

## TITLE SEQUENCE

EXT. NIGHTCLUB - NIGHT

A provincial High Street nightclub. Three bouncers are outside, letting people in, chatting, but it's not busy. Most people are in already.

A boy - PATRICK - blonde, handsome, exits the club urgently and looks around. Whoever he's looking for isn't there. He looks miffed, gives up and goes back inside.

EXT. DARK TOWN ALLEYWAY - NIGHT

Sound fx of street shouts, the dull thud of club music.

Away from the glare of the main street two boys and KAREN, a dark-haired girl, fierce make up, nose ring - swig from a bottle. She's more wasted than them. KAREN lights up a cigarette. Drops the lighter. Leans to get it and stumbles into the boys. All three laugh. The boys hold her steady. One of them holds a wrap of coke and shovels a little onto a credit card. KAREN leans in and snorts it up, kisses her fingers and dabs the kiss on a boy's face, then goes to move off.

One of the boys holds her back. He goes to kiss her properly. It takes her a while to wake up a little, but she pulls her head back and gives him a WTF look.

KAREN goes to move off again. She's blocked. She pushes at the boy blocking her. He moves in and tries to kiss her again.

KAREN growls and pushes the boy off forcefully. Her lipstick is all over her mouth where he's tried to kiss her. They weigh each other up. She smiles. She snatches the bottle of drink from the second boy. Swigs a bit more. Smashes it against the wall.

Sound fx of a scuffle, of the boys screaming and gurgling. A foot staggers back and steps on a dropped phone, then turns and runs while the other boy is felled. His whole body writhes, like he's being savaged.

After a moment KAREN stumbles back to the main road, Looks both ways.

KAREN

TAXI!

Sound of cab brakes squealing. Karen lurches off to the left, leaving the boy lying on the ground, a foot twitching in the f/g.

INT. OLD HOUSE - JAMIE'S ROOM - NIGHT

JAMIE is sleeping. Someone starts to shake him, waking him up.

DAD

(urgent)

Jamie. Jamie. Wake up. Come on!  
Wake up!

Jamie stirs groggily. His bedside lamp is switched on. DAD is wearing a shirt and jeans.

DAD (CONT'D)

(urgent)

Come up. Get up. We need to leave.  
Get moving.

JAMIE

Where are we going?

DAD

Just hurry up and get some things  
together.

Jamie hoists himself onto an elbow and forces himself awake. He looks at his watch. It's 3.10 am. The sound of a squeaky wheel bleeds in from the landing.

INT. OLD HOUSE - LANDING - NIGHT

BELLA - Jamie's 7-year old sister - walks along the landing, carrying her teddy bear - Edward - and pulling a small Hello Kitty wheelie bag behind her. She's wearing her favorite cape, all black with a red lining, like a witch's cape.

JAMIE opens his bedroom door, yawns violently. DAD leans against the wall to let BELLA pass then marches on. He's carrying a petrol can.

JAMIE

(groggy from sleep)

What's happened?

DAD

Just get packing!

INT. OLD HOUSE - JAMIE'S ROOM - NIGHT

Jamie puts a sports bag on the bed, unzips it, and starts throwing things in, sifting through his belongings in the process.

DAD stops by the doorway, struggling with luggage.

DAD  
Finish up and help your little  
sister.

JAMIE picks a film.

DAD (CONT'D)  
Get a move on.

DAD leaves. JAMIE opens his wardrobe and puts a few clothes in his bag. He bends down, glances over his shoulder, and pulls out a mound of lingerie catalogues. All the catalogues have colour-coded tabs marking out pages. He flips through a couple, selects one, and stuffs it right at the bottom of his bag.

He slips his parka on, glances over his shoulder, then goes and picks up a framed photo from his bedside table.

POV JAMIE :

It's MUM, doing the Devil's sign, faux snarling, half laughing. She has a distinctive Rose tattoo across her breastbone. DAD is standing next to her, an arm slung round her shoulder, with JAMIE in a headlock.

DAD (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
JAMIE!

JAMIE tries to stick the picture in his bag, but it won't fit. He takes the photo from the frame, folds it into his back pocket, and hurries out.

INT. OLD HOUSE KITCHEN - NIGHT

JAMIE enters carrying BELLA. He goes to a cupboard and nudges open a door, grabs a pack of biscuits and hands them to BELLA.

Through the window we can see DAD pouring petrol over a pile in the garden, lighting it, sending it up in flames.

JAMIE and BELLA leave.

EXT. OLD HOUSE - NIGHT

JAMIE comes out still carrying BELLA, who's snuffling, but chewing on a biscuit. He's holding her teddy, making it dance, trying to cheer her up. UNCLE STEVE - a fat, mid-thirties biker/right wing slob - passes him, going back into the house in a hurry.

JAMIE wipes tears from his sister's face.

JAMIE  
What's up Bellarella?

BELLA  
(still sniffing)  
Am I still having a birthday party?

JAMIE  
Of course! That's why we're  
leaving. This house isn't big  
enough for all the presents you're  
going to get!

JAMIE swings BELLA around, once, twice, three times, making her giggle. He watches the road, waits for a car to pass, then carries BELLA over the road to the family car - a battered 4-wheel drive, dropping Edward on the way. The doors and boot are open, the engine's running. An orange day-glo skull hangs from the rearview mirror.

KAREN , Jamie's older sister, is standing by the car, ignoring everyone, sulking, arms crossed, not lifting a finger. Her make up is smudged. She still a bit pissed. There's blood down her front.

JAMIE stares at her, decides not to ask her anything. He hoists his and Bella's bags into the open boot.

He looks along the road. He observes a group of four young lads walking along the other way, on their way home from a night out. A couple are walking towards them, arms linked, giggling. Police sirens wail away in the distance.

DAD and UNCLE STEVE struggle over to the car. Open the boot. There's something wrapped under a blanket. They pile more bags onto top, then slam the boot shut. STEVE puffs round to the driver's seat.

DAD  
(to Karen)  
You. Get in!

KAREN gets in the back of the car. DAD goes round to the passenger seat.

DAD (CONT'D)  
(to Jamie)  
You too Jamie. Come on! Look  
lively!

JAMIE  
Where are we going?

DAD

I'll work that out later. Just  
get in.

Everyone gets in the car. BELLA presses her face to the  
car window and shouts.

BELLA

EDWARD!

JAMIE hands BELLA to KAREN , opens the car door, just as  
the car's moving off.

DAD

JAMIE!

JAMIE lurches into the road to get Edward . He makes it  
part way across when he's hit by a car . He lands on the  
road, still. The driver and passengers get out, distraught.  
The couple who were walking up the road run towards him,  
the man on his mobile . The gang of lads slow and look back.

The family look on as a crowd grows around JAMIE . A couple  
of people from neighboring houses come out to see what's  
going on. House lights come on along the street.

BELLA starts screaming and crying, tries to get out of the  
car. DAD tries to calm her. Puts a hand over her mouth  
and kisses her head. Mouths 'DRIVE' to UNCLE STEVE .

The car pulls out and slowly moves away, leaving JAMIE  
behind.

FADE OUT: