Best Bite

Ву

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FADE IN.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

Best Bargain: Home and Electronics. CARLOS, 21 years old, younger-looking, is dressed in his work uniform. He stares at a mirror outside of the manager's office and practices handshakes and posture.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MANAGER'S OFFICE - NIGHT

MARTIN, 40 year old, short, bald, dressed business casually. Behind Martin is KRISTINE, 23, chocolate brown hair, colored eyes. Her gold name tag indicates that she's the store manager. The lights are off in the room. Martin points a flashlight at the window. They can see Carlos. Carlos is not aware that it's a two-way mirror.

MARTIN

So this is the kid?

KRISTINE

He's the one.

MARTIN

How come I haven't met him before?

KRISTINE

He goes to school so he works nights. And you only come once a month. At noon.

MARTIN

No. I come the required amount of times. During peak sale hours.

Martin scans him up and down.

MARTIN (CONT'D)

Is he funny? People like funny.

KRISTINE

He makes me laugh.

MARTIN

Alright, Bring him in. Let's see what all the hype is about.

Kristine turns on the lights. The window turns pitch back. She opens the door.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MANAGER'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Carlos and Martin are in mid conversation. Kristine stands behind Martin and makes funny faces. Carlos holds back a smile.

MARTIN

(to Carlos)

Well, you wouldn't be <u>my</u> first choice but corporate seems to like your reviews and your sales experience, so with all that being said, congratulations.

CARLOS

I thought they were going to wait until after the holidays to make their decision?

MARTIN

Yeah, yeah I know what they said. But if everyone thinks that, then we have better performance by everyone and that's a good thing for me. You think you can stay quiet for a few weeks?

Carlos looks uncomfortable with the situation.

MARTIN (CONT'D)

Or I can change my mind and tell them you didn't want it.

CARLOS

I can do it.

MARTIN

Good.

Carlos and Martin shake hands. Martin hands him a new gold name tag and a master key.

CARLOS

Thank you, sir. You will not regret this.

MARTIN

Yeah, we'll see about that. Personally, I like Keenan. I think he's hilarious but he just can't seem to count inventory correctly, poor guy. Kristine smiles at Carlos and shows excitement with only her eyes.

MARTIN (CONT'D)

What are you waiting for? You want my job too? Get out of here.

Carlos exits. Kristine follows.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

Carlos walks quickly towards the break room. Kristine catches up to him and bumps him with her shoulder.

KRISTINE

Dude!

CARLOS

I know!

KRISTINE

Don't listen to him, he's an ass. I know you're going to kill it!

CARLOS

I appreciate you. I mean, I appreciate that you think that-

KRISTINE

(playful)

Ew, don't be weird.

Carlos blushes.

KRISTINE (CONT'D)

We could see you by the way. practicing handshakes.

CARLOS

What!? How?

Carlos looks embarrassed. Kristine points back at the mirror.

KRISTINE

It's a two-way mirror. It's there so we can make sure everyone's working.

CARLOS

Isn't that an invasion of privacy?

KRISTINE

That's what I asked! They gave me a very corporate answer.

CARLOS

Wow, I'm already learning so much as a manager.

KRISTINE

There's so much more to learn in so little time. Stick with me kid, you'll be alright.

They smile at each other. Carlos opens and holds the door for Kristine.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - BREAK ROOM - NIGHT

KEENAN, 45, African American, he's an older soul that tries to be "hip", sits at a table with GREG, 18, chubby, has a 50's style comb-over haircut with way too much gel in it. They are in the middle of what looks like a one-sided conversation. Carlos and Kristine walk towards the clock in/out machine.

KEENAN

If a girl says "oh, I'd never do anything like that." She's already done it. Twice!

Greg ignores Keenan's advice. Greg has a copy of "the Great Gatsby" in hand. He if fixated on the book.

KEENAN

(to Carlos and Kristine)
Hey ladies, how did it go? Did he fire
you?

CARLOS

No, I got- It was just a performance review.

KEENAN

Did he say anything about me?

CARLOS

Yeah. He said he really liked your work in the inventory department.

KEENAN

That's right. I smell a promotion.

GREG

If anyone deserves the promotion, it's Carlos. He's the most qualified.

CARLOS

Thank you Greg, I appreciate that.

KEENAN

Nah, fuck that noise. I have seniority over all of you.

GREG

No, you're just older. That's not how seniority works.

KEENAN

Greg, the minute I get promoted, Don't even bother coming in because you're gonna be the first to go.

Greg is unbothered. He continues to read.

KRISTINE

Why are you so mean to Greg? I know for a fact that the new manager is not gonna let that slide.

GREG

Thanks Kristine, I apprec-

Keenan turns to Kristine aggressively.

KEENAN

Kris, you can't take this away from
me! This is my way of releasing
stress.

Kristine shakes her head.

CARLOS

Anyway. Are you guys still in for tomorrow?

KEENAN

Who's showing up?

CARLOS

Tiffan-

KEENAN

Yes. I will be there.

Okay? Greg, you in?

GREG

I would love to but my mom's already crying about it being my last Thanksgiving with the family before I head off to college.

CARLOS

I feel that, man. Enjoy it while it lasts.

Carlos turns to Kristine. She answers before he gets to ask.

KRISTINE

I wouldn't miss it.

They smile and walk out with each other.

EXT. SIDEWALK - NIGHT

Carlos and Kristine exit the store and are approached by a MOM, mid-30's, her SON, 9 and her DAUGHTER, 8.

MOM

Hello, I'm sorry to bother you. We were wondering if it would be okay to start camping out tonight?

KRISTINE

Of course! We're just closing for the night but after everyone leaves you're than welcome to.

The son and Daughter cheer.

MOM

Thank you! Happy Holidays!

KRISTINE

You're very welcome! Happy holidays to you as well!

Kristine and Carlos walk away.

EXT. PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Carlos and Kristine walk to their cars. They are parked next to each other. They arrive at Kristine's driver side door.

KRISTINE

So, tomorrow should be fun?

CARLOS

I hope so. I've never hosted anything before so forgive me if I screw it up somehow.

KRISTINE

You'll do great. Should I bring anything?

CARLOS

Just yourself.

She chuckles.

KRISTINE

Okay, I think I can do that.

He smiles. they stand and stare at each other. Silence builds. Both of them are waiting for the other to make a move, still unsure of the others feelings. Too much time passes and Carlos lets out:

CARLOS

Drive safe.

He taps her shoulder.

KRISTINE

You too.

She gets into her car. Pulls out in reverse and drives. Carlos waves as she passes. Keenan is one spot over. Greg is next to him.

KEENAN

That was...terrible.

GREG

You got it next time Carlos!

Carlos gives them a thumbs up and opens his driver side door. JESSE, 22, tall, great shape and TIFFANY, 22, athletic body, walk to their cars together.

KENNAN

Look, Look, Look at this. That sack of rocks is getting a little too close for my liking.

Carlos and Greg turn to look.

GREG

He is a sight to see. You have to admit.

KEENAN

What the hell does that even mean? A sight to see. No shit, you <u>see</u> a <u>sight</u> so <u>anything</u> is technically a "sight to see".

GREG

It's a figure of speech for like something that's nice to look at. Like an elegant sculpture or a sophisticated oil painting.

Keenan stares at Greq.

KEENAN

Get cancer. Please.

Greg gets into Keenan's car on the passenger side.

CARLOS

Play nice, boys.

Carlos gets in his car and drives off.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Carlos glances down at his phone as he drives. He looks up again and there's an elderly HOMELESS MAN in front of the car. Carlos slams on the breaks before he lowers the window.

CARLOS

I'm so sorry, man! Are you Okay!?

The Homeless man appears disoriented. He sprints towards the car.

CARLOS

Oh shit!

Carlos rolls up his window and accidentally unlocks the door. The homeless man headbutts the driver side window. His eyes are bloodshot red and he salivates like a hungry dog.

CARLOS

What the hell is your problem!?

The homeless man yells ferociously and pulls the door open. Carlos and the homeless man play tug of war with the door. The homeless man loses his grip of the door. Carlos is able to close it and drives off for a few blocks and pulls over. Carlos rests his head on the steering wheel for a few moments and then receives a text message. We cannot see the context of the message. He drops his phone and takes off.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Carlos races down the streets, runs stop signs and cuts people off until he gets to his apartment.

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

He bursts through the door and starts to look around. It's empty. He walks.

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

He looks behind the couches. It's Empty. He walks.

INT. APARTMENT - KITCHEN - NIGHT

He walks to the kitchen and hears a thud from another part of the apartment. He grabs a huge knife from one of the drawers and walks down the:

INT. APARTMENT - HALLWAY - NIGHT

He walks past the bathroom with the door wide open, it's empty. He pushes the door to his bedroom open, it is also empty. He walks straight towards the final door in the hallway. He braces himself and kicks the door open to:

INT. APARTMENT - LEWIS'S ROOM - NIGHT

LEWIS, 21, un-groomed, sloppy, jumps out of bed. They both scream. Lewis clinches on to his unicorn pillow pet and his fanny pack.

LEWIS

Dude! My fucking door! What are you doing!?

CARLOS

I thought you were in trouble!

LEWIS

Why would I be in trouble!?

You texted me!

LEWIS

No I didn't!?

CARLOS

You did! Here, look!

Carlos shows the text message to Lewis. It reads "Emergency, get here now".

LEWIS

Aw fuck. That wasn't for you. My bad dude.

Carlos falls down on a bean bag in relief and drops the knife on the floor.

CARLOS

Goddammit. I thought you were dying.

LEWIS

Why wouldn't you call the cops if you thought I was dying?

CARLOS

I panicked!

LEWIS

You're a real piece of work. Why didn't you call out my name or something?

CARLOS

I didn't want- I don't know.

LEWIS

Well, you've gotten yourself into quite the predicament Superman. You can pay for my new door or you can pay for my weed.

CARLOS

Door.

LEWIS

Shit.

Carlos gets up and is about to leave.

LEWIS (CONT'D)

How was work? Did they miss me?

Carlos turns around.

CARLOS

It was...interesting, and no. How was your day off?

LEWIS

It was great! I got my white belt today.

Lewis points to his belt that hangs around the neck of his MMA sparring dummy.

CARLOS

Cool. Aren't those for beginners?

LEWIS

Yeah, I just started.

CARLOS

What were you doing for the past year?

LEWIS

I was observing. There were some pretty savage sixteen year old's in there. I had to study them and wait until I knew I could take them to jump in.

CARLOS

So they're not there anymore.

LEWIS

Yeah, they moved. But you'll never guess who's dominating the eight to twelve year old's.

CARLOS

That's...I'm just going to ignore that last comment.

LEWIS

Yeah, you better.

Lewis throws a couple of air jabs. Carlos laughs.

CARLOS

Alright. Goodnight, man.

Carlos attempt to leave again.

LEWIS

Carlos?

Carlos turns around.

CARLOS

Yeah?

LEWIS

Thank you...doors are expensive.

Carlos exits.

INT. APARTMENT - HALLWAY - DAY

Carlos exits the restroom after a shower.

CARLOS

Lewis! You up?

LEWIS (O.S)

Over here!

Carlos enters the:

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Lewis is on the couch. He watches the news. a "Breaking News" alert comes on the TV screen. Carlos grabs the remote and turns off the TV.

LEWIS

I was watching that!

CARLOS

Get ready. We have a lot of stuff to do today.

LEWIS

I'm ready.

Lewis is in a "Middlebury College" tee shirt, shorts and open toe beach sandals.

CARLOS

It's thirty degrees outside.

LEWIS

Fahrenheit or Celsius?

Fahrenheit.

LEWIS

What is that in Kelvin?

CARLOS

What does it matter? It's cold!

LEWIS

Fine! I'll change.

Lewis gets up and walks to his room.

INT. VERMONT MARKET - DAY

Vermont Market is a "fast casual" style restaurant. Carlos is dressed for the winter. Lewis has the exact same thing on, except now he has socks on under his sandals. Plastered all over the store are signs that read "No turkey. We're sorry for the inconvenience."

LEWIS

Tell me again why we have to host something? We've never hosted anything.

CARLOS

That's what the holidays are for. Don't you want to be with people you care about?

LEWIS

None of our co-workers match that criteria.

CARLOS

Maybe next year you'll save up enough money to go home for the holidays instead of smoking it all away.

LEWIS

That was done specifically so I didn't have to fly home. Mission accomplished. What's your excuse?

They walk up to the register to order. The CASHIER, early 20's, greets them.

CASHIER

Hey guys. Happy Thanksgiving. What can

I get for you?

CARLOS

Hey, we'll take three large mashed potatoes and gravy, two dozen biscuits, some stuffing and a whole turkey.

CASHIER

We're actually out of turkey. Sorry about that. We can offer chicken as an alternative.

LEWIS

How are you out of turkey? It's Thanksqiving.

CASHIER

You actually just answered your own question.

LEWIS

What would the pilgrims say?

CASHIER

What?

CARLOS

I'm sure it's not your fault. We just wish we knew that before waiting this long.

The cashier looks annoyed as if he's heard this all day long. He doesn't say anything. He just points at the multiple signs around the store.

LEWIS

I thought that was a joke. I thought the store was apologizing to all the turkeys that died.

Silence.

CARLOS

Chicken is fine.

Carlos hands over his debit card.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Carlos and Lewis get into Carlos's car. He drives.

I'm never taking your advice again. You have the worst ideas.

LEWIS

Why not? I give great advice.

CARLOS

(imitates Lewis)

Let's buy the food the day of. It'll be cheaper.

LEWIS

Don't blame me for your misfortunes.

CARLOS

You can't come up with a bright idea to save your life. Now we're stuck with chicken.

LEWIS

I would actually be okay with chicken if it was from Chick-fil-a. We don't even have one in Vermont. Just our luck.

CARLOS

We have a KFC.

LEWIS

How dare you.

Carlos shrugs it off.

LEWIS (CONT'D)

That's the <u>only</u> reason I miss California. That and the we-

CARLOS

The weed. I know.

LEWIS

I forgot to ask. Can you drop me off at my guys house?

CARLOS

You mean your drug dealer's house.

LEWIS

Don't call him that! That has such a negative connotation.

He sells drugs.

LEWIS

He sells other things too. He's an entrepreneur.

CARLOS

As long as you're alive I guess he'll always have a source of income.

LEWIS

How dare you be judgmental on this graceful holiday. You don't even have the decency to call him by his real name.

CARLOS

You're right, I'm sorry. What's his name?

LEWIS

Shame on you. You really don't deserve to know his real name.

CARLOS

Okay.

LEWIS

I'm hurt with you...I'll forgive you if you take me.

CARLOS

Dude, that's in the opposite direction.

LEWIS

I know but I wanna have a big appetite for dinner! And I'll pitch in for gas.

CARLOS

Fine, but don't be late tonight!

Lewis smiles.

LEWIS

His name is Eddie. And we would $\underline{\text{love}}$ to meet you.

(Sarcastically)

Sure, we'll set that up.

Carlos makes an illegal U-turn and heads in the opposite direction.

EXT. STREET - DAY

Carlos pulls up to Eddie's home. It is very elegant. Lewis gazes with a look of admiration.

LEWIS

Hey, what time does dinner start?

CARLOS

At four. Why?

LEWIS

Can Eddie come? I forgot my wallet so I'm gonna tell him he can come to dinner as my form of payment.

CARLOS

Absolutely not.

LEWIS

But you just sai-

CARLOS

No.

LEWIS

Okay, then I need you to go back home, find my wallet and bring it back to me.

CARLOS

I can't. I need to set up and get ready.

LEWIS

What about me? It's not gonna take you two hours to get ready! How am I gonna get home?

CARLOS

Ask Keenan to pick you up. He lives nearby and he's supposed to come tonight.

Cool. You think he'll spot me eighty dollars?

CARLOS

Figure it out.

LEWIS

See you later.

Lewis grabs his fanny pack out of the glove compartment and gets out of the car.

CARLOS

What about the gas?

LEWIS

You'll get your gas when you start treating people better.

Carlos shakes his head and drives away.

INT. APARTMENT - KITCHEN - DAY

Carlos stumbles in through the door with all of the food.

INT. APARTMENT - KITCHEN - DAY

He sets everything on the kitchen counter. He pulls out his phone and opens a new text thread, intended for Kristine. His phone rings and he answers.

CARLOS

Hello?

Carlos can hear Lewis and Eddie sing along to Bell Biv DeVoe's "Poison". Clearly a butt-dial.

LEWIS EDDIE

"That girl is poison!" "That girl is poison!"

Carlos hangs up the phone and proceeds to put all of the food in the oven on low heat.

INT. APARTMENT - CARLOS'S ROOM - DAY

Carlos enters his room where his planned outfit is laid out on the bed. He lays down beside the clothes to relax and he dozes off. INT. APARTMENT - CARLOS'S ROOM - NIGHT

Carlos opens his eyes to find Lewis and Keenan at his bedside. They startle him.

LEWIS

Getting ready my ass!

CARLOS

Oh shit! What time is it?

KEENAN

"Oh shit" is right. this little slumber of yours cost me eighty dollars.

CARLOS

Is everyone here already?

LEWIS

Don't worry, It's just us. Honestly, we thought we were late.

Carlos checks his phone.

CARLOS

It's five thirty!?

LEWIS

No one comes on time. You should know this. C'mon, get up we're gonna pack a bowl.

CARLOS

You wanna smoke?

KEENAN

Well, we don't mean a bowl of mashed potatoes.

Carlos and Lewis stay silent. His joke didn't land.

KEENAN

We'll be outside.

Lewis and Kennan exit.

INT. APARTMENT - DINING AREA - NIGHT

Carlos sets up the table while Keenan and Lewis lounge on the couch. They watch football.

I really appreciate the help, guys.

KEENAN

You got it, brother.

A knock on the door makes Lewis run over to open it. GINA, 22, heavy-set, too much makeup, Jesse and Tiffany enter. Carlos walks over.

CARLOS

Hey, guys! Happy Thanksgiving!

JESSE

Hey bro, thanks for having us. You got beer? I'm trying to black out.

CARLOS

I figured since we all work tonight it wasn't a good idea to have alcohol, but I can run down and get some.

JESSE

Good man.

Jesse pats Carlos on the butt and walks over to greet Keenan and Lewis. Carlos greets the rest of the guests. He glances at the clock on the stove. It reads 6PM. Carlos exits.

INT. APARTMENT LOBBY - NIGHT

Elevator doors open. Kristine is inside.

KRISTINE

Hey!

CARLOS

Hi! I'm glad you could make it.

KRISTINE

Are you going somewhere?

CARLOS

Yeah, I'm just gonna run down to the store real quick to get some beer.

KRISTINE

I'll come with, if you want.

CARLOS

Sure!

Carlos gets into the elevator.

INT. APARTMENT LOBBY - ELEVATOR - NIGHT

An awkward silence builds.

KRISTINE

Sorry, I'm late. I had some family I went to see and that lasted longer than I would've liked.

CARLOS

That's fine. I just woke up.

They both smile at each other.

CARLOS

I'm really happy you're here. I know this probably isn't the place or the occasion to bring this up but-

KRISTINE

Carlos.

CARLOS

Hold on, let me just get this out and you can let me know what you think.

KRISTINE

We're not moving. You didn't press the button.

CARLOS

Oh.

Carlos presses the lobby button.

KRISTINE

As you were saying.

Carlos hesitates.

CARLOS

How about we wait until we've had a few drinks and we don't know what we're saying.

KRISTINE

Sounds good to me.

The elevator descends.

INT. LIQUOR STORE - NIGHT

Carlos and Kristine bring a twenty-four pack up to the counter. A middle-aged CLERK rings him up.

CLERK

Is that all?

CARLOS

I think so. How's your Thanksgiving going so far?

CLERK

Great! How about yourself?

Carlos takes a quick glance at Kristine who is in the magazine section.

CARLOS

It just got a lot better.

Kristine walks up.

CLERK

Give my Best to Lewis. Tell him I said congrats on the promotion.

CARLOS

(Confused)

Sure, I'll let him know.

Carlos and Kristine look at each other.

KRISTINE

Did he mention what his new position was?

CLERK

He said he's the new manager at Best Bargain.

KRISTINE

Ah, Good for him.

Carlos pays. They exit.

INT. APARTMENT - DINING AREA - NIGHT

Carlos and Kristine return to the apartment to find everyone at the dinner table with food on their plates.

Couldn't wait five minutes?

KRISTINE

Hey guys. Happy Thanksgiving.

KEENAN

Own a watch Kristine?

KRISTINE

Yeah, sorry about that. A few things came up.

Keenan looks over at Carlos and winks. Carlos and Kristine grab plates to serve themselves. Keenan scoots his chair to make room.

KEENAN

(to Carlos)

You can sit over here Clark Kent!

CARLOS

(to Lewis)

You told them about the door?

KRISTINE

What door?

LEWIS

Oh, it's hilarious Kris. Come sit, I'll tell you all about it.

CARLOS

(to Kristine)

Please don't.

LEWIS

I don't want her to feel left out. That's rude!

CARLOS

(to Lewis)

How considerate of you.

Everyone but Keenan begins to eat.

KEENAN

Don't no one thank The Good Shepard for anything anymore?

Everyone ignores him. Carlos sits next to Keenan and Kristine

sits next to Lewis.

INT. APARTMENT - DINING AREA - NIGHT

Jesse has a game of beer pong set up. He explains the rules to Keenan. Carlos and Kristine sit alongside the table. Lewis, Gina and Tiffany sit on the couch on their phones.

KEENAN

So the ball goes into the cup?

JESSE

Yes, any of these ten.

Jesse points at his cups.

KEENAN

How many chances do I get?

JESSE

You and your partner get one each and then we switch.

KEENAN

A partner?

Keenan looks over to Lewis, Gina and Tiffany and holds up a ping pong ball to see if any of them are interested.

TIFFANY

How old are you?

Keenan turns back to Jesse.

KEENAN

I'll be playing alone.

CARLOS

Have fun kids.

Carlos turns to Kristine.

CARLOS

You wanna go talk for a bit?

KRISTINE

Yes, please.

Carlos and Kristine head to Carlos's room.

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Lewis and Gina sit next to each other on the couch. She can smell that he just smoked weed.

GINA

Did you know that weed lowers testosterone? Thus, causing men to under perform in bed.

LEWIS

Did you know that we all know how you lost forty pounds in two months?

Lewis rubs his nostrils.

GINA

I'm on weight watchers, stupid.

LEWIS

Okay, Pablo.

Gina jumps up and walks over to be Keenan's Partner. Lewis follows and joins Jesse.

INT. APARTMENT - CARLOS'S ROOM - NIGHT

Kristine sits at the edge of Carlos's bed. He sits on a stool across from her.

CARLOS

So, should we talk about Lewis's promotion?

KRISTINE

(Sarcastic)

Yeah, I'm so proud of him.

They laugh.

CARLOS

That's so wild.

KRISTINE

Not really, we all know how much of a liar he is.

CARLOS

No, not that. The fact that you're not gonna be my boss anymore. Well our boss.

KRISTINE

Oh, right.

CARLOS

I'm happy for you! You have some great opportunities!

KRISTINE

Fetching coffee and handing out memos in California isn't exactly what I want to do.

CARLOS

You'll work your way up, just like you did at Best Bargain.

Kristine fakes a smile.

KRISTINE

I wish I had a better reason to stay.

CARLOS

Like school or a career?

KRISTINE

Or a dumb guy. Girls always fall for dumb guys that hold them back.

CARLOS

Unless they find a good one.

KRISTINE

I wouldn't know where to look.

Carlos looks surprised by her comment.

KRISTINE (CONT'D)

I'm only kidding. You're one of the good ones. Maybe too good.

He smiles.

KRISTINE (CONT'D)

Lewis does know that you're getting the promotion, right?

CARLOS

No. I haven't told him yet. He's been working really hard for it and I think it's good that he's motivated for once. I don't have the heart to take

that away from him.

KRISTINE

See. That's cliché good guy 101. You pass.

Carlos has no words.

KRISTINE (CONT'D)

I'm gonna head out. Thanks for dinner. See you in a few hours.

Kristine kisses Carlos on the cheek and exits. Keenan screams from the living room.

KEENAN (O.S)

Drink up bitches!

Carlos lays down on his bed, turns off his bedside lamp and the room goes pitch black.

INT. APARTMENT - CARLOS'S ROOM - NIGHT

Carlos is in a deep sleep. Lewis bangs on Carlos's door.

LEWIS (O.S)

We're late!

Carlos scrambles to find his work clothes. Carlos rushes toward his door with his toothbrush still in his mouth.

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Carlos runs in with one shoe on and his shirt inside out.

LEWIS

Okay, we're not late, but we need to give Gina a ride home.

CARLOS

Gina?

Gina walks out from Lewis's room.

GINA

Hey.

CARLOS

(surprised)

Hi.

GINA

Yeah, I don't have my work stuff so I'm gonna need to go.

CARLOS

Sure, let's go.

Gina exits the apartment. Lewis puts his hand up for a high five.

CARLOS

I have so many questions, but let's just qo.

LEWIS

It's called sex my friend. It happens when two people like each other.

CARLOS

That last part is where I'm struggling.

They exit.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Carlos Drives. Lewis and Gina are in the backseat.

LEWIS

So how was your night? I saw Kristine leave your room.

CARLOS

I don't wanna talk about it.

LEWIS

She seems like a freak.

CARLOS

Just stop talking.

LEWIS

I calls 'em like I sees 'em.

Lewis puts his arm over Gina's shoulder. Gina looks uncomfortable. Carlos pulls up to Gina's house and Lewis gets out to escort her.

GINA

Thanks, Carlos. I'll see you guys later.

Bye babe.

Lewis goes in for a kiss. Gina ignored him and walks away, Lewis gets back into the car in the passenger seat. Carlos drives away.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Carlos and Lewis approach a stop sign. A man speed walks and stops in front of the car. It's the homeless man.

LEWIS

Dude, what's this guy's deal?

CARLOS

I know him.

LEWIS

What do you mean you know him? Like you follow each other on Instagram?

CARLOS

No, I almost ran him over yesterday. He headbutted my car.

LEWIS

Well shit, you almost killed him. I would've done a lot worse than that. Get out and fight him. I'll put it on world star.

CARLOS

Shut up. I think he's sick.

Lewis rolls his window down and sticks his head out.

LEWIS

Hey buddy, look we're gonna be late for work. Can we settle this another time?

The homeless man screams at them. Lewis pulls his head back into the car.

LEWIS

No, I think he really wants to fight you.

Lewis sticks his head out.

Hey, my friend here is kind of a
little bitch. He doesn't-

The Homeless Man screams at Lewis.

LEWIS (CONT'D)

Hey! Get the fuck out of the way!

The Homeless man runs towards Lewis's window and Lewis rushes to roll his window up. The Homeless man slams his hands on the window and Lewis laughs.

LEWIS

Fuck! That was clo-

The Homeless Man punches through the window and hits Lewis in the face. Lewis's phone flies out of his hand, his arms stiffen and his legs go straight. He is knocked out cold. Carlos screams, slams on the gas and zooms past the Homeless Man.

CARLOS

Shit! You alright!?

No response from Lewis. Carlos approaches a red light. He breathes heavily. Lewis wakes up abruptly and scares Carlos. Lewis is dazed.

LEWIS

(Sobs)

What the fuck happened!?

CARLOS

The man! He just hit you! Are you okay?

LEWIS

I don't know. I need water.

Lewis fiddles with the window switch.

CARLOS

We're almost at work. Just hold on for a sec-

Lewis throws up all over the dashboard and himself.

CARLOS

No! Why didn't you throw up out the window!?

It wouldn't roll down!

CARLOS

There's no window! It's broken!

LEWIS

Okay. That one's on me. My bad. Go back home I need a new uniform.

CARLOS

We can't! We're gonna be late! You're gonna have to check if someone else has one they can lend you.

Lewis pulls down his sun shield and examines his jaw in the mirror.

LEWIS

I'm pretty sure my jaw is broken.

CARLOS

No, you'd be in a lot of pain. If anything, you're probably concussed.

LEWIS

I'll be fine. You call that a hit?

CARLOS

Yes. I do.

Lewis pulls out a joint from his fanny pack. Lights it.

LEWIS

I call this a hit.

Takes a puff. Blows out a big cloud of smoke. The smoke spills out through the broken window.

EXT. PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Carlos pulls into the parking lot of the Best Bargain. A sea of cars are parked in each space. A long line of tents wrap around the entire Best Bargain. Carlos has to drive to the furthest row of the lot to find an empty spot.

EXT. PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Carlos gets out of his car. Lewis stays.

Dude!

CARLOS

What?

LEWIS

I can't go in there like this!

CARLOS

Okay, let me check if I have something.

Carlos checks his trunk for any extra clothes. He finds his gym bag and finds a pair of neon orange basketball shorts and a muscle shirt. Carlos laughs.

CARLOS

These will have to do.

He hands the gym bag to Lewis.

LEWIS

Don't look at me.

Lewis strips down behind the car door. Carlos waits by the trunk. Lewis closes the door when he's done. They walk towards the Best Bargain. Lewis takes the gym bag to cover up the shorts as much as possible.

EXT. SIDEWALK - NIGHT

Carlos and Lewis walk to the entrance of the store. Just before the walk in, they can see people in the first tent struggle to unzip the tent.

LEWIS

Dude, look. They're stuck.

CARLOS

Should we help them?

Lewis contemplates it for a moment.

LEWIS

Nah.

The two enter the Best Bargain.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

Carlos and Lewis see their co-workers at their stations. It's a smaller crew than normal. PAUL the security guard, late 50's, over-weight, greets them. Jesse is setting up all the registers and notices the way Lewis is dressed.

JESSE

Hey Lew-ser, mommy didn't wash your clothes for you?

LEWIS

Don't fuck with me today Jessica, I'm on the brink.

JESSE

On the brink of unemployment. Sup Carlos.

CARLOS

Hey Jesse, is Kristine here yet?

JESSE

No. I think she's running late.

CARLOS

Okay good.

Carlos turns his attention back to Lewis.

CARLOS

You better go find clothes before Kristine gets here.

LEWIS

Can you help me?

Lewis appears genuinely sad and helpless. Carlos feels for him and puts his arm over his shoulder.

CARLOS

Alright c'mon.

They walk to the break room. Kristine and Gina enter the store.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - BREAK ROOM - NIGHT

Keenan sits at a table with Greg. Greg is focused on his book. Keenan is focused on the TV screen. Carlos clocks in. Lewis places the bag in a corner of the room and clock in.

Hey, Keenan. Why don't we have a full staff?

KEENAN

(focused on the TV)

A bunch of people called out. A few of them had food poisoning.

LEWIS

I wouldn't let that slide if I were Kristine.

Carlos looks over at Lewis but doesn't say anything.

CARLOS

Hey Keenan, have you seen any extra uniforms laying around?

Keenan is listening but has is eyes glued to the TV screen.

KEENAN

Check my locker.

Keenan looks over at Greg, who is engaged in the book, and stands up. Keenan glances at Lewis, and then does a double take because of the bright color.

KEENAN

Lewie! Damn, son! Get it!? Because the sun is bright?

LEWIS

And because I'm old enough to be your son?

KEENAN

I find that very offensive. Are you implying, that because my skin is a certain hue, I had kids at a young age?

LEWIS

Yes. How old's your first born?

KEENAN

Thirty four.

LEWIS

What the fuck!? Wouldn't that have made you like eleven!?

KEENAN

Depends on who you ask.

LEWIS

Wait. What?

Carlos interrupts and tosses Lewis a new shirt. He puts it on.

CARLOS

I didn't find any pants.

LEWIS

Damn. You think Kristine will let this slide?

CARLOS

(mocks Lewis)

I wouldn't if I were her.

Keenan turns to Greg and smacks the book out of his hand.

KEENAN

Clock me in, bitch.

Keenan looks back at Carlos and Lewis.

KEENAN

Let's make that money, boys.

They exit. Lewis picks up the gym bag on his way out. Greg picks up the book, stands up and continues to read on his way out.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - STOCKROOM - NIGHT

Keenan and Lewis count the inventory. Lewis still has the gym bag to cover his shorts.

KEENAN

Just say two thousand pieces.

LEWIS

It's way less than two thousand.

We see a few hundred pieces.

KEENAN

Yes, but they don't know that.

LEWIS

That's not what they paid for, so it makes no sense.

KEENAN

Do you want to get fired?

Lewis stares at Keenan with a confused look on his face.

KEENAN (CONT'D)

I'm gonna be taking over pretty soon and you might want to stay on my good side.

LEWIS

You think they're gonna pick you?

KEENAN

Who else would it be?

LEWIS

Dude. You're not even full time.

Keenan, frustrated, stabs a box with his pen and walks away. Lewis pulls the pen out, writes a number down on the sheet and places then pen in the stabbed box.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

Gina and Jesse are at the cash registers in the middle of a gossipy conversation while Kristine stands at the counter.

GINA

He cried afterward.

JESSE

I'm not surprised. He just has that look.

KRISTINE

Guys, please stop.

Lewis massages his jaw as he walks over with the inventory sheet. Gina and Jesse stop their conversation and text each other instead.

KRISTINE

(to Lewis)

Did you tell him!?

She notices his shorts behind the gym bag.

KRISTINE (CONT'D)

Wait, wait, wait. What the hell are those?

LEWIS

I'll answer your fist question if you let me wear these for the day, I've had a rough night.

She contemplates for a moment.

KRISTINE

Fine. Did you tell him!?

LEWIS

No! You told me not to!

KRISTINE

I know I did but best friends always tell each other things they're not supposed to!

LEWIS

Well, unlike most people, I am honorable and loyal.

KRISTINE

I'm gonna tell him today.

LEWIS

Good. I hate being in love triangles.

KRISTINE

No, that's not what a love tri-Whatever, go do something.

Lewis walks away. Kristine grabs her walkie talkie and speaks to all the employees.

KRISTINE

Hey guys, we open in five minutes so let's meet in the break room for a quick meeting.

KEENAN (O.S)

We were just in there!

Kristine places her walkie talkie down on the counter. She gives a thumbs up to Paul to unlock the main doors. All walk to the break room.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

Paul unlocks the doors and walks outside to address the customers.

EXT. SIDEWALK - NIGHT

Everyone is still in their tents. A few of them shake. Paul looks confused.

PAUL

Hey Everyone, we open in a few minutes. I don't want anyone running in and getting hurt. Let's be respectful of each other and let's get out of here safely. See you inside.

Paul walks toward the door. The Homeless man is behind him. Paul doesn't notice him.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

Paul checks his watch, It reads 11:57PM.

PAUL

(to himself)

I can make it.

He trots to the restroom. The Homeless Man enters the store and follows him.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - BREAK ROOM - NIGHT

Lewis throws the gym bag away. Kristine stands in front of the group.

KRISTINE

Okay guys, doors are gonna open any minute now. Are there any questions?

LEWIS

Can I-

KRISTINE

No.

LEWIS

Noted.

GREG

What we do you do if people start

fighting?

KRISTINE

If people start fighting, let me know and call security. Please do not get involved. It's going to be chaotic but I believe in this team to be professional and safe! Any last questions?

Everyone shakes their heads in unison.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MEN'S RESTROOM - NIGHT

The Homeless Man enters the restroom. there are three toilet stalls. Paul sits in the middle stall. The Homeless man pushes the door open and attacks him. They struggle. Paul grabs his pepper spray but he is overpowered and drops it. The Homeless Man bites his neck. Paul falls to the floor as the Homeless Man feasts on him.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

All of the employees hurry to their respective stations. The clock turns from 11:59PM to 12:00AM. No customers enter. Everyone looks a little confused. Kristine shouts from across the room.

KRISTINE

Lewis go tell everyone they can come in.

LEWIS

I don't want to get trampled on.

GREG

I'll go.

LEWIS

Fine. I'll Go.

Lewis and Greg exit.

EXT. SIDEWALK - NIGHT

Lewis and Greg stand in front of all the tents. Now they move very aggressively. Lewis and Greg don't know what to make of it.

LEWIS

They must've slept through it. It's

the turkey.

GREG

They're clearly not asleep. Hey, you okay in there?

Lewis get closer, down on one knee. He leans his head right next to the tent. He hears growls and moans.

LEWIS

(to Greg)

I think they're fucki-

An arm bursts through the tent and socks Lewis in the face. Lewis is knocked out cold, again. the Mom, now a zombie, reaches out and grabs Lewis's leg.

GREG

Oh my god!

Greg grabs Lewis by the arms and manages to pull him away from the Zombie. Greg pulls Lewis toward the main doors.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

Greg drags Lewis into the store.

GREG

Help!

KRISTINE

What happened!?

GREG

He got punched by some lady! She looked sick! Like she has rabies or something!

They all circle around Lewis's Body. Greg can see the Mom along with her Son and Daughter, who are all zombies. They stand in front of the main sliding doors on the outside.

GREG

Gina, walk to the security desk very slowly and lower the security gate.

Gina tip-toes toward the desk and presses the button. The zombie family charges the main doors but the gate drops just in time. Tiffany runs over and disconnects the sensors to the main sliding doors. The three zombies are trapped between the sliding doors and the security gate. A horde of zombified

customers appear in front of the main sliding doors.

KEENAN

Sweet baby of god.

All of the employees have shocked expressions on their faces. Tiffany and Gina slowly walk up to the security Gate.

TIFFANY

What's wrong with them!?

KEENAN (O.S)

I'm out this bitch!

GINA

I'm not sure but let's be glad that we're in here and they're out there.

JESSE

There's too many of them. They're gonna break right through those doors.

GREG

Don't worry, They're bullet proof.

KRISTINE

Thank God.

Lewis jumps awake and screams. He startles everyone. Keenan heads toward the break room and the Homeless Man bursts through the restroom door. Keenan runs in the opposite direction and Carlos and Lewis look at each other.

CARLOS LEWIS

Oh shit!

Oh shit!

The Homeless Man charges them and they all run in different directions. Some stumble over each other but manage to get away. Hide behind a DVD rack.

LEWIS

Do you think he's here to report us?

CARLOS

Report us!? He knocked you out! I think he's like one of them.

LEWIS

One of who?

The Homeless Man knocks over racks of DVD's and finds Carlos

and Lewis. They run and slide under a checkout counter.

LEWIS

(whisper)

Don't let him get me! He hits harder than the sixteen year old's!

Carlos peeks his head over the counter and sees the homeless man drop to his hands and knees. He is no longer visible.

CARLOS

(whisper)

I can't see him. I think he's crawling through the aisles.

LEWIS

(whisper)

He's gonna fuck <u>us</u> up for talking all that shit! Don't forget you were there too! Don't switch up-

CARLOS

(whisper)

Calm down. This is what we're gonna do. Take off your keys so he can't hear us moving.

Lewis and Carlos quietly remove their rings of keys from their belts. Keenan speaks over the walkie talkie.

KEENAN (O.S)

Y'all good?

Their counter top gets flipped over by the Homeless Man. They jump up and pull each other in different directions but spit up as the Homeless Man dives at them. He flies right by them. They run in opposite directions.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - BREAK ROOM - NIGHT

Carlos busts through the door and scares all of the employees.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - STOCKROOM - NIGHT

Lewis bursts in and gets kicked by Keenan who thinks it's the Homeless Man. Greg and Tiffany push some boxes in front of the door to barricade themselves in.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - BREAK ROOM - NIGHT

Carlos pushes the lockers against the door along with the table.

CARLOS

Is everyone okay!?

They all respond except for Kristine.

GINA

Yeah, I'm good.

Yes.

JESSE

CARLOS

Kristine, are you okay?

Kristine stays quiet but nods her head.

CARLOS

Can someone call the cops?

JESSE

My phone is on the counter.

GINA

So is mine.

CARLOS

Kristine do you have yours?

KRISTINE

I must've dropped it.

Lewis speaks through his walkie talkie.

LEWIS

Guys?

Carlos answers back.

CARLOS

Lewis, are you guys okay?

LEWIS

Not really...Greg's still alive. Just kidding, yeah, we're good.

CARLOS

One of you guys need to call the cops. None of us have our phones.

LEWIS

Greg called but they hung up on him after he said we were being attacked by a zombie.

CARLOS

What? Why would you say it like that? We don't know that!

KEENAN (O.S)

Looked that way.

CARLOS

Okay, just be careful. I'll get back to you shortly.

Carlos puts down the walkie talkie.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - STOCKROOM - NIGHT

Lewis turns off his walkie talkie as a force of habit and places it down.

LEWIS

Alright guys, let's come up with a plan.

Lewis touches his pockets.

LEWIS (CONT'D)

Where the hell is my phone?

GREG

I can call my parents and tell them to call the police.

KEENAN

That's stupid.

LEWIS

Look, there's more of us than there is of him. I'm not saying we should fight him, but he can't get us all.

Lewis stares Keenan straight in the eyes.

LEWIS (CONT'D)

Sorry bro.

KEENAN

Why? It's a good plan. I like it.

TIFFANY

Why do we have to go out there? There's an emergency exit in here.

GREG

That's right! Let's go.

They run towards the back of the stock room. Lewis runs into the door but it doesn't budge.

LEWIS

What the hell? It's stuck!

Greg and Keenan help him push. The door doesn't move. Greg peeks through the thin glass window to see that an industrial sized dumpster is in front of the door.

GREG

I think someone put the dumpster in front of the door!

KEENAN

I hate people!

LEWIS

Don't those things have wheels? We can just push it back.

TIFFANY

Not when it's full geniuses.

KEENAN

Let's try the loading dock!

Keenan runs over to the loading dock door and tries to lift it.

KEENAN

Nope!

Keenan grabs his lower back.

KEENAN (CONT'D)

Dammit! I forgot to put on my support belt!

TIFFANY

The forklift! I bet it would break right through the door!

They run to the forklift. Lewis jumps into it.

LEWIS

It needs keys! Who has the keys!?

GREG

Only the delivery crew and the managers have those keys.

Lewis speaks into the walkie talkie. He does not realize that it is off.

LEWIS

Kristine we need your forklift keys!

No response.

LEWIS (CONT'D)

Kristine!? Guys!?

No response.

LEWIS

Why aren't they answering? Does anyone else have their walkie on them?

TIFFANY GREG

Nope.

Not me.

KEENAN

They never gave me one.

Lewis tries again.

LEWIS

Carlos!? Kristine!?

No response.

LEWIS

Goddammit!

Lewis throws the walkie talkie in frustration. part of it shatters. Tiffany picks it up and examines it.

TIFFANY

It was off.

She turns the knob. It turns on for a split second but dies immediately. She turns to Lewis with a look of disgust.

KEENAN

Heavens ghost, Lewie!

Lewis looks embarrassed.

GREG

It's alright Lew-

KEENAN

(to Greg)

Don't you encourage him!

Keenan takes a swipe at Greg but he's too far away and his back tightens up. He winces in pain.

GREG

Maybe we can try the ceiling?

They look up. It's way too high up.

TIFFANY

Don't you guys watch horror movies? It's one of the forbidden rules.

They all nod in agreement.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - BREAK ROOM - AIR DUCT - NIGHT

Carlos wiggles himself though the air duct. Once he gets to the end he notices that the vents are way too small for anyone to fit through but he can see through the gaps that there are fires on the freeways in the distance. He wiggles his way back in reverse.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - BREAK ROOM - NIGHT

Carlos jumps down from the ceiling.

CARLOS

The vent is not an option and I don't think anyone is going to help us. It's chaos out there. Jesse, tell Lewis to stay there while we come up with a plan.

Jesse grabs the walkie talkie and tries to get a hold of Lewis. Carlos walks over to Kristine who sits in a corner of the room.

CARLOS

Hey, I'm gonna get us out of here. I promise.

She grabs his hand and smiles.

JESSE

I'm not getting through to them.

CARLOS

We should go check on them before they do something stupid.

Jesse places his finger on his nose.

JESSE

Not it!

They all stare a Jesse.

JESSE (CONT'D)

Oh, you meant all of us. Okay.

They all stand up and brace themselves.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

Lewis, Greg, Keenan and Tiffany creep back into the main floor of the store.

LEWIS

Do you see him?

GREG

No, but I think I see the guard. He looks okay.

The guard stands at the registers across the store.

GREG

(to Paul)

Sir, is he gone?

Paul, now a zombie, sprints toward the group. They panic and run for the main doors.

KEENAN

Fuck. Fuck. Fuck.

As they arrive, they see multiple zombies outside. They retreat back inside.

TIFFANY

I cannot die here with you idiots!

GREG

Everyone hide!

Each employee hides in a different aisle. As Lewis backs up slowly into a corner the Homeless Man appears from under the counter and runs at Lewis.

CARLOS

No!

Just as he is about to reach Lewis, the Homeless Man is hit in the head with a TV that was thrown by Carlos and Jesse.

CARLOS

Run!

Lewis runs and slides under another counter. Jesse checks to see if the Homeless Man is dead. He grabs Jesse by the ankle and takes a bite out of his calf.

JESSE

Save yourselves!

Gina throws staplers and scissors at Paul, she misses every time. Greg throws broken DVD's at the Paul and pierces him in the eye. He falls to the ground. Gina looks impressed.

GREG

(To Gina)

I'm Batman.

Gina looks unimpressed.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

Keenan, very stealthy, locks himself in a glass case.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

Carlos finds Lewis.

CARLOS

I'll go get my car keys and we'll escape from the back!

LEWIS

It's locked. We already tried that.

CARLOS

We gotta try again.

LEWIS

(sobs)

It's locked! There's no way out, man!

Carlos crawls to look for his keys. He doesn't notice that Jesse has resurrected as a zombie. Right before Jesse can attack Carlos, Lewis pushes Jesse from behind and he inadvertently crashes into and breaks the glass case that Keenan is inside of.

KEENAN

Goddammit!

Jesse bites Keenan's leg as Carlos and Lewis find the keys and run back in the direction of the break room. Carlos looks around and tries to track down Kristine. She is standing on the top shelf of a metal rack across the store that is being climbed by the Homeless Man.

CARLOS

Kristine!

Carlos and Kristine lock eyes. Both realize that this could be the end for her. She mouths "It's okay." Carlos runs toward her direction right before Jesse runs at him. Lewis runs up and grabs Carlos by the head and neck area and pulls him back towards the break room. Carlos yells for Kristine but they fade as Lewis accidentally chokes him out.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - BREAK ROOM - NIGHT

Lewis drags Carlos's body in and places him on the table as he boarders the door. He can hear Gina and Tiffany scream but their screams only last so long. He sits on the floor opposite the door and places his hands over his head. He has no clue about what to do next.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - BREAK ROOM - NIGHT

Lewis slaps Carlos lightly. Carlos remains unconscious.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - BREAK ROOM - NIGHT

Lewis sits across from Carlos and shoots small paper balls at Carlos's mouth. He misses a few and then makes one. Lewis rushes over to pull the ball out so Carlos doesn't choke on it.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - BREAK ROOM - NIGHT

Lewis checks the refrigerator. He pulls out a sandwich and smells it.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - BREAK ROOM - NIGHT

Lewis checks Carlos's pulse to make sure he's still alive.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - BREAK ROOM - NIGHT

Lewis is on a phone looking through his social media. He scrolls through a list of direct messages and moves over to his notifications to find a follow request by Greg, which he declines. He puts down his phone and looks at Carlos.

T.EWTS

This takes a lot longer than I thought.

Lewis's stomach growls. He looks uncomfortable and sits down on the ground.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - BREAK ROOM - NIGHT

Carlos wakes up in the break room. Time has passed. Lewis is sitting in a chair as he clutches his stomach in pain.

LEWIS

Hey, it's was the turkey. It's contaminated.

CARLOS

The turkey? How do you know?

LEWIS

Well I got hungry so I checked the fridge and someone brought in a turkey sandwich for lunch-

CARLOS

And you ate it!?

LEWIS

No. It smelled like ass, so I just tossed it.

CARLOS

So, because it smelled, you just assumed it's turning people into zombies?

LEWIS

Oh no, it's all over the news. And Twitter. The vegans are roasting us right now. CARLOS

But what caused it?

LEWIS

Something about a fraternity initiation gone wrong.

Lewis pulls out a phone and shows Carlos a group charity picture of a fraternity in hairnets and aprons in front of a homeless shelter. Jesse is a part of the fraternity.

CARLOS

Jesse? That's so wrong.

LEWIS

I'm not surprised. He just has that look.

CARLOS

That's disgusting. Wait who's phone that?

LEWIS

I grabbed a couple while we were out there. I tried calling the cops but I guess everyone else is too.

CARLOS

How does something like this even happen!?

LEWIS

Something like this was bound to happen sooner or later. Chick-fil-A's kinda been warning us for years in their commercials. When we get out of here that's the first place I'm going.

CARLOS

What's the point? Even if we did get out of here. There's nothing out there for us.

LEWIS

Well, the infection hasn't gotten out of Vermont. So that's some good news.

CARLOS

Hardly.

Lewis looks surprised by the attitude change in Carlos.

CARLOS (CONT'D)

How long was I out?

LEWIS

About an hour, maybe a little longer. How are you feeling?

CARLOS

I feel terrible. We should've helped them. I should've saved Kristine.

LEWIS

It's not your fault. There was no way to prepare for this. Plus, I'm the one that held you back. I'm sorry. I know she meant a lot to you.

CARLOS

You asked me yesterday why I didn't go home to my family. It's because I have no family.

Lewis looks confused.

CARLOS (CONT'D)

My parents got divorced and they didn't tell anybody. I just found out last week. As far as I'm concerned, you are my family.

LEWIS

Why didn't you tell me?

CARLOS

That's why I decided to have the stupid dinner. I just wanted to be around people again. People that I actually liked believe it or not.

LEWIS

I don't blame you. I have something to tell you too.

Carlos is dejected. He wipes tears from his eyes and looks up at Lewis.

LEWIS (CONT'D)

That text was for you yesterday.

CARLOS

Really? Why?

LEWIS

I don't know man. Do you ever just feel like a waste? Like any opportunity for success has passed you by?

CARLOS

You really feel that way?

LEWIS

Yeah. I didn't mind that I may be working at Best Bargain for the rest of my life but I at least wanted to be good at that! I couldn't even get the stupid manager position. If I can't do that, then what am I really worth?

Carlos stays silent for a moment. He doesn't have the heart to tell him about the promotion.

CARLOS

So are you saying?

LEWIS

Yes. I've had suicidal thoughts. But I also did <u>really</u> strong shrooms yesterday. It's not an everyday thing.

CARLOS

Wow.

LEWIS

I wanted to take my own life for a brief moment. But when you came in and I saw that you cared, I didn't wanna die anymore. And I don't wanna die now. Not here. Not today.

Carlos pulls Lewis in for a hug. There's silence for a moment.

LEWIS (CONT'D)

We gotta go get the fanny pack.

CARLOS

why is it always about weed!? We're having this emotional moment and that's what's important to you!

Lewis motions to keep his voice down and points at the security cameras.

CARLOS

What!?

LEWIS

Corporate looks over these sometimes.

CARLOS

So?

LEWIS

I just don't want to blow my chance at the manager position.

CARLOS

I can't believe you.

Lewis pulls in Carlos for a hug this time.

LEWIS

There's a gun in the fanny pack.

Carlos pushes Lewis away.

CARLOS

What!?

LEWIS

Don't cause a scene!

CARLOS

Is that how you were gonna kill yourself!?

LEWIS

What!? No! It's for protection!

CARLOS

What do you need protection from!?

LEWIS

Eddie! He's a sketchy guy! You just never know!

CARLOS

Where did you even get a gun from?

LEWIS

From Eddie.

CARLOS

Wait. You bought a gun off of Eddie to

protect yourself from Eddie?

LEWIS

It's poetic. I know.

CARLOS

You never fail to surprise me. Anything else you need to tell me?

LEWIS

Nothing important comes to mind right now.

Lewis doesn't have the heart to tell him about Kristine.

LEWIS (CONT'D)

We just need to get out of here. If we die, we die, but we die together, fighting.

Carlos contemplates for a moment and then nods his head. They both scavenge through two separate cabinets. We cannot see what is inside of them.

CARLOS

I found something. You got a lighter?

LEWIS

Always.

Lewis realizes what Carlos has in mind. Lewis grabs the gym bag from the locker along with a marker. He starts to draw on the white board.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - BREAK ROOM - NIGHT

They stare at the white board. We cannot see what they are looking at.

LEWIS

What do you think?

CARLOS

I have my concerns. What about you?

LEWIS

I mean, It's plausible. It's reckless.

I kinda like it.

CARLOS

I don't know, dude. I don't really

wanna hurt kids.

LEWIS

No, no, no! They're not kids anymore! They will kill us!

CARLOS

Still doesn't feel right.

Lewis looks sad about it.

LEWIS

Fine.

Lewis crosses something off of on the whiteboard.

LEWIS (CONT'D)

But we have to find a way to keep them occupied.

Carlos considers that.

CARLOS

I have an idea.

Carlos grabs the marker and writes on the whiteboard.

LEWIS

Hey, that could work.

CARLOS

Just promise me one thing.

LEWIS

Yeah?

CARLOS

When we run into Kristine, let me do it.

LEWIS

You got it.

CARLOS

Alright. I'm ready.

They bump fists and grab their items.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

Carlos and Lewis exit the break room. They have rolls of

paper towels as bracelets duct taped around their forearms and rubber gloves on. Multiple cans of compressed air and bottles of cleaning chemicals are wedged in between their belts with cigar lighters in each hand. There's a jug of water next to Lewis.

CARLOS

Any last words?

LEWIS

Nope! Oh, actually there is one last thing.

CARLOS

Yeah?

LEWIS

Kristine was in love with you.

CARLOS

What!?

Lewis runs towards Tiffany, Carlos follows, and they ignite her by spraying her with the compressed air through the flame. They push her into the:

INT. BEST BARGAIN - WOMAN'S RESTROOM - NIGHT

They force her into a stall. Lewis holds the stall door closed and Carlos hops on top of the toilet in the stall next to it. Carlos pours the water on her to avoid smoke to fill the store. They exit.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

Carlos locks the door with a key.

CARLOS

You can't say something like that and then explain yourself!

LEWIS

Later!

CARLOS

No! Now!

Gina runs towards Lewis and he gets her in a headlock. Carlos zip ties her hands behind her back. Lewis pulls her into the men's restroom.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MEN'S RESTROOM - NIGHT

Carlos Barges in.

CARLOS

Why wouldn't you tell me that in there!?

LEWIS

I thought it might blind you from the task at hand but I thought you should know just in case we die!

As she makes attempts to bite him he sticks a used lint roller in her mouth.

CARLOS

How do you know she loves me!?

LEWIS

Forget it! It's not important right now! Stick to the plan!

Carlos is visibly upset.

CARLOS

Oh really!?

He takes a moment. There's no going back after this.

CARLOS (CONT'D)

I got the manager position Yesterday!

Lewis eyes shoot up to meet Carlos's eyes so fast that his headset flies off. Still with Gina in a headlock.

LEWIS

You tell lies!

Carlos pulls out his gold name tag.

CARLOS

Nope.

Carlos tosses the gold name tag at Lewis which hits Gina on the head and falls to the ground.

CARLOS (CONT'D)

We're even now. Stick to the plan!

Carlos exits. Lewis squints his eyes as he tries to read the

name. It defiantly says "Carlos".

LEWIS

Fuck!

Lewis takes his anger out on Gina. He snaps her neck and she falls to the ground. He braces himself for her to resurrect but she does not. Lewis taps her with his foot. After a moment of no movement, he checks her pulse. She is dead.

LEWIS

They can be killed?

He spots Paul's pepper spray on the ground and picks it up.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

Carlos paces. He is visibly upset. Carlos realizes the rest of his co-workers are not here. The Mom and kid zombies are still trapped between the security gate and the main doors.

CARLOS

Where's the rest of them?

Lewis storms out of the restroom.

LEWIS

They-

CARLOS

Hold on! I want to say something before you say anything else! As you can probably tell, I'm very upset with you. You know how much she meant to me and if I could go back, I would do everything different if I knew today was going to happen. With that being said, I'm willing to put this on hold and keep working together because I can't do this alone. Now, do you have anything else to say to me?

LEWIS

Yes I do. I too, am willing to put what you said a side.

CARLOS

What I said!?

LEWIS

You knew how much I wanted that job!

CARLOS

It's not the same-

LEWIS

They can be killed!

CARLOS

What!? They can!?

The Homeless Man and Paul burst through the door of the stockroom back onto the main floor and run towards them.

LEWIS

You take the Bum, I'll Take the rent-a-cop!

Lewis puts his headset back on. They split up.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

Lewis lures Paul to a row of tablets. Carlos throws a few at him like frisbees as he back peddles. He misses.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

Carlos draws the Homeless Man towards a row a glass cases. They can see each other through the cases but the Homeless Man can't touch him.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

Paul back Lewis into a corner and charges him with his mouth wide open. Lewis sticks his arm out and Paul bites the paper towel bracelet. Lewis kicks Paul in the testicles and Paul lets out a roar. He is in obvious pain, even as a zombie. Paul slumps over and Lewis head kicks him. He knocks him out.

LEWIS

Carlos they're just like us! If it hurts us, it'll hurt them!

CARLOS

That's super convenient!

LEWIS

I know!

Lewis grabs Paul's handcuffs and cuffs his feet together.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

The Homeless man jumps through the broken glass case that Keenan was in earlier and lands right in front of Carlos. He lunges at Carlos a few times but Carlos manages to duck. After the last lunge, the Homeless Man drops a gold name tag. It's Kristine's. Carlos looks enraged. He rushes the Homeless Man and hits and kicks him repeatedly.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

Lewis stomps on Paul's head until he sees blood leak. He gags. He rips a few papers towels from his bracelets and places it over Paul's head.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

The Homeless Man grabs Carlos by the ears. Carlos sprays him with window cleaner and rubbing alcohol, he lets go. Carlos socks the Homeless Man in the face which drops him to the ground. The Homeless Man quickly recovers and dives at Carlos's legs but Lewis comes over and kicks the him on the side of the head, knocking him out. Carlos rips the power cords from nearby printers and uses them to tie up the Homeless Man's arms to his torso. They drag him into the manager's office and lock him in. They sit against the door with looks of exhaustion. Carlos points at the mirror.

CARLOS

Did you know that's a two-way mirror?

LEWIS

No way. Isn't that an invasion of privacy?

Carlos nods.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

Carlos and Lewis stand in the home appliances area. They are surrounded by refrigerators, freezers, washers, dryers, etc.

LEWIS

I'll go to the back and do what I have to do. You wait two minutes and then raise the gates.

CARLOS

Is two minutes enough time?

LEWIS

It's plenty of time. As soon as you raise the gate, run. I'll time it perfectly, run back in and take the mom. You handle the kids.

CARLOS

Okay.

Carlos puts a two minute timer on his phone.

LEWIS

As soon as that alarm goes off, raise the gates. No matter what. I'll be here.

Carlos thinks for a moment.

CARLOS

I'll just wait until you get back.

LEWIS

It's gonna work, I promise.

Carlos looks unsure.

CARLOS

Fine. I trust you.

They embrace. Lewis runs toward the stockroom and grabs a large sound bar on his way in. Carlos starts the timer.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - STOCKROOM - NIGHT

Lewis runs to the emergency exit door. He looks at his hand a makes a fist. He punches the thin window and fractures his wrist. The glass didn't break. Carlos clutches his wrist and falls to the ground in pain.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

Carlos stands next to the outlet with the plug in his hand. His timer reads one minute and fifteen seconds.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - STOCKROOM - NIGHT

Lewis tries to pick up the sound bar but it's too painful. Keenan appears from behind a stock shelf.

LEWIS

Oh shit.

Lewis scoots back against the door.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

Carlos plugs in the cord for the security gate and walks over to the security desk where the button is. His timer reads forty five seconds. He looks nervous.

CARLOS

C'mon Lewis.

He looks over to the stockroom doors.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - STOCKROOM - NIGHT

Keenan walks towards Lewis slowly. Lewis does not back down.

LEWIS

I've been waiting for this day. I'm gonna fuck your shit up, old man.

Lewis stands. Lewis runs towards Keenan, missteps and rolls his ankle and falls to the ground.

LEWIS

Ah, Fuck!

Keenan charges at Lewis.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

Carlos has his hand on the button. His timer reads ten seconds, then five, then the alarm. Carlos looks back at the stockroom doors one last time.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - STOCKROOM - NIGHT

Keenan has Lewis mounted on his back. Lewis uses his good hand to hold Keenan by the neck. both fight for a dominant position. Keenan reaches for Lewis's neck and starts to choke him. Carlos barges through the door and breaks Keenan's concentration which allows Lewis to roll Keenan over and transition into an arm bar submission hold.

CARLOS

Oh, Crap!

Lewis snaps Keenan's arm at the elbow. Keenan screams in agony. Lewis lets go and Carlos helps him up.

CARLOS

Are you okay!?

Keenan runs toward them. Lewis pushes Carlos out of the way, grabs the pen that was stabbed in the box and stabs Keenan in the eye and sprays his other eye with the pepper spray. He grabs Keenan and smashes his head through the thin window of the emergency exit door. Keenan collapses unconscious. He reaches out and places the sound bar on top of the dumpster.

LEWIS

You didn't raise the gate?

CARLOS

No, I didn't trust you to get back in time.

LEWIS

That was a good call. There were some unforeseen circumstances.

Carlos puts Lewis's arm over his shoulder to help him walk. They exit.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

Carlos sits Lewis down in an office chair. Lewis looks like he's in immense pain.

CARLOS

What do you wanna do?

LEWIS

Let's stick to the plan, I can do it.

CARLOS

You can barely stand!

LEWIS

Once they start running at me that fight or flight thing will kick in.

CARLOS

As reliable as that sounds, I think we need a new plan.

Carlos looks around the store.

CARLOS (CONT'D)

Plus, now we have more toys to play with.

Lewis grins.

LEWIS

You wanna trash the store?

CARLOS

No. I wanna whatever it takes to stay alive.

LEWIS

Can I tell corporate it was your idea?

CARLOS

Sure.

LEWIS

I'm in. What do you have in mind?

Carlos helps Lewis stand.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

Carlos sets up a video game and turns off the TV.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - BREAK ROOM - NIGHT

Lewis pulls the gym bag out of the trash and takes it over to the sink.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

Carlos opens a box with an extremely long ethernet cable.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - BREAK ROOM - NIGHT

Lewis is pours water into the coffee maker and washes his clothes in the sink.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

Lewis walks out of the break room. He has an elevation mask on that he found in Carlos's gym bag to protect his jaw. He has wireless barcode scanners strapped to his wrists. He looks a lot like Bane from Batman. He has a headset on for communication. Lewis has a remote control that hangs from his belt. The gym bag is on top of a hoverboard next to him. Carlos appears next to him, dressed very similarly without the mask. He looks at Lewis's chest.

CARLOS

Why the Go Pro?

LEWIS

Someone has to document this shit. A hundred years from now when people start saying this never happened, like the Holocaust, we have this.

CARLOS

I like it.

LEWIS

You like the Holocaust?

CARLOS

No! I like your ide-

LEWIS

I'm fucking with you.

CARLOS

It baffles me that you're still able to crack jokes right now.

LEWIS

I'm sorry, it's my way of coping with potential death.

Lewis removes the mask to get serious for a second.

LEWIS

Hey, look. I'm really sorry about Kristine. And I <u>do</u> have an explanation, if you still want it.

Carlos nods.

LEWIS

The reason I didn't tell you is because I just found out last night after dinner. On her way out she pulled me aside and asked me if you were worth staying for. Of course my natural reaction was telling me to joke around, but I didn't. I told her-

INT. APARTMENT LOBBY - NIGHT

Flashback. Lewis and Kristine converse.

LEWIS

Absolutely. He's not only a great guy. He's my best friend and the best

person I know, Period.

KRISTINE

I wanted to tell him just now. It wouldn't come out! I said something about good guys, it was so stupid! Should I go back?

LEWIS

Not right now. Just go home. Think about what you wanna say and <u>really</u> think about what you would be giving up.

Kristine looks conflicted.

KRISTINE

Maybe this is unrealistic. Childish.

LEWIS

Maybe it is. But you know what else is unrealistic and childish? Superman.

They smile and embrace.

KRISTINE

Thank you, Lewis. You were the last person I was expecting to bring clarity into my life.

LEWIS

I have my moments.

KRISTINE

If you want my advice, I think you should quit being mean to Gina. You guys would make a cute couple if you both stopped being so hard headed.

LEWIS

No chance in hell.

Kristine smiles and enters the elevator. Lewis walks back into the apartment.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

The present. Carlos is teary-eyed. He hugs Lewis.

LEWIS

I know it would've meant a lot to hear

her say those words. I didn't wanna take that moment away from you.

CARLOS

Thank you.

LEWIS

Of course.

CARLOS

It's not the best "let's go kill zombies" pep-talk I've ever heard, but it helps.

LEWIS

I knew it'd get you in the mood. Let's get out of here.

Lewis puts the mask back on, grabs the gym bag and steps on the hoverboard.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

Carlos is at the security with his hand on the button again.

CARLOS

Are you ready?

Lewis takes a deep breath.

LEWIS

Do it!

Carlos presses the button and runs to his designated position.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

The gate slowly rises. The Son and Daughter, impatient to wait for the whole gate to rise, crawl under the small gap. The Mom waits for the whole gate to ascend. All three of survey the store. Lewis drives into their view. They spot Lewis and run towards him. Carlos waits until they get close enough and pulls on the ethernet cord. They trip and fall.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

Carlos runs over to Lewis and both grab small coffee cups out of the gym bag. The bag is filled with coffee cups. The cups have the lids duct tapped on but they explode on impact. They throw the cups and the zombies scream as the hot coffee

splashes over them. The Boy rolls out of the way and runs at Lewis. Lewis drives in reverse points the barcode scanner laser at his eyes. The Boy is blinded for a brief moment. Carlos takes this opportunity to grab him.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

Carlos straps the Boy into a seat. He places a pair of virtual reality goggles on the Boy. Carlos duct tapes the goggles on his head and tapes his mouth shut.

CARLOS

Sorry, kid.

Carlos turns on the TV. A zombie video game is on the screen. The Boy's screams are silenced by the tape.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

Lewis runs out of coffee bombs and drives away.

LEWIS

(through headset)

I'm out of coffee!

CARLOS (O.S)

Bring out the big guns!

Lewis grabs the remote from his belt and presses the buttons.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

A drone lifts off of the ground. He flies it toward the Daughter. The drone chases the Daughter around the store.

LEWIS

I'm sending her your way!

CARLOS

Ready!

She trips over Paul's dead body. The drone crashes. Carlos rolls her in bubble wrap and tape. He straps a set of VR goggles on her. The Mom can hear her scream and runs in Carlos's direction.

CARLOS

Oh shit!

Carlos runs.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

Carlos climbs a metal rack. It is about 25 feet tall. The Mom is in pursuit of him. He kicks at her but she continues to climbs. Carlos gets to the top and carefully walks across the shelf. It is not very stable. The Mom reaches the top.

CARLOS

I need your help!

LEWIS (O.S)

Alright hang on!

The Mom carefully walks towards Carlos.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

Lewis turns back to get the hover board. It's gone. he starts to panic and decides to run over.

CARLOS (O.S)

Hurry!

He is in a lot of pain. He's not going very fast. He grabs the drone remote.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

The drone lifts up but it is damaged. It dips and rises in the air.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

Carlos is near the edge of the shelf. The Mom reaches Carlos and pushes him up against the wall. She tries to bite him. Carlos has a hold of her neck. He struggles to hold her back.

CARLOS

Lewis! Save yourself!

Carlos gets the Mom to one knee. she stabs her nails into his forearms. Carlos screams in pain.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

Lewis puts the drone on autopilot and throws the remote.

LEWIS

I'm coming!

Lewis runs as fast as he can.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

The Mom is on her two knees now. Blood runs down Carlos's forearms. Lewis gets to the rack and climbs. The Mom bites Carlos on the ribs.

LEWIS

No!

Lewis grabs The Mom's hair and pulls her with all his strength. She falls off the rack and snaps her neck against a counter. Lewis reaches the top shelf and sits next to Carlos.

LEWIS

Hey man I'm here for you!

Lewis sees blood and Carlos's shirt.

LEWIS (CONT'D)

Fuck! She got you!

CARLOS

She did. But The Good Shepard <u>also</u> got me.

Carlos lifts his shirt. He has Keenan's support belt on.

LEWIS

Yes! Keenan you old decrepit fuck!

They hug. They take their headsets and mask off and just sit for a while, completely drained.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

They get back on the ground. They lean against each other to help the other walk towards the break room.

LEWIS

Dude, it looked like the mom was giving you head.

CARLOS

Cool. I hope you got it on camera.

The drone continues to fly around the store. Lewis spots the remote on the ground.

LEWIS

You piece of shit!

Lewis kicks the remote. The drone crashes, glass shatters. They stop and look at each other. They slowly turn around. The two-way mirror is broken. Nothing happens.

CARLOS

Okay, stay calm.

LEWIS

Maybe he die-

The Homeless Man jumps through the window.

CARLOS LEWIS

Oh Fuck!

Oh Fuck!

They run to the home appliances area. The Homeless Man chases.

LEWIS

What do we do!?

CARLOS

Get in a freezer or something!

They get to the big chest style freezers. Carlos opens one and jumps in. Lewis goes to one. It's padlocked.

LEWIS

Mine has a lock!

Carlos throws Lewis the master key and lays down in the:

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - CHEST FREEZER - NIGHT

He can hear movement and a voice from the outside but it is all muffled and unclear. There's a thud. Carlos pushes the door open.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

The Homeless Man stands in front a Carlos with the spiked leg of a tripod pierced from the back of his head through of his mouth. His body falls. Kristine is behind him.

CARLOS

Kristine!?

Carlos jumps out of the freezer and grabs Kristine.

CARLOS (CONT'D)

How are you alive!? Where were-

Carlos notices Lewis's body on the ground. His eyes widen.

KRISTINE

Oh he's not dead! I just thought he was him.

She points at the Homeless Man. Carlos sighs in relief.

KRISTINE (CONT'D)

We'll wake him up in a bit.

CARLOS

I can't believe you're alive! How!?

KRISTINE

Greg locked me in there. He was supposed to go get help but he never came back. I yelled a few times but you guys couldn't hear me.

Carlos is still in disbelief.

CARLOS

Yeah there was a lot of other yelling going on and thank God for Greg.

KRISTINE

I really thought I was gonna die in there. But here you are. My hero.

She pulls him close.

KRISTINE (CONT'D)

I know Lewis said Superman but I was always more of a Han Solo kind of girl.

CARLOS

Kristine, I love you.

KRISTINE

I know.

She smiles.

CARLOS

Ah, I see what you did th-

She pulls him in for a long, passionate kiss. Lewis wakes up. He sees Kristine.

LEWIS

What the fuck?

He closes his eyes and lays back down.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - STOCKROOM - NIGHT

Carlos, Lewis and Kristine Discuss an escape plan. Mid conversation.

LEWIS

Okay, I love the plan. But can I drive?

KRISTINE

Managers only.

Lewis puts his head down.

KRISTINE (CONT'D)

Just kidding.

She tosses him the key to the forklift.

LEWIS

Yes!

He jumps onto it.

CARLOS

Okay, I'll go open the front doors. You get on the forklift and make sure he doesn't kill himself.

KRISTINE

Okay, please be careful.

CARLOS

I will be.

She kisses him.

CARLOS (CONT'D)

(to Lewis)

Honk when you're ready to go!

Carlos exits.

INT. BEST BARGAIN - MAIN FLOOR - NIGHT

Carlos grabs the power cord for the sensors and a honk comes

from the stockroom. Carlos takes a deep breath and plugs in the cord. The main doors slide open and the horde of zombies rush in. Carlos runs to the:

INT. BEST BARGAIN - STOCKROOM - NIGHT

Carlos explodes through the doors.

CARLOS

Go! Go! Go!

Carlos jumps on the back of the forklift. Lewis stomps on the gas and they burst through the loading dock door.

EXT. PARKING LOT - NIGHT

They drive around the store as all the zombies pour into the store. They race down the lot.

LEWIS

You got your keys!?

CARLOS

Yes!

They jump off the forklift and run to Carlos's car. The doors are locked. Carlos struggles to get the key in the door but finally does and gets in. He reaches over to unlock Lewis's door.

CARLOS

We made it!

Kristine opens the door behind the driver side.

KRISTINE

Guys!

A figure under a blanket rises in the back seat. Lewis can see it in the rear view mirror. Lewis pulls the blanket off to see that it's Greg, still alive.

GREG

Guys! You made it!

Kristine gets in.

LEWIS

Greg! What the fuck!? Why didn't you
go get help!?

GREG

I didn't have the keys.

LEWIS

That's fair. I'm sorry I yelled at you.

GREG

That's okay. I climbed in through the window and cut myself.

Greg Reveals a large gash on his forearm. They all look at each other. It's possibly but not clearly a bite.

CARLOS

Oh, man.

LEWIS

Interesting...

Lewis, very slyly, grabs the fanny pack.

GREG

It's okay for now. I'm applying pressure to it.

KRISTINE

I'm glad you made it out Greg.

GREG

Thanks Kristine, you too. What's the plan guys?

CARLOS

To New York. That's where the nearest Chick-fil-a is.

Lewis smiles at Carlos. Carlos starts the car. We see that Greg has found the gun and has it hidden under the blanket. They drive off.

LEWIS (V.O)

Wait. You mean Ticonderoga? That is not New York. I refuse to go.

CARLOS (V.O)

You're more than welcome to stay.

LEWIS (V.O)

Okay, I'll go.

KRISTINE (V.O)

And maybe a hospital somewhere in between?

CARLOS (V.O)

Absolutely.

GREG (V.O)

Hey Lewis, I found the spare pants.

Lewis doesn't respond.

EXT. PARKING LOT - NIGHT

The horde of zombies hear the car and pursuit them. There is a rope made of pants that hangs down from the Best Bargain roof which Zombie Jesse is stranded on top of. Lewis sticks is arm out of the broken window and flips them off.

FADE OUT.