

# **CRUSH**

Written by  
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**OVER BLACK**

The happiest sound you can imagine --

A young child's laughter.

Very faint and muffled.

**INT. THE ROOM - DAY**

Eyes BOLT open.

A GASP of air.

Heavy breathing.

EMILY (35) wakes. Tough looking and muscular. Has no problems in a scrap. Dressed in jeans and a shirt.

She stares at the concrete ceiling. It's high.

14 FEET HIGH.

Her eyes adjust to the harsh room light. She sits up and views --

THE ROOM.

Empty.

Bare.

White.

All three walls appear to be thick concrete. The only entrance is a LARGE STEEL DOOR.

Above the door is a line of EIGHT SMALL RED LIGHTS.



She groggily pulls herself up and stumbles over to the door.

There is no handle. She looks down the side, a slither of darkness creeps in through the crack.

She pushes the door with her shoulder...

LOCKED.

...opens her mouth and speaks...

...but words don't come out. Just a hollow vibration of sound... Like being underwater.

Emily looks shocked. She touches her ears.

Opens her mouth and speaks again --

*Hello?*

But again, we don't hear it.

Frozen in shock. She rubs her ears ferociously.

*Hello?*

*Hello?*

Stretches her mouth. Opens it and tries to

*YELL.*

Not a whimper.

She places her hand back on the door. Slowly closes her fist and --

KNOCK. KNOCK. KNOCK.

She hears the sound as clear as day. She frowns, confused.

KNOCKS again.

*Hello?*

Nothing.

She turns to face the room.

Something catches her attention on the floor. She slowly creeps towards it.

In the exact center of the room, three symbols are very faintly drawn.

She kneels down and gets a closer look.

I

II

III

Her eyes suddenly widen. She feels something in her back pocket.

She quickly stands and pulls out a MOBILE PHONE with HEADPHONES attached.

She yanks the headphones out and discards them. Scrambling, she presses on the screen.

It's black.

She holds down the top button and anxiously waits.

The screen lights up as the phone turns on.

As it boots up, the screen flutters and distorts. Emily shakes it. Taps it on the side.

The screen appears back to normal.

No reception.

She opens the most recent message --

**To: David**  
visiting mum then going  
shops. You need anything?

**From: David**  
nope x

She stares at the screen, confused.

On the floor, past the phone, the three symbols suddenly slowly light up, emitting a soft white glow through each letter.

Emily lowers the phone and stares at them.

All of a sudden a LOW HUM... A subtle VIBRATION and then --

All three walls DISAPPEAR...

Solid becoming transparent. Concrete turns to glass.

Each one, a window into another room.

In the room to to her right --

VINCENT (80) sits in the corner. Sweat drips from his forehead. He slowly looks up at Emily. Exhausted and pale.

To Emily's left --

LUCY (40's) stands, banging on her own door.

At the back of Emily's room --

EARL (30) paces his room. He sees Emily and quickly lunges forward, BANGING on the glass. His eyes desperate. Manic.

EARL  
Hello?! Can you hear me?!

Emily stares at Earl. She quickly nods.

MAN  
Really?!

She nods again.

EARL  
What the fuck is going on?

LUCY  
Yeah! Where are we?

Emily turns to Lucy, now standing next to her window.

Emily mouths --

*I don't know.*

We can't hear it...

EARL  
What?!

...and neither can they.

Emily shakes her head quickly.

*I can't speak. I'm trying but I can't.*

They stare at her confused. Earl and Lucy exchange looks. Vincent stays seated, looking exhausted.

Another LIGHT HUM echoes through Emily's room. The three symbols begin to slowly radiate light.

They all look at them.

LUCY

What are those on your floor?!

They all stare at them as the HUM continues. The symbols continue to flash.

They watch as the flashing suddenly stops.

A moment of silence before --

A LIGHT SCRATCHING sound from above.

Emily looks up.

The CEILING above her suddenly starts to lower. Closing in on her. It moves two feet, then stops.

It sits 12 FEET HIGH.

EARL

What the *actual fuck* is happening?

He looks past Emily and Vincent, still seated.

EARL

Old timer, do you know what is going on?!

Vincent shakes his head.

LUCY

What do you last remember?

EARL

I was at the fuckin' gym, getting a last minute work out in before work.

LUCY

And then what?

EARL

I... I just... I dunno...

Earl thinks hard, struggling to conjure memories.

LUCY

I was at home watching TV... That's all I can remember...

They look towards Vincent. He gazes at them.

VINCENT

I was at home.

And looks back down.

Emily shakes her head desperately.

She's about to speak but holds off.

EARL

Why the fuck can't you speak? You  
seem like you want to but you're not.  
Is there something wrong with you or  
something?

The LIGHT HUM sounds through Emily's room again. The three  
symbols radiate light again.

The hum ceases and again --

The LIGHT SCRATCHING sound from above.

Emily's CEILING starts to lower. It closes in on her.  
Another two feet.

It sits 10 FEET HIGH.

Emily looks around horrified. Her eyes full of tears. She  
desperately looks towards the other three.

EARL

Fuck.

LUCY

That's getting lower.

EARL

No shit.

Lucy shoots Earl a look.

VINCENT

It's the symbols.

Attention is turned to Vincent.

He points to his door where a small I is marked.

Earl looks at his - II

Lucy at hers - III

EARL

I don't understand.

VINCENT

I think you have to pick one.

Lucy looks back at her symbols.

VINCENT

When they flash, you should try and pick.

LUCY

Why?

Vincent shrugs.

EARL

Lady, look where we are. Nothing about this is normal. One minute I was hitting leg day hard and the next I'm in some fucking weird ass room.

LUCY

Don't call me lady.

EARL

Ma'am, whatever. Look, this could be some weird game or something. Any of you guys every signed up for a reality TV show --

LUCY

-- Reality TV?! --

EARL

-- Maybe it's one of those things with the hidden cameras and shit, I dunno... Maybe it's a game. You pick one of us and we get let out...

Lucy shakes her head, turning around.

EARL

Might as well try it, what harm can it do?

LUCY

Well, she can stand on your symbol then.

Earl's expression suddenly changes.

EARL

Yeah, or like, whatever she wants.

Emily watches the exchange closely.



The LIGHT HUM happens again. The symbols light up.

Earl, Lucy and Vincent gaze at her.

Lucy looks at them scared.

EARL

Go on!

She looks back to the symbols.

Takes a deep inhale.

Then steps out onto --

## II

Everyone waits anxiously.

The other two symbols disappear as the one Emily picked turns RED.

Emily's ceiling slowly rises back up.

14 FEET HIGH.

Earl stares in, visibly worried.

A SCRAPE from his room.

He looks up.

His ceiling is lowering.

12 FEET.

EARL

What the fuck?

11 FEET.

He looks at Emily.

EARL

What did you do!?

Emily shakes her head. Tears welling up.

She tries to speak --

*I don't know. I'm sorry!*

10 FEET.

EARL

Stop it!

He runs over to his door and SLAMS his hand onto it.

9 FEET.

EARL

Help!

8 FEET.

He gets on his hands and knees and looks beneath the door out into the darkness.

EARL

HELLO?!

His voice trembles. Body shakes. He cries hard.

7 FEET.

He looks back at the other trio. Eyes darting between each one.

EARL

Do something!

Lucy just stares in shock. Vincent has his hands over his mouth.

6 FEET.

Emily rushes over to her door. She BANGS against it.

Screaming --

*Help! Help! Someone!*

5 FEET.

She looks back.

Earl is crouched down, unable to stand upright. He presses his face against the glass. Absolute fear in his eyes. Pleading.

4 FEET.

He sobs uncontrollably.

He hits the glass, his palm sliding down.

Screaming, veins BULGE on his forehead.

3 FEET.

Earl looks up. His eyes wide in TERROR. His ceiling moves down towards him.

2 FEET.

It pushes into his back, forcing him to floor. PINNED between the ground and the ceiling.

Emily watches in horror. Tears streaming down her face.

The screaming stops. A moment of realization as Earl and Emily's eyes connect.

For a split second of emotion then --

The ceiling PUSHES him further into the ground.

Emily turns. Looks away. Hands over her ears.

His skull CRACKS.

Eyes POP. Body CRUSHED into the concrete.

The ceiling stops. Flush level with the floor.

A long moment of stillness.

Emily turns and looks.

A SPLATTER of blood drips down the window.

She falls to the ground.

DRY RETCHES. Struggling to focus. Tears streaming.

She begins to breathe quickly, struggling to control it.

The ceiling in the other room begins to rise, revealing the completely SQUASHED remains of the man.

Blood all over the floor. Body parts indistinguishable.

The walls VIBRATE as the ceiling reaches the top, back to its original position.

All three look on in SHOCK. Emily sits frozen in her room. Catatonic.

She clutches her chest.

Everything around her begins to warp.

Then suddenly --

The windows all disappear.

The concrete walls reappear.

Emily looks around, all alone again.

Above her door, one of the lights changes from red to yellow --



She sits in silence. Her slow, deep breathing fills the room.

She blinks hard, wiping her eyes. She stares vacantly towards her door, lost in a trance.

Then a sound...

A sliding sound...

From under her door something slides along the floor and stops in front of her.

She gazes down at it --

A CHOCOLATE BAR.

She blinks again, eyes glued to it.

She looks back at the door and pulls herself up. She wanders over and lays down, placing her head to the ground. She looks through the gap between the door and floor.

Near complete DARKNESS.

She pulls the phone back out and turns on the torch.

She shines it towards the gap.

The light barely penetrating the dark at all.

She sighs, getting up.

She walks away from the door, looking down at the phone.

It GLITCHES again. She hits the side.

The screen goes fuzzy.

Hits again.

Her eyes grow frustrated. She turns and throws the phone through across the room.

It slams on the floor, sliding towards the door. Her eyes widen. Mouth opens --

No!

The phone slowly slides under the door and outside. She lunges forward, crawling towards it.

She peers out, only just being able to see the phone, edging on the cusp of the darkness, half a meter from the door.

She sticks her hand through the gap. Reaching.

Strains, eyes closing. Her hand SQUEEZES underneath the door. The tight space trapping her wrist.

Her fingers brush the bottom of the phone but she can't quite grab it. Her wrist begins to turn blue.

She yanks away, skin rips from the hand. Small droplets of blood drip onto the floor. She rubs her hand and sits up. Looks around.

Her eyes meet the HEADPHONES.

JUMP CUT TO:

Emily ties the headphones together creating a lasso. She flings them through the gap.

The first throw misses.

The second falls short. She snatches the headphones back towards her.

Her third throw hooks the top of the phone. She steadies herself and takes a deep breath. Pulls. The phone edges towards her.

CLOSER.

And CLOSER.

Before SLIPPING.

*Fuck.*

She sighs. Gathers herself and goes to toss it again but stops.

The LOW HUM sound emanates through her room. Followed by the VIBRATION.

She turns. The three symbols on the floor glow.

All three walls become windows again.

Vincent still sits in the room to her right.

Lucy leans against her door in the room to her left.

A new person in the room behind Emily --

MATT (20) stands in the middle of the room, looking at the people around him.

He looks befuddled. Slowly raises his hand and gives an awkward wave.

MATT

Hi?

They stare at Matt. No one responds. The other three know the deal.

Matt steps forward.

LUCY

One of your lights changed color.

They all look at the lights above Emily's door.

MATT

Are you guys... Are we tripping right now? Is this even real?

He reaches out and touches the mirror.

MATT

I was on a lot of drugs last night  
and I think I might be hallucinating  
or something.

LUCY

This is real.

Matt looks at her for a long moment.

He goes to speak but can't find the words. He notices the symbols on Emily's floor.

MATT

What's up with those?

Emily mouths --

*I don't know.*

The LIGHT HUM sounds.

Emily's three symbols light up.

Matt smirks.

MATT

This ain't real, come on.

He looks at the others. They aren't smiling.

LUCY

What are you going to do?

MATT

What's she talking about?

LUCY

He doesn't know the game --

MATT

-- The game?

Lucy waits.

The flashing suddenly stops.

The LIGHT SCRATCHING sound from above.

Emily's ceiling lowers.

12 FEET HIGH.

LUCY

Just step on his symbol.

Emily looks at Lucy.

LUCY

You have kids?

Emily nods.

LUCY

I have a one year old son. His name  
is Lucas.

Emily tears up. She wipes her eyes.

LUCY  
I'd like to see him again...

Lucy chokes up.

LUCY  
I really would like to see him again.

MATT  
Wow, wow, wow. I have no idea what  
you're talking about but it sounds  
like someones gonna die, right?

He waits. No response tells him everything.

MATT  
And you pick that person?

Lucy stares at him, slowly nodding.

Matt looks at Lucy.

MATT  
You got kids, congrats, like billions  
of other people. I don't have kids  
alright but I can't help that right  
now, I'm still young... Shit, I was a  
kid not that long ago, alright?

LUCY  
It's not the same.

VINCENT  
I'll go.

They look to Vincent.

He shrugs.

VINCENT  
It's fine.

Emily shakes her head.

VINCENT  
I never had kids... My wife died 20  
years ago... I live alone...

MATT  
Is this reverse psychology?

Vincent smirks.



VINCENT

No, son.

The LIGHT HUM. The symbols light up.

He looks at Emily.

VINCENT

Please, don't make a fuss over an old  
bugger like me.

Emily and Vincent exchange looks. He gives her a subtle nod.

Emily steps out onto --

I

The symbol turns red.

Emily's ceiling rises back up.

14 FEET HIGH.

Vincent's ceiling rumbles.

It begins to slowly lower.

MATT

What the fuck.

Vincent looks at Emily.

VINCENT

Don't feel bad about this.

Then to Lucy.

VINCENT

I hope you see your son again.

To Matt.

VINCENT

Get off the drugs.

He closes his eyes. Sits in peace.

Emily and Lucy look away. Matt looks around confused. He  
stares at Vincent's lowering ceiling.

6 FEET HIGH.

He knows what is happening.

He turns away.

All three of them close their eyes as it slowly lowers onto Vincent, crushing him to death.

The walls vibrate. His ceiling rises back up revealing his crushed body.

Matt screams.

MATT

What the fuck! What the f--

The windows disappear.

The concrete walls reappear.

Another light above her door turns to yellow --



Emily sits silently.

A sliding sound...

From beneath the door, another CHOCOLATE BAR slides across the ground, stopping in front of her.

She shakes her head. Grabbing the bar and throwing it at the door. It SMASHES against it.

She opens her mouth and yells --

*FUCK YOU!*

Anger in her eyes. If only the words could be heard.

She runs at the door and SLAMS against it.

BANG. BANG. BANG.

*Fuck you. Fuck you. Fuck you!*

She breathes heavily. Out of the breathe.

She begins to cough.

Bends over.

Sweat drips down her forehead.

A RINGTONE softly plays.

She listens.

It's definitely a ringtone.

Her eyes widen.

She drops to the floor like a bag of rocks.

Looks under --

The phone screen LIGHTS UP.

She shoves her wrist through the gap.

Fingertips brushing the phone.

The RINGTONE continues.

She touches it slightly.

*Come on!*

She pushes her hand further out. Skin starts to cut on the door.

Her fingers wrap around the top of the phone. She pulls back. Arm stretches. Wrist looks like it might dislocate.

She winces.

Pulls.

Blood drips from her hand. She stumbles backwards as her hand gets free. She has the phone. She turns it and looks at the screen.

ALARM - SCHOOL PICK UP BENNY

She gazes at the screen. Eyes glaze over.

She stops the alarm.

The LOW HUM.

VIBRATION.

She places the phone in her pocket.

The three symbols glow.

The walls turn to windows.

Lucy and Matt remain.

Vincent has been replaced by SARAH (50). She lies on her back, staring up.

Matt rushes to the window.

MATT

You guys must know what is going on?

Sarah turns, seeing everyone.

SARAH

Hello?!

Softly spoken, Sarah sits up.

LUCY

We don't.

MATT

Why is this chick choosing who dies?

Sarah stares at them dumbfounded. Emily shakes her head vehemently, speaking --

*I don't know! I don't!*

MATT

The fuck, communicate!

Emily thinks. She quickly reaches into her pocket and pulls out the phone.

LUCY

You have a phone?

Emily quickly opens up a blank notes document and begins to type.

Matt pulls a phone out of his pocket.

MATT

I got mine as well but it's fucked.

He turns it round.

MATT

Had a dead battery when I headed out with it before I woke up here.

Emily finishes typing. She holds the phone up to the window towards Matt.

MATT

(reading)

I can't speak. I don't know why... I  
don't know why we are here... I'm  
sorry...

SARAH

What is going on --

LUCY

-- Shh!

Sarah retreats, her eyes darting around nervously.

LUCY

Did you try calling someone?

Emily shoots Lucy a dumb look.

LUCY

Okay, just checking.

MATT

Those lights changed again.

They look towards the lights above Emily's door.

LUCY

How many times have you done this?

She looks at Emily.

Emily raises two fingers.

LUCY

Your light changes every time you do  
one.

MATT

So eight lights, you gotta do eight  
of these choices.

The LIGHT HUM.

The three symbols light up.

Emily doesn't move.

MATT

Hey! Don't do anything... You've got  
time... We've got time to talk...  
Don't decide yet!

LUCY  
Let's talk about this.

The flashing stops.

The LIGHT SCRATCHING sound from above.

Emily's ceiling lowers.

12 FEET HIGH.

SARAH  
I'm sorry... Excuse me?

Sarah raises her hand, getting the others attention.

SARAH  
Sorry, I just... Can someone explain  
what is happening?

LUCY  
Are we going to have to do this every  
time?

MATT  
I can think of a way you won't have  
to.

Lucy narrows her eyes. Matt turns to Sarah.

MATT  
Look, I'm seeing eight lights. Every  
time this lady makes a decision, a  
light changes color... Two lights for  
two decisions, yeah?

He stops and looks around.

LUCY  
How do you even know that?

MATT  
I don't, it just seems like that's  
the obvious explanation.

LUCY  
Nothing is obvious about this.

MATT  
I'm just going by the information we  
have.

The HUM. Vibration. The symbols light up.

Matt looks at Emily. He notices her eyes looking at the symbols.

He holds his hands up.

MATT  
Let me finish, please.

Emily looks at him and nods.

MATT  
Thank you... So, you gotta make eight decisions and then we can get out of here.

LUCY  
Get out of here?

Matt shrugs.

LUCY  
You can't trust whoever is doing this. Why the fuck would they put is in here and then after eight plays they're just like 'alright, thanks for playing guys, no hard feelings'.

Matt sighs. He sees what she's saying.

The symbols stop flashing.

Emily's ceiling lowers.

10 FEET HIGH.

MATT  
I'm just thinking out loud.

Emily types out on her phone. Shows it to Matt again.

MATT  
(reading)  
I don't know what to do?

A beat.

SARAH  
What is the decision she has to make?

Lucy turns to Sarah and quickly --

LUCY  
She has to pick one of us to die.  
Okay?

Sarah covers her mouth with her hand. She trembles.

SARAH

Oh my days.

She looks at Emily.

SARAH

Please... Don't... Please not me.

Emily looks at the three of them. They all stare back, nervously.

The HUM. Vibration. The symbols light up.

Emily looks at them. Her mind ticks over.

SARAH

Please... Give me a chance...

Emily takes a step towards Matt's symbol -- II

He leaps forward.

MATT

My mum is dying!

Emily stops, foot hovering over the symbol. She looks back at him.

A long beat.

The symbols stop flashing.

Emily's ceiling lowers.

8 FEET HIGH.

LUCY

Bullshit.

MATT

Cancer.

Matt turns shaking his head.

MATT

I didn't want to say, but you know?

LUCY

I'm sorry about your mum but it's not really... Like, that's not really relevant.



MATT

Oh yeah?

LUCY

I have a daughter who is about to  
turn two --

MATT

-- Hold on.

Lucy stops. Emily looks at her suspiciously. She tries to  
hide a look of guilt.

MATT

You said you had a son before.

Lucy, quick to cover --

LUCY

Yeah, I have two kids.

MATT

Why didn't you say that last time?

LUCY

Because this is a high fucking  
stressful situation, okay?

SARAH

I have three kids.

Lucy rolls her eyes.

MATT

What's your sons name?

LUCY

What?

MATT

Tell us your sons name.

LUCY

I already have.

MATT

Say it again.

Lucy shakes her head.

LUCY

I'm not playing you're fucking game.

MATT

Just say it.

Lucy looks at Emily desperately. Emily doesn't look sympathetic. She nods to Lucy, expecting an answer.

LUCY

You don't believe me? You think I'd lie about my fucking kids?

The HUM and vibration. The symbols light up.

Emily looks at them nervously.

MATT

Yes, I think you would.

The symbols continue to flash.

LUCY

Fine.

A beat. Lucy looks down, really thinking.

Emily wants to make a decision.

Lucy looks up.

LUCY

Lewis.

MATT

Wrong!

Matt turns to Emily.

MATT

She said Lucas last time. She fucking lied.

Lucy looks desperately at Emily. She walks forward.

LUCY

Please... Okay, I don't have a kid.

Emily shakes her head.

She mouths --

*I'm sorry.*

LUCY

No wait! I have money.

MATT

Oh my god.

Emily steps forward.

LUCY

No!

And places her feet down onto the symbol --

### III

Lucy screams.

She bangs on the window.

LUCY

You fucking bitch!

Emily backs away, scared.

MATT

Hey! Don't call her that!

The symbol turns red.

Lucy turns and looks up.

Her ceiling vibrates and begins to move down.

SARAH

Oh my god.

Sarah stares in shock.

LUCY

You've fucking killed me.

She sobs.

LUCY

You've actually killed me.

She rushes to the door and SLAMS her body against it.

Again.

And again.

Emily and Matt look away.

The ceiling just above Lucy's head. She crouches. Pushing her body feebly into the door.

She collapses to the ground and cries loudly, watching as the ceiling closes in on her...

Until it reaches her...

Crushing her...

Silence.

The ceiling begins to rise.

Matt turns to Sarah.

MATT

Don't look!

But she does.

Sarah looks across the mess of blood and guts.

SARAH

OH MY GOD!

She begins to cry, SCREAMING loudly.

Matt and Emily sit in silence.

The windows suddenly disappear, replaced by concrete.



And just like that, another CHOCOLATE BAR slides under the door, resting at Emily's feet.

Her vacant stare rests of the packet.

She reaches out and grabs it.

Turns it over, eyes scanning the writing on the back.

Her gaze settles on one sentence:

**CONTAINS PEANUTS.**

She thinks, slowly opening the packet and gazing at the dark brown bar. Turns it in her hand.

She sighs, placing it down.

She opens the photos on the phone.

She swipes through a SERIES OF PHOTOS --

- Emily with her son, BENNY (5) in her arms, laughing wildly.

- Benny blowing candles out on a birthday cake surrounded by friends.

- Emily, Benny and her husband DAVID (35) at the park together.

Her eyes fill with tears. She chokes up.

A LOW BATTERY notification appears on screen.

The HUM and VIBRATION happen.

The three symbols glow.

Emily turns the phone off and places it in her pocket.

The windows appear.

RYAN (50), covered in faded tattoos, paces his room. He turns and looks at everyone. Doesn't speak.

Matt leans against the wall, biting his nails.

Sarah sobs in the corner of her room.

MATT

Hey.

They look up. He's directed it to Emily.

MATT

I got you, okay?

A beat.

MATT

This shit is fucked up. I understand what you're going through. You gotta do what you gotta do --

BANG!

They turn. Ryan SLAMS his hand on the window. His eyes full of fury and confusion.

Matt gets up.

He SLAMS his hand again, almost demanding answers.

MATT  
You can't speak either?

Ryan begins to sign with his hands.

MATT  
Bro, what are you doing?

SARAH  
He's signing.

Sarah sits up, alert.

SARAH  
My daughter is deaf.

Sarah signs back.

They do a short exchange.

MATT  
Tell him we don't know what is going on.

SARAH  
He says they wheeled him into the room... They thought he was asleep but he wasn't.

Matt and Emily stand to attention.

LIGHT HUM.

The three symbols light up.

Emily doesn't move. She wants to hear from Ryan.

SARAH  
He's saying he saw more people in wheelchairs... They looked asleep... They passed all these doors...

The flashing stops.

LIGHT SCRATCHING.

Ryan stops signing. He looks up at Emily's ceiling, which begins to lower. It stops.

12 FEET HIGH.

He looks down at Emily. A look of horror in his eyes. She nods at him to continue.

He turns back to Sarah and continues to sign.

SARAH  
Door after door... It could be  
hundreds... It stretched all the way  
into the darkness.

MATT  
Did he see who was pushing him?

Sarah signs.

Ryan shakes his head, responding.

SARAH  
No.

He continues to sign.

SARAH  
Just that they were wearing masks  
across their faces.

Matt looks away, shaking his head. He looks at Emily's floor  
and notices the chocolate bar.

MATT  
Where'd you get that.

Emily mouths --

*They give it to me after every time.*

MATT  
I don't know what you're saying.

Emily moves to the door she points to the bottom and motions  
it sliding through.

MATT  
They're giving you chocolate?

Emily nods. She points to the ceiling and mimics it  
lowering.

MATT  
After every decision?

She nods again.

MATT  
Like it's some kind of reward. Like  
when an animal does a trick.

Emily just stares at him. How does she react to that?

The LIGHT HUM.

The three symbols light up.

Emily looks down at them.

She quickly grabs the phone and types out on the notepad.  
She walks over and shows it to Sarah.

SARAH  
Is there anything else you  
remember...

She turns and signs to Ryan.

He signs back.

SARAH  
He says maybe, it's a little blurry  
at the moment.

The symbols stop flashing.

Emily's ceiling lowers.

10 FEET HIGH.

MATT  
Don't rush to any decision here.

Emily looks at Matt.

SARAH  
I think we should try and keep this  
man... What's your name?

He signs.

SARAH  
Ryan. We should try and keep Ryan  
around. He might remember some  
information that might help...

MATT  
I might remember some as well.

They look at him. He shrugs.

MATT  
You never know...



Emily types out on the phone again and walks over, reluctantly placing the screen next to the glass. He leans in.

MATT

*I'm sorry... What... Why are you --*

His eyes light up.

MATT

No... No... Come on, I just said I've got you!

The HUM sounds again.

The symbols radiate.

Emily blinks hard. Her eyes wet. She mouths to Matt --

*Sorry.*

*I have to.*

MATT

No! Fuck! Just wait! I think I remember something!

Emily walks to the middle of the room.

MATT

Yeah, I think I remember how we got here!

She looks back at Matt. She can see the desperation in his eyes.

MATT

Please... My mum...

Emily pulls back tears. She shakes her head, unable to look at Matt.

MATT

I want to see my mum again...

Closes her eyes. Trying to ignore his pleading.

MATT

Don't!

She steps out onto --

# II

MATT

No! Fuck!

His ceiling slowly lowers.

He slams on the glass.

MATT

Make it stop!

Emily looks away. She walks to the other side of the room and puts her hands over her ears. The sound drowns out.

All we hear is MUFFLED SCREAMS.

A flurry of movement behind her.

She focuses on staying as calm as she can.

The muffled sounds grow louder.

She clenches her eyes shut.

Tight.

Squeezing.

Transporting herself to a different moment in time.

And then --

Silence.

She opens her eyes.

The windows are gone.



She exhales. Her lips tremble.

She stares down at the chocolate bar on the floor.

Looks at the door.

Back to the bar.

Snatches it up.

Shoves it into her mouth.

Quickly chews and swallows.

She stares at the door.

Her breathing suddenly stutters.

A slight choke.

She struggles to swallow. Eyes water. Her face begins to tighten. Her expression contorting.

She clutches at her throat. Panic flashes across her face.

She crawls over to the door and BANGS on it.

*Help.*

*Help me.*

Her breathing becomes labored.

Then more rapid and shallow.

Her hand shakes violently as she falls to the ground, reaching out for the door and mustering one last feeble hit.

Vision begins to blur.

The darkness creeps in.

The last thing she sees is a shadow appearing at the foot of her door as we...

CUT TO

**INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY**

Fluorescent light shines from above.

Eyelids flutter.

Slowly open.

Emily lies in a hospital bed.

She groggily looks around.

Strains to get up but something stops her. She looks down at her wrist -- a handcuff around it, securing her to the bed frame.

The door in front of her swings open and a PERSON walks in. Dressed in hospital scrubs and face covered with a mask. Their eyes stay wide, unblinking as they approach the bed.

Emily stares at them as they check her levels on the machine next to her.

Emily mouths --

*Hello?*

The person turns and looks at Emily. Her eyes are intense. They cut straight through her.

*Where am I?*

She pulls on the restraint.

The person turns and exits the room.

Emily observes her surroundings. Looking for something, anything. It just looks like a normal hospital room.

The door opens again.

The person walks back in with a tray of food.

They pull a chair up next to Emily and sit down.

Emily looks down at the food. A clear SOUP and a cup of WATER.

She looks back at the person, confused.

The person swiftly grabs a spoon and scoops up some soup. They bring it towards Emily's mouth.

She doesn't open it.

The person just stares at her, holding the spoon steady, just touching Emily's lips.

Emily shakes her head.

The person pushes it between her lips. Soup leaks down Emily's chin. Nothing going in her mouth.

Undeterred, the person goes back to the bowl and scoops some more. They raise the spoon to Emily's mouth. She again refuses.

They push it it, forcing the spoon between her lips.

Emily pulls away, opening her mouth --

*Fuck off!*

The person scoops more, bringing it to Emily's mouth.  
Pushing it in. Emily shakes her head.

This time she gets a glimpse of something around the persons  
neck --

A SMALL KEY.

The person places the spoon down and grabs the cup of water.

They present it to Emily who reluctantly accepts.

The person pours the water into her mouth. Emily swallows.

They place the cup down and look at Emily.

Emily nods, motioning to the soup.

The person grabs the spoon and scoops more up.

They lean in, placing the spoon into Emily's mouth.

As they get closer, Emily LUNGES forward.

She BITES the persons NECK --

CLAMPING DOWN. Grabbing a good chunk of skin.

The person flails, barely putting up a fight as Emily hangs  
on like an aggressive dog.

Blood leaks around Emily's lips.

She's not letting go.

The person stumbles, head hitting the bed frame. Emily moves  
her wrist down the frame and grabs the key from around their  
neck.

She yanks it off. The person falls to the ground, clutching  
their neck.

But not making a single sound.

Emily leans forward so her head is near her wrist. She  
places the key in between her teeth.

Carefully, she maneuvers the key into the handcuffs.

Turns it.

They unlock.

She pulls her wrist out then unlocks the other.

Free.

She gets up from the bed and looks down at the person on the floor.

She bends down and reaches out for the mask.

Clutches it.

Pulls it off.

Her eyes widen --

Under the mask is a semi-deformed face. Mouth STITCHED together. No nose.

Emily drops the mask in shock. She backs up.

She sees a KEYCARD lying next to the persons body. She grabs it.

Realizing she can't waste time, she turns and approaches the door.

She pushes it open and peeks out into a

#### **HALLWAY**

Metal walls and flooring, very different to the hospital room she was just in.

She steps out and slowly creeps along.

She rounds a corner and stops. She's at the end already. A single door in front of her.

She approaches and pushes it open revealing --

DARKNESS.

Just. She squints, the tiniest RED LIGHT shines through.

She hesitates. Takes a moment. Then steps out into the

#### **OPEN ROOM**

She treads forward. Quietly.

Her cautious steps continue as she walks further away from the door, deeper into the darkness. The light behind her slowly disappears.

VOICE (O.S.)

Help me!

She halts and turns quickly. Lips trembling. Still.

VOICE (O.S.)

Hello?!

She doesn't move. She holds her breath. Waiting for the next sound.

VOICE 2 (O.S)

Please!

It's another voice. Very faint, front another direction. She angles her head slightly, her ear towards the second voice.

VOICE 2 (O.S.)

Please, is someone there?

It goes silent again. Her hands tremble. She forces her foot forward and continues walking.

She is lost in a field of darkness now. The only thing guiding her is the faint RED LIGHT that grows more prominent the closer she gets.

A SCREAM echoes out in the distance. Very faint.

She stops again, jerking her head towards it.

Quiet SOBBING comes from behind her.

She turns around quickly but is only met by blackness.

She turns in circles, confused.

She looks back to the red light and continues on.

Her breathing slow and calculated. Trying to stay calm and composed.

The occasional WHIMPER can be heard from what sounds like a distant place.

She doesn't stop.

The light grows stronger.

And stronger.

Until, she can touch it.

It's a small red BULB sitting to the side of a door.

Emily tries to push it open but it's locked.

She leans in closer and notices a small PAD next to the red light.

She reaches into her pocket and pulls out the KEYCARD.

She places it on the PAD.

The red light turns GREEN.

She pushes the door open, entering another

### **HALLWAY**

Made completely of metal. Cold and uninviting. A gentle BUZZ of florescent lights from above.

She walks forward, arriving at the first door. She slowly turns the handle and pushes it open entering the

### **CAMERA ROOM**

As soon as she closes the door behind her, she stalls.

Lined in front of her are HUNDREDS of TINY SCREENS against a wall.

She approaches them, getting a closer look.

Each screen shows a video feed featuring near identical video.

PEOPLE IN A ROOM.

Her eyes dart across the them, taking it all in. She looks shocked. Horrified.

CAMERA 32 -- A man RAMS his head into the wall, knocking himself out.

CAMERA 53 -- A ceiling lowers down on a woman, crushing her.

CAMERA 103 -- A man sits in the corner of his room crying.

CAMERA 140 -- Empty.

Suddenly her room turns RED.



She looks up. A small light in the corner flashes.

She listens out.

A RUMBLE.

FOOTSTEPS can be heard from outside the room.

Emily quickly looks around. She sees a spot behind one of the monitors to hide.

She stealthy covers herself just as the door opens.

Two MASKED PEOPLE step in. They look around for a second before turning and exiting.

### **HALLWAY**

Emily creeps down the hallway. It's eerily silent.

She reaches a corner and peeks around.

PEOPLE hurry through doorways at the end.

No one comes towards her. She steps out, carefully not making a sound.

She approaches a doorway and SCANS the card entering the

### **CHAMBER ROOM**

A dark space. Immense. The space is illuminated by faint green lights flickering from pods scattered throughout.

Emily cautiously steps deeper into the room, approaching one of the PODS.

The shape of them becomes clear --

Cocoon-like.

She stops at the foot of one and looks down.

Inside is a luminous green liquid. Floating in the middle, a HUMAN BODY. Fully clothed. Eyes closed. Peacefully asleep.

The light shines up onto Emily's face, shadows dance across her skin.

She stares at the figure then looks up.

The pods stretch for what seems like miles.

Suddenly, a CREAK.

She ducks down as LIGHT filters in through the open door.

A PERSON enters, looking around. Like everyone else, they're dressed in hospital scrubs and a mask.

They walk through the pods. Through the darkness.

Emily stays low, listening out to their footsteps.

They pass her.

She turns and watches the person.

She follows.

Approaching behind them.

And without hesitation, she POUNCES.

She jumps on their back, wrapping her arm around their neck and putting them in a headlock.

They fall to the ground.

The person struggles but Emily holds firm.

The persons blank eyes begin to close as they pass out.

Emily slowly releases. She looks down at the person on the floor. Unmoving.

## **HALLWAY**

Emily strides down the hallway. Now dressed in the hospital scrubs. A mask across her face. She keeps her eyes wide.

She passes a pair of other PEOPLE, bustling the other way.

Emily reaches an intersection. She looks around. Both ways lead on and on.

She quickly turns right.

Someone ahead approaches. She slows down, maintaining a brisk pace.

She keeps her head down as they pass.

VOICE (O.S.)

Name?

A deep muffled male voice from behind her.

Emily halts. She slowly faces the masked PERSON.

PERSON

Name?

Emily stares into the persons wide eyes.

A long beat.

The person steps forward, closer to her.

PERSON

Name?

Seconds drag. Emily sweats. The person edges even closer.

Emily quickly turns and RUNS.

The person chases.

Emily rounds a corner. More PEOPLE exit rooms around her, joining the pursuit.

Soon there are a DOZEN MASKED PEOPLE behind.

Emily turns another corner. She spots a DOOR with LIGHT coming from a small WINDOW in the middle of it.

*Escape.*

She stretches her legs. Almost gliding through the air towards it. Too fast for those behind her.

She stumbles as she gets to the door.

Grabs the handle.

Looks out the window and --

STOPS.

Her face drops. All hope drains from her eyes.

She stares out into the light, emotionless and unresponsive.

The people behind her slow, surrounding her.

One of them approaches and swiftly places a needle into her neck, injected something.

Emily's eyes begin to droop.

But they don't waiver. They still stare out.

Out the window.

Where she looks out to the vast expanse of space.

In the middle of it all, an orb of blue and green hangs in the distance -- EARTH.

She falls backwards as her eyes close. Everything goes

**BLACK**

The sounds of birds chirping.

People chattering in the distance.

A giggle.

Then a child's voice -

CHILD'S VOICE (V.O.)  
I love you, Mummy.

**INT. THE ROOM - DAY**

FLICKERING of light from above.

TWITCHING of a finger.

A SHOOTING EXHALE from the mouth.

Emily's eyes OPEN. Pupils constrict. They stare up at the ceiling.

She's back.

No.

She quickly sits up and looks around.

Exactly as she left it.

No.

No.

No.

She shakes her head, pulling back tears.

She crawls to the door, places her head against the gap at the bottom. Opens her mouth and

*SCREAMS.*

We can't hear it but we can feel it... A desperate scream... A sad, pleading scream... An angry scream...

Her face turns red as she pulls away, breathless.

The room HUMS lightly.

VIBRATES.

The three symbols on her floor begin to glow.

She turns and looks at them just as the walls are replaced by windows.

Sarah and Ryan sit in their respective rooms.

Emily's eyes shifts to the third room where we see the back of a person, leaning against the glass.

Emily frowns for a moment before suddenly jumping up. She rushes to the glass and SLAMS her hand on it.

The person turns, revealing a woman, RUBY (65).

As soon as Ruby lays eyes on Emily she begins to freak out.

RUBY

Emily?!

She bangs on the glass.

RUBY

Emily! Are you okay?

Emily cries. Holding her hand up to the glass.

Sarah and Ryan watch.

RUBY

Are you okay?!

Emily shakes her head.

RUBY

What is happening?!

Emily motions to her mouth and shakes her head.

RUBY  
You can't speak?

No.

RUBY  
What has happened?

*I don't know.*

SARAH  
Excuse me, sorry, do you know each other?

Ruby looks at Sarah.

RUBY  
I'm her mother.

Sarah looks shocked. She exchanges worried looks with Ryan.

RUBY  
Emily, what is that?

Emily turns and looks at her three symbols lighting up.

She looks back at her mum, quickly pulling the phone out of her pocket.

She types.

As she does, the symbols cease flashing.

Her ceiling lowers.

12 FEET HIGH.

RUBY  
Emily, I need to know what is happening? Have you done something? Where are David and Benny?

Emily finishes typing and shows the phone to Ruby.

Her eyes scroll the text before looking at Emily, shocked.

RUBY  
Are you serious?

Emily nods. Typing more out on the phone.

She shows Ruby the next message.

RUBY  
We're not on earth?!

SARAH  
What?!

Sarah quickly steps forward. Ryan looks around confused.  
Sarah turns to him and signs. He immediately rises.

RUBY  
She says she got out of the room...  
That she saw human bodies in these  
pods... And that she tried to  
escape...

SARAH  
Escape?!

RUBY  
She saw out of a window... She saw  
earth...

Emily quickly types out again. Turns the phone to Ruby.

RUBY  
We're in space.

Emily lowers the phone.

Ruby, Sarah and Ryan all exchange glances.

The HUM sounds out through the room. The symbols light up  
again.

RUBY  
Emily, I'm confused.

Emily gives her mother a look. A look of sadness. Her eyes,  
red and exhausted.

SARAH  
What do you think you'll do?

Emily looks at Sarah.

SARAH  
It's an awful thing for you to do. I  
know you won't pick your mum... And  
I'm not... I mean, I'm not going to  
try and convince you what to do, that  
wouldn't be fair... I'm just going to  
be quiet now...

She turns and walks to the corner sitting down. She shoots a sympathetic look at Ryan. Ryan gives one back.

The symbols stop flashing.

Emily's ceiling lowers.

10 FEET HIGH.

RUBY

Emily, so you have to pick one of these people?

Emily nods.

RUBY

Who would do this?! Who would... *Why* would anyone do such a horrible thing!

Emily stares at her mother. Ruby can sense that she needs comforting. She gets closer to the glass and speaks quietly --

RUBY

You okay, my love?

Tears fall down Emily's cheeks.

HUM.

Symbols light up.

RUBY

It's okay. Whatever decision you make, everyone understands.

Emily touches the glass. Ruby touches it back.

No one moves.

Emily looks at her mother.

For a long moment.

The symbols go dark again.

Her ceiling lowers.

8 FEET HIGH.

SARAH

It's okay.



They look at Sarah.

She signs something to Ryan.

He smirks and nods.

SARAH  
We're going to do rock, paper,  
scissors.

Ryan signs to Sarah. She laughs.

SARAH  
Yeah, that's right. Loser dies.

A sick sense of humor.

Sarah and Ryan hold out the hands.

SARAH  
Best out of 3.

They play.

Sarah goes rock. Ryan goes paper.

Again.

Sarah goes rock. Ryan goes scissors.

1 - 1

Emily watches intensely as they play one final time.

Sarah goes rock. Ryan goes scissors.

Ryan hangs his head. Sarah wipes tears from her eyes.

The symbols begin to flash.

Ryan looks at Emily, nods and smiles.

Emily rises and walks over to the symbols.

She steps out onto

### III

Ryan's ceiling starts to lower.

He turns to Sarah and quickly begins to sign.

Sarah nods, crying.

SARAH  
Yes... Yes, of course.

She signs back before quickly looking away just as the ceiling descends onto him.

His body collapses into a heap as he is crushed into the concrete.

Ruby SCREAMS.

Emily looks up at her mother and touches the glass.

*Mum!*

Ryan's ceiling rises back up. His body crushed into the concrete.

RUBY  
Emily... Emily... Emil--

*Mum!*

The glass where Emily's fingers touch disappears.

She drops her hand.

Looks at the lights above her door.



We hear a sliding sound as a chocolate bar slides under the door.

Emily looks down at the bar. She walks over and picks it up.

Turns it round.

**CONTAINS NO PEANUTS.**

Emily can't help but smirk.

She drop kicks the bar against the door.

She turns, pulling out the phone.

The battery symbol FLASHES low.

The HUMMING sounds as the windows reappear.

Room I -- Sarah.

Room II -- Ruby.

Room III --

A man, tall and well built. DAVID (35).

He looks up. His eyes connect with Emily's. They immediately run to each other, SLAMMING against the glass.

DAVID

Emily!

RUBY

David?!

David turns and sees Ruby. He looks back at Emily.

DAVID

What...

Emily shakes her head.

DAVID

What is happening? I got your message about visiting your mum and then I just blacked out.

Emily pulls the phone out and types.

RUBY

We don't know what is happening.

Emily places it the window.

DAVID

*Where is Benny?*

David looks at Emily, on the verge of tears.

DAVID

I... I don't know.

Emily bangs the window in frustration.

RUBY

He'll be okay. Whatever is happening, he'll be okay!

Emily looks at Ruby.

*You don't know that!*

Ruby can read her lips. She approaches the glass.

RUBY  
Trust me, Emily. He'll be okay! We  
just need to figure out what to do.

David looks across Emily's room and spots Sarah sitting quietly.

She gives him a polite smile and a small wave.

David looks at Emily and Ruby confused.

The HUM.

Symbols light up.

SARAH  
Look, I know what is going to happen.

They look at her.

SARAH  
You have your mum here, now I guess  
you know this man... Your husband?

A beat. She waits, but doesn't need a response.

SARAH  
You're obviously just going to pick  
me.

The glowing of the symbols slows.

SARAH  
So just get on with it.

Emily doesn't move. Still registering everything. Thinking about her child.

The symbols go dark again.

Her ceiling lowers.

12 FEET HIGH.

DAVID  
Babe, what was that?

Emily sighs, looking down.

SARAH  
She has to pick who lives and who  
dies. She's got three more picks  
before she's done...

David frowns.

DAVID  
I...

SARAH  
I know --

RUBY  
-- David, are you okay? --

DAVID  
-- I'm okay, Ruby, thank you...  
Emily, how long have you been doing  
this.

Emily points to the lights.

DAVID  
5 times?

She nods.

DAVID  
Fuck.

He turns, angry.

DAVID  
What the fuck!

He walks over to his door and kicks it hard. It SHAKES.

The HUM vibrates through the room.

Symbols light up.

SARAH  
What are you waiting for?

Emily looks at her.

*I'm sorry.*

Sarah nods slowly, accepting.

Emily walks to the symbols.

RUBY

What did that man say to you before  
he died?

Emily stops right in front of Sarah's symbol.

SARAH

He told me that when I get out, I  
should find his daughter and  
apologize to her.

RUBY

Apologize for what?

SARAH

He didn't say.

She looks at Emily.

SARAH

When you get out, could you do that?  
His name was Ryan Littleton. He's  
from Winthrop is Washington.

Emily nods at Sarah.

Sarah smiles.

Emily steps out onto --

I

It turns red.

Emily steps off.

Sarah's ceiling begins to lower.

She begins to cry.

SARAH

And tell my kids that I love them and  
that I'm okay, you'll do that right?

Emily nods.

SARAH

Turn around, you don't need to see  
this.

Emily turns to David, who looks horrified. She nods to him to turn around.

They all do.

Sarah lays on the floor, face first. She covers her ears and clenches her eyes shut.

Emily does the same, blocking out all senses.

A MUFFLED SCREAM is all she hears before the room goes silent.

RUBY  
(muffled)  
Just two more, Emily... Emily?

Emily keeps his eyes shut.

RUBY  
(muffled)  
Emily?!

She blocks out all the noise.

RUBY  
(muffled)  
Emily!

The windows disappear.



Emily hangs her head.

Her ceiling rises, resuming the original position.

A chocolate bar slides under the door and hits her foot. She doesn't even register it.

She sighs, deeply inhaling.

Quiet FOOTSTEPS sound.

She looks up.

Listening out.

They grow closer.

She quickly crawls to the door and looks under. Squinting her eyes, she tries to see.

A SILHOUETTE appears, close by.

Emily goes to talk --

*Hello!?*

She stretches her hand out of the door, waving it.

*Hello?!*

She pulls the phone from her pocket and turns the torch on.  
She begins to FLASH IT on and off.

The figure STOPS.

It walks towards her door and stops.

Emily's arm still outstretched. Hand open.

Its shadow stands over her hand.

Suddenly, it bends down.

Emily's eyes widen as a FINGER touches her palm and begins  
to gently rub it.

Her expression changes to confusion.

After a few moments, the figure pulls its finger away and  
turns away.

*No, wait!*

The figure begins to WHISTLE a cheerful tune as it  
disappears into the darkness.

*WAIT!*

And it's gone.

Emily SLAMS her hand on the door and closes her eyes.

The low hum and vibration sound...

The windows appear again...

As soon as they do --

BENNY

Mummy?

Her eyes shoot open just as we hear David and Ruby let out

DEAFENING SCREAMS.



She turns and sees her son, BENNY (5), sitting in the corner of his room. Arms wrapped around his knees. He stares at her calmly.

Emily sprints over to the window and falls into it.

She holds her hand up to it.

DAVID  
Benny, are you okay?

Benny nods.

DAVID  
Are you sure?

He nods again.

DAVID  
Fucking hell!

Emily shoots a look at him.

*Calm down.*

He looks away, hiding his stress.

Emily smiles at Benny.

The symbols suddenly LIGHT UP.

RUBY  
Emily...

Emily waves her away, keeping her eyes on Benny.

She waves him over.

BENNY  
What's wrong with mummy?

DAVID  
Nothing, buddy.

RUBY  
She's playing a game.

The symbols go dark.

Emily's ceiling lowers.

12 FEET HIGH.

Benny looks at her ceiling. He retreats back into himself.

DAVID  
It's okay. It's just part of the  
game.

RUBY  
(whispering)  
Emily, we need to work this out.

Emily looks at Ruby and nods. She looks back to Benny and waves him over again.

Benny slowly gets up and walks across the room. His little legs move lethargically.

He sits down next to the glass.

BENNY  
Is this a game?

Emily wipes her eyes and nods.

BENNY  
Can we stop playing?

Emily lowers her head for a moment, sucking back in the sadness. Inhaling deeply.

DAVID  
We'll stop playing soon mate.

The symbols light up again.

Benny looks past Emily and points at them.

DAVID  
Pretty cool?

Benny nods.

Ruby looks around impatiently. She turns to David.

RUBY  
David.

They stop flashing.

Emily's ceiling lowers.

10 FEET HIGH.

RUBY  
David.

David looks at Ruby.

RUBY  
We need to talk.

Emily lifts her hand, pressing it gently against the glass.

Benny mirrors her action, his tiny palm meeting hers from the other side.

As it does, Emily smiles and pulls a face, quickly shifting it to another spot on the glass away from his.

Benny laughs, his hand darting to meet hers.

The symbols begin to flash.

As they play --

Ruby and David watch them, conversing quietly.

RUBY  
It has to be me.

David sighs. He goes to speak but can't find the words.

RUBY  
It's clear.

DAVID  
Ruby...

RUBY  
What?

DAVID  
Emily will never do that?

The flashing stops.

RUBY  
What is the alternative?!

Emily's ceiling lowers another 2 feet.

8 FEET HIGH.

It's getting close.

David looks up at Emily's ceiling and gestures towards it.

RUBY  
No, don't be stupid.

DAVID  
She will --

RUBY

She can't!

Ruby turns to Emily --

RUBY

Emily!

Emily laughs with Benny. She turns around and looks at Ruby.

RUBY

Come here.

Emily looks at David and nods for him to go to Benny. She gets up and heads over to where Ruby is.

David walks to the other side of his glass, getting as close to Benny as he can.

DAVID

Hey, buddy... Can you tell me that story you learned at school the other day?

BENNY

I already did.

DAVID

But I want to hear it again!

The symbols flash again.

RUBY

Emily, what's the plan here?!

Emily looks at her ceiling.

RUBY

Okay, you're not bloody doing that okay?!

Emily shakes her head, eyes filling with tears. Ruby chokes them back as well.

RUBY

You're choosing me, okay?

Emily shakes her head vehemently.

No.

She tries to say.

The symbols stop flashing.

Emily's ceiling lowers again.

6 FEET HIGH.

It now sits just above her head.

RUBY

Emily! For gods sake, you are going  
to let your son watch you die? Don't  
be ridiculous.

Emily wipes her eyes. She pulls the phone out and types.  
Ruby impatiently waits.

Emily holds the phone up.

RUBY

*I can't.*

Ruby sighs.

RUBY

Emily. You were coming to visit me  
today, right?

Emily nods.

RUBY

I invited you over.

A beat.

RUBY

Do you know why?

Emily shrugs and shakes her head.

RUBY

I had something very important to  
tell you...

She pauses.

RUBY

And I'm going to tell you now and I  
don't want to talk about it any  
further because we don't have time,  
okay?

Emily looks at Ruby, nervously.

RUBY

Nod.

And nods.

RUBY  
The cancer is back.

Emily's chin shakes.

RUBY  
It's back and it's brutal and it's  
going to fucking kill me okay?

No.

Emily quickly types on the phone and shows Ruby.

RUBY  
I'm not lying. I swear to god. I  
swear to god I'm not... I swear on  
your fathers name I am not lying,  
okay?

Emily stares at her.

The symbols flash again.

Ruby looks at them.

RUBY  
You go and you pick me. You get  
through this last one and you go home  
with David and Benny.

Emily looks away, tears flowing down her cheeks.

RUBY  
Emily!

Emily is catatonic. She can't move. Overwhelmed by emotion.

The flashing stops.

RUBY  
Fucking hell, Emily!

The ceiling lowers again.

Emily ducks as it closes in on her.

She crouches down.

David looks over his shoulder while listening to Benny talk.

DAVID  
Emily, you have to!

RUBY  
Please, sweetheart.

A beat.

RUBY  
I'm going to get very sick... I'm  
going to die within the next six  
months... What's six months?

Emily still doesn't react. Her mind races.

RUBY  
Emily?

No reaction still.

RUBY  
Emily, are you hearing me?!

Nothing.

RUBY  
EMILY!

Ruby's voice echoes fiercely through the rooms. Emily jumps  
and looks up.

They stare at each other.

Ruby is serious.

RUBY  
You do this for your son!

The symbols begin to flash again.

Emily and Ruby stay staring at one another.

DAVID  
Emily, please!

Ruby nods to Emily.

Emily, still crouching, moves to the middle of the room.

She looks back at Ruby.

RUBY  
I love you.

Emily mouths --

*I love you, too.*

She sticks her foot out. It shakes.

She places it down onto --

## II

The symbol turns red.

The VIBRATION sounds from above Ruby.

Her ceiling begins to lower.

David distracts Benny away from Ruby's room.

Emily sits on the floor. She covers her ears and eyes with her hands and waits.

Ruby, strong and tenacious, calmly lays on the floor.

She closes her eyes and breathes in deeply.

Through the nose.

Out through the mouth.

She continues to breath as the ceiling closes in.

And with one last, long breath it crushes down on her.

She's gone.

The rooms are silent other than the CHUCKLING of Benny as David distracts him with games.

Ruby's ceiling rises back up, but Emily keeps her eyes away from it.

She pulls her hands from her ears.

Benny's laughter infiltrating her ears.

Silence overtakes it as the windows disappear.

Emily doesn't move. She's more alone than ever.

Her eyes look up at the lights.



*One more.*



Her ceiling slowly rises back up to the top.

She closes her eyes and inhales through her nose slowly.  
Trying to center herself.

A chocolate bar slides along the floor and stops next to her.

She ignores it.

She looks down at her hands. They shake. She turns them,  
looking at her skin.

A LOW HUM.

She gathers herself.

This is it.

A VIBRATION.

The windows appear.

She quickly looks straight to Benny's window. He sits in the corner again. David stands, walking towards the glass.

He looks across Emily's room, trying to get a look at who has replaced Ruby.

DAVID

What is that?

Emily turns and looks across into Room II

In the center of the sits a COT.

BENNY

Where's Grandma?

Fear etched across Emily's face as she approaches the window.

DAVID

She's just gone out for a bit, buddy.

*It can't be.*

*It is.*

A BABY.

Asleep in the cot.

Emily turns and looks at David. He can see the horror in her eyes. He knows immediately.

The color drains from his face as he turns away. He paces his room before leaning against the wall and sliding to the floor, completely defeated.

Emily stares down at the baby. She turns to her door and walks towards it.

She SLAMS her hand against it, opens her mouth and

*SCREAMS.*

*YOU FUCKING ASSHOLES!*

*WHAT THE FUCK IS WRONG WITH YOU?!*

She turns around to see Benny watching her closely. She quickly calms down.

DAVID

Emily, I don't know what to say.

Emily mouths --

*It's okay.*

She walks over to Benny and sits next to the window.

She knocks gently on it.

He knocks back.

She mouths --

*Hey...*

A beat.

*Hey...*

She touches her heart and points to him.

*I love you.*

Benny smiles.

The symbols light up.

David looks away. He thinks for a moment.

DAVID  
Would it be...

He takes a moment.

DAVID  
Would it be unreasonable to just  
consider...

He doesn't want to finish the sentence. He waits for Emily's response.

She pulls her phone out and types out a note.

The symbols stop flashing as Emily's ceiling lowers.

12 FEET HIGH.

She gets up and walks over to David's window and shows him.

He reads it then looks up to Benny.

DAVID  
Hey buddy, let's play a game. If you  
go to that corner there...

David points to the corner furthest away from them.

DAVID  
Close your eyes and count to 100,  
we'll show you something crazy! Okay?

Benny nods slowly.

DAVID  
Go!

He jumps to his feet and runs to the corner, closing his eyes tightly.

David turns to Emily.

DAVID  
Did you hear what I said?

Emily nods.

DAVID  
And?

She looks at him with a serious expression.

DAVID  
Now isn't the time to be sensitive  
about it. Let's at least talk about  
it.

The symbols light up.

DAVID  
This is happening quick.

A beat.

DAVID  
This is going to sound fucked up but  
we don't know who that baby is...  
This is the last choice you have to  
make...

Emily mouths --

No.

DAVID  
I don't want to push it because I  
know how it sounds...

He stops.

DAVID  
I'm going to listen to you on this  
one.

Emily nods.

DAVID  
So we forget about that?

She keeps nodding.

The symbols go dark.

Emily's ceiling lowers another 2 feet.

10 FEET HIGH.

DAVID  
So it's me or you?

Emily points to herself.

Me.

David shakes his head.

DAVID

No. It's me.

Emily shakes her head back.

Pushes her finger into her chest even harder.

*Me.*

DAVID

You... You have to live... He needs you.

Emily points at David.

*He needs you too!*

DAVID

Not in the same way! You know that...  
You can't fucking leave us like  
that...

David wipes away tears.

DAVID

It's not fucking fair...

A beat.

DAVID

You're his mother, okay. And he needs you... He needs you more than he needs me...

They both cry.

The symbols light up again.

DAVID

Do I need to tell you all the  
annoying fucking things about me?

A small smirk escapes Emily.

DAVID

The snoring... The terrible films I  
pick for us to watch... How I'm  
really vague explaining things and it  
drives you crazy...

Emily wipes her eyes.

*Stop.*

DAVID  
I can't let you sacrifice yourself.

A long beat.

The symbols stop flashing.

Emily's ceiling lowers.

8 FEET HIGH.

DAVID  
Please.

BENNY  
Boo!

They turn and see Benny standing by the window, grinning at them.

DAVID  
Oh, buddy!

Benny laughs.

DAVID  
We weren't ready! You're going to have to start again.

BENNY  
I'm bored. Can we stop?

DAVID  
We can stop soon, okay. Just, let's do it one more time.

Benny nods, pivoting and dragging his feet across the room.

He sits back down facing the wall and closes his eyes. He begins to count.

David looks back at Emily who mouths --

*I can't.*

David looks at her firmly.

The symbols begin to flash again.

DAVID  
I will hate you if you don't step on that symbol.

Emily sobs.

DAVID  
You know what I mean, right?

She nods.

DAVID  
You have to do it.

Emily turns and slowly steps forward and stops in front of them.

Stares down at them.

The light radiating from inside.

She looks back at David.

She smiles at him. He smiles back.

She places her foot down onto --

### III

She whimpers as the light turns red.

David's ceiling begins to lower.

She quickly turns to face David. He places his hand against the window. Emily rushes over and places hers opposite his.

DAVID  
Thank you.

Emily tries to speak --

*I'm sorry.*

*I'm sorry.*

DAVID  
I know... It's okay... Don't be...

They gaze into each others eyes as his ceiling descends.

10 FEET AWAY.

He kneels down. They keep their hands on the window.

Benny still looks the other way, counting quietly.

DAVID  
Do the things you've always wanted to  
do.

Emily nods, wiping her eyes.

8 FEET.

DAVID  
Be a bitch.

Emily sad laughs.

DAVID  
Don't take shit... I know you don't  
anyway.

6 FEET.

DAVID  
I love you so much.

Emily - *I love you too.*

4 FEET.

A flutter of fear fills David's eyes as he lies on the  
floor. His hand slips down the glass.

Emily chokes, she quickly turns away just as the ceiling  
pushes David into the concrete floor.

Emily sobs, trying to keep the sounds in.

She looks across and sees Benny still facing away and  
counting.

The windows disappear.

She slumps back, resting against the wall.

She glances to the lights above the door.

The last remaining one flickers and then --



She rests her head back, eyes exhausted.

And she waits.

Eyes shift to the bottom of the door.



No sign of a chocolate bar.

She slowly pulls herself up and stumbles to the door.

She pushes against it.

Still locked.

KNOCK.

KNOCK.

KNOCK.

Waits.

Nothing.

She sighs, getting onto the floor and looking out from the bottom of the door.

*Hello?!*

She stares out into the darkness.

Only silence.

Until a small sound is heard.

A LIGHT HUM.

Her eyes widen.

*No!*

The room slightly VIBRATES.

She pushes away from the door and turns.

The soft white light glows from the three symbols.

*NO!*

The walls disappear. Revealing --

Benny standing by the window, eyes red.

In the other room, the COT still sits in the middle. A BABY inside.

And now, in the third room, another COT. Another BABY.

Fury washes over Emily.

She turns back to the room.

*NO!!!!*

She BANGS against it.

Benny begins to sob.

BENNY

Mummy?

Emily hangs her head and turns, choking back the anger.

BENNY

Where's Daddy?!

The symbols light up.

Emily rushes over to the window and mouths --

*It's okay.*

She forces out a smile, pointing to the door in the room where David was.

*Outside.*

She pulls the phone out and quickly types:

*Play?*

She shows him. He shakes his head.

BENNY

Home.

The symbols go dark.

Emily's ceiling lowers.

12 FEET HIGH.

BENNY

Hungry.

Emily gives a reassuring look. She rubs her belly. Benny rubs his back.

She then rubs her head. He follows suit, smiling.

Then the knee. He copies.

The symbols flash again.

But Emily isn't moving.

She types out on the phone again.

*One more play?*

Benny stares at it.

BENNY

Then home?

Emily nods.

*Then home.*

The symbols go dark.

10 FEET HIGH.

BENNY

What game?

Emily points to the back corner of Benny's room and places her hands over her eyes.

BENNY

Again?

Emily nods.

BENNY

Then...

*Home.*

Benny gets up and turns around.

Emily KNOCKS on the glass quickly.

He turns back. She places her hand onto the glass. He waddles over and does the same.

She looks at his small palms...

The delicate lines crisscrossing the skin...

The symbols light up.

She keeps looking. Wanting one more moment.

Benny pulls away and runs to the other side of the room. He sits down and lowers his head, placing his hands over his eyes.

Tears roll down Emily's cheeks as she stares at the back of Benny's head before turning away.

She moves to the other side of the room and lays down.

She looks up at her ceiling as the symbols go dark.

It lowers.

8 FEET HIGH.

She pulls the phone out and inserts the headphones, placing them into her ears.

She scrolls through videos, stopping at one.

Plays it.

It's a video of Benny, even younger, smiling at the camera.

She places the phone down and closes her eyes.

The sound of his giggling consumes her.

She smiles.

6 FEET HIGH.

The giggling turns to laughing.

Hysterical laughing.

The happiest sound you can imagine.

4 FEET HIGH.

She keeps her eyes clenched shut.

Focusing on the joy infiltrating her hearing.

It grows louder...

Louder... LOUDER...

Then suddenly, it CUTS OUT --

She quickly looks down at the phone.

The battery dead.

Her breathing shakes.

2 FEET HIGH.

It's just above her head now.

This is it.

She closes her eyes again.

Braces for the impact.

Stillness.

It doesn't come.

She trembles. Skin cold.

A light SCRAPING sounds.

She slowly opens her eyes.

The ceiling rises.

Up and up.

She gazes at it, as it stops back at the top.

14 FEET HIGH.

The CREAK of a door behind her.

She doesn't move.

FOOTSTEPS.

A hand reaches out and touches her shoulder.

Followed by another that slowly inserts a NEEDLE into her neck. It injects liquid.

Emily's eyes grow weak.

They soon close as we

CUT TO:

### **BLACK**

With quick flashes of light.

A snapshot of visuals --

A WHEEL moving along the floor...

FLUORESCENT LIGHTS flicker above...

MASKED PEOPLE walking past us...

A familiar

### **HALLWAY**

as Emily is pushed in a wheelchair. Her eyes open. Barely.

A WIDE EYED PERSON, mouth covered with a mask, navigates her down the long stretch.

Emily blinks hard. She pulls her hands. They're tied down. She can't get away.

They approach a large STEEL DOOR.

**INT. THE DARK ROOM - DAY**

Empty. A cold energy.

The door slides open and Emily is pushed to the middle of the room.

The people turn and walk away, leaving her there alone.

She looks straight ahead, staring directly into a wall of BLACK ABYSS. Darkness that stretches an eternity.

She looks around at the bare walls and floor.

VOICE

Hello.

A DEEP, DRAWN OUT VOICE echoes from within the darkness.

Emily gazes towards it.

VOICE

Speak.

She opens her lips. Clears her throat.

EMILY

Hello?

She looks shocked when she hears her voice.

VOICE

Emily.

EMILY

Where is my son? Where is Benny?

VOICE

Your son is safe.

Emily hangs her head.

EMILY

Fuck.

She looks back up.



EMILY

What the fuck is happening? Where am I?

VOICE

It doesn't matter where you are.

EMILY

It does to me!

VOICE

You have been a worthy subject.

Emily calms her breathing.

EMILY

What do you mean? What is going on?

She narrows her eyes, confused.

EMILY

Who are you?

VOICE

I am the creator. I am the destroyer.

A beat.

VOICE

Your peoples existence hangs in the balance... A fine balance between life and death...

Emily's mouth sits agape.

VOICE

You were selected to make a series of decisions --

EMILY

-- Why? Why me?

VOICE

Your selection was of no thought or reason... You are not special, Emily. None of you are... But the planet you reside is...

A beat.

VOICE

I have become weak with empathy for your kind... You take advantage of the planet I have given you...

(MORE)

VOICE (cont'd)  
You take advantage of your own  
kind... These tests are designed to  
understand your true humanity... To  
testy your true humanity...

EMILY  
Humanity?! You make me fucking *kill*  
people... You make me FUCKING KILL MY  
HUSBAND! MY MUM!

Emily shakes, pulling at her restraints, but they hold firm.

VOICE  
You make choices everyday, no matter  
how inconsequential... These choices  
culminate in us understanding who you  
are as human beings... And now, I  
have given you the ultimate choice...

A beat.

VOICE  
Your decisions were admirable...

Emily shakes her head.

EMILY  
No.

VOICE  
You have shown that humanity can  
still exist even in those who are not  
special...

Emily looks around the room, confused.

EMILY  
I... My voice, how did you... Why  
couldn't I speak?

VOICE  
Your voice has no purpose here...  
Your actions do... When faced with  
the ultimate decision between life  
for the innocent or your own, you  
chose to sacrifice your own...

A quiver through Emily's breathing.

VOICE  
Would it surprise you to know how  
many people chose to save themselves  
in that final decision?

EMILY

I don't want to know.

VOICE

These people walk among you every single day... You call them your friends... Family... How does that make you feel?

EMILY

And you're any better?

A pause.

EMILY

Well?

VOICE

Yes.

EMILY

So what happens now?

VOICE

You return to your home... To your son.

EMILY

And David? My mom?

VOICE

They are gone.

Emily wipes her eyes dry, trying to stay strong.

EMILY

Can... Can you bring them back?

VOICE

Do not worry... You will have no memory of them... No recollection of this...

EMILY

What?

VOICE

It will be like none of it ever happened...

EMILY

I don't want to forget them!

VOICE

Thank you again.

EMILY

Why are you telling me all this if  
I'm not going to remember?!

VOICE

We have conducted these experiments  
for hundreds of thousands of years...  
You are the first to have escaped the  
room... And for this act of  
resilience, you are afforded an  
explanation, however fleeting.

Emily opens her mouth, struggling to come up with any more words.

A long moment of silence passes.

VOICE

Goodbye, Emily. We may see you again.

The DARKNESS begins to pulse and swell.

A DEAFENING ROAR reverberates from within.

Air CRACKLING.

Emily's hair begins to be pulled forward.

It begins to SUCK.

Her face begins to contort. Stretch.

The restraints around Emily's wrists SHATTER.

She grips the chair, fingers dig in.

Fear.

An invincible force pulling her in.

Into the darkness.

CUT TO:

### **THE DARK ROOM**

Empty. The wheels of the wheelchair spin slowly around.

The door opens and the MASKED PERSON walks in. They grab the chair and turn it around.

**HALLWAY**

They push the empty chair down the eerily quiet hallway.

**CHAMBER ROOM**

A POD lifts open, mist escaping into the room.

A body of a MAN (60) floats through the green liquid and to the top.

**HALLWAY**

The masked person pushes the wheelchair. This time, the body from the pod lies slumped in the chair. Arms hanging loose over the sides.

**OPEN ROOM**

The wheelchair stops outside a steel door.

The masked person places their hand onto the metal and draws an imaginary CIRCLE with the tip of their finger.

It glows as the door CLICKS open. They push it open entering

**THE ROOM**

Empty. Bare. White.

Ceiling 14 FEET HIGH.

All three walls are thick concrete. Above the door is a line of EIGHT SMALL YELLOW LIGHTS.



The masked person pulls the man out of the chair and lowers him to the floor.

They clutch the wheelchair and turn away, exiting the room.

The door behind them SLAMS shut as the lights all change --

