchen table.

ISLA (CONT'D)
Come on.

52 INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

52

The girls cautiously enter.

ISLA
Hello? Sky?

Still nothing. Isla pauses at a framed picture on the wall. A young Sky and her mom and dad. She continues to the hallway-

53 INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

53

-Approaches the bedroom. Inside, a lamp casts a dreamy glow. Sky is splayed out on her father's King-sized bed.

ISLA

Sky?

54 INT. BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

54

No answer. Isla moves towards Sky. Perches carefully beside her. Puts a hand on her shoulder. Gives her a gentle push.

ISLA

Sky. It's me, Isla.

ELLIOT

Maybe she's dead.

ISLA

C'mon, Sky. Wake up.

Finally, Sky stirs. Slowly opens her eyes.

ISLA (CONT'D)

Sky.

SKY

Hi Isla.

ISLA

Is it ok that we came over?

SKY

It's wonderful.

Sky's speech slurs. Sky looks up at June and Elliot.

SKY (CONT'D)

Come here.

June lights up, runs over, leaps onto the bed.

JUNE

Are you drunk?

SKY

A little high. They gave me pain
meds for my leg.

ELLIOT

Check me out.

The girls turn to see Elliot wearing Rife's large Stetson cowboy hat. Elliot checks herself out in the mirror.

SKY
Looks good on you, cowboy.

ELLIOT
I need a shirt.

SKY
In the closet.

Elliot disappears into the closet. June jumps off the bed and follows her inside the walk-in. Sky rubs her eyes, stoned.

SKY (CONT'D)
Help me up, would you?

Isla takes Sky's arm. Hoists her up so she's leaning against the headboard. Isla moves to her leg. Puts a pillow under it.

ISLA
This okay?

SKY
Thanks, baby.

Isla sits back next to her.

ISLA
We got everything on your list
today. Went to the hardware store.
Got pulleys and chain and all that.

SKY
You helping me for your radio show?

ISLA
I was. Now I'm helping you because
I want to.

Sky smiles. Lifts a hand to Isla's face. Traces a finger down her nose, across her cheek. Studies it closely.

SKY
You and me, we're the same.

Isla meets Sky's eyes. Looks deep into them. Glossy. High.

SKY (CONT'D)
I think we can flip her tomorrow.

ISLA
Really?

Sky nods. Elliot and June emerge from the closet dressed in giant men's clothes. Elliot is a cowboy. June is a pilot.

SKY
Ride 'em, cowboy!

Elliot gallops around the room. Air-slaps her horse's ass.

ELLIOT
Yeehaw!

June lifts her arms like a plane. Makes flying noises. Their shadows are big like grown men on the walls. Isla leans back next to Sky. They watch, shoulder-to-shoulder, smiling.

SKY
I got my dad that shirt.

Isla looks at Elliot's baby blue cowboy shirt.

ISLA
It's ridiculous.

SKY
I know. He loved it.

JUNE
Who am I?

June takes a flying leap onto the bed. Crash-lands her plane.

SKY
Very funny.

June laughs hysterically. Everyone does.

55 INT. BEDROOM - LATER

55

June and Elliot are fast asleep. Isla is still awake, stares at the ceiling. Sky's eyes are closed.

ISLA
What's it like up there?

Isla turns on her side, faces Sky. Sky opens her eyes. Their faces are inches apart.

SKY
Where?

ISLA
When you're flying.

Sky pauses. Closes her eyes, imagining.

SKY

When you're up over the lake, the hills, they look soft and round. Like mossy rocks. You feel like you're dreaming. Like you're not sure if you're human anymore.

ISLA

Will you take me with you?

SKY

Sure. We'll get the plane running. I'll get my license back. We'll make a run for it. Fly all the way to Canada. Land in a field no person has ever seen.

ISLA

Yeah? Think I can pirate a radio frequency up there?

SKY

Easy. If the authorities triangulate you, we'll just fly somewhere new.

Isla turns away, lays flat on her back again. Nods.

ISLA

Alright. That's a plan then.

56

EXT. RIFE WINTER'S HOUSE - SHORE - MORNING

56

Sky stands on her good leg. Finishes hooking chain around a willow tree at the shoreline. Isla runs towards her.

SKY

Morning.

ISLA

You need help?

SKY

We need to anchor the nose.

Sky motions to the stack of chain on the ground. The coil of Hal's rope is beside it.

SKY (CONT'D)

There's a hook on the other end of this chain. Can you swim it under?

ISLA

Sure.

Isla strips down to her bathing suit. As she does, Elliot and June run down towards the dock.

ELLIOT

Why didn't you wake us?

SKY

She's only been here a minute.

Isla moves to the shore. Wades in dragging the chain.

SKY (CONT'D)

Elliot, I've seen the way you tie knots.

ELLIOT

They're good, huh.

SKY

I need you to take one end of the rope and tie it around the tail.

Elliot strips down excitedly. Wades in after Isla. Isla takes a deep breath and dives under. Sky and June watch.

JUNE

Don't worry. She can hold her breath forever.

Sky smiles. Puts a hand on June's shoulder.

57

EXT. CANDLEWOOD LAKE - WATER - INTERCUT

57

Finally, Isla emerges, treading water.

ISLA

Alright, it's under.

SKY

Now hook it to the nose. There's a ring just behind the propeller.

Isla dives under the water. Moments later, she re-emerges.

ISLA

Got it.

SKY

Well done.

Isla swims to the dock. Pulls herself out. Elliot works the rope around the tail. Ties it off. Gives it a tug.

ELLIOT

Done!

SKY

Good.

(then)

June, grab the other end of the rope.

June picks the rope off the ground, dragging it behind her as she follows Sky who moves down the dock.

58 INT. COLE FAMILY LAKE HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - SAME 58

The front door opens. In walks Penny and a REALTOR followed by a YOUNG HUSBAND and WIFE - prospective clients.

PENNY

(calling out)

Girls!

(then, to the relator)

They might still be sleeping.

REALTOR

No problem.

Penny steps further inside. Sees the mess. Towels, pillows, food. She lifts her sticking feet from the soda stain.

59 INT. RIFE'S BOAT - SAME 59

The girls ready in Rife's pontoon. Sky hands Elliot the rope.

SKY

Hook this to the tow ring.

Elliot gets on her stomach at the bow. Loops it around.

SKY (CONT'D)

All secure?

ELLIOT

Yes ma'am.

SKY

Good. Isla, unhitch us.

Isla unclips the boat from the dock. Sky turns the key in the ignition. Slowly, they idle out into the center of the cove.

ISLA
Is this gonna work?

SKY
No idea.

60 INT. COLE FAMILY LAKE HOUSE - KITCHEN - SAME 60

Penny stops at the sight of the sink - stacked with dirty dishes. Food and empty bags everywhere. She gasps at the outdoor table she sees through the glass door.

61 INT. RIFE'S BOAT - SAME 61

The girls are quiet. Sky puts one hand on the throttle. The other on the wheel.

SKY
You ready?

Elliot checks the rope. It's taught behind them.

ELLIOT
Ready.

June grabs the side of the boat.

JUNE
Ready.

Isla takes a deep breath. Nods at Sky. Sky slides up the throttle. The motor REV'S. They look back at the plane.

62 EXT. COLE FAMILY LAKE HOUSE - DECK - INTERCUT 62

Penny walks outside. On the table - old plates with food from days prior. She picks up the binoculars. Sees her daughters in the boat with Sky. Her breath catches as -

- The boat FIGHTS against the weight of the water-logged plane. Elliot yells from the stern.

ELLIOT
We need more power!

Sky pushes the throttle forward. The plane starts to raise. Water flows off its wings. Sky GUNS IT. The tail LIFTS from the water.

ISLA
IT'S WORKING!

The boat motors harder. The plane lifts higher, its nose still anchored to the tree. For a split second, the plane is PERPENDICULAR to the water.

Then, with a giant SPLASH, the plane LANDS right-side-up on its floats. The girls CHEER. Whooping and screaming.

SKY
WOOOOOOOO!

Penny races down the stone steps towards the dock.

June hugs Sky.

JUNE
You did it.

SKY
We did it.

ELLIOT
Holy shit.

ISLA
I can't believe it worked.

PENNY (O.S.)
ISLA!

The girls whip around, turn to see their mother on the dock. Their faces fall. A mixture of fear and dread.

ISLA
What time is it?

Elliot checks her watch.

ELLIOT
11:30. Shit.

ISLA
We gotta go.

Sky is staring at Penny.

ISLA (CONT'D)
Hurry, Sky. She's gonna kill me.

SKY
Unhitch the plane.

Elliot reaches over the stern. Releases the rope. Let's it sink into the murky water. Sky motors towards Penny.

63

EXT. THE COLE'S DOCK - DAY

63

Penny stands like a statue, staring at Sky as the boat glides up alongside the dock. Elliot and June jump out.

PENNY
(to the girls)
Get in the house.

June and Elliot scurry up the dock.

ISLA
We flipped the plane.

SKY
Your girls have been a big help.

Penny looks at Isla, still in the boat.

PENNY
I said get in the house.

Isla glances at Sky, then back at her mother. She steps out of the boat. Moves towards the house after her sisters.

PENNY (CONT'D)
(to Sky)
I don't know what you're doing,
hanging around with my daughters.
But ever since you got here they've
been acting irresponsibly.

SKY
Okay.

Penny flushes. Looks over Sky's masculine outfit.

PENNY
I recommend you find some friends
your own age.

Sky nods. Puts the boat into reverse. Motors away.

64

EXT. HAL'S HOUSE - AFTERNOON

64

Penny knocks at the front door. Moments later, Hal answers.

HAL
Penny. What can I do for you?

PENNY
Sorry to bother. I was just hoping
I could talk to you.

HAL

Sure. Want to come in?

PENNY

No. I mean, I don't know. I feel silly even being here. It's just - my girls have been hanging around that woman across the lake lately.

HAL

Sky.

PENNY

That's right. This is a tough time for them. They're vulnerable right now. Impressionable.

(then)

I know you were close with Rife. And I just thought you might know.

HAL

Know what?

PENNY

Well, what her story is. If I need to be concerned.

HAL

There's nothing to be concerned about.

PENNY

Is she married?

HAL

No, but I'm not sure what that has to do with -

PENNY

Why have I never seen her around?

HAL

She and Rife had a falling out.

PENNY

A falling out? Over what?

HAL

Oh, I don't know. Kid stuff.

PENNY

Kid stuff? So what, she left and never came back?

HAL

Well, yes. But Rife never tried either.

Hal quiets. Penny looks away, concerned.

PENNY

Listen, I'm going to tell the girls I don't want them hanging around Sky anymore. Will you let me know if you see them going over there?

Hal pauses.

HAL

Alright. Sure.

65

INT. COLE FAMILY LAKE HOUSE - KITCHEN - NIGHT

65

Isla removes a pair of yellow gloves. Shuts off the sink. The kitchen is now spotless. Penny approaches, pulls out a bottle of vodka from the freezer. Pours herself a top-up.

PENNY

There's someone I'd like you to meet.

ISLA

What?

PENNY

Someone I've been seeing. I thought maybe you could meet him first. Before your sisters. Let me know what you think.

Penny is tipsy. Isla stares at her.

PENNY (CONT'D)

Are you interested in anyone, Isla?

ISLA

Interested in anyone?

PENNY

Any boys you like around here?

Isla turns and walks away.

PENNY (CONT'D)

Hey. I'm talking to you. Don't walk away from me.

Isla stops walking but doesn't turn back.

ISLA
Is that why he left?

PENNY
Isla. No, honey. This is new.

ISLA
Why then?

Penny hesitates. Finally -

PENNY
Your father met someone.

Isla takes that in.

PENNY (CONT'D)
Right now, it's just me protecting
you.
(then)
I can't have you hanging out with
that woman anymore.

ISLA
What are you talking about?

PENNY
She crashed a plane into the lake.

ISLA
It was an accident.

PENNY
Isla, she flies for a living.

ISLA
So she can't make a mistake?

PENNY
She's not the type of person I want
you hanging out with.

ISLA
Ok. What type of person do you want
me hanging out with, mom?

PENNY
I don't know, someone who went to
college.

ISLA

You have no idea if she went to college.

PENNY

Someone who has a stable family.

ISLA

That's funny coming from you.

PENNY

She left when she was your age. And look how she ended up.

ISLA

God, I hate you.

Penny flinches.

PENNY

I know you don't mean that, honey.

Isla stares back at Penny. Then she turns and walks away.

66

INT. COLE FAMILY LAKE HOUSE - ISLA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

66

Isla pulls a black crop top over her head.

JUNE (O.S.)

(whisper)

Isla?

Isla turns to see June and Elliot standing in her doorway.

JUNE (CONT'D)

Where are you going?

Isla puts on a choker necklace.

ISLA

To a party.

ELLIOT

With Glenn?

ISLA

Yeah.

June and Elliot move towards her. Sit on her bed, watching.

JUNE

Isla?

ISLA

What.

JUNE

You look pretty.

Isla turns towards her sisters. Sits on the bed between them.

ISLA

I'm leaving with Sky.

ELLIOT

What do you mean?

ISLA

She said she'd take me with her
once the plane gets running.

JUNE

What about your radio show?

ISLA

Sky's gonna help me launch it up in
Canada.

JUNE

Will we get it down here?

ISLA

I'll send you tapes.

Tears start to roll down June's cheeks. Isla looks at her.

ISLA (CONT'D)

I'll come back, I promise.

ELLIOT

You can't do that.

ISLA

Yes I can. I'm leaving, Elliot. I
mean it.

(then)

You can't tell mom. Okay?

JUNE

Okay.

ISLA

Elliot?

Elliot lays down on Isla's bed. Shuts her eyes to hide tears.

ISLA (CONT'D)
I gotta go. Go back to bed, okay?

Isla stands and slips out.

67 INT. FARM - HAYLOFT- NIGHT

67

Isla and Glenn enter a small party. The space is bare save for hay bales, a keg and a boombox. A circle of half-naked kids sit on the straw-covered floor.

ISLA
What is this place?

GLENN
Town owns this farm.

ISLA
We're allowed to use it?

GLENN
Not exactly.

Glenn pours Isla beer. Takes one for himself. KIMMY (17), tall and tan, calls over to them from the circle.

KIMMY
Hey - come play strip dice.

GLENN
(to Isla)
Wanna play?

KIMMY
Come on.

ISLA
Sure. I'll play.

Isla and Glenn move towards the circle. Kimmy makes room.

ISLA (CONT'D)
What are the rules?

GLENN
Evens you strip. Odds you drink.
There's different rules for every
set of doubles you roll.

KIMMY
It's my go.

Kimmy rolls a set of dice. Evens. She pulls her shirt over her head. The group whoops. The GUY to her right rolls.

GUY
Odds.

He drinks. The next GIRL rolls doubles.

GIRL
Double two's.

She looks to GUY 2 to her right.

GIRL (CONT'D)
Drink, bitch.

GUY 2 drinks, then rolls odds. Drinks again, then hands the dice to Isla. Isla hesitates for a moment, then rolls evens.

KIMMY
What you get?

ISLA
Evens.

Isla takes off her shoe.

KIMMY
Doesn't count.

Isla looks at Kimmy, then at Glenn, who shrugs.

KIMMY (CONT'D)
Shoes and socks don't count.

Isla pulls the shirt off her head. Crosses her arms over her. The group snickers. Glenn takes the dice. Rolls double sixes.

GUY 2
What you get?

GLENN
Double sixes.

GIRL
Oh shit!

ISLA
What's that mean?

KIMMY
Means you kiss the person to the right of you.

Glenn leans over and kisses Kimmy. Isla hugs her arms tighter around her bra. All of a sudden, red and blue lights FLASH through the wood slats. A TEEN runs past the barn door -

TEENAGER
COPS!

GLENN
Shit.

Everyone stands. Scrambles. Glenn and Isla sprint towards the barn door. Race out into -

68 EXT. COW PASTURE - NIGHT

68

- Across the pasture and towards the woods. Finally, they duck into a patch of trees. They speak in whispers-

GLENN
Get down.

Isla and Glenn lay flat in a soft clearing. They're panting. Police lights flash in the distance. A cow moos.

GLENN (CONT'D)
You think there's poison ivy down here?

Isla starts to laugh. Glenn covers her mouth with his hand.

GLENN (CONT'D)
Shh.

Isla keeps laughing. Glenn is smiling too. Hovering above her now. Slowly, he takes his hand away.

GLENN (CONT'D)
Where's your shirt?

ISLA
Back inside.

GLENN
Shit.

Glenn pulls the shirt off his back. Hands it to Isla, who pulls it over her head. They lay back down.

ISLA
Thanks.

Isla looks at Glenn. Glenn leans in. Kisses her.

69

EXT. RIFE WINTER'S HOUSE - MORNING

69

Marge stands at the door. Takes a deep breath. Knocks. Moments later, the door opens. Sky appears.

MARGE

Hey, Sky.
(then)
Been a while.

SKY

You look the same.

MARGE

You too.

70

INT. RIFE WINTER'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - MORNING

70

Sky puts her leg up on the couch. Marge pauses before an old armchair. Slowly sits in it.

MARGE

I've never sat in his chair before.
Feels like sacrilege.
(then)
He'd sit here with his martini,
telling us that story about the
sergeant wetting his pants when he
took him up. We'd beg him to tell
it over and over again. I think I
laughed harder every time.

SKY

I remember.

MARGE

I heard the Cole sisters helped you
with the plane.

SKY

Their mother wasn't too happy about
it.

MARGE

You like to cause a stir.

Sky quiets. Slowly, Marge stands up. Moves towards Sky. Notes the empty water glass on the side table.

MARGE (CONT'D)

You want some water?

SKY
I'm fine.

Marge picks up the glass anyway. Then she touches a lock of Sky's hair. Sky doesn't look at her.

MARGE
Never seen your hair curly.

SKY
Kept it straight around here.

Marge nods. Moves to the kitchen. Fills up the water glass.

MARGE
You all alone up there in the
woods?

SKY
I was living with someone. She left
though.

Marge returns with the water. Sets it down before Sky, who's looking away, distracted. Marge sits back down in the chair. Flips open a notebook.

MARGE
Given the wind speeds on the day of
your crash, can you explain why you
took off on the morning of August
2nd?

71 INT. COLE FAMILY LAKE HOUSE - ISLA'S BEDROOM - MORNING 71

Isla lays face-up on her bed, awake.

PENNY (O.S.)
ISLA! BREAKFAST!

Isla rolls her eyes. Gets up out of bed. Moves to her mirror. Inspects a hickey on her neck. Spreads on some concealer.

72 INT. COLE FAMILY LAKE HOUSE - KITCHEN - MORNING 72

Penny sits at the table drinking an iced tea. June and Elliot sit beside her. They're mopey. Poking at their breakfast. Isla comes up the stairs. The girls watch her.

PENNY
About time.

Isla ignores her. Walks to the cupboard. Pours herself a bowl of cereal. Grabs a spoon. Eats it dry.

PENNY (CONT'D)
The house sold.

ELLIOT
What? I thought --

PENNY
They put in an offer.

Elliot looks out at the lake. Tears roll down her cheeks.

ELLIOT
So that's it then.

PENNY
We got real lucky, you know. They didn't mind the mess. Plus, they're letting us finish out the summer.

Isla puts her bowl down on the counter.

PENNY (CONT'D)
What's that on your neck?
(then)
Did you go somewhere last night?

Isla heads for the door.

PENNY (CONT'D)
Where are you going?

ISLA
Out.

PENNY
Hey! I need you back for --

-- Isla slams the door closed before Penny can finish.

73 EXT. HAL'S HOUSE - DAY

73

Isla knocks on Hal's door. After a few seconds, Hal appears.

HAL
Isla. You're here early.

ISLA
Can I start now? You don't have to pay me for the extra hours.

HAL

Come on in. I was just making some breakfast.

74

INT. HAL'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

74

Isla sits on the couch. Opens a cigar box on Hal's coffee table. In it, a stack of old photos. Isla takes them out.

She stops on a PHOTOGRAPH of HAL, RIFE and YOUNG SKY (15) on Rife's dock. Hal enters with sandwiches.

HAL

Hope you like ham and cheese.

ISLA

I do. Thanks.

HAL

(re: picture)

You can keep it if you want. Show Sky next time you see her.

Isla is quiet. Hal watches her.

HAL (CONT'D)

She's gonna need more help, you know. Getting that plane going.

ISLA

Yeah. I know.

Hal stands. Picks a cardboard box off the counter. Hands it to Isla, who opens it. Inside is a small aircraft COMPASS.

ISLA (CONT'D)

What's this?

HAL

New compass. Need you to make sure Sky mounts it. The current one's broken on that thing. Rife really freaked me out, pretending he was lost all the time.

Isla puts the picture in the box. Closes it.

ISLA

I'll make sure.

75

INT. HAL'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

75

Isla picks up a wall receiver. Dials.

ISLA

Hey Glenn... Um, nothing really...
 I was wondering if you could give
 me a ride somewhere... Right now is
 good... Yeah? Alright then. Thanks.

Isla hangs up the call. Leans back against the wall.

76

INT. GLENN'S JEEP WRANGLER - AFTERNOON

76

Glenn drives. Isla sits in the passenger seat. They're quiet.
 Glenn's eye is all red and puffy. There's a rash up his arms.

ISLA

What happened to you?

GLENN

Turns out it was poison ivy.

ISLA

Oh my god, really?

GLENN

Got a shot of steroids in my ass
 this morning.

Isla cracks up.

GLENN (CONT'D)

I don't appreciate that.

ISLA

Sorry. I'm not allergic.

GLENN

Lucky.

(then)

So where you moving to?

ISLA

My mom's moving to Westchester.

GLENN

Gotcha.

Isla looks out the window. Glenn looks over at her.

GLENN (CONT'D)

I have a cousin in Westchester.
It's not so far. An hour, tops. I
mean, if you ever missed the lake.
Wanted to jump in or something. I
could come get you.

ISLA

Thanks. But I'm not going to
Westchester.

GLENN

Oh. You going to your dad's?

ISLA

No.

GLENN

Where you going then?

ISLA

Canada.

GLENN

Canada? You going with that pilot
or something?

Isla shoots him a look.

ISLA

How'd you know that?

GLENN

Wait, really? I was just kidding.

ISLA

Oh.

GLENN

My dad said she goes with women.

ISLA

So?

GLENN

So, it's a bit weird is all.

ISLA

Not really.

GLENN

How close are you?

ISLA

I'm not gay, if that's what you're asking.

GLENN

Alright. Just checking.

77 INT. RIFE WINTER'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - SAME

77

Sky watches from the window as Glenn drives away. She opens the door as Isla approaches. Isla looks up to see Sky.

SKY

What are you doing here?

ISLA

You can't get that plane running alone.

SKY

Isla, your mom doesn't think you should be hanging around me.

ISLA

I don't care what anyone thinks.

Sky quiets. Isla steps closer. Hands her the box from Hal.

ISLA (CONT'D)

Hal said your dad's compass is broken. That you need to mount this.

(then)

Come on, Sky. Please.

Finally, Sky nods.

SKY

Propeller's coming tomorrow.

Isla's face breaks into a smile. She steps forward, hugs Sky. Sky is taken aback. Finally, Isla pulls away.

ISLA

We'll come back in the morning.

Isla turns and starts towards the dock. Calls back-

ISLA (CONT'D)

I'm taking the canoe back across. See you tomorrow.

Sky watches her go. Then she looks down. Opens the box. Pulls out the photo. Gazes at her father. His hand on her shoulder. She puts the photo down. Cries for her father.

78 INT. THE OLD OAK TAVERN - EVENING

78

Dim and wood lined. Marge plays darts with OFFICER JOE BAILEN (40's). She throws the winning shot.

JOE
You're killing me, Marge.

MARGE
I need a refill.

Marge turns and walks towards the bar just as Sky enters and sits at the far side. Marge pauses, then moves towards her.

MARGE (CONT'D)
Fancy seeing you here.

Sky glances up at Marge.

SKY
Marge.

The bartender, LEX (20's), approaches.

LEX
Can I get you something?

SKY
Whiskey. Neat please.

MARGE
I've got this. And I'll take
another one. Thanks Lex.

SKY
Appreciate that.

Sky looks around.

SKY (CONT'D)
Never seen the inside of this
place.

MARGE
Not as exciting as we imagined,
huh?

SKY
Not nearly.

79

INT. THE OLD OAK TAVERN - LATER

79

Sky and Marge play darts at a dart board. Marge picks up her freshly refilled glass from the bar. Holds it up to cheers.

MARGE
To your father.

They clink glasses. Marge hands Sky a few darts.

MARGE (CONT'D)
Your go.

Sky takes a shot.

MARGE (CONT'D)
Not bad.

SKY
We have dart boards where I live.

MARGE
I picture you up there living with
polar bears.

SKY
Yeah. My house is an igloo.

Marge laughs. Throws a shot. Sky notices a BEARDED MAN further down the bar.

SKY (CONT'D)
Is that Tommy Cartwright?

MARGE
Yup.

SKY
Damn. What happened?

MARGE
Car accident after you left. They
stitched his legs back up like a
rag doll. Got into painkillers
after that.

SKY
That's too bad.

MARGE
Not everyone left, you know.

SKY
Speaking of, how's the big investigation going?

MARGE
Should be opened and closed.

Marge throws a dart. Sky studies her.

SKY
You're good at this.

MARGE
A little too good.
(then)
Makes me feel 15 again, hanging around you.

Marge locks eyes with Sky. Sky throws the last of her whiskey back. Sets it on the bar. Notes a large American flag. Sees a group of WORKMEN in the corner - local construction guys drinking off the day.

SKY
You know, I gotta head out.

MARGE
You barely been here an hour.

SKY
I just came in for a night cap. Got a lot of shit to sort through back home.

MARGE
Alright then.

SKY
Thanks again for the drink.

Sky moves through the bar, out the back door -

80 EXT. OLD OAK TAVERN - PARKING LOT - CONTINUOUS 80
- Towards her pickup. As she nears -

MARGE (O.S.)
Hey Sky. Wait up.

Sky turns around - sees Marge approaching.

SKY
What's up, Marge?

MARGE
(re: Sky's leg)
How'd you manage to drive here?

SKY
Pushed the seat all the way back.
Did a sort of split across the
passenger.

MARGE
Desperate, were you?

Sky is quiet. Marge's eyes move about the empty parking lot.

MARGE (CONT'D)
You know... I've been waiting a
long time for you to come back.

SKY
Yeah?

MARGE
So you're here and all. I thought
it might be nice if we could hang
out for the night.

SKY
I really do have a lot of shit to
get done before I leave.

Marge takes Sky's hand. Sky looks down at it.

MARGE
Come on. Let me drive you home.

Marge moves closer.

SKY
Marge?

MARGE
Yeah?

SKY
We're not 15 anymore.

Just then, the SOUND of some drunk men exiting the bar. Marge jerks her hand away. Sky turns towards her truck.

The girls eat cereal at the breakfast table. Penny emerges from her room, made up for work.

PENNY
I'm late for work.

Penny kisses June, Elliot and Isla on the top of their heads.

PENNY (CONT'D)
Be back after dinner, alright?

JUNE
Isla said she'd make mac n' cheese.

PENNY
Yeah?

ISLA
Chef's special.

Penny kneels down. Smiles at Isla.

PENNY
Save me a plate?

ISLA
Sure.

PENNY
Thank you, baby.

She touches Isla's cheek. Stands and moves towards the door.

PENNY (CONT'D)
Be good!

The door closes. Isla looks at her sisters.

ISLA
I'm going to Sky's.

ELLIOT
What?

ISLA
You can come if you want.

ELLIOT
You crazy? Mom said if we ever go
there again, she'd ground us for a
year.

ISLA
I won't be here.

Outside, the sound of Penny's car engine revs. Isla stands.

82

INT. CANDLEWOOD LAKE AUTHORITY - OFFICE - MORNING

82

Marge talks on the phone. Officer Joe Bailen is at his desk.

MARGE
I understand. Alright. Thank you.

Marge hangs up, quiet for a moment. Lost in thought.

JOE
What happened?

MARGE
Sky called in for the weather
before she went up. They warned her
of severe crosswinds... She went up
anyway.

JOE
Ballsy.

MARGE
It's worse than ballsy.

JOE
Alright, well. We could request a
check ride, get her skills cleared.

MARGE
She's a qualified pilot. She knew
better than to go up.

JOE
I'm not sure it's grounds for
charges if that's what you're
thinking.

MARGE
It's my case, Joe.

Joe looks at Marge, confused.

MARGE (CONT'D)
What Sky did was an act of
negligence. That's all.

JOE
I know that.

MARGE
Alright then.

83

EXT. RIFE'S DOCK - MORNING

83

Sky lays her broken leg across the dock. Her other leg rests on the plane's float as she reaches into the cockpit.
Installs Hal's compass.

ISLA (O.S.)
Hey Sky!

Sky turns to see Isla nearing her dock in the canoe. She stops what she's doing. Watches Isla tie up and jump off.

SKY
Where are your sisters?

ISLA
Stayed home.

Isla squats to look inside the cockpit. Sky studies her.

ISLA (CONT'D)
Did the propeller come in?

SKY
It did.

ISLA
Where is it?

SKY
Have to pick it up at the local
airstrip.
(then)
You ever driven?

ISLA
Driven a boat.

SKY
It's all backroads there. My dad's
truck drives like a boat. Wanna
try?

ISLA
Alright.

84

INT. RIFE'S PICKUP TRUCK - MORNING

84

A quiet, wooded street along the lake. Isla presses the gas too hard. Sky's head lurches forward.

ISLA
Jesus.

SKY
Little softer.

Isla tries again. She's quiet for a moment.

ISLA
When you left, where did you go?

SKY
To my grandmother's for a time.
Lived with her til I was 18. Found
my way to Canada from there.
(then)
Now slow to a stop.

Isla slams the breaks. Their heads go flying.

SKY (CONT'D)
Easy, tiger.

ISLA
Sorry.
(then)
Did you ever miss home?

SKY
I wished home was a little more
tolerant of who I am. I wished my
dad could accept me.

Isla nods. Picks up speed slowly.

SKY (CONT'D)
See that? You're a natural.

85 EXT. CANDLELIGHT FARMS AIRPORT - DAY 85

Isla drives carefully down a long paved road. She's settled
into driving now.

SKY
Take a left up here. Blinker's on
your left hand side. Push it down.

Isla checks the road, then pulls to the left. They turn down
a small gravel drive. Round a corner to reveal a sprawling,
mowed FIELD. Flat for a mile, high in the hills.

ISLA
This is an airport?

SKY

Just a little airstrip for local
planes.

ISLA

Where do they land?

SKY

Right there on the grass.

Isla continues down the long dirt road that runs parallel to the landing strip. Sky turns around, catches sight of a fast-approaching plane through the rear window of the cab.

SKY (CONT'D)

When I say go, I want you to put
your foot down on the gas.

ISLA

What?

SKY

Just gun it. Alright?

ISLA

Alright.

Sky watches the plane approach.

SKY

GO.

Isla floors it. The pickup lurches forward. Suddenly, a small open-cockpit bi-plane is hovering alongside them. They're neck-and-neck with each other. Isla grins, exhilarated.

SKY (CONT'D)

Faster, Isla.

Isla presses even harder. The car rattles up speed.

ISLA

WOOOOOHOOOOOO!

For a few blissful seconds, the plane floats inches above ground. 40 mph, alongside the rattling truck. Then, the plane softly touches down. Isla slows with it. Beams.

A barn-turned-hangar. Sky and Isla make their way towards it. ERNIE (60s) reads in a beach chair out front.

SKY
 (to Isla)
 Go on inside and check it out.

Isla turns through the giant garage door. Sky reaches Ernie.

SKY (CONT'D)
 Hi Ernie.
 (then)
 It's me. Sky Winters.

Ernie's eyes go wide. He puts his paper down.

87 INT. HANGAR - CANDLELIGHT FARMS AIRPORT - INTERCUT 87

Isla inspects five or six perfectly kept prop planes. Glances over as Ernie hugs Sky. Stays within earshot.

Back with Ernie, who pulls away - looks at Sky closely.

ERNIE
 My God, I almost didn't recognize you.

SKY
 Still sitting out here in your chair, just the way I left you.

ERNIE
 I'll die in this here chair.

Sky chuckles. Ernie shifts, realizing what he's said.

ERNIE (CONT'D)
 Sure he's up there somewhere, reeling about you flipping his baby.

SKY
 I'm sure he is.

ERNIE
 How's the investigation going?

SKY
 Seems fine. Why, you heard something?

ERNIE
 They inquired about you.

SKY
 Oh?

ERNIE

Marge and so on. Poking around,
asking if I'd seen you recently.
(then)
She knows you checked the winds.

SKY

What's that have to do with
anything?

ERNIE

They're questioning why you flew
into them... Marge seems to think
it was an act of negligence.

Sky glances at Isla, who's looking her way, listening.

SKY

She know I order the prop too?

ERNIE

She asked if I'd seen you. Not
heard from you.

SKY

Thanks Ernie.

ERNIE

I'll go get it for you.

Ernie walks away. Back with Isla, watching the two of them.

88

EXT. RIFE WINTER'S DOCK - DAY

88

Isla stands on one of the plane's floats - wrenches on the
propeller. Sky is on the dock, instructing.

SKY

That's it. As tight as it'll go.

ISLA

Can't go any tighter.

SKY

Good. Now give the blade a pull.

Isla tugs the propeller. It spins beautifully in the sun.

ISLA

Is it ready to fly?

SKY

Just about.

ISLA

I know it was just an accident.
That you've probably landed in
winds ten times as rough.

Sky looks at Isla, appreciative. Then gets into the cockpit.
Crank the ignition. The engine struggles to fire.

SKY

Must have a leak somewhere.

Isla nods, disappointed. Looks at the setting sun.

ISLA

I gotta beat my mom home.

SKY

Thanks for your help today.

Isla smiles as she loads into her canoe.

89

INT. COLE FAMILY HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

89

Penny sits in a chair facing the lake. June and Elliot sit nearby, quiet. The front door opens as Isla comes in, stopping short at the sight of Penny.

ISLA

Mom?

PENNY

Elliot. June. Go downstairs.

The girls do as told. Penny rises. Turns to face Isla.

PENNY (CONT'D)

You're leaving tomorrow.

ISLA

What? I've got another two weeks.

PENNY

I got you a job near your father.

ISLA

You can't do that.

90

INT. COLE FAMILY HOUSE - STAIRCASE - INTERCUT

90

Elliot and June sit quietly on the stairs, listening.

PENNY

You're sneaking out now. Hanging out with that woman. She's a bad influence, Isla. If you don't want to listen to me, maybe you'll listen to your father.

ISLA

I don't want to be with him and his stupid new girlfriend.

June looks at Elliot, tears welling.

PENNY

You don't have a choice.

ISLA

You know, I'm not even surprised.

PENNY

What?

ISLA

I get why dad left you.

Penny's eyes mist over. Isla turns towards the door. Slams it behind her.

91

INT. RIFE WINTER'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

91

A KNOCK at the front door. Sky opens it to see Marge. Then she steps aside. Motions for Marge to come in.

92

INT. RIFE WINTER'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

92

Marge and Sky sit at the table. They're quiet. Finally -

MARGE

I'm grounding you, Sky.

SKY

What?

MARGE

I know you checked the winds before you went out.

SKY

You're grounding me for checking the winds?

MARGE

You knew what you were flying into.
You could have killed yourself. I
worry about you flying again soon.

SKY

You worry about me? Who are you
fucking fooling, Marge.

MARGE

You can re-certify in a year.

SKY

A year.

MARGE

I believe it's for the best. You
can take some time, process your
father's passing.

SKY

Fuck you.

(then)

Do you know the last time I saw my
father?

Marge doesn't reply.

SKY (CONT'D)

A week after he found us in bed
together.

MARGE

Keep your voice down.

Sky laughs.

SKY

You refused to speak to me after
that. Never heard from you again.

MARGE

You were a mess, Sky. I couldn't
help you.

SKY

Help me? You pretended like it
never happened. You know how insane
that made me feel?

(then)

Jesus, Marge. Look at you. I feel
bad for you.

MARGE
You flew the plane into dangerous winds.

SKY
My dad had just died. It was just a stupid accident.

Sky looks at Marge, desperate now.

MARGE
If you try to fly again, I'll have you arrested.

SKY
Don't do this Marge. Please don't do this.

Marge stands. Then she turns and walks out the door.

93 EXT. RIFE'S HOUSE - DECK - DAY

93

Sky sits in a deck chair facing the lake. Isla approaches, breathless.

ISLA (O.S.)
Sky? I knocked but you didn't answer.

Sky doesn't react. Isla moves in front of her.

ISLA (CONT'D)
My mom's making me leave early.

SKY
Alright.

ISLA
You can get the plane running, I know it. We can go tonight.

SKY
What are you talking about?

ISLA
I'm talking about going to Canada.

SKY
What?

ISLA
You said we'd escape together.

SKY

No I didn't.

ISLA

Yes you did. You said I could start my radio show up there, remember?

SKY

Isla. We were just fucking around.

ISLA

What?

SKY

We were fantasizing. Jesus, Isla. I thought you understood that.

ISLA

Fantasizing?

Isla stares at her, heart breaking, tearful now.

SKY

Marge took my license away.

ISLA

For how long?

SKY

A year.

ISLA

That's bullshit.

Isla stares at Sky, beside herself.

ISLA (CONT'D)

God, it's all such bullshit.

94

EXT. CEDAR LANE - DUSK

94

Isla waits at the top of the road. At the sound of Glenn's Jeep, Isla wipes her eyes. Glenn pulls up alongside her.

GLENN

Hey.

ISLA

Hi.

95

INT. GLENN'S JEEP - NIGHT

95

Glenn and Isla drive in silence. Then -

GLENN
I'm glad you called.

Isla nods, quiet. Glenn looks over at her.

GLENN (CONT'D)
You alright?

ISLA
I'm fine.

Glenn nods as he pulls into an empty parking lot. Parks the car. The dark lake stretches out before them.

ISLA (CONT'D)
Do you have anything to drink?

Glenn reaches behind her seat. Returns with a cheap handle.

GLENN
I don't have anything to mix it with.

ISLA
I don't care.

Isla unscrews the cap. Takes a pull. Coughs a little. Forces another one down. Hands it to Glenn, who takes a pull too.

GLENN
You sure you're alright?

Isla leans over to kiss him but her seatbelt jerks her back.

ISLA
Stupid thing.

Isla removes her seatbelt. Straddles the elbow rest and gets on top of Glenn. Pulls off her shirt. Glenn looks surprised.

ISLA (CONT'D)
What?

GLENN
Nothing.

Isla leans down. Kisses him. Her hands move to his pants.

GLENN (CONT'D)
Hey. I think maybe...

Isla tries to unbutton them. Glenn puts his hands on hers.

GLENN (CONT'D)
I think maybe we should go slow.

ISLA
Do you not like me?

GLENN
It's not that. It's just, you seem
upset and... You're 16.

Isla suddenly pushes herself off him. Pulls her shirt on.

GLENN (CONT'D)
I didn't mean it in a bad way, I
just...

Isla throws open the car door.

GLENN (CONT'D)
Isla, come on.

ISLA
I'm not a child.

GLENN
I know you're not.

Isla stares at him, hurting from everything.

GLENN (CONT'D)
Come on, I'll drive you home.

ISLA
I'll walk.

GLENN
It's pitch black. We're miles away.

Isla takes off RUNNING. She disappears into the night.

Isla opens the front door. Walks in. Nearly trips.

June and Elliot are on the couch - they fell asleep waiting
for her. Elliot wakes at the sound. June doesn't stir.

ELLIOT
Isla? Where were you? We waited up.

ISLA

None of your business.

ELLIOT

I told you not to go to Sky's.

Elliot rises. Moves towards her.

ELLIOT (CONT'D)

You smell like booze.

ISLA

Leave me alone.

ELLIOT

But you're leaving tomorrow.

ISLA

Screw you.

ELLIOT

What?

ISLA

You're not my mother.

ELLIOT

No shit.

ISLA

I can't wait to get away from you.

I can't wait to get away from
everyone.

97

INT. COLE FAMILY LAKE HOUSE - ISLA'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

97

Isla reaches into her nightstand. Takes out her cut fake ID and a roll of tape. Tries to tape it together. Gets frustrated. Screams into her pillow.

98

INT. COLE FAMILY LAKE HOUSE - KITCHEN - MORNING

98

June and Elliot are seated for breakfast. Penny pulls a steaming stack of warm pancakes out of the oven.

PENNY

I'm going for a 10 out of 10 this
morning.

The girls are quiet.

PENNY (CONT'D)
 Come on, girls. Smile for your
 sister.

Just then, Isla emerges from the stairs.

PENNY (CONT'D)
 Just in time.

ISLA
 I'm not hungry.

PENNY
 It's our last meal together. I made
 your favorite.

Isla moves to the refrigerator. Opens the door. Grabs a Coke.

PENNY (CONT'D)
 A soda? Really?

Isla ignores her. Chugs it. Wipes her mouth. Leaves the Coke on the counter. Makes her way across the kitchen.

99 INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

99

Moves towards the front door. Pulls it open.

PENNY (O.S.)
 Fine! I'll pack for you!

100 EXT. HAL'S HOUSE - DAY

100

Isla knocks on Hal's door holding his rope. Hal appears.

HAL
 Isla, where were you yesterday? I
 got worried when you didn't show.

ISLA
 I stole your rope to help Sky. I'm
 sorry.

HAL
 It's not stolen if you brought it
 back.

Isla is quiet. Emotional.

ISLA
 My mom's making me leave today. And
 Marge grounded Sky.
 (MORE)

ISLA (CONT'D)

(then)

I need to do one last broadcast.

Hal takes this in.

HAL

Come on inside.

101 INT. HAL'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

101

Hal settles in. Puts on his headphones. Isla follows suit.

HAL

Ready to roll?

ISLA

Yeah.

Hal hits record.

HAL

Good afternoon, everybody.

ISLA

You're listening to 1080AM, home to
the Candlewood Lake Show. Where
nothing exciting ever really
happens.

102 INT. COLE FAMILY LAKE HOUSE - ISLA'S BEDROOM - INTERCUT 102

June and Elliot huddle under the covers with the handheld
radio. It's tuned to Hal's station.

HAL (O.S.)

I'm your host, Hal Howie.

ISLA (O.S.)

And I'm Isla Cole.

HAL (O.S.)

Today, I'm bidding my favorite co-
host farewell. I've known Ms. Isla
Cole all her life. She grew up here
in the summers like a willow tree
on the banks of Candlewood. She's
of this place and it feels
unnatural to see her leave.

Back with Isla and Hal.

HAL (CONT'D)
 Is there anything you'd like to say
 before you go?

Isla looks towards the lake, thoughtful.

ISLA
 Being 16 sucks. I'm two years away
 from being an adult and I have no
 control over where I live or the
 direction my life takes. But that's
 bullshit. Because I know what I
 want. I spent my whole life
 thinking my kids would jump off
 Chicken Rock some day. And now, I'm
 not even sure I'll remember what
 the water smells like. You know,
 adults are just so overrated. We
 have to listen to them but they're
 the ones who suck at life.

Hal is quiet for a moment.

HAL
 I have to say Isla, I agree with
 you.
 (then)
 I disappointed myself far more as
 an adult than I ever did as a kid.

Hal lets that sit. Isla softens.

HAL (CONT'D)
 Well, we're sure as hell going to
 miss you, co-pilot. I know we're a
 bunch of adults, but you'll come
 back to visit us, won't you?

On June and Elliot, listening, forlorn.

ISLA (O.S.)
 Maybe some day.

Elliot hits the power button. The radio cuts off.

103 EXT. COLE FAMILY LAKE HOUSE - DRIVEWAY - MORNING 103
 Isla walks home. Up ahead, she sees Penny packing the car.

PENNY
 Everything's in the car already.

Isla looks up at the sun through the trees above her.

PENNY (CONT'D)
 Go on inside. Say goodbye to your
 sisters.

Just then - the SOUND of the plane's motor firing in the
 distance. Isla stops. Looks towards the lake.

She starts walking down the driveway. Slowly at first, then
 she breaks into a RUN, whizzing past her mother.

PENNY (CONT'D)
 Isla?

104 INT. COLE FAMILY LAKE HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - SAME 104

June looks up from what she's doing, sees Isla sprinting down
 the stone steps towards the lake. Elliot sees her too.

JUNE
 Where's Isla going?

They get up and run out the door after her -

105 EXT. COLE FAMILY HOUSE - CONTINUOUS 105

- Turn down the stone steps, chasing after her. Penny trails.

106 EXT. COLE FAMILY HOUSE - DOCK - DAY 106

Isla reaches the dock. Sees the propellers of Sky's plane
 whirring across the cove. Hurries to unhitch the canoe.
 Elliot and June arrive behind her, panting.

PENNY (O.S.)
 ISLA!

Penny is fast descending the steps. Elliot pulls her
 harmonica from her back pocket. Hands it to Isla.

ELLIOT
 Take this.

Isla looks at June and Elliot lovingly, then jumps in the
 canoe and paddles away just as Penny lands at the dock.

PENNY
 ISLA. WAIT!

But Isla is paddling like crazy.

107 EXT. HAL'S HOUSE - DECK - SAME

107

Hal walks out onto his deck. Looks in the direction of Isla's house. Hears Penny yell. Sees Isla emerge from the tree line.

108 EXT. RIFE WINTER'S HOUSE - DOCK - MORNING

108

Sky looks up from checking the propeller. Isla is paddling towards her with all her might. Her eyes are locked on Sky.

ISLA
You fixed it!

Isla nears the dock. Leaps out of the canoe.

SKY
We fixed it.

ISLA
You're not supposed to fly.

SKY
I can't stay here.
(then)
I'm gonna take my chances in
Canada.

Isla is quiet. Sky looks towards Penny standing on the dock.

SKY (CONT'D)
You've got a family who loves you,
Isla.

Isla glances at her family. Looks back at Sky.

ISLA
You still owe me a ride.

109 EXT. COLE FAMILY HOME - DOCK - MORNING

109

The girls watch as Isla and Sky get into the plane.

ELLIOT
She's gonna do it.

PENNY
Do what?

JUNE
She's gonna fly.

110 INT. RIFE'S PLANE - SAME

110

Sky taxis away from the dock. They speak through headsets.

SKY
You ready?

ISLA
Yeah.

Sky picks up speed. Water splashes against the floats. Within seconds, they LIFT OFF. Isla watches the ground get further away. Instinctively reaches for Sky's arm.

SKY
We're okay.

Isla looks out the window, back towards her family.

111 INT. HAL'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

111

Hal moves inside. Sits down at his mixing board. Puts Nina Simone's vinyl on the turn table. Drops the needle.

112 INT. RIFE WINTER'S PLANE - SAME

112

Isla looks down and around her. They're way up high now. Soaring over the lake.

Sky flips on the plane's radio. Nina Simone's "I Wish I knew How It Would Feel to Be Free" filters through the speaker.

SKY
My dad loved this song.

113 INT. MARGE'S TRUCK - SAME

113

Marge is driving. As the trees clear, she sees the yellow plane above her. She cranes her neck to watch. Then she leans back into her seat. Keeps driving.

111 EXT. SKY/MONTAGE - DAY

111

-The rolling green hills take different, soft shapes. The plane's shadow drifts across them like a bird.

SIMONE
*... I wish I would know how/ it
would feel to be free/ I wish I
could break/ All the chains holding
me...*

-Candlewood Lake. Boats. Tiny dots jumping from Chicken Rock.

SIMONE (CONT'D)
*...I wish I could share/ All the
 love that's in my heart/
 Remove all the bars/
 That keep us apart...*

-The town park. Kids playing on a baseball diamond.

SIMONE (CONT'D)
*...I wish you could know what it
 means to be me/ And you'd see and
 agree/ That every man should be
 free...*

-Cow fields and red barns.

SIMONE (CONT'D)
*...I wish I could give/ All I'm
 longin' to give/ I wish I could
 live/ Like I'm longin' to live/ I
 wish I could do/ All the things
 that I can do...*

ISLA
 Hey Sky?

SKY
 Yeah, co-pilot?

ISLA
 I'm ready to go home.

Sky pulls the steering yoke to the left. The plane takes a hard turn, back the way they came.

ISLA (CONT'D)
 Woooooo!

Sky laughs. Isla's face is plastered to the window. To the green hills, to the earth beneath them.

SIMONE
*...Well I wish I could be/ Like a
 bird in the sky/ How sweet it would
 be/ If I found I could fly/
 Oh I'd soar to the sun/
 And look down at the sea...*

THE END.