

TITLE

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(Printed with the demonstration version of Fade In)

INT. FRONT DOOR/FOYER - MORNING

SELENE opens the front door slowly. She is a toned, olive-skinned woman, 32. She is dressed in a pencil skirt, a light blue button up and black pumps. She holds a brown, leather briefcase and her keys in one hand with her blazer draped over her forearms. She steps timidly into the front door. She walks around scanning her environment, searching for someone.

SELENE  
Mike? You there? Tuddle?  
(pause to listen)  
Mike?

She walks halfway down the foyer and turns into the living room. She gasps and drops everything in her hands.

SELENE (cont'd)  
Mike!

INT. LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

The living room is torn apart.

The glass coffee table is shattered and turned on its side with its contents on the floor under it. One of the floor to ceiling windows has been shattered with a brick that now lays in the middle of the room on the floor. The books that once neatly lined the shelves that frame the mantle have been tossed haphazardly in every direction. The rug is stained with coffee and blood.

The stuffing from decorative pillows and multiple blankets are splayed across the room. The mounted TV above the mantle is broken and there is blood splatter across the fireplace. A small fire burns in the there, with multiple documents in and around the flame.

The linen navy loveseat that typically sits in front of the wall of windows is flipped in its front. Its matching couch sits with its back facing the door where Selene stands. Half of the couch is stained with numerous large blood splatters.

MIKE sits slumped in the right side of the couch in a pool of blood. He is barely conscious and his breathing is labored. He is dressed in a white wife beater that's collar is stained with blood. The white button up he wore over the undershirt has been ripped open. It hangs off his shoulders with its buttons missing and his left shoulder ripped open. His black trousers are also stained with blood. His knuckles and face are bloody a swollen. It is obvious he fought hard and long. He attempts to speak but can barely produce words.

MIKE  
S'lennnn! (Selene)

SELENE  
Shit!

Selene runs over to him, glass crunching beneath her feet. She pushes the coffee table back so she can kneel in front of him. She reaches behind his ear and feels for a pulse.

SELENE (cont'd)  
Shh. Shh. Shhhhh. I'm here now, baby.

She runs back over to her briefcase. She kneels beside it and rummages through the bag for her phone. She doesn't feel it.

SELENE (cont'd)  
Shit.

She dumps the bag upside down, spilling its contents across the foyer's wooden floor. She spreads it out so she can see everything.

SELENE (cont'd)  
Shit.

She grabs her phone and stands quickly. She dials 911 as she rushed back over to Mike. The line rings.

SELENE (cont'd)  
Mike, baby. What happened? Who did this do you?

Mike gurgles.

SELENE (cont'd)  
Okay. Okay. Don't talk, but stay with me baby.

She lightly and rapidly slaps his face.

SELENE (cont'd)  
You gotta stay awake. I need you to stay with me. Okay?

Mike gurgles in agreement.

Selene raises her phone to her ear, the line rings. She walks over to the brick on the floor and stands over it. She kicks it to turn it over. The line rings. In Black marker the brick reads

SELFISH WHORE -BG

The line rings. The operator answers.

OPERATOR (O.S.)  
Hello. Mesa Police. What is the  
address of your emergency?

SELENE  
My husband's been beat up. I think he  
is dying!

She walks back over to Mike and begins to pace around him.  
Occasionally she stops and stares at him to monitor his  
breathing.

OPERATOR (O.S.)  
Okay ma'am. What is the address.

SELENE  
We are at 193 West View Court. Please  
hurry.

OPERATOR (O.S.)  
Okay and what is your name?

SELENE  
Selene Pranskin.

OPERATOR (O.S.)  
Of Pranskin Pharmacy ?

SELENE  
That's my father, yes. Just please  
hurry!

OPERATOR (O.S.)  
Okay and when did this happen?

SELENE  
I don't know. I came home for lunch  
with Mike like I always do and when I  
walked in, I find him .. like this on  
the couch with the living room  
ruined.

(gasp)  
And I haven't seen Tuddle!

OPERATOR (O.S.)  
Okay. The police are on the way.  
Don't touch anything. Who is Tuddle?

SELENE  
My dog! Tuddle!

The operator takes a deep breath to start her next question, but Selene hangs up the phone as she does. Selene walks back over to Mike and checks on him, tossing her phone aside. His breathing has gotten slower and the puddle of blood under him has gotten larger.

SELENE (cont'd)  
(to herself)  
Okay. I gotta stop the bleeding.  
(to Mike)  
This is might hurt baby.

Selene closely examines Mike. She looks for a source of the bleeding. She finds a gash on the crown of his head. She spreads his hair to see it more clearly. Mike winces in pain. Selene flinches and recedes.

SELENE (cont'd)  
I need to put something on it.  
(pause to think)  
There a first-aid kit in the  
bathroom.

She goes to leave the room but hesitates. She turns to the brick in the middle of the room and looks at it thoughtfully for a few seconds. She chews her bottom lip in thought and bends down to pick up the brick. She exits the room with haste.

INT. FOYER - MOMENTS LATER

Selene walks through the foyer, almost running, to the half bathroom at the end of the hall, scanning her environment the whole way.

SELENE  
Tuddle?

She pushes the door open, getting a bloody palm print on the door, and steps inside.

INT. HALF BATH - MOMENTS LATER

The room is nothing special. A small room with a white porcelain toilet next to a pedestal sink. They each have decadent gold accents. across from the toilet is a shelf lined with tissue next to a scale.

Selene steps into the room, instantly catching her own eye in the mirror. She sees the blood on her hands, face and blouse and almost cries. She stops herself, using the back of her hand to wipe her eyes.

She grabs a paper towel from the mounted roll on the wall and walks over to the toilet. She holds the brick in between her thighs as she spreads out the paper towel so that it covers her fingers and part of her palm. She uses the covered hand to open the back of the toilet. In the toilet's tank sits a plastic gallon sized bag that contains a Glock and silencer. She slides the gun over and places the brick next to it. It clanks as it hits the bottom of the tank. She closes the lid and stuffs the blood spotted napkin in her skirt pocket.

She opens the medicine cabinet above the sink and rushes back to the living room.

INT. FOYER - MOMENTS LATER

Selene runs down the hall into the living room, ripping open the first aid kit as she passes through the foyer.

INT. LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Selene digs through the first aid kit haphazardly as she enters the room. She tears open a pack of gauze with her teeth as she approaches Mike from behind.

Mike groans.

SELENE

It's me baby. I have to wrap the gash  
on your head. It's gonna hurt.

Selene places the gauze on the wound on Mike's head. She retrieves the medical tape from the first-aid kit and drops the rest of the box on the ground.

(O.S.) Multiple sirens can be heard approaching in the distance, growing closer with every second.

She rapidly runs her finger over the roll, trying to find the start of the tape. When she does, she stretches a long piece of tape and places it on the gauze. Quickly but securely she wraps Mike's head.

Mike groans and grunts the loudest he has yet as she wraps. When she finishes, securing the bandage under his chin, he reaches for her hand and strokes it with his thumb. Selene leans over Mike's shoulders to hug him, appearing to melt into him.

The sirens approach the house, blaring for a second and then immediately cutting off. A hard, short knock echoes from the front door followed by the doorbell ringing three times.