

**SEA CHANGE**

"PILOT"

Written By

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Based on the novel by Aimee Friedman

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TEASER

1 EST. SHOT - SELKIE ISLAND - SUNSET (N1) 1

The sun sinks in the sky as we SOAR over dramatic cliffs. Pristine sand. Weathered bluffs. Anchored offshore, we spot a MOTOR CRUISER. As the camera DESCENDS toward the deck:

2 EXT. CRUISER/WATER - SAME (N1) 2

KAYLA MORGAN (20s) checks the pressure on a scuba tank. Athletic and inquisitive, she moves with casual efficiency; she knows her way around the boat and its equipment.

LEO (O.S.)  
Is that a rebreather?

Kayla turns to see LEO MACLEOD (19) casually straddling a surfboard. (Think Charlie Hunnam. A charming bad boy. Physical perfection. The kind of body that comes from honest-to-god labor, not the gym.) Kayla stares blankly for a sec, caught off-guard by the gorgeous creature.

LEO (CONT'D)  
I've never seen one up close.

KAYLA  
(snapping out of it)  
I'm sorry?

Leo laughs and gestures to the expensive equipment.

LEO  
Your gear. We don't get many professionals around here. The north shore is basically a glorified swimming pool. You'll be bored out of your skull.

KAYLA  
I'm interested in a lot of things that would bore most people "out of their skulls."

LEO  
Then you've got to see the reefs off Siren Beach.

Kayla shakes her head, confused.

KAYLA  
My uncle said diving off the South Shore is banned.

LEO

Sure, to keep rich first-time  
divers from killing themselves.

Kayla glances toward the southern shore, clearly tempted.

LEO (CONT'D)

Coast Guard's last patrol was at  
6pm. Everyone else around here is  
either at the bar or working  
tourist traps for tips. You'll  
catch the bottlenose pod feeding if  
you hurry.

KAYLA

(excited)

I haven't seen a wild pod since I  
was in Peru.

Leo nods. Kayla looks around for Coast Guard boats, but the  
water's empty for miles. She makes up her mind.

KAYLA (CONT'D)

Screw it. Thanks for the advice.

LEO

Anytime.

He grins at her. Kayla smiles back, lost in his gaze. A beat,  
then she catches herself, embarrassed, and starts the boat.

With a final wave, Kayla turns toward South Shore. As she  
disappears, NAOMI MACLEOD (16), another surfer, joins Leo.  
Naomi's a compact tomboy with a surf tan and abs for days.  
They watch Kayla disappear into the sunset.

SMASH CUT TO:

3

EXT. OCEAN - UNDERWATER - SUNSET (N1)

3

A SPLASH as Kayla dives in, taking us below the surface. Now  
clad in scuba gear, she paddles toward the sea floor. And  
doesn't notice the shadow that follows.

MIRANDA (V.O.)

*"There are monsters under the  
sea..."*

Kayla swims through a patch of hot water, reacts. She turns,  
running her hand through the current. Excited, she continues  
toward the reef.

MIRANDA (V.O.)

*"...They come from below.  
Sometimes, there are signs they're  
there, but more often than not,  
it's a feeling at the back of your  
neck, not something you can see..."*

As Kayla studies the organism, something flits through her periphery. Startled, Kayla glances around. Unclips her diving knife. Rotates slowly in the water, but there's no sign of danger. She relaxes her grip, shaking off her unease. And lights up when she spots something on the sea floor.

MIRANDA (V.O.)

*"The danger isn't that they'll drag  
you under..."*

Kayla dives toward an intricate maze of caverns. As she nears, we notice a *slight blue glow* pulsating from the mouth of one of the caves. Kayla paddles eagerly toward the light source. Her eyes widen as she glimpses the interior. She gasps. We can't see what she's looking at, but it's wondrous.

MIRANDA (V.O.)

*"...it's realizing you'll want to  
stay."*

Kayla reaches for her camera. And is SLAMMED backward. She struggles to make out her attacker. Nothing but dust and debris. She reaches for her knife, but it's GONE. Kayla frantically scans the ocean floor, but the weapon is lost.

MIRANDA (V.O.)

*"...And by the time the fear sets  
in..."*

A shadow crosses above her. Kayla whips around, squinting to see. Human or animal? Too murky to tell. She steels herself. SHOVES hard off the sea floor. RACES for the surface. The sky grows clearer. Three feet... Two... One... Kayla's RIPPED back downward. She gropes for the ROCK HAMMER on her belt and LUNGES, glimpsing TALONS as she swings wildly at her assailant. But it works: she's free. She charges for the sky.

Kayla emerges above the water, gasping. HURLS her body toward the boat. She reaches the ladder, but her gear is tangled in the boat's lines. Sobbing, Kayla struggles to free herself.

MIRANDA (V.O.)

*"...it's too late. You're already  
theirs."*

Kayla claws at her equipment. One clasp undone... then another... *but it's too late.* The creature TEARS Kayla from the ladder. As Kayla's screams quickly turn to watery silence, we:

SMASH CUT TO:

SEA CHANGE.

END TEASER

ACT ONE

4 EST. SHOT - SELKIE ISLAND - DAY (D2) 4

A bucolic village sits nestled amongst soaring bluffs. As we sail around the island, we spot FISHERMAN'S VILLAGE, a weather-beaten collection of homes where the locals live.

5 EXT. SELKIE ISLAND FERRY - DAY (D2) 5

CLOSE ON: MIRANDA MERCHANT (17), standing at the bow of an old-fashioned ferry as it churns through the Atlantic. Miranda's wearing funky thrift shop threads paired with beat-up Converse sneakers. Miranda reads from a battered journal. On the yellowed pages, we recognize **the passage we just heard in V.O.**, scribbled in teenage scrawl.

TJ

Excuse me, miss?

She looks up to see a preppy teen boy approaching. Meet TJ ELLINGSWORTH (18). Confident and easygoing. Think Pacey Witter, post finishing school. He holds up a brochure.

TJ (CONT'D)

Interested in a tour? We're offering a special on--  
(reading off the brochure)  
--"New England architectural elements." Featuring... "cornices."

MIRANDA

Thanks, but cornices aren't really my thing.

TJ

Mine either. Actually, I stole this from some woman's bag as an excuse to talk to you.

This surprises a laugh out of Miranda. TJ grins sheepishly.

TJ (CONT'D)

I'm TJ.

MIRANDA

Miranda.

TJ

(surprised)  
You're Amelia's daughter.

Miranda reacts, uncomfortable.

MIRANDA

You know Amelia?

TJ

Sure. Selkie's a small island. You look just like her.

MIRANDA

I wouldn't know. We've never met.

TJ reacts, surprised. Gestures back at the cabin, where A GROUP OF TEENS pretend they're not watching the exchange.

TJ

Well, brace yourself. The return of Amelia's long-lost daughter is gonna be the biggest event around here since the general store burned down like ten years ago.

Miranda grimaces, a little uncomfortable with this. TJ smiles, sympathetic.

TJ (CONT'D)

Don't worry, by the weekend, someone will total their yacht and you'll be old news.

MIRANDA

I'd sort of rather be no news.

TJ distracts her by grabbing the journal from her hands. Miranda lunges for it, but she's too slow.

TJ

Need help writing?

MIRANDA

Actually--

TJ

Don't worry, I'm really good at this. "Dear diary, today, I met the cutest guy on the ferry. Did I say cute? I meant hot. A total stud. Irresistible..."

Miranda snatches the journal back.

MIRANDA

It's not my diary. I was just doing a little reading about The Mariner, my--

TJ  
--Amelia's house. Want to see it?

MIRANDA  
Wait, like right now?

TJ nods and starts toward the back of the ship. Intrigued, Miranda follows. TJ stops next to a ladder. Miranda pauses at the "NO PASSENGER ACCESS" sign. TJ sighs, put-upon.

TJ  
I suppose you have some issue with trespassing...

MIRANDA  
(shrugging)  
Nope.

She begins to climb. TJ grins. He likes this girl.

6 EXT. SELKIE ISLAND FERRY - ROOF - SAME (D2) 6

Miranda and TJ emerge onto the roof. TJ leads her to the edge. Leans close. Points to a group of impressive mansions.

TJ  
Three o'clock. The Mariner is the big blue house.

An imposing manse, the largest on the island. A beat as she takes it in. Then:

MIRANDA  
(quiet)  
Home, sweet home.

TJ misinterprets her tone.

TJ  
I know Selkie looks tiny, but it's actually a pretty sweet place once you get used to living in the digital desert.  
(off her look)  
Amelia didn't warn you? There's no cell tower on the island.

Surprised, Miranda pulls her phone from her pocket. Sure enough, she's got no bars.

TJ (CONT'D)  
Hope you said goodbye to your boyfriend back in...?

Miranda fights a smile.

MIRANDA

New York. And I don't have a  
boyfriend.

TJ

(devilish)

Probably for the best. The lone  
internet cafe in town still has  
dial-up.

MIRANDA

You're joking.  
(off TJ's nod:)  
How... 1999.

TJ

Antiquated, yes. But bad?

(shrugs)

It's actually sort of nice.  
Sometimes I feel like Selkie is the  
only place I really *know* people,  
not just who likes a juggling  
kitten and has a "#privatejet."

MIRANDA

Juggling kittens never fly  
commercial. #fact.

TJ laughs. She flashes him a smile and turns back to the  
view, growing somber as she takes in the approaching island.

7 EXT. SELKIE ISLAND FERRY - DAY (D2)

7

The ferry now sits at a quaint harbor. Miranda and TJ line up  
to disembark.

GINNY (O.S.)

Hey, hottie with a body!

Two teen girls make their way through the crowd. GINNY (17)  
has the severe look of someone who eats air for lunch. And is  
proud of it. KATE (16) is pretty in a manufactured way.  
Miranda reacts to the unfriendly look in Ginny's eye.

MIRANDA

Friends of yours?

TJ

There's a bunch of us who've been  
coming to the island every summer  
for our entire lives. We're  
basically siblings.

As she nears, Ginny shoots Miranda a death glare.

MIRANDA  
Right. Siblings.

Ginny pulls TJ into a possessive hug. Presses a kiss to his lips. TJ pulls back, annoyed.

TJ  
Hey, Ginny.

GINNY  
I missed you.

Ginny turns to Miranda, eyes her frayed jeans.

GINNY (CONT'D)  
(to TJ)  
Did your dad finally cave and get a housekeeper for the island? That's so great. Maybe we can share her.  
(to Miranda, slowly:)  
Do you speak English?

TJ  
This is Amelia's daughter.

GINNY  
Ohmygosh, I saw those jeans and I just assumed. I'm so embarrassed.

She's not. Miranda smiles mildly, not taking the bait.

MIRANDA  
I'm Miranda.

GINNY  
Virginia Anderson. This is Kate.

TJ hoists Miranda's bag.

TJ  
Let's go, I'm dying to get this summer started.

He starts down the ramp. Miranda moves to follow, but Ginny cuts her off, Kate following close behind. Miranda represses a sigh and lets them pass.

8 EXT. SELKIE ISLAND HARBOR - SAME (D2)

8

A bustling crowd waits for the ferry to unload as our gang disembarks. Ginny drops back, falling in line with TJ.

GINNY

Bobby's already at The Galley. If we don't get there ASAP you know he'll bogart all of the good stuff.

TJ glances toward Miranda.

TJ

Go ahead. I'll catch up to you guys.

GINNY

(annoyed)

I'm sure Hipster Barbie has places to be.

TJ

(frustrated)

Maybe I just don't feel like hitting The Galley right now.

GINNY

Funny. You felt like *hitting The Galley* plenty last summer.

She rakes her eyes up and down his body. TJ stops walking, irritated.

TJ

Yeah, and that was fun. But we both agreed that's all it was.

GINNY

Duh. It's not like I want to marry you or something. But who says the fun has to stop?

She steps forward, pressing herself against him. TJ steps back. Not interested.

TJ

I'll see you later, okay, Gin?

TJ walks away to join Miranda. Stung by the rejection, Ginny sends Miranda a hateful look before moving off.

ANGLE ON: Miranda, as she scans the crowd. TJ approaches.

TJ (CONT'D)

What are you doing tomorrow night?

MIRANDA

I'm thinking a little brooding,  
maybe penning some angsty poetry,  
for sure avoiding awkward  
conversation with my only living  
relative. You know, the usual. You?

TJ takes this in, thoughtful.

TJ

There's this party at The Galley.  
The restaurant on the pier. It's  
kind of an island tradition. Great  
for angst-drowning. See you there?

MIRANDA

Maybe. I'll check with Amel--  
(catching herself)  
My mom.

AMELIA (O.S.)

Miranda!

Miranda turns to see AMELIA HAWKINS (45) making her way through the crowd. Amelia is a striking woman - she doesn't wear a lot of make-up, but she doesn't need to. She wears the casual uniform of an islander: comfortably broken-in jeans with a discreet designer label. As she crosses toward them, Miranda reacts, suddenly nervous.

TJ clocks her reaction, grabs her hand and gestures toward a cove of distant houses.

TJ

See the grey house?  
(off Miranda's nod)  
That's me. Door's always open.

Miranda offers him a grateful look as he moves off. Amelia approaches Miranda with a nervous smile.

AMELIA

Miranda. Welcome to Selkie Island.

MIRANDA

Thanks.

Amelia pulls Miranda into a stiff hug. It's awkward.

AMELIA

How was the ferry?

MIRANDA

Good. Uneventful.

AMELIA

That's good.

Another awkward beat as Amelia takes in Miranda's features with hungry eyes. Miranda shifts uncomfortably.

AMELIA (CONT'D)

Sorry. I'll bet you're starving.  
Let's get you home.

Miranda cringes a hair at the word "home," but nods. Hefts her bag. Amelia frowns.

AMELIA (CONT'D)

Just one bag? When I was your age,  
I think I owned enough jeans alone  
to fill a whole suitcase.

MIRANDA

(awkward)

The rest of my stuff is in storage.  
The social worker said it was  
probably better not to bring it all  
down until--

AMELIA

(cutting her off)

Of course. I understand. Shall we?

Amelia quickly turns and starts down the footpath. Miranda follows.

9

INT. THE MARINER - FOYER - DAY (D2)

9

Miranda and Amelia enter The Mariner. It's the kind of place that has both a "parlor" and a "sitting room." Antique everything. On the walls, gold-framed artwork competes with nautical paraphernalia. A beat as Miranda takes in the manse.

MIRANDA

This place is huge.

AMELIA

I imagine everything seems big  
after growing up in Manhattan. Of  
course, Greg was a lawyer, so you  
probably had plenty of space.

Miranda's face closes off at the mention of her father. Amelia winces, instantly contrite.

AMELIA (CONT'D)

I'm so sorry. I know it must be  
hard to talk about your father--

MIRANDA  
(cutting her off)  
My bag is kind of heavy. Where am I  
staying?

With an apologetic look, Amelia leads her up the stairs.

10 INT. THE MARINER - MIRANDA'S ROOM - LATER (D2) 10

Miranda finishes unpacking. Pulls out a photograph: Miranda and her father, GREG. She runs a finger over his face, a flash of sorrow flickering across her features, then buries the frame deep in a dresser drawer.

With a sigh, Miranda pulls out her cell phone. *Right. No signal.* She powers off the phone. Tosses it into her empty suitcase, then hesitates. She unzips the side pocket, removing the JOURNAL she had on the ferry.

Miranda flips it open, reading the inscription: "*Property of Amelia Hawkins. July 1992. Read and DIE.*" She flips to the next page, which is covered in teenage doodles. Several jump out at us: "*I <3 Seawalkers,*" "*Seawalkers' Kiss,*" and "*Mrs. Amelia Williams.*" A knock at the door. Miranda quickly stashes the journal in the bedside drawer as Amelia enters.

AMELIA  
Are you hungry? I wasn't sure what  
you liked, so I made chicken. But  
if you're a vegetarian, or would  
prefer something else, I have--

MIRANDA  
Chicken's good. Thanks.

Amelia smiles, encouraged.

AMELIA  
I'm glad you're here.

Miranda nods. Not ready to say the same.

11 INT. THE MARINER - KITCHEN - NIGHT (N2) 11

Miranda and Amelia sit across a worn farm table in silence. Miranda pushes the food around her plate.

AMELIA  
You don't like it?

MIRANDA  
It's great. Thanks.

She forces herself to take a bite.

AMELIA

I'm a member of the island yacht club. If you'd like to go out on the water tomorrow, we could pack a picnic, go for a swim...

MIRANDA

I don't know how to swim.

AMELIA

(surprised)  
Greg never taught you?

MIRANDA

Dad couldn't swim either.

Amelia laughs.

AMELIA

Of course he could. He went to UCLA on a swimming scholarship.

Miranda reacts, thrown off.

MIRANDA

Then I guess he just didn't want me near the water.  
(beat, then, loaded:)  
Can't imagine why.

Amelia looks away, guilty. Miranda picks up her plate. Carries it to the sink.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

Is it okay if I go for a run?

AMELIA

Of course. Let me just... hang on.

Amelia disappears into the living room for a beat, returns carrying a small jewelry box.

AMELIA (CONT'D)

Here.

Miranda opens the box to reveal a DISTINCTIVE PENDANT.

MIRANDA

It's pretty.

AMELIA

I'd like you to have it. It's a family heirloom.

Miranda hesitates.

MIRANDA

It looks expensive. And I--

Miranda catches herself, stops. Amelia smiles wryly.

AMELIA

And you might not be here very long?

MIRANDA

I didn't mean it like that.

AMELIA

It's okay. We're both figuring this out.

(re: pendant)

My mother used to say it gave her protection. It's silly, but I'd feel good knowing you had it on, wherever you might be.

MIRANDA

Okay. Thanks.

Miranda clasps the necklace around her throat. Amelia relaxes almost imperceptibly as Miranda exits.

12 EXT. SELKIE ISLAND - DUNES - NIGHT (N2) 12

The dunes are silent and still in the moonlight. A puff of wind sends the dune grasses swaying. Slowly, we're aware of the sound of POUNDING FEET. As it grows louder, we go to:

13 EXT. FOOTPATH - NIGHT (N2) 13

Miranda tears through the dunes, sweat dripping. She can't outrun her demons, but she's sure going to try. She comes to a stop just before the water, chest heaving. She leans forward, hands on her knees, trying to catch her breath.

Finally, Miranda straightens, turning back toward the beach. And STARTS at the sight of LEO, standing behind her.

MIRANDA

Jesus.

She steps instinctively backward as she takes in Leo's full effect: water running down perfectly chiseled abs. Eyes burning with intensity. They stay locked into each other's gazes for a moment. Then Leo breaks into a charming smile.

LEO

Sorry, I didn't mean to scare you.

He steps back to let her pass, exposing DISTINCTIVE SCARS across his torso. Miranda reacts.

MIRANDA

Woah. That looks painful.

Leo quickly covers himself.

LEO

Surfing accident.

He offers Miranda a hand.

LEO (CONT'D)

I'm Leo.

MIRANDA

Miranda.

She takes his hand. The minute their fingers touch, Miranda GASPS, her gaze flying to his. *Did you feel that?* Leo meets her look, intrigued.

LEO

I've never seen you before.

MIRANDA

I just moved here.

Leo takes this in, considering her.

LEO

Well, you're not officially a resident until you've swum Siren Beach.

MIRANDA

Then I guess I'm stuck being a tourist. I don't know how to swim.

LEO

You don't? I'll teach you.

Miranda shakes her head.

MIRANDA

I'll wait for a lifeguard and full visibility, thanks.

LEO

Come on, the water's incredible. I promise I'll take care of you.

He holds out a hand, a flirtatious challenge in his eye. A long beat as Miranda considers. Is she going to submit? Finally, she shakes her head and steps back.

MIRANDA

Another time, maybe.

A hint of anger and surprise flashes across Leo's face, so fast we almost miss it.

LEO

It's a one-time-only offer.

Miranda frowns at the sudden edge in his voice. She glances around, all at once aware that she's alone with a stranger.

MIRANDA

I should go, my mom's waiting for me. Nice to meet you, Leo.

Leo smiles easily, but there's a hard look in his eyes as he waves goodbye.

Miranda jogs back down the footpath, still a little unnerved. As she crests the first dune, a tendril of fog snakes past her ankles. Miranda glances back at the beach, surprised to realize it's already shrouded from view. She jogs faster.

Miranda rounds a bend, coming face-to-face with a wall of mist. She runs nervously into the gloom, picking up her pace.

As Miranda navigates the dense bank of fog, something RUSTLES in the dunes nearby. She peers into the dark, but it's impossible to see. She breaks into a run.

Miranda tears through the dunes, the sound growing louder. Whatever it is, it's gaining on her. Frightened, Miranda SPRINTS toward the end of the trail.

Miranda DASHES past the last dune, exiting the footpath at a run. She glances back over her shoulder, searching for her pursuer. And CRASHES into a body. Miranda screams.

AMELIA (O.S.)

Miranda? Are you okay?

Miranda gasps for air, realizing she's just run straight into Amelia. Amelia studies her with concern.

MIRANDA

(accusing)

What are you doing? Were you following me?

AMELIA

Of course not. But you'd been gone a long time, I was worried.

MIRANDA

Sorry. I guess I ran further than I thought.

Frustrated, Miranda searches the dunes, but the fog is already retreating, revealing the empty beach.

AMELIA

(concerned)

Are you sure you're okay?

Miranda lets out a shaky breath. Nods.

MIRANDA

I'm fine. I grew up in the city. Last week, I literally saw a man get shanked on the subway. I don't know why I let a little bit of fog spook me like that.

Miranda glances back at the beach. But there's no sign of her pursuer. Still unsettled, she starts toward The Mariner.

As she disappears inside, we stay with Amelia, peering out toward the water. And we see what Miranda missed: a DARK FIGURE watching from the dunes. A beat as Amelia studies the figure. With one last long look, she follows Miranda inside.

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

14 INT. THE MARINER - HALLWAY - MORNING (D3) 14

Miranda exits her bedroom, still in her pajamas. Pauses at a portrait of an OLD FISHERMAN with eyes to rival the Mona Lisa. She studies him for a beat and then notices a CRACK OF LIGHT shining from behind the edges of the portrait. Curious, Miranda scans the frame. And spots a LATCH, cleverly disguised as an aesthetic detail. She presses it. A HIDDEN DOOR swings open. She steps into:

15 INT. THE MARINER - STUDY - SAME (D3) 15

A secret room: Amelia's study. A bookworm heaven. Sturdy leather chairs. Oriental rugs. Floor-to-ceiling bookshelves.

Intrigued, Miranda quickly takes stock of the room's contents. There's a treasure trove of research materials on Selkie Island, ocean mythology, and New England history. Miranda crosses to a THICK BOOK sitting open on the desk. "*The Legends of Selkie Island.*" She flips through it, landing on a picture of a MALE SEAWALKER.

Miranda stills as she spots DISTINCTIVE SCARS on the Seawalker's torso. Heart pounding, she leans closer: *the scars are an exact match to Leo's.* Miranda reads:

MIRANDA

*"Some Seawalkers have scars from the formation of gills. These gill markers can only be seen under direct moonlight."*

AMELIA (O.S.)

What are you doing?

Miranda looks up to see Amelia in the doorway.

MIRANDA

Sorry, I was just--

AMELIA

(sharp)

This room is off-limits.

Miranda reacts, rebuffed.

MIRANDA

Got it.

She starts for the doorway, but Amelia stops her, apologetic.

AMELIA

I'm sorry. It's just...

(beat)

I keep all of my financial stuff here. I have a whole system...

She waves vaguely at the desk. Miranda takes this in, considering. Then, probing:

MIRANDA

Seems like you also have a lot of stuff about Seawalkers.

Amelia stiffens. Miranda watches her reaction, curious.

AMELIA

It came with the house. I think all the books belonged to my great aunt Norma originally. She was a historian.

MIRANDA

So Seawalkers are real?

AMELIA

No. They're just fairy tales parents tell to keep their children from swimming where they shouldn't.

MIRANDA

(curious)

Like where?

AMELIA

Siren Beach, for one. The locals can be a little territorial.

MIRANDA

Aren't we locals?

AMELIA

(wry)

Having a house on the North Shore makes us Heirs.

MIRANDA

"Airs?"

AMELIA

"Heirs." With an "H." It's what the locals call summer vacationers who inherited property.

Amelia leads Miranda from the room, firmly shutting the door behind them.

AMELIA (CONT'D)

I was thinking you might like to go shopping for some island clothes. My treat?

MIRANDA

(uncomfortable)

Actually, I have to email the social worker. I'm supposed to check in within twenty-four hours.

Amelia tenses, but her smile remains firmly in place.

AMELIA

Of course. I'm afraid the private residences aren't wired for internet, but there's a cafe in town. You can't miss it. Take all the time you need.

Before Miranda can respond, Amelia walks away.

16

INT. THE HUB - DAY (D3)

16

Miranda enters. All of the computers are taken. She gets in line.

Across the cafe, the sound of laughter draws her eye to a GROUP OF TEENS. TJ looks up, grins when he spots Miranda. He crosses to her.

TJ

Hi.

MIRANDA

Hi.

TJ

Couldn't last a day without outside contact?

MIRANDA

Something like that.

TJ playfully grabs his heart.

TJ

I knew that boyfriend wouldn't let you go so easily.

MIRANDA

Javier gets upset if I don't check in. And he's a bodybuilder so I don't like to make him mad.

(beat, then:)

Plus, I've got to email DCFS so they know Amelia hasn't locked me in the basement.

TJ

And that's something we're worried about...?

MIRANDA

It's complicated.

(beat)

My dad just died. I'm still getting used to the whole "living with a stranger" thing.

TJ nods, his expression turning thoughtful.

TJ

Gimme a sec.

He crosses to a MOUSY BOY at one of the computers. After a quick discussion, he gestures Miranda over.

TJ (CONT'D)

Turns out, Nelson was just wrapping up. Thanks, Nelson.

Nelson rolls his eyes and stands to leave. Miranda takes his computer, grateful.

TJ (CONT'D)

Will I see you at the Heirs Party tonight? It's the party I was telling you about. It's mostly just an excuse for our parents to get trashed and gossip about who's in trouble with the feds.

MIRANDA

Insider trading gossip? Sign me up.

TJ

8pm. See you there.

TJ smiles and takes off. Miranda opens her email. There's a message from CAREY DWORKIN. The subject is "*How's it going with Amelia?*" As Miranda contemplates her response, we:

FLASHBACK TO:

17

INT. DCFS - CAREY'S OFFICE - DAY (D3)

17

Miranda sits across from CAREY DWORKIN (40s), tough but compassionate. Miranda's expression is grim.

CAREY

We'll look for a family in the city so you can finish at PS 317. But you're more likely to be placed outside of Manhattan. In Westchester or even upstate, there are a lot of great foster homes.

MIRANDA

I'm sixteen. What about emancipation?

CAREY

DCFS doesn't feel it's in your best interest at this time.

MIRANDA

(frustrated)

And living with a bunch of strangers upstate is?

Carey hesitates. Then:

CAREY

Amelia Hawkins has petitioned for custody.

MIRANDA

(shocked)

My mother?

Carey nods.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

What? Why? She literally tried to kill me.

CAREY

Amelia suffered from severe postpartum depression after you were born. She's undergone treatment and voluntarily submitted to a psychiatric evaluation. Our doctors believe she's fully recovered.

Miranda stares out of the window, fighting tears. Carey softens, placing a hand over hers.

CAREY (CONT'D)

Give Amelia a chance. Spend the summer with her. If it doesn't work out, I'll do my best to find a foster care situation that you and I both feel comfortable with...

Off Miranda's bleak expression we RETURN TO:

18

INT. THE HUB - PRESENT (D3)

18

Miranda stares at the blinking cursor. Shakes off her mood and quickly types: "*Things are fine with Amelia. She's trying.*" She presses send and listlessly glances through her inbox - several "*MISS YOU!*" etc. subject lines - but Miranda scrolls right past the emails.

Miranda moves the cursor to the *SIGN OUT* button when a CALENDAR REMINDER POPS UP: "*YANKEE GAME. 3PM. DON'T FORGET! XO, DAD.*" Miranda reacts, gut-punched.

Shaken, Miranda scrambles to log out and quickly gathers her belongings. She rushes for the door when a round-faced girl comes flying at her. Meet CECE COOPER (16). Warm. Bubbly. Talks a mile-a-minute. Cece badly wants to be a part of the cool kids, but her over-enthusiasm and naivete tend to keep her out of the upper echelon.

CECE

Ohmygosh, you're Miranda.

She surprises Miranda with a tight hug.

CECE (CONT'D)

I'm Cece Anne Cooper. My mom told me not to bother you this week because you and your mom have like, tons of bonding and whatever to make up for, but I'm pretty sure she just said that because her Botox went a little wonky and she's desperate for company. But I couldn't wait to meet you. Ginny said you were a total freak which means we're for sure going to be best friends.

Miranda glances toward the door, desperate for an exit.

MIRANDA

It's nice to meet you.

She moves toward the door, but Cece falls in beside her.

CECE

What are you doing right now? Do you want to get ice cream? My treat. I mean, not that I don't think you can afford ice cream, you totally don't seem poor or anything, I just want to be nice...

Cece looks at Miranda with puppy-dog enthusiasm, but Miranda's barely holding it together.

MIRANDA

(short)

Sorry, I have to be somewhere.

She pushes past Cece, fleeing toward the exit. Off Cece's disappointment...

19 EXT. NORTH SHORE - BOARDWALK - SAME (D3) 19

Miranda emerges onto a quaint shop-lined boardwalk. She glances around for somewhere private, but the shops are doing steady business. A SNOBBY WOMAN eyes her curiously and Miranda ducks her head and turns towards the docks.

ANGLE ON:

20 EXT. BOBBY'S YACHT - SAME (D3) 20

From a yacht anchored in the harbor, TJ watches Miranda rush down the boardwalk. BOBBY PHELPS (18) lounges beside him, drinking a beer. Bobby's still in high school, but he's already got the frat boy thing down pat. He follows TJ's eyeline to Miranda.

BOBBY

You're right. New Girl's hot.

TJ

Her name's Miranda.

Bobby rolls his eyes.

BOBBY

Did you hand *Miranda* your balls outright? Or did you just put up a "sold" sign on your junk?

TJ

Will you shut up? She's a cool girl, that's all.

Bobby turns serious.

BOBBY

You sure you want to hit that after what happened with your mom?

TJ tenses. This is obviously a touchy subject.

TJ

Miranda didn't have anything to do with her accident.

BOBBY

Still. Seems like a complicated piece of ass when Ginny is still dying to climb that Teejster pole, if you know what I'm saying...

Bobby mimes a sex act.

TJ

Believe it or not, I *am* able to decode that subtle metaphor.

(beat)

But Ginny's not what I want.

Determined, TJ hops off the yacht and starts down the pier toward Miranda.

BACK TO:

21 EXT. BOARDWALK/DOCKS - SAME (D3)

21

Miranda's found an isolated spot along the boardwalk rail. She stares out at the water, numb. A fishing boat pulls up to the dock. She watches idly as a SHIRTLESS MAN emerges from the boat and ties off at the mooring. He turns back to the boat and we realize that it's Leo. Miranda studies him, suddenly very interested, while he unloads a haul. As he turns back toward the hold, he feels her eyes on him. Looks up. A beat as they study each other. With a nod, he goes back to work.

Miranda hesitates, then crosses toward the docks.

ANGLE ON:

22 EXT. DOCKS - SAME (D3)

22

Leo carries a crate down the boat ramp. Miranda approaches.

MIRANDA

Hey.

LEO

If you're here to beg for that swim lesson, you'll have to do better than that.

He turns to her with a smirk, but Miranda's staring at his stomach, eyes wide.

MIRANDA

Oh my god.

Too late, Leo moves to cover himself. Miranda's eyes fly to his, probing. But Leo's a cool customer. He doesn't react.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(accusing)

Your scars are gone.

Leo runs a calculated hand over his abs.

LEO

You seem very interested in my body... Any particular reason?

It works. Miranda blushes, looks away.

MIRANDA

I'm not. I just wanted to say hey.

LEO

You sure that's all you want?

Miranda meets his heated gaze. A beat as they stare at one another, both feeling the spark. Then:

TJ (O.S.)

Miranda!

Miranda turns to see TJ and Bobby approaching.

TJ (CONT'D)

(eyeing Leo, to Miranda)

You okay?

MIRANDA

I'm fine. Just saying hi to a friend.

BOBBY

Did you forget to tell New Girl the rules, Teej? It's never a good idea to friend the help.

Miranda reacts, annoyed, but Leo smiles mockingly.

LEO

You're right. You never know when they'll rise up and kill you in your sleep.

Bobby laughs and tosses his empty beer bottle toward Leo's boat. It SHATTERS against the hull.

BOBBY

Oops.

MIRANDA

TJ

Hey!

Bobby--

Leo steps forward, a challenge in his eye.

LEO

Careful. I doubt they teach how to throw a decent punch at Exeter.

BOBBY

Ooh, Fish Stick wants a fight?

Miranda steps forward.

MIRANDA

Stop it! Nobody wants to fight.

(to TJ:)

Right, TJ? Leo?

She looks between them, but the boys remain posturing. Finally, TJ caves under Miranda's pleading gaze. He puts a calming hand on Bobby's shoulder.

TJ

Come on, Bob-O.

Bobby steps back. Shrugs.

BOBBY

No problem. I've got to get back to the restaurant anyway. My dad's having an issue with one of the waitresses. Apparently she keeps propositioning the customers.

Bobby snaps his fingers, as if he's remembering something.

BOBBY (CONT'D)

Wait a tic, her name's *Naomi*. Isn't that your sister? Huh. Small world.

Bobby saunters off with a malicious smile. Leo watches him go, a dangerous look in his eye.

Miranda turns to TJ and Leo, upset.

MIRANDA  
What was that?

A beat as TJ and Leo consider each other, the air full of tension. Then Leo turns and walks away.

TJ watches Leo disappear, guilt flashing across his features. But when he turns back to Miranda, it's gone.

TJ  
How do you know that guy?

MIRANDA  
(deflecting)  
Why are you hanging out with *that* guy?

TJ  
Bobby's a dick, but he's harmless.

MIRANDA  
And Leo's not?

TJ glances back at Leo's boat, uneasy.

TJ  
No.

MIRANDA  
What are you talking about?

TJ  
(evading)  
I don't know. A girl he was dating went missing a couple of years ago.

MIRANDA  
(incredulous)  
I'm sorry, are you saying he *murdered* someone?

A LOUD SHOUT draws their attention. TJ and Miranda turn to see several WORKERS running toward a FISHING TRAWLER as it motors through the water.

A crowd has begun to form. TJ and Miranda move closer, curious. Several FISHERMEN lift something onto a bodyboard. TJ draws in a sharp breath as he realizes what he's seeing.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)  
What is it?

TJ

Kayla. Ginny's cousin. She went out for a dive last week and never came back. They found her boat fifteen miles offshore a couple days ago.

Miranda can't help herself; she turns back toward Leo. He's on deck, watching the scene, intense.

A BURLY FISHERMAN (30s) rushes to the edge of the fishing trawler, calling out:

BURLY FISHERMAN

She's breathing! Radio the Coast Guard.

The crowd buzzes with excitement, but Miranda's eyes are still glued to Leo. She watches, curious, as a flash of panic crosses his face.

Unsettled, Miranda glances over at Kayla's unconscious body, now being carried carefully off the trawler. Kayla's covered in gouge marks and cuts - she's clearly been attacked by some sort of creature. Miranda cringes. It's not a pretty sight. She turns back to see Leo's reaction. But he's GONE.

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE

23 EST. SHOT - THE GALLEY - SUNSET (N3) 23

A typical New England beach restaurant. Weathered clapboard. Perched on stilts over the ocean. Vacationers mill about on the deck and adjacent pier. Music swells from inside.

24 INT. THE GALLEY - NIGHT (N3) 24

Amelia and Miranda enter the Heirs Party. An interested ripple runs through the crowd as people notice Miranda.

MIRANDA

Why is everyone pretending not to look at us?

AMELIA

The same families have been coming here for a hundred years. You're fresh blood. People are curious about you, that's all.

LEANNE COOPER (40s) rushes forward. Perfectly coiffed, Leanne has the carefully-frozen look of someone recently botoxed. As she approaches, Amelia wraps a casual arm around Miranda's shoulder. Miranda reacts, surprised.

LEANNE

This must be Miranda! Look at you two getting on like gangbusters.

AMELIA

Miranda, this is Leanne Cooper. She has a daughter your age.

Leanne turns to Miranda.

LEANNE

Cece. I just know you two will hit it off. Your mom says you're into cooking; you *have* to ask Cece about learning to cook from the Contessa. Our Hamptons house is right next to hers.

Miranda shoots Amelia a look - *cooking, really?* - but Amelia's smile remains firmly in place.

LEANNE (CONT'D)

It must be so nice being back with your mom. I don't know what kind of man refuses to let his daughter see her own mother, God rest his soul.

AMELIA  
(cutting her off)  
Any news about Kayla Morgan?

Miranda shrugs Amelia's arm off, upset. Leanne chatters on, oblivious to Miranda's distress.

LEANNE  
She's at the clinic and Doc Stricks says she's in a coma. Apparently she clung to that buoy for *four* days before they found her...

AMELIA  
That poor girl.

MIRANDA  
Yeah. Almost drowning can really do a number on someone.

Amelia and Leanne react to Miranda's sharp tone, but she's already turning away.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)  
Will you excuse me?

She pushes her way into the crowd, making her way to the bar. From the other end of the counter, Cece watches her, guarded. Miranda looks up, but Cece quickly turns away. Guilty, Miranda crosses to her.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)  
Hey, Cece, right?

CECE  
Sorry. I wasn't staring. I mean, I was, but it's just because I saw you talking to my mom and you looked upset and--

MIRANDA  
It's okay. I was actually hoping to run into you. I'm sorry about bailing on you earlier.

(beat)  
Moving to a small town where everyone knows my height, weight, and shoe size is sort of freaking me out.

CECE  
Oh no, nobody could get your shoe size. We've been trying all day.

Miranda reacts, incredulous. Then Cece cracks a smile and we realize she's kidding. Miranda smiles back, relieved.

CECE (CONT'D)

Seriously though, how's it going with Amelia? Ginny said her mom said your mom was already sending you back to the city, but I'm pretty sure that's just Ginny being a bitch.

MIRANDA

That seems to be a particular talent of hers.

Cece's distracted by something across the room.

CECE

One o'clock. Hottie McHotterson has been checking you out all night.

Miranda turns to see Leo, wearing a serving uniform. As if on cue, he glances up, shooting her a sexy look. Miranda stares back, caught in his gaze.

CECE (CONT'D)

Holy Jesus. Does he come with a warning label?

Miranda laughs and Cece links her arm through Miranda's, leading her toward the back deck.

CECE (CONT'D)

Come on, everyone's totally obsessed with meeting you.

As they walk, Cece snags two flutes of champagne from a tray.

CECE (CONT'D)

Since we're obviously going to be besties, you may as well tell me everything. Are you from actual-New-York or faux-city-upstate? What grade are you in? Did you and TJ really make out on the ferry?

MIRANDA

Manhattan. 11th. And no.

CECE

Damn. I was really hoping to rub that in Ginny's face.

Miranda laughs again. Despite Cece's overexuberance, she's loveable. Cece drags her toward:

25 EXT. THE GALLEY - BACK DECK - SAME (N3) 25

A small group of well-dressed teens. They look up with varying levels of interest as Cece appears with Miranda.

CECE

Guys, this is Miranda. Miranda, this is everyone. That's Bobby - his dad owns this place--

Miranda narrows her eyes in recognition and Bobby flashes her a cocky smile.

CECE (CONT'D)

That's Edie, Beth, and Sam. You've met Ginny and Kate--

Ginny glares and moves across the deck. Kate quickly follows.

CECE (CONT'D)

And obviously you know TJ.

As the others return to their conversations, TJ steps forward with a smile.

TJ

Hey, you made it.

MIRANDA

Yeah, well, Javier missed his flight. Modelling emergency.

CECE

(confused)

Who?

TJ grins at Miranda, enjoying the inside joke. Across the deck, Ginny lets out a small sob. TJ grimaces.

TJ

I'll be right back.

He crosses to Ginny. Cece scoffs.

CECE

She's totally milking this whole my-cousin's-in-a-coma thing, but it's crap. Ginny's always hated Kayla.

Ginny pulls TJ into a close hug, shooting Miranda a calculated smile.

BOBBY  
You down, New Girl?

Bobby appears, holding a bottle of tequila. Miranda glances back at TJ, still wrapped in Ginny's embrace.

MIRANDA  
Pour me in.

As the kids nearby express approval, Miranda throws back.

26 INT. THE GALLEY - KITCHEN AREA - SAME (N3) 26

A hectic kitchen area. Waitstaff in perfectly pressed whites. Bottles of \$500 champagne. Caviar. And finally, we see Naomi again: as a waitress. She makes her way through the kitchen, passing BOBBY SENIOR (40s), who's sneaking a snack from one of the trays. As Naomi passes by, he pinches her waist.

BOBBY SENIOR  
Looking good, honey.

NAOMI  
(bright)  
Thanks, boss.

Across the room, Leo grabs a pitcher, angrily filling it. Bobby Senior exits. As soon as he's gone, Leo stops working and turns to Naomi.

LEO  
You don't have to keep working for that ass. There are other jobs on the island.

NAOMI  
None that pay as well.

Leo makes a derisive noise. The CHEF (30s) frowns at him and Leo returns to work with a mocking smile. When the chef finally looks away, Naomi leans toward Leo, nervous:

NAOMI (CONT'D)  
Some of the heirs were saying that Kayla might wake up.

LEO  
I'll take care of her.

NAOMI  
It's my mess, I can handle it.

A SERVER pops his head into the kitchen.

SERVER

Naomi, Junior's asking for you.

NAOMI

I'll be right out, thanks.

The server disappears. Leo starts toward the back deck.

LEO

I'll take this one.

NAOMI

Leo--

LEO

Relax, sis. I can handle "Junior."

He exits with a grim smile.

27 EXT. THE GALLEY - BACK DECK - SAME (N3)

27

Miranda and the rest of the teenage heirs now sit in a circle, facing one another. Bobby lifts a shot.

BOBBY

My turn. Never have I ever kissed a dude.

KATE

That's not fair!

BOBBY

Drink up, ladies.

Groans all around. The girls - and one boy - throw back a round of shots. Leo appears. Miranda tries to play it cool, but she can't keep her eyes from drifting to him.

LEO

(to Bobby)

You rang, master?

BOBBY

Actually, I ordered the hot, slutty version.

LEO

Guilty as charged.

Bobby sniffs the air. Makes a face.

BOBBY

Does anyone smell that?

(beat)

(MORE)

BOBBY (CONT'D)

Oh, that's right, you're a fisherman. I really need to discuss hiring policies with my father. "Chum bucket" isn't really the atmosphere we're going for here at The Galley.

Miranda reacts, annoyed.

MIRANDA

Weird. The only thing I smell is douchebag.

Laughter. Bobby flushes. TJ grabs a shot, distracting him.

TJ

Hey, it's my turn. Never have I ever been suspended for streaking across campus during a blizzard.

BOBBY

Dude, that only happened once!

TJ

Thank god.

Bobby groans and drinks, Leo forgotten. Miranda throws TJ a grateful look. But when she turns back to the circle, Leo has disappeared. A little disappointed, she grabs her drink.

MIRANDA

Whose turn is it?

GINNY

Yours. Don't worry, no one's used "never have I ever had sex" yet.

Ignoring Ginny, Miranda raises her glass.

MIRANDA

Never have I ever gone swimming.

KATE

(confused)

You mean like today?

MIRANDA

I mean like ever.

The group reacts, amazed. Ginny shoots her a bitchy smile.

GINNY

Well, you'll never survive a summer on the island a swim virgin.

(MORE)

GINNY (CONT'D)  
(standing:)  
Let's go. Right now. In fact, let's  
kill two birds with one stone.  
Let's skinny dip.

The group reacts: excited murmurs and looks.

GINNY (CONT'D)  
(to Miranda, a challenge:)  
What do you say, *New Girl*? Up for a  
swim?

Miranda takes in Ginny's bitchy expression - and TJ's eager  
one - and goes for the bait:

MIRANDA  
Let's go.

28 EXT. SIREN BEACH - NIGHT (N3)

28

The teens stumble onto the beach. Cece glances around  
nervously.

CECE  
Guys, we shouldn't be here.

GINNY  
And the award for biggest loser  
goes to Cece!

KATE  
Yeah. Lighten up, bee-yotch.

CECE  
I'm serious. Swimming on Siren  
Beach is banned for a reason. My  
mom said there's like riptides and  
sharks and stuff.

GINNY  
Your mom also says she was born  
with that face.

Titters from the teens.

CECE  
Come on, let's go back to North  
Shore.

KATE  
And strip in front of our parents?  
No thanks.

BOBBY  
(calling out:)  
Last one to get wet is a frigid  
prude!

Ginny and Bobby holler and strip down to their underwear,  
racing toward the surf. The others quickly follow suit.

Miranda hangs back. Scans the dark surf, suddenly nervous.

TJ  
Scared?

MIRANDA  
No. Just sober enough to realize  
that swimming for the first time  
ever while not-that-sober is  
probably deeply stupid.

TJ moves closer.

TJ  
When I was growing up, we used the  
"buddy system." No one was allowed  
in the water alone.

He puts an arm around her.

TJ (CONT'D)  
It's probably best if you stay  
close. For your own safety, of  
course.

MIRANDA  
Of course.

TJ smiles at her. Sweetly charming. Miranda narrows her eyes,  
considering:

MIRANDA (CONT'D)  
...But if you want to be my buddy,  
you'll have to keep up.

She lets out a wild whoop and races for the water. As TJ  
dashes after her, we CUT TO:

29

EXT. SIREN BEACH - CLIFFS - SAME (N3)

29

Naomi and Leo walk along the cliff path.

NAOMI  
You shouldn't have messed with  
Bobby. He'll take it out on me, you  
know.

LEO

Let him try.

The sound of shouting from the water below. The siblings look down to see the heirs dashing into the ocean.

NAOMI

Would you look at that? The Heirs are breaking the rules.

A large wave CRASHES against the rocks below. Shrieks from the water. Leo smiles. Ominous.

30

EXT. SIREN BEACH - OCEAN - SAME (N3)

30

TJ leads Miranda chest-deep into the water.

TJ

See? Nothing to be afraid of. But if you need to cling to my manly biceps, I understand.

A wave splashes Miranda and she shrieks. TJ laughs.

MIRANDA

Keep laughing. But everyone's afraid of something.

TJ

Nah. Not me.

MIRANDA

Lemme guess. Spiders? Heights? Ooh, I know, *clowns*.

TJ

(blurts out:)  
Failure.

His answer surprises them both. Miranda smiles up at him, touched by his honesty. TJ's gaze turns hot. He leans forward, but something SPLASHES in the water behind them. Miranda JUMPS, heart pounding.

MIRANDA

Not funny.

TJ

That wasn't me.

A bigger splash. Miranda glances around, nervous.

MIRANDA

I want to go back. Now.

They turn toward shore, but a wave SLAMS into Miranda. TJ locks an arm around her and begins to paddle.

TJ

I've got you. Hold on.

Another wave CRASHES into them. Miranda goes under. We stay with her as she claws her way back to the surface, gasping.

She's immediately KNOCKED sideways. Miranda gropes for TJ. But he's GONE. Panicked, Miranda tries to call out. Her mouth fills with water. She chokes, gagging on the sea. And disappears as another wave DRAGS her under.

Miranda searches desperately for the sky, but it's all murky blackness. Precious air bubbles escape.

A SHADOW whips by, mirroring our teaser. Miranda SCREAMS, losing more air. Her eyes widen in fear and we reverse into MIRANDA'S POV to see: a DARK SHAPE speeding toward her, inhumanely fast.

The figure tears through the water, suddenly clear: it's *Leo*. Except not. *Out of Leo's face, eerie blue orbs stare back.* They lock gazes for the briefest of moments, but Miranda's on her last breath. Her eyes roll back in her head.

Leo charges forward. *Is he going to kill her?* Probably. As he nears her, his eyes turn hungry.

But suddenly, the water around them BLAZES with light. Leo stops short. *Miranda's pendant is glowing.* Below, an answering blue glow pulsates from the caves.

Leo stares at the pendant, disbelieving. As Miranda's body goes slack, Leo makes a split-second decision. He DRAGS her upward. As they break the surface, Miranda begins to retch water. Leo holds her steady as she coughs and chokes.

LEO

Easy there.

At the sound of his voice, Miranda jolts. Remembering. She frantically searches his eyes. But they're once again normal.

MIRANDA

Your eyes...

LEO

(stern)

Stop struggling or you'll pull us both back under.

He grabs her in a lifeguard's hold and starts for shore. They reach the beach. Miranda crawls onto the sand, still coughing. She closes her eyes, resting her cheek on the sand.

TJ

Miranda!

TJ and Cece rush over. The other teens watch from a safe distance - huddled together and shivering - as Miranda struggles to her feet.

TJ (CONT'D)

(upset)

Are you okay?

(off her nod:)

I don't know what happened. One second you were there, the next you just... weren't.

CECE

Seriously. How are you not dead?

MIRANDA

Leo. He saved me.

AMELIA

Who?

MIRANDA

Leo--

Miranda turns back to the water. Leo's vanished.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

(bewildered)

He was just here.

Miranda scans the beach, but there's no sign of her savior. Back on the footpath, Ginny calls out:

GINNY

Is she dead or something?

Cece shakes her head.

GINNY (CONT'D)

Then can we *please* get out of here already?

As TJ hustles Miranda away, the camera PANS TO the sea. Something large moves through the water and disappears.

END ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

31 EXT. THE MARINER - NIGHT (N3) 31

TJ walks Miranda to the front door. She's wearing his jacket. She slides it off, but TJ shakes his head.

TJ  
You're still shivering. I'll get it later.

MIRANDA  
Thanks.

TJ nods. A beat. Then:

TJ  
(stoic)  
I'm so sorry, Miranda. I never should have let you go in...

MIRANDA  
*Let me?* TJ, I'm a big girl. I'm the idiot who had six shots and thought I could swim, not you.

TJ studies her. Troubled. Miranda takes his hand.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)  
I mean it, I'm fine. It wasn't your fault.

TJ  
It's not just that.

TJ hesitates. Miranda waits, expectant. Finally:

TJ (CONT'D)  
(frustrated)  
What was Leo even doing there? We didn't see him on the beach and then he suddenly shows up right when you're in trouble?

Miranda pulls her hand back, disbelieving.

MIRANDA  
Look, I don't get the whole macho thing you guys have going with the locals, but if he hadn't been there? I'd be dead.

TJ  
Or maybe you wouldn't have been in  
trouble in the first place.

MIRANDA  
(incredulous)  
Are you kidding me?

TJ leans forward, intense.

TJ  
I'm a lifeguard. I had you,  
Miranda. I didn't let you go,  
something *pulled* you from my arms.

Before Miranda can respond, a CRY draws their attention:

AMELIA (O.S.)  
Miranda!

Amelia rushes up the footpath, frantic.

AMELIA (CONT'D)  
Where did you go? I've been so  
worried.

Miranda stiffens, not meeting her gaze.

MIRANDA  
Everyone went to the beach, so I  
tagged along. I didn't mean to  
scare you.  
(to TJ:)  
Thanks for walking me home. See you  
later?

TJ moves off, unhappy. Miranda opens the door. Amelia reacts  
to the sight of her wet hair.

AMELIA  
Did you go in the water?

Miranda ignores her, steps inside.

32 INT. THE MARINER - FOYER - CONTINUOUS (N3)

32

Amelia follows her in, upset.

AMELIA  
You told me you can't swim.

Miranda shrugs, moving past her toward the stairs. Amelia  
plants herself in Miranda's path, mad.

AMELIA (CONT'D)

We're not done talking, young lady.

Miranda laughs, bitter.

MIRANDA

What is this? Your best concerned parent impression?

AMELIA

Seems to match your bratty teenager impression pretty well.

Miranda whirls on her, furious.

MIRANDA

The difference is, I've been a teenager for years now. You've only been a parent for forty-eight hours.

Amelia reacts. Swamped with guilt. But Miranda's on a roll:

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

I can't believe you blamed dad for everything, when you never even tried to see me.

AMELIA

The neighbors don't need to know about our dirty laundry. It's a complicated situation.

MIRANDA

Is it? You tried to kill me. When that didn't work, you spent the next sixteen years pretending I didn't exist. Seems pretty simple: you never wanted me in the first place and now that dad's dead, you're stuck with me.

AMELIA

I want you here. I never meant to hurt you, Miranda.

She reaches for Miranda, but Miranda steps back. Cold.

MIRANDA

Could have fooled me.

Miranda disappears up the stairs. Off Amelia, devastated...

33 EXT. HOUSEBOAT - NIGHT (N3)

33

Leo approaches a small houseboat to find Naomi sitting out on the back deck, staring out over the water. As he nears, she jumps to her feet.

NAOMI  
Hey! What happened?

Leo sits on a deck chair. Pulls off his wet sneakers, not meeting her eyes.

LEO  
Nothing.

NAOMI  
Nothing? You pulled a Baywatch to save that girl. Who is she?

LEO  
Just some heir. I don't know.

Naomi lifts an eyebrow, not buying it.

LEO (CONT'D)  
There's no story, drama queen.  
There were too many people around to do anything else.

He stands.

LEO (CONT'D)  
I'm gonna go find some dry clothes.

Leo moves toward the door. Naomi smiles mildly, but as he passes, she grabs his arm, TWISTING it downward. Leo winces in pain.

NAOMI  
You're getting weak. Why'd you let her go?

Leo snarls, yanking his arm free and PINNING Naomi to the wall.

LEO  
I may not be at a hundred percent,  
little sis, but I can still kick  
your ass.

He releases her and ambles away. Naomi watches him go, suspicious.

34 INT. THE MARINER - MIRANDA'S ROOM - NIGHT (N3) 34

Miranda slams around her room, still upset. She YANKS open her dresser drawer, digging for her pajamas. And FREEZES when her hand comes in contact with the framed photo of Greg. She pulls it from the drawer, studying his image.

Miranda's anger drains as quickly as it flamed. She drops to the bed. Full of grief and lonelier than she's ever been.

The tears finally come. Miranda sobs, crying over the loss of her dad, the never-was relationship with her mom, and the frightening new world she's been thrust into.

35 INT. SELKIE ISLAND CLINIC - KAYLA'S ROOM - NIGHT (N3) 35

The jarring sound of BEEPING takes us to the small island clinic where Kayla lays deathly still, hooked up to the standard equipment: heart monitor, IV, etc.

A movement in the background reveals Ginny, curled up in a guest chair, keeping vigil. DOCTOR STRICKS (50s), a Mr. Rogers type, stops in the doorway with a kind smile.

DOC STRICKS

She's under sedation. She'll never know if you go home to sleep.

GINNY

I'm not tired.  
(beat)  
Will she be okay?

Doc Stricks crosses to her, sympathetic.

DOC STRICKS

Kayla's young and healthy. She's being transferred to the mainland hospital first thing in the morning. I'm optimistic that with more extensive neurological equipment, she might make a full recovery.

GINNY

But could she stay like this forever? Brain-dead, or whatever?

A flash of vulnerability crosses Ginny's features.

DOC STRICKS

(gentle)  
It's possible.  
(MORE)

DOC STRICKS (CONT'D)

But with oxygen deprivation, it's  
hard to predict. She could wake up  
just fine.

Ginny chafes under his sympathetic look.

GINNY

That's what I'm worried about.  
She's entitled to half of Nana  
Gibb's estate. If she wakes up, I  
have to share.

Ginny stands, bitchy smile in place.

GINNY (CONT'D)

I need a caffeine fix. Thanks doc.

She saunters out, turning into:

36 INT. SELKIE ISLAND CLINIC - HALLWAY - SAME (N3) 36

As Ginny disappears down the hall, Naomi enters through the clinic doors, head down. She moves quickly toward Kayla's room. She's about to enter when Kayla's door begins to open. Naomi DASHES into the girls' bathroom.

37 INT. SELKIE ISLAND CLINIC - BATHROOM - SAME (N3) 37

Inside the dark bathroom, Naomi listens at the door. She stills as Doc Stricks nears her hiding place. His footsteps grow louder, then stop. She holds her breath, nervous. Will he discover her? A tense beat, then his footsteps resume, fading away. The sound of the front doors opening and closing. Then silence.

38 INT. SELKIE ISLAND CLINIC - HALLWAY - SAME (N3) 38

Naomi peers out of the door, but the coast is clear. She crosses quickly from the bathroom to:

39 INT. SELKIE ISLAND CLINIC - KAYLA'S ROOM - SAME (N3) 39

Naomi slips into Kayla's room. Approaches the sleeping girl, cautious. Complicated emotions play across Naomi's face as she watches Kayla sleep. Suddenly, Kayla moans.

Naomi reacts, startled. As Kayla's eyes begin to flutter, Naomi lifts her hand. And PRESSES it over Kayla's mouth and nose. Kayla's eyes dart back and forth behind closed lids.

GINNY (O.S.)

What the hell are you doing?

Naomi springs back from the bed as Ginny enters.

NAOMI

(thinking fast)

I was walking by and she began to thrash around. I was worried she'd swallow her tongue or something.

Ginny shoots her a suspicious look, but Kayla moans again, distracting them both.

GINNY

Oh my god. We have to call someone.

NAOMI

That's all you.

Naomi strolls out, faking a calm she doesn't feel. Ginny grapples for the call button, jabbing it several times.

NIGHT NURSE (O.S.)

(through the intercom)

*Can I help you?*

GINNY

My cousin's waking up. Someone needs to get down here, *now*.

Ginny anxiously watches Kayla as she begins to stir. A MALE NURSE enters in a surgical cap and mask.

MALE NURSE

Miss, I need you to step out of the room. Patients coming out of sedation are sometimes violent.

GINNY

Sure. I'll be right outside.

Ginny rushes from the room, closing the door behind her. The nurse pulls down the mask, revealing his face. Meet RAMSAY (40s). Rugged. Handsome. He studies Kayla, grim.

Kayla groans again. Her eyes flutter open. She looks around, unfocused. Then panic fills her gaze. Her eyes go wild, landing on Ramsay.

KAYLA

Help me.

RAMSAY

Shhhh. You're at the island clinic. You've had a bad accident, but I'm here to help you. Can you tell me what you remember?

KAYLA  
(disoriented)  
There was a girl. Blond.

She looks at Ramsay, remembering. Horrified.

KAYLA (CONT'D)  
She attacked me.

Ramsay smiles, kind.

RAMSAY  
You're safe now. We'll find whoever  
did this to you.

He reaches into his pocket, pulls out a syringe. He deftly  
unscrews the cap to her IV line, connects the syringe.

RAMSAY (CONT'D)  
Sleep now. You're going to be fine.

He depresses the syringe. As the liquid floods Kayla's veins,  
she gasps, realization dawning.

KAYLA  
*No. Help.*

RAMSAY  
Shhhh. It's almost over.

A hint of blue glows from his eyes. Kayla recoils, scared.

KAYLA  
You're one of them. You're--

Kayla begins to choke. Gasping for air. Ramsay watches her  
impassively as she gazes up at him, a desperate plea in her  
eyes. It goes unanswered. He unscrews the syringe, replaces  
the cap on her line. Kayla drags in one last breath.

KAYLA (CONT'D)  
*--a monster.*

Kayla flatlines. Ramsay pulls the surgical mask back over his  
face as the door flies open and a team of NURSES floods in.  
As they swarm the bed, he disappears into the night.

END ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

40 EXT. OCEAN - NIGHT (NX) 40

A SPLASH as something PLUNGES beneath the tranquil surface. It's Miranda. Once again, she finds herself underwater with no way out. She glances around, panicked, but the sky has disappeared. Miranda watches helplessly as her near-drowning repeats itself. The shadow WHIPS by. Leo comes rushing toward her, eyes blazing blue. Only this time, Miranda remains inexplicably conscious.

Leo comes to a stop in front of Miranda, his eerie blue eyes piercing. He reaches out, gently cupping her face. Tilts his head and leans toward her, hesitating for a fraction of a second before their lips meet.

And suddenly, they're kissing. It's sweet. Passionate. The stuff dreams are made of. Miranda presses her body against Leo's, desperate for more.

The water around them grows dim. At once uneasy, Miranda tries to pull away, but Leo's grip turns to stone. His fingers dig into her neck. His arm locks around her back. Miranda struggles to free herself, but she's TRAPPED. Her eyes go wide as she realizes what's happening: *Leo's sucking the air from her lungs.* Off her wild panic, we SMASH CUT TO:

41 INT. THE MARINER - MIRANDA'S ROOM - MORNING (D4) 41

Miranda bolts awake, gasping for air. She casts about, but she's safely in her own bed. She flops back onto the pillow, deeply unsettled.

MIRANDA (V.O.)

*Some legends say that Seawalkers  
are our brethren. Passionate,  
feeling creatures, ruled by basic  
human emotion.*

42 EXT. THE HUB - MORNING (D4) 42

Miranda's waiting outside of the internet cafe. The moment the door opens, she rushes toward a computer, on a mission.

MIRANDA (V.O.)

*Others insist that Walkers are  
savage beasts who cannot overcome  
their need to kill.*

43 INT. THE HUB - DAY (D4) 43

Later. Miranda's holed up behind a monitor, but her eyes are on Amelia's journal, cradled in her lap.

MIRANDA (V.O.)

*But all agree on one thing - people who experience the "Seawalker's kiss" are forever changed. The survivors are driven mad. The lucky ones take their secrets to a watery grave.*

Miranda lowers the journal and turns back to the computer screen. Types "*Seawalker's kiss.*" An image pops up: a HANDSOME SEAWALKER holding a limp human in his arms, sucking the air from her lungs.

CECE (O.S.)

Please tell me that's news from the outside world. Maybe the *Teen Vogue* summer issue? Or at least a *Magic Mike* highlight reel?

Cece plops down next to her. Miranda glances around, startled to realize the cafe is now full. Cece takes in the antiquated website onscreen (early 2000s style with clip art, etc).

CECE (CONT'D)

You have all of Instagram at your fingertips and you're reading about Seawalkers?

MIRANDA

What do you know about them?

CECE

(shrugs)

Just the basics. They live in the water and have to like, suck the breath from people to walk on land. Oh, and they've got like, scary talon-fingers and tails and stuff.

Cece holds her hand up in a claw-shape, making a face. Miranda leans forward, intense.

MIRANDA

Did you know that they drown their babies? That's how they become Seawalkers.

CECE

Creepy. Why are we reading about this?

Miranda shrugs. Casual.

MIRANDA

Just curious. If I have to live on this island for the next year, I may as well learn the culture.

CECE

Then let's go to the yacht club, drink Bellinis, and pretend to play paddle tennis while we watch the pool boys clean.

MIRANDA

(laughing)

I'll meet you there, okay? I just want to finish up here.

CECE

Well, hurry up. Ginny's out there acting like she's starring in an episode of *SVU*. It's unbearable.

(off Miranda's blank look)

Oh my god, you didn't hear? Kayla Morgan *died* last night.

MIRANDA

How sad.

CECE

(excited)

There's so much more. Apparently she woke up and was like, totally conscious first. And some male nurse treated her. Except *get this* - the island clinic doesn't have any male nurses.

Miranda reacts, uneasy.

MIRANDA

That's weird.

CECE

Nobody saw him but Ginny, and the doctor thinks she's making it up for attention. She also swears she saw that waitress from The Galley trying to strangle Kayla first. She's gone totally cray.

MIRANDA

Which waitress?

Cece shrugs.

CECE

I dunno. Some townie.

Miranda's heart pounds. She looks back at the crude Seawalker art on the screen, mind racing.

MIRANDA

I gotta go.

Miranda rushes from the cafe.

44 EXT. DOCKS/LEO'S BOAT - SAME (D4)

44

Miranda beelines for Leo as he unloads a haul from his boat. He sees her coming, but keeps his eyes on his work, his face uncharacteristically sober.

MIRANDA

Leo, hey.

LEO

(short)

Hi.

He turns back toward the boat, brushing past her.

MIRANDA

Wait up! I need to talk to you.

LEO

I'm sort of busy working for a living right now. You should try it some time.

He jogs back up the boat ramp. Miranda follows him onboard, annoyed.

MIRANDA

Not so fast. You owe me an explanation.

LEO

Really? I save your life and *I* owe you something? Funny, I thought it was the other way around.

MIRANDA

Fine. I owe you. What do you want?

LEO

Privacy. Peace and quiet. Solitude. Take your pick.

She scowls, annoyed.

MIRANDA

Why did you bail so fast last night? I didn't even get a chance to thank you.

LEO

In case you hadn't noticed, your pals hate me. I didn't feel like going another round with "Junior."

MIRANDA

Are you sure it wasn't because you had to get to the hospital?

LEO

Positive. See you around.

He starts to walk away. Miranda calls out:

MIRANDA

I saw your eyes last night.

Leo stops, turning back toward her, face carefully blank.

LEO

I should hope so. They're right here on my face.

MIRANDA

They were *blue*. Like, full-on X-Men mutant blue.

Leo considers her.

LEO

Maybe next time you go for a swim, you should lay off the tequila.

MIRANDA

(stubborn)

I know what I saw.

LEO

Okay, what did you see?

She glares at him, frustrated.

MIRANDA

I... don't know. Exactly. That's what I need you to tell me.

LEO  
You're welcome for saving you from  
imminent death. Now get off my  
boat.

He turns his back to her. Discussion over.

MIRANDA  
(fed up)  
Fine!

Miranda charges toward the docks, yanking her shirt over her head.

LEO  
(alarmed)  
What are you doing?

MIRANDA  
Going back in the water.

LEO  
*You can't swim.*

MIRANDA  
I don't care. I'm so sick of  
everyone lying to me. I'm going to  
figure out what's going on.

Miranda hits the docks. She pulls her pants off, now wearing just a bra and underwear. A LOUD WHISTLE sounds from a few boats down, accompanied by some JEERS. Miranda ignores them.

Leo rushes off the boat, grabbing her discarded clothing.

LEO  
You're insane.

MIRANDA  
I must be since I'm seeing things  
like scars that disappear and glowy  
eyes...

Miranda charges toward the water and Leo lunges after her, yanking her back against his chest. For a second, they stand frozen, skin-to-skin. Neither breathing. Leo closes his eyes, drawing in her scent.

A catcall from one of the other FISHERMEN snaps them out of it. Miranda throws an elbow, connecting with Leo's gut.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)  
Let go of me!

LEO

Not until you put your clothes back on.

A chorus of "boos" sound from the onlookers. Leo scowls and drags Miranda further down the docks.

45 EXT. ALLEY - SAME (D4)

45

Leo pulls them into a secluded alcove and releases Miranda. A beat as they glare at one another. Finally:

LEO

Where did you get that necklace?

Surprised, Miranda's hand flies to her neck.

MIRANDA

This?

(off Leo's nod)

My mother gave it to me.

Leo takes this in, considering.

LEO

I'm not the one you should be interrogating. You want answers? Ask Mommy Dearest why she dropped a target around your neck.

MIRANDA

(confused)

It's a family heirloom.

LEO

It's a family heirloom, alright. Just not yours. And when its owner comes to collect, I won't be there to save you again.

With one last stormy look, Leo disappears. Disgruntled, Miranda yanks her clothes on and follows him.

ANGLE ON:

46 EXT. BOBBY'S YACHT - SAME (D4)

46

Across the boardwalk, TJ and Bobby watch the scene, too far away to hear, but having clearly seen everything.

BOBBY

Shit, man. Do you think Fish Stick's hitting that?

Off TJ's stormy expression...

47 INT. THE MARINER - DAY (D4) 47

Miranda charges through the front door. She jogs up the stairs, opening the hidden study door.

48 INT. THE MARINER - STUDY - SAME (D4) 48

Miranda strides into the study, lifting the Seawalker book from the desk. She flips through it quickly, searching.

AMELIA

Miranda?

Miranda doesn't look up as Amelia enters the study.

AMELIA (CONT'D)

What are you doing? I told you this room was off-limits.

MIRANDA

You also told me this necklace was a family heirloom. I've learned not to trust anything you say.

She continues to flip through the book.

AMELIA

(frustrated)

Look, there are reasons I've kept some things a secret. I'm trying to protect you.

Miranda slams the book back down on the desk.

MIRANDA

Well I'm not going to be here for you to "protect" if you won't start talking.

Miranda waits a beat, but Amelia looks away. Not ready to talk. Pissed, Miranda strides from the room.

49 EXT. THE DOCKS - SUNSET (N4) 49

Leo moves down the boat ramp to meet Naomi.

NAOMI

You ready?

LEO

I'll meet you there. I've got something to take care of first.

Naomi frowns. Gestures at the setting sun.

NAOMI  
It's getting late.

LEO  
I'm fine, Nay. You're not my  
mother.

Suddenly, Naomi tenses. Her muscles strain like she's struggling to contain... *something*. She looks at Leo, panicked.

LEO (CONT'D)  
(urgent)  
Go. I'll be right behind you.

Naomi vanishes down the footpath. As soon as she's out of sight, Leo moves toward The Mariner.

50 EXT. THE MARINER - SUNSET (N4) 50

Leo creeps silently toward the house, keeping to the shadows. He stills as the door flies open, revealing Miranda with her suitcase. She drags it toward the footpath, clearly upset. Leo watches, interested, as Amelia comes after Miranda.

BOBBY (O.S.)  
Enjoying the show, perv?

Leo spins around to see TJ and Bobby emerging from the dunes.

LEO  
You know, I thought I smelled cheap  
beer and low IQs.

He taps his nose. Bobby sways toward him, menacing, and we realize the boys are drunk. TJ gestures toward Miranda, cold.

TJ  
Just like old times, right, Leo?  
You've always wanted what you can't  
have.

Leo's jaw tightens imperceptibly. TJ's hit a nerve.

LEO  
What are you going to do, Teej? Run  
to your daddy? Maybe he can pay  
Miranda to like you.

TJ steps forward. In Leo's face. Fierce.

TJ  
Stay away from her.

LEO

Or what?

Leo steps forward, threatening.

Out of nowhere, a flicker of blue crosses Leo's eyes. He turns quickly away, but not before TJ clocks the moment. Leo tenses, straining against whatever we saw overcome Naomi. He takes a deep breath, controlling it. He turns back to the boys with a tight smile.

LEO (CONT'D)

Sorry to end the party, but I've gotta run. We really should do this again sometime.

He starts toward the footpath, but TJ SLAMS a fist into Leo's gut. Leo groans, dropping to his knees. The boys close in. Off Leo, in trouble...

END ACT FIVE

ACT SIX

51 EXT. THE MARINER - FRONT PORCH - NIGHT (N4)

51

Amelia chases after Miranda.

AMELIA  
Don't go, please.

Miranda whirls around, still furious.

MIRANDA  
My entire life, I've had to lie  
about my mom. I used to tell people  
you died of cancer. That you'd been  
really beautiful and you lost all  
your hair and your last words were  
"I love you, Miranda."

Amelia remains silent.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)  
But you didn't love me. You didn't  
even want me. You never have.

AMELIA  
It's more complicated than that.

MIRANDA  
Fine. Here's a simple question:  
why'd you try to kill me?  
(beat)  
I read the report.

Amelia reacts, tormented.

AMELIA  
You'll think I'm insane. The social  
worker will take you back to New  
York and I'll never see you again.

MIRANDA  
I just want to know why I grew up  
without a mother.

AMELIA  
(snaps)  
I *am* your mother. I have *always*  
been your mother and every single  
decision I have ever made has been  
to protect you.

Off Amelia's fierce expression, we FLASHBACK TO:

52 INT. THE MARINER - AMELIA'S ROOM - NIGHT (NX) 52

The room is dark and still. The sound of waves crashing on the beach filter through the window. In bed, YOUNG AMELIA studies YOUNG GREG, still sleeping. **CHYRON: 1999.**

Amelia slides carefully out from under the covers. She pads down the hall to Miranda's room. And lifts BABY MIRANDA from her crib. Baby Miranda stirs, but Amelia kisses her head, calming her.

AMELIA  
Hush, my darling. Mommy's here.

53 EXT. SIREN BEACH - NIGHT (NX) 53

Amelia steals down the footpath, Baby Miranda in her arms. She emerges onto Siren Beach, quickly crossing the sand. Wades into the water, lowering Baby Miranda.

GREG (O.S.)  
Amelia!

Amelia whirls to see Greg dashing toward her in his pajamas. Panicked, she turns back to the water, PLUNGING Baby Miranda into the sea. As Greg sprints toward them, Amelia holds Miranda down.

AMELIA  
(whispering)  
I love you.

GREG  
Amelia! NO!

Greg DIVES into the surf.

54 INT. THE MARINER - AMELIA'S ROOM - NIGHT (NX) 54

Greg holds a screaming Baby Miranda in one arm, furiously packing a suitcase with the other. Amelia rushes in.

AMELIA  
Greg, I can explain--

GREG  
There's no explaining this away.  
You need help, Amelia.

AMELIA  
Please don't leave.

A knock on the door. Two UNIFORMED OFFICERS enter. Off Amelia's horrified realization, we CUT TO:

55 EXT. THE MARINER - NIGHT (NX)

55

The officers perp-walk Amelia toward their cruiser. NEIGHBORS have begun to gather in the yard, watching curiously.

AMELIA

Miranda! Where's my baby? I need to see my baby...

Greg watches, horrified, as Amelia loses it. She begins to fight against her restraints.

AMELIA (CONT'D)

(desperate)

You have to take Miranda to Siren Beach. She's not safe. *You have to save her.*

The police officers exchange a loaded look. *This one's loco.* The world goes into SLOW MOTION for Amelia as they drag her toward the cruiser. Greg looks away, unable to bear his wife's insanity. As Amelia disappears into the cop car, still screaming, Greg cuddles Baby Miranda to his chest. Heartbroken. OFF Amelia's screams...

SMASH BACK TO:

56 EXT. THE MARINER - SAME (N4)

56

Direct pick-up. Miranda processes the story she just heard.

MIRANDA

Save me? Save me from *what?*

AMELIA

I can't. You'll think I'm crazy. Everyone else did.

Miranda presses:

MIRANDA

I found your journal. The one you kept in high school. Dad had it in a box in his closet.

Amelia remains silent.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

Seawalkers. This has something to do with them, doesn't it?

Amelia shakes her head.

AMELIA  
It doesn't matter. I was wrong.

MIRANDA  
Wrong about what?  
(beat)  
*Why did you try to drown me?*

AMELIA  
(snapping)  
Because it's in your blood.  
Because--

A loud voice interrupts:

TJ (O.S.)  
Miranda!

TJ appears in the yard.

MIRANDA  
(to TJ)  
This really isn't a good time.

He crosses to her, swaying as he stops. Miranda frowns.  
Wrinkles her nose.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)  
Are you drunk?

TJ  
I took care of Leo. He won't touch  
you again.

MIRANDA  
You *what?*

TJ smiles drunkenly and lifts a hand to her face. Miranda's  
blood runs cold at the sight of his bloody knuckles.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)  
What did you do?

TJ  
(resolute)  
He's a bad guy.

MIRANDA  
Oh my god...

She turns toward the footpath. Amelia reaches out an arm,  
stopping her.

AMELIA  
Miranda, don't go.

MIRANDA  
I have to.

She sprints into the dark.

MIRANDA (V.O.)  
*My mother says that monsters aren't  
real...*

57 EXT. FOOTPATH - NIGHT (N4) 57

Miranda tears through the dunes, afraid of what she'll find.

58 EXT. BOARDWALK - NIGHT (N4) 58

MIRANDA (V.O.)  
*But I wonder if we aren't all  
creatures, driven by hunger and  
passion...*

TJ stumbles toward home, upset. As he passes the harbor,  
Ginny appears on the deck of a yacht.

GINNY  
Hey, sailor.

TJ  
(dejected)  
Hi Ginny.

He tries to blow past her, but Ginny intercepts him, wearing  
nothing but a skimpy bikini. She reaches for his hand and TJ  
GASPS in pain, yanking it back.

GINNY  
Are you okay?

She lifts his knuckles, studying the cuts. Recognizing the  
signs of a fight.

GINNY (CONT'D)  
Was she worth it?

She hits him with a piercing look. Slowly, TJ shakes his  
head. No.

She touches her lips to his knuckles. Then stands on her  
toes, pressing her lips against his. TJ resists for a moment,  
then gives in, hungrily kissing her back.

59 INT. HOUSEBOAT - NIGHT (N4) 59

MIRANDA (V.O.)  
*...Willing to do whatever it takes  
 for those we love...*

Naomi climbs onboard from a ladder to the water, wet.

NAOMI  
 (calling out)  
 Leo?

Silence. As she moves across the deck, a SHADOW crosses behind her. Naomi turns around, but there's no one there. She frowns and enters the houseboat.

60 INT. HOUSEBOAT - SAME (N4) 60

Naomi moves toward the kitchen. As she flicks the light on, we see a FIGURE looming behind her. *Holy shit, it's Ramsay, Kayla's killer.*

He shifts and Naomi WHIRLS around, grabbing a BUTCHER KNIFE off the counter. She raises it, terrified, then FREEZES. Her eyes glued to the hulking man in front of her.

NAOMI  
 Dad?!

She squeals and drops the knife. Throws herself into his arms.

RAMSAY  
 Hi, baby girl.

Off this interesting development...

61 INT. THE PSYCHIATRIC CARE FACILITY - NIGHT (N4) 61

MIRANDA (V.O.)  
*Not all of us can face the demons  
 and survive...*

The camera tracks down a depressing hallway. Fluorescent lighting. Stained carpet. As we pass open doors, we realize we're in some sort of long-term mental ward.

We find MOLLY ELLINGSWORTH (40s) sitting at a game table in the common area, staring listlessly into space. A kind PSYCH NURSE (30s) approaches.

PSYCH NURSE  
 Come on Molly, time for bed.

She helps Molly to her feet. Leads her to:

62 INT. PSYCHIATRIC CARE FACILITY - MOLLY'S ROOM (N4) 62

A small room, sparsely decorated. As Molly lays down, eyes vacant, we PAN TO: a family photo. Molly, her husband, and son, TJ.

63 EXT. SIREN BEACH - NIGHT (N4) 63

MIRANDA (V.O.)  
*...but eventually we have to choose  
 who we want to be.*

Miranda tears through the dunes. Emerges breathless onto the beach. And draws up short when she sees Leo's body LYING PRONE on the sand. Covered in blood. Badly beaten.

MIRANDA  
 Leo!

She dashes to his side. Leo groans.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)  
 Oh my god. Can you speak?

Leo tries. Blood gurgles from his mouth. Frantic, Miranda looks around for help.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)  
 (calling out)  
 Help! Can anyone hear me?

Leo stops her with a bloody hand. Shakes his head - *don't*.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)  
 This is all my fault. TJ came after  
 you because of me. Oh god, I have  
 to get you to the clinic...

Leo shakes his head, gasping for air.

LEO  
 Doctors can't help me.

MIRANDA  
 You need a hospital, Leo. You're  
 really messed up.

Leo pierces her with a look.

LEO  
 No. You know what I am.

Miranda shakes her head. Refusing to understand. Leo closes his eyes, in pain.

LEO (CONT'D)  
Please. I can't breathe. Get me to  
the water.

Leo grasps her hand. Pleads with his eyes.

LEO (CONT'D)  
*Please, Miranda.*

Miranda meets his honest stare. Afraid to believe. Afraid not to. He nods, willing her to accept the truth. Miranda closes her eyes, stifling a sob. And GRABS Leo under the arms. DRAGS him toward the water.

LEO (CONT'D)  
(shouting)  
Stop!

Miranda freezes.

MIRANDA  
Did I hurt you? What's wrong?

LEO  
Don't come in the water.

He grimaces as something RIPPLES through his body. Fresh blood oozes from his cut.

LEO (CONT'D)  
I won't-- I *can't* control myself  
right now.

MIRANDA  
You won't hurt me.

LEO  
Miranda, I'm telling you I will.

MIRANDA  
(simple)  
I trust you.

Resolute, Miranda drags Leo into the ocean, submerging them both. Water rushes over Leo's face. He closes his eyes, thrashing. SCREAMS in pain. *And when his eyes open again, they BLAZE BLUE.*

Miranda gasps as GILLS sprout from Leo's neck to his collarbone. FINS emerge along his torso. Talons SPRING from his knuckles. Miranda stumbles back, awestruck.

One-by-one, Leo's bruises disappear. His cuts retract to nothing. The gaping gash on his forehead closes. Miranda stares, transfixed, as Leo transitions into a *full-blown Seawalker*. His eyes meet hers one last time, eerily blue, and we SMASH CUT TO:

END OF SHOW

\*