

***"I am a drop'dead gorgeous, fabulous, stylish,
exotic'ass gem amongst thousands of rocks" by elliot rodger***

by matthew paul olmos

Contact:
Leah Hamos
The Gersh Agency
41 Madison Avenue, 33rd Floor,
New York, NY 10010
212.917.1818
lhamos@gershny.com

©2014 Matthew Paul Olmos
bluedog86@hotmail.com / 917.825.6632 / www.matthewpaulolmos.com

characters

A FEMALE IN A SUIT - 30's-50's; any ethnicity;
a commanding charm,
but we're not sure if she's decent or not.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN – later 20's, early 30's, ideally a minority;
her age is hard to pinpoint;
her forward sense of humor conceals her enormous, enormous heart.

ELLIOT - early 20's; minority;
his sincerity is heartbreaking,
his armor transparent,
but when he is upset, his rawness scares us.

INVESTIGATOR - 30's-50's; any ethnicity;
very good at their job, but rationality sometimes gets in the way

time:

2014

place:

central california

we open

A FEMALE IN A SUIT oversees an empty stage; she looks at it from different angles. Finally, she speaks to somebody offstage.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Why I do believe I'd very much like to see that beach. Yeaaa... *Central California*. Not too southern an wide, not to northern an grey; just...you know, in the center of things.

(Elements of a beach come to life: sounds of seagulls, the wet of waves and bright of sun. She judges)

I like it. I don't love it. But I do like. Anyways.

And now for our woman. She's coastal, but not so coastal that you want to punch her in the face. No...our woman is warm, but not pathetic. Quick, but not fast. And she should be nice to look at, but, you know, not nicer to look at than me.

(Appears A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN)

Now, keep in mind, our woman is only *potentially* judgmental, not all the way judgmental.

(A FEMALE IN A SUIT watches A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN take in her surroundings)

I like. Don't love. Like. Anyways.

And now of course...him. That's what this is really all about isn't it. *Him*.

(A car engine is heard, we see a black, BMW 328i sedan; we hear music from inside it)

I'm liking the tinted windows; that we don't see him from the go. It's a bit, *ooh what's in there*.

(She listens to the music)

But, is this really what he listens to??? At his age? Well, each to his...yea.

(FEMALE IN A SUIT speaks to the audience)

A FEMALE IN A SUIT(cont)

Now, what we're *looking at*, what we're *imagining* is May the 21st, 2014; approximately two days before our Elliot Rodger ends the lives of seven students, including himself, in Isla Vista; the college town adjacent to the University of California at Santa Barbara. Just south of the university, parked in a small, beach parking lot, we look to a black BMW 328i; we hear "Every Little Thing She Does is Magic" by The Police from inside the vehicle.

Meanwhile, standing, looking out at the vast of our Pacific Ocean...is

A Potentially Judgmental Woman.

Her face...

(Strange lights on POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN's face)

...is hard to decipher; it almost morphed maybe; un'easy to pinpoint.

(The music from inside the 328i silences, an engine killed, a car door opens.

ELLIOT, early 20's, half-minority, walks to the vicinity of A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN; they do not acknowledge each other. A few moments while they both look out at the ocean with the sun on their faces.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT watches from the sidelines)

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

...I'm sorry, did you...say something...to me???

ELLIOT

...

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

But you wanted to, right? You were going over in your mind, the way that boys do, the perfect opening. (pause) You're not smiling. Here you are *basking* in the glow of me and you look....

You're in university, yea? (pause) Yea, girls in university think loud is still something. "Woo hoo," "Partay." They don't appreciate the currency of silence. Of not having to blurt out *every little* thought that blips up in their brain. Don't worry, I'm not university. And I bet now you're wondering...where in all the heavens did this distraction of a woman come from.

(They share a moment)

What's your name?

(He mumbles something to her; her attention is got)

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN(cont)

Wow.

Did you just say what I—

(He leans in and says something into her ear; she beams)

Well, we only just met, but I would have to say that you are indeed a “drop’dead gorgeous, fabulous, stylish, exotic’ass gem amongst thousands of rocks.”
So...do you come here often?

(She laughs at her wit; a snort)

I know, I know; I snort, I do. It’s just about the last thing I want people to know about me, but always first they find out. Do you hate it. Has My Mojo Runneth Dry With You??? (pause) I wish my face were more like your face. At least your face I can tell you’re nervous. But mine... Sometimes faces don’t agree with how we feel inside.

(She gives a neutral expression)

See, this is me not doing anything; this just how the motherfucker hang. My starting point is always....a little sad and uncomfortable to be there. Until I get lost in a moment. **THENTHEMOTHERFUCKERLOOKLIKETHIS!**

(She bears a ridiculously happy expression; over the top; she holds it, holds it, holds it until finally....he laughs; his laugh is from the ground up and magnificent. FEMALE steps in quickly)

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Let it be noted, Elliot Rodger laughs; this would be May the 21st, approximately 3:11 in the afternoon. Two days before...yea.

(FEMALE back to the sidelines. The laughter and moment between WOMAN and ELLIOT subsides)

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Can I ask you something?

(He nods)

Is that your BMW over there; the black one? I feel like I’ve seen that 328i around before. Yea, I said 328i. (pause) I think I’ve seen you driving it...? And I was just wondering if maybe this little encounter by the sea isn’t really completely coincidental.

(ELLIOT turns, embarrassed; she touches his shoulder)

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN(cont)

Es okay if you like me. Have liked me. If you were trying to figure out how to like me from like, closer up. I mean, look at me; you're only human.

(Almost from out of nowhere ELLIOT turns and kisses
A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN; it is utterly awkward,
but she is nice about it)

Wow. You do have...unpredictability. Keep that.

(They kiss again. It is oddly romantic in all its gracelessness.

Mid-kiss, the ocean stops, the sounds of beach dry up, lights of
the western coast deaden to that of empty canvas.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT brings up house lights, she speaks to the
audience)

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Now, I don't know exactly what this encounter at Goleta Beach really resembled.
But this is a picturesque way to picture it, isn't it? Yea.
You see, there are no interviews with our woman, from our beach, but imagine the
details she could detail, the mystery she could de'mystify. I mean the first question,
obviously...

(Appears A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN; magically)

So...how was it?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

...he just kinda fumbled his lips—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

And if you had to put a song to it?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Song?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Soundtrack.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

...I don't know. Maybe like "Every Little Thing She Does is Magic?" The Police.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Hmm. Is it though?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Is what?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Is everything you do magic???

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Probably. Yea, I'd say so. I'd say that's true of me.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

The Police, "Every Little Thing She Does is Magic" was playing in his car. In the background in one of his videos that he posted. YouTube.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Was it?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

You didn't watch his video posts? You weren't a *subscriber*?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

...I saw parts of some of them.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Wow. A woman who shares a romantic encounter with a quote-unquote *school shooter* approximately fifty-four hours before he...wow.

And I'll guess you didn't watch his final video either then? Where he described precisely how he planned to...

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Why would I?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

And his manifesto that he wrote?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

No.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

You did not read it. Wow.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I know lots of people who did not read it. Wow.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

I know lots of people who don't know what the inside of his mouth tastes like.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

...

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

I guess I'm wondering, hindsight, *you*, the only intimacy he ever knew, you, who was the closest he ever got to what he thought would bring him happiness; you, who judged him *not* based on the one-hundred and forty page manifesto about this life that he wrote, nor the twenty-one videos of himself he posted.

I guess I'm wondering what you see that the rest of us simply do not.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I see...a kid...with, I guess, some sort of feelings for me.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Had some sort of feelings. He doesn't have anything anymore, the police shot him in the hip and a few blocks later he gunshot his own head. Dead.

I just rhymed, I can't help it, I'm interesting.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I'd be more wondering what *you* see.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

I apologize, I was thinking about myself, what did you say?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

That beach; do you imagine it paradise or lonely? Words he said to me, hopeful or just a shadow of what was to come? And how *about* our kiss.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Go on.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

What would be *your* soundtrack?

(FEMALE IN A SUIT motions the lights to take us back to Central California. A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN returns to ELLIOT; they resume their kiss)

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

(*to audience*) And though none of us were there, I do believe our Elliot could not believe his twenty-something lips; could not believe after thousands upon thousands of nights spent dreaming the scent, taste, and touch of an actual woman, here was one.

(The kiss finishes)

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

(*to ELLIOT*) ... I want you to tell me, tell me what you're thinking, tell me what's going on inside your gem of a mind right this very moment...I want you to tell me...*everything the world*.

(ELLIOT tells his world to her ear; she accepts with an open heart)

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

(*to offstage*) Now, if we could just get that California sun to *glint* off the shine of his black 328i; if we could create two soft silhouettes...imprinted reminders...of human connectedness.

(The lighting does as she describes)

...aaand music...

(The Police's "Every Little Thing She Does is Magic" fades in.

FEMALE watches the beauty of what she has created.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN watches as ELLIOT sings softly to the gods)

ELLIOT

"Every little thing she does is magic
Everything she do just turn me on
Even though my life before was tragic
Now I know my love for her goes on"

(Lights cinematically out)

scene two

INVESTIGATOR and A FEMALE IN A SUIT sit
under stringent lighting.

INVESTIGATOR

So that's your story, that on May 21st, Elliot Rodger met a young woman—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

I don't know "young" is really the—

INVESTIGATOR

Met a woman—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Potentially Judgmental.

INVESTIGATOR

No idea what that means, but okay.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Just that no matter what transpired, she was only ever *potentially* judgmental, any
judgmentalness was not concrete.

INVESTIGATOR

Concrete?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

You know, like the opposite of dirt.

INVESTIGATOR

So Mr. Rodger meets a lovely woman—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Well, "lovely," what does that even mean really.

INVESTIGATOR

Mr. Roger meets a human woman...

(FEMALE nods him to continue; no clarification needed)

...their encounter takes place at Goleta beach, in the late afternoon, and you're stating
also that they...kissed.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Elliot's first, his only. Not for her though; she's *been* kissed; will continue *to* kiss. You know, like normal people do.

INVESTIGATOR

Normal people.

(FEMALE indicates: indeed)

So, for Mr. Rodger a monumental experience, for our *mystery* woman—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Mystery woman???

INVESTIGATOR

Yes, mysterious, as in there is no record *anywhere* of this transaction—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Transaction? Wow, lookit you; romantic.

INVESTIGATOR

Nowhere in his manifesto, nowhere on his YouTube channel, nowhere in—Given the sheer volume of Mr. Rodger's posthumous testimony stating how much he craved female companionship...I find your story simply dis'believable.
"I don't buy it, counselor."

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

...what, was *that*???

INVESTIGATOR

What was what?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Was that... from a *movie*???

INVESTIGATOR

...I don't—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

That was from fucking *Philadelphia*, when Denzel Washington says to Tom Hanks that he doesn't believe he has a case, when we all fucking know that he's only saying it because he doesn't want to *take* the case—

INVESTIGATOR

Ma'am, what is your exact interest in this case.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

My interest is that from the very night of the incident—

INVESTIGATOR

School shooting.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

this boy was presented as a deranged misogynist who hated the female gender to such a degree that...well, it even spawned a *hashtag*. Do you know *hashtags*?

"YesAllWomen" I believe was this one.

INVESTIGATOR

Okay, but beyond the hashtag—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

His mother. In his...manifesto, through all of what he writes, he keeps a...particularly loving mention of her.

INVESTIGATOR

I'm sorry, where is it you—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

I work in The Industry.

INVESTIGATOR

The...practice of law industry???

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

It was flattering, when you quoted *Philadelphia*. That you referenced my industry.

INVESTIGATOR

I apologize, I was under the impression that you were here representing some person or persons involved in this case?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

No. I am someone who has been looking very closely at this case, and in doing so has found some...discrepancies, that I'd like to discuss with you.

INVESTIGATOR

Discrepancies? If you mean you've some new evidence to-

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

No. I mean discrepancies.

INVESTIGATOR

And you thought you would just drop by?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Yes.

INVESTIGATOR

Well, I'm very busy, as I get the feeling so are you—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

You get the feeling I'm—

INVESTIGATOR

It wasn't an insult. Just an...overall impression.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

So you are unwilling to discuss—

INVESTIGATOR

May I ask why somebody from The Industry would be so interested in a school shooting up in—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Elliot Rodger, son to the Assistant Director of *The Hunger Games*; Elliot Rodger, son to the ex-girlfriend of George *Star Wars* Lucas.

INVESTIGATOR

...what is that supposed to—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

That is what people talk about isn't it? How fortunate he was; his parents' lifestyle, the celebrities they circled with. So many times did I see his mother at parties, so many times did Elliot's father reach out to me; so wishing to breathe in my air.

INVESTIGATOR

So you're saying that you knew them then? His parents.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Knew is a strong word; they did know me though.

INVESTIGATOR

And Elliot?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

He's...walked down my carpet.

INVESTIGATOR

Okay. Tell me about that. When did you first—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Revenge of the Sith—

INVESTIGATOR

Ah, Star Wars premiere; he was there. So, you spoke to him that night?

(Beat)

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

I'll tell you anything you'd like to know about who the Rodgers were in my industry, what Elliot said to me that night. As it comes. (pause) But as I said, I would very much like to discuss—

INVESTIGATOR

Are you, is this...somebody is *fucking* with me.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Nobody is fucking with you. I am completely serious to be here and I am completely serious in asking you to explain to me about the blood.

INVESTIGATOR

You're walking in here and asking me to discuss a closed murder investigation.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

I could also be walking *out of here* to my drive my Tesla back down to Los Angeles to discuss very publically several discrepancies that I have found in your closed murder investigation; an investigation which is already being contested by several parents of the deceased.

(Beat)

INVESTIGATOR

...what blood are you referring to?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Elliot's car was found with its windshield *caved in* having crashed into the fender of a black Jeep; how it caves in I don't truly know; but inside the car, where Elliot shot himself in the head...I'm wondering why there wasn't any blood. Not on the upholstery, not stuck to any of the glass; no red *anywhere* on the very white, very deflated airbag.

INVESTIGATOR

There *was* blood, on the asphalt; where his body was laid out perpendicular to the vehicle.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

But Elliot gunshot himself while still in the driver's seat. That's where his body was recovered *before* it was placed perpendicular. And I just find it interesting that with a Glock 34 and Sig Sauer P223 close range to his head, there should've been quite the spatter. Elliot *had* also insisted in his manifesto he would use both guns, for certainty's sake.

INVESTIGATOR

His manifesto also stated he would drive down to Los Angeles to stab his stepmother in the throat before driving his father's SUV back up to Isla Vista where he'd use his apartment as a death chamber, take out the entire Alpha Phi sorority before burning it down and then plow through streets of IV targeting the most attractive students. What an assailant claims they'll do versus what they are *able* to do—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

So no explanation then, about the blood?

INVESTIGATOR

...as I said, there *was* blood, on the asphalt...

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

So the car was...clean then, even after the police found him *inside*, sitting in the driver's seat with a self-inflicted gunblast to his...

(She indicates her head)

INVESTIGATOR

...that is what we found.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

I'm not trying to—I'm just trying to land on where we're looking at this from. Is it hard facts, stable evidence, or is there some area called grey.

INVESTIGATOR

There is always grey.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

So why not report it as such? Why not put down on paper, for the families to see, that there are some elements unexplained about this case. Why act so confident about what actually happened, when you don't actually know what happened.

INVESTIGATOR

There are certain facts we have absolute proof for and other details we have pieced together from those facts. That is how an investigation works.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

How an investigation works, I see, I see.

In that one photograph though...the following day. May 24th. There is that bicycle, haphazardly thrown by the side of the black Jeep he crashed into.

INVESTIGATOR

Likely from a student when they heard the shots fired or when they saw Mr. Rodger's vehicle speeding down Del Playa Drive—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

But in the photographs from the night *of* the crash, *there is no bicycle*.

INVESTIGATOR

...possibly during the course of the night—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

An officer or person of authority would *pick up a bicycle* and move it right directly in the center of a crime scene?

INVESTIGATOR

Isla Vista is a college town with over—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

You're saying in a secured, visually taped off area where a mass shooter's body lay, you're saying random bystanders might've picked up and placed a bicycle?

INVESTIGATOR

I—I don't know. I wasn't concerning myself with bicycles.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

It was nice though.

INVESTIGATOR

What was nice.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

The effect. Seeing a bicycle just thrown like that, as if some flailing student had narrowly escaped a dramatic death. Was a...nice touch.

INVESTIGATOR

Perhaps the bicycle was moved the night previous for further investigation and then replaced later to recreate how the scene was initially found.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Recreate. Good word.

INVESTIGATOR

Excuse me?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

It is funny.

INVESTIGATOR

Not something the families would want to hear; ever.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

In all the noise about this tragedy, what was presented to the public was gun control and misogyny; when in fact Elliot only used a gun to three of the seven victims. And of those left without life on May 23rd, four of them were men, only three women.

INVESTIGATOR

We ascertain the facts as best as we can understand them; what people choose to do with said facts—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

What were the facts of how one twenty-two year old male was able to stab three other similarly-aged males to death in the confines of their shared apartment? Wouldn't the other two overtake him when he was entangled with the first—

INVESTIGATOR

...it has been speculated those victims, his roommates, may have...arrived home at different times—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

One of them was visiting though. So at least two of them would've had to have arrived back at the apartment at the same time, no? That is how friendships work, yes?

INVESTIGATOR

We're also exploring the possibility that one or more could have been sleeping—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Before 9pm on a Friday night in one of the hardest partying college towns in the United States?

INVESTIGATOR

Also, they were...

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Were what? These were special roommates, immobile in some way? Slothlike.

INVESTIGATOR

No, but they were Asian/they were—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Asian???

INVESTIGATOR

They were...very studious, not exactly the physical type.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Oh, they weren't strong. I see, I see. (pause) Still, when the parents of these three victims were shown the apartment crime scene a week later, there was no blood there either, no signs of struggle, just some missing carpet and tile.

INVESTIGATOR

Which was removed as evidence because of having blood on them.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

And these parents are filing a suit against you and your department, are they not? Asking very publically why they are not being told anything, why where is such little evidence of what exactly happened in that apartment. (pause) How does it *feel*??? Knowing those parents are awake at night, every night, because how their children came to be murdered is still completely unclear.

(Beat)

INVESTIGATOR

Ma'am.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Oh, I'm ma'am now.

INVESTIGATOR

...you could comb through the case files of *any* incident and likely find what you personally consider to be discrepancies. We will never know precisely what happened or what exact movements led to what happened; but we do know that there are seven individuals who lost their lives on the 23rd of May at the hand of one Elliot Rodger.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

No narrative will ever be one-hundred percent accurate, I understand that. Your job is flawed. My concern is how we move forward.

INVESTIGATOR

And you think the possibility that Mr. Rodger might have met a woman two days before committing this act will somehow what, change history?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Look at you and I here. Talking. Rethinking what we thought.

INVESTIGATOR

I am not rethinking anything. I am only wondering what it is you are getting from this, what you are doing here.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Oh, it's not just me. People are already doing their own re'thinking from what they were presented with. About the crime scene, the motives, that bicycle, that missing blood, those miraculous stabbings. New narratives are already being created. The public will already take *whatever* they need from this atrocity in order to move on to the next.

INVESTIGATOR

You wish to use this tragedy to make some point; I say, fine. To fill something inside you; I say, okay.

(INVESTIGATOR gets up)

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

There are several witnesses who witnessed *two people* in the car that night. Two people instead of only one. That certainly would make a better account for the stabbing of three college'sized men in a college'sized apartment.

INVESTIGATOR

Are you seriously going to suppose an entire person just to satisfy some...whatever it is you're doing?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

No more seriously than you might very well have erased an entire person to satisfy...what you do.

(Lights out)

scene three

Sounds of ocean, slight scent of coastal air.
A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN and
ELLIOT looking at each other.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN
It's nice, when you look like that.

ELLIOT
Like what?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN
So *open*, I guess.

ELLIOT
I mean, I hope that—I hope that I do. Sometimes. Look like that.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN
Well, we did touch lips.

ELLIOT
I can't believe it that we did.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN
Can't believe it happened or now more worried it'll never happen again?

ELLIOT
...both, I guess?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN
Don't talk so much about what you don't know, what you don't have. Just shine it on for a girl's sake. And then later, when you *are* connected close, you can admit stuff; how nervous; how screwed up; you'll be able to say anything the Earth.

ELLIOT
Anything the Earth.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN
So...this was your first, yes? (pause) It's okay if it was—

ELLIOT
I'm not, I—

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I've upset you.

ELLIOT

You could never.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I have the potential to. Every person does.

ELLIOT

I'd like to see you again. On a different day. Just so I know, that you really, you know, exist. That you're not some—

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Some what?

ELLIOT

That I didn't create you, that you're not some joke being played out.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

If I didn't exist, if I *was* just a joke, then I would have no interest in finding out about who you are, I would have no worry how you're feeling inside.

ELLIOT

You worry???

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Every conscious human being is a collection of worry.

ELLIOT

Not beautiful people, not people perfect like you.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I'm not perfect. And neither are you.

ELLIOT

So what do you worry about then?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

That I've taken something from you; deprived you of some first experience with somebody your own—

ELLIOT

Girls my age, they don't—and you haven't—I'm not deprived or—I *was* deprived but now, now I'm like—

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

What, tell me.

ELLIOT

The opposite of deprived.

(ELLIOT clunks in for another kiss, but she pulls away and plays it off as playful. Awkward. Beat)

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I've lived through a few more of these than you and I can't honestly say if it is up to anyone how things turn out. Hearts break, lusts recoil, and all of it, every time, feels completely chaotic.

ELLIOT

Would you like to walk back to my car? I could drive us someplace. You and me could go somewhere just you and me.

(ELLIOT beeps his car alarm off; beeps his doors unlocked)

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

...I...I don't think that I should.

ELLIOT

Why not. I'm doing like you said. I don't know what I'm supposed to say to get you to put your lips again, so I'm shining it on.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Do you see? An hour ago you didn't know a thing about shining, and now look at you.

ELLIOT

I asked my mom for this car special, because I thought girls would want to be inside it.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

There will be other girls, who will get in your car with you, Elliot. There'll be no place they'd rather be.

ELLIOT

This *was* my first. Kiss. First anything.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Yesterday, all you knew was driving past me, all you knew was daydreaming how to talk to me, all you knew was wondering what it would be like to kiss another person maybe like me. And look at you now. Imagine what you could accomplish tomorrow if you tried.

ELLIOT

I am trying.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I know, I know that you are. And you should be proud. *I'm* proud—

ELLIOT

If you're proud, then—

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

but I really think I ought to go.

ELLIOT

Go???

(A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN nods her head)

Why? What did I do? Tell me what I did, what did I do—

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

There's nothing you said or did. You were perfect. Know that. Really. Perfection you were and perfection you'll always be on this night. May 21st. Know that. You were perfect on May 21st.

(ELLIOT begins to panic)

ELLIOT

This can't be happening.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

You are going to come across a lot of people in your life—

ELLIOT

You have no idea. What it feels like to be so close to you, what it feels like to be able to smell how close. You have no idea what it was like before you got so close, you have no idea what my life turns into again if you go back to being un'close.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

...Elliot, believe me, every person knows how you're feeling right now, we've all been there.

ELLIOT

How can we all have been there? Until a few minutes ago *I'd* never been here. So no, not every person knows how I'm feeling right now.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

So tell me then, how you're feeling right now.

ELLIOT

How I'm feeling is what is the point of you. Why did you even bother, what did you make any of this happen for, I was—

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

You were what, you were better off before—

ELLIOT

Can I at least have your phone number, your email. Do you actually live in Goleta—

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Elliot.

ELLIOT

Why are you looking at me like that.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Today was everything it could've been. Really it was. And if ever you're feeling like maybe things aren't going so—

ELLIOT

They *aren't* going so.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Just close your eyes. And replay May the 21st.
Now I'm gonna say goodbye Elliot Rodger, you drop'dead gorgeous, fabulous, stylish, exotic'ass gem amongst thousands of rocks.

(She begins to walk off)

ELLIOT

No, wait! Wait!

(She turns and kisses the palm of her hand, then blows it to him before exiting; he catches it frantically and holds onto it as though the last thing on Earth.

Lights back to INVESTIGATOR and FEMALE IN A SUIT)

INVESTIGATOR

So that's it? She goes on her way? No wonder she doesn't show up anywhere in his—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

You don't think he's changed?

INVESTIGATOR

After *that*???

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

What did you want, for him to get to second base???

INVESTIGATOR

So, what, he goes home, maybe he dreams about her all night. He still has all day Thursday and most of Friday—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

So you believe at this point, having just had that encounter he is no further from wanting to—

INVESTIGATOR

No further.

(Beat)

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

This case, it was assigned to you?

INVESTIGATOR

...

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Were you excited when it was?

INVESTIGATOR

Excited?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Like the opposite of bored.

INVESTIGATOR

I don't deny this was a national case.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

And did some part of you wish Elliot *hadn't* shot himself?

INVESTIGATOR

I wouldn't ever wish for anyone to have shot themselves—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Put another way, would you have felt accomplishment to have investigated an open, high-profile, murder case as opposed to a closed one?

INVESTIGATOR

Are you suggesting that we investigated this case with any less intent because the perpetrator was deceased?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Nobody will ever know what slipped through your cracks. Even the parents, who are contesting the Santa Barbara Police Department; they've no actual evidence. No, only a parent's interior feeling that something is not right.

INVESTIGATOR

Their children were stabbed and then dragged to Elliot's room where we know an approximate time of death, but nothing accurate enough to gauge which died first or how Mr. Rodger was able to move from one to the other. These are unknowns, and while they are understandably discomfiting for the parents, they are not an indication of *any* fault with my department.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Do you have children? (pause) How many?

INVESTIGATOR

My family is not of your—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

So you do know where they're coming from then; parents; who will do anything the Earth to find out how exactly Elliot *did* move from one to the other.

INVESTIGATOR

If you're here to doubt my dedication and honesty to these children's families, you're welcome to meet with one of my colleagues—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Your colleagues, did they procure any details on what Elliot Rodger was doing the evening of May 21st?

INVESTIGATOR

...no, our more detailed records of his movements begin the morning of the 23rd. Why.

(A doorbell is heard. They both look up surprised. Lights begin to change on their own; they create evening, a porch light appears. Doorbell rings again. A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN answers, ELLIOT in her doorway)

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Uh, hi. How did you know where I—

ELLIOT

I'm sorry, I'm so sorry to even be here. Please, I promise I just want to talk, I promise I just wanted to say something to you and that's it.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Elliot. Please don't take this the wrong way, but ...I...I didn't realize how young you were when I first saw you. I had hoped you were at least a graduate student.

ELLIOT

I only came to apologize.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Well, I'm sure I'll accept, but then I have to go back inside, okay?

ELLIOT

I panic. I do that sometimes. I think I always have. At least that's what my mom says. I'm like specially sensitive or whatever. And I'm trying really, really hard to understand why I sometimes react the way I react. I don't know if you remember this age, but that's really, really hard to do.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I do, I...I remember.

ELLIOT

Do you ever have things, that you've already done, but like you haven't actually done them yet?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I'm sorry, I don't know what you mean.

ELLIOT

Like we all have these plans, in our heads, right, but that doesn't mean we have to carry them out.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

That's true.

ELLIOT

You know Isla Vista, right?

(She acknowledges "Of course.")

So last year, I visited IV. At night. When all the parties were going off, like on Del Playa; do you know Del Playa?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

...I've been taken to Del Playa.

ELLIOT

So I went there. All dressed nice. By myself. And I walked down to the 6500 block, where there's like parties on both sides; ocean and street. It was loud, and I could hear so many girls laughing, all having fun whatever. And the whole street was thumping in my chest from the music. I was scared, but I picked this one party that didn't seem so loud.

It was dark and I had to get my way through everyone to find the keg. I even asked this girl, but she didn't even look at me, she just said "Upstairs!"

So I went up. And it was just as crowded. But then I saw a couple of those red cups out on the balcony thingy, so I made my way to the out there. I didn't see any stack of cups, so I just grabbed a stranded one from the railing. Nobody was pumping, but I poured myself a beer, just the same way I'd seen guys do.

And I stood there; with my red cup; overlooking Del Playa. I felt like proud, I guess.

I looked around, but not too much. I played it cool. And I waited. And waited.

For some girl, any girl, to come say something to me, or smile even. Just bump into me maybe on purpose, or accident. Wouldn't've mattered.

And pretty soon I started to feel less proud. Like what I musta looked like standing out there all that time not talking to anyone. I tried to make some eye contact, I grinned at a couple of girls, but they didn't do anything back.

I didn't understand it. Of all the idiot, white-fucking guys at this party and not one of these girls even wanted to come up to me, smile at me?

I felt infuriated. I thought they were so stupid.

ELLIOT(cont)

An then, these three blonde girls giggled their way to the keg and began to pump and fill each other's cups. So I walked up and tried to pump for them. But they just looked at each other, trying to ignore me.

All I wanted was to show them what sort of man I was. But nothing. So I tried to make a laugh with one of them, the one closest to me. I tried to laugh at how silly the other two were being, but she didn't laugh back; she rolled her eyes and turned back to her friends like what was I even doing at that party; like I wasn't even invited.

So I waited until she was heading back inside, an then I pretended to get pushed into her so I could shove her into right where there's a space between the railing and the house; just so she could feel me what I meant. But then her friends started screaming all loud, they began saying to the whole party that I tried to push their friend off the balcony, that I was some sicko trying to hurt girls. And then before I know it, three different blonde guys in colorful shirts are punching me in my stomach and face; and then one of them shoves me through that same space between the railing and house. And I remember seeing the grass lawn coming straight at me.

I landed on my side, and I could feel people looking down at me from upstairs. I wanted to lay there and just pass out, but then I heard their voices, those same guys *downstairs*. So I got up, even with my leg in so much pain, and I limped as fast as I could down the driveway. I could hear them yelling after me to stay the fuck away, that there was something wrong with me and if they ever see me in IV again...

I live on Seville now, about three blocks from DP. At first I was scared I'd run into those guys. Or those girls. But now I'm not, if any of them could look at me now.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Look at you what now? What plans did you mean before?

ELLIOT

If they could've seen me an you at Goleta Beach today.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Elliot. I still can't be getting—

ELLIOT

I just want you to know how much changed I am inside having met you.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Elliot, are you a student at UC Santa Barbara? (pause) Did you move to Isla Vista for school?

ELLIOT

...I'm enrolled at the city college.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Where are you from, where is your family—

ELLIOT

LA.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

So, you moved all the way up here to IV to go to city college???

ELLIOT

...I wanted to be closer to people my age...I wanted students to see me, like repeatedly. And maybe if they saw me enough times they might invite me to something. Maybe a girl would...I dunno.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Where in LA do your parents—

ELLIOT

Malibu.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Oh. And do you see them a lot?

ELLIOT

Like all the time. We're really, really close. I talk to them all the time, I even told them I'd be at the beach today; they'll prolly call later to see how the waves were.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

You surf?

ELLIOT

Supremely.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

What are your parents names, I'm always curious.

ELLIOT

Is it okay if I don't tell you? My parents are, well they're in the *industry*, you know, and I just don't want people around here...you know.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Wow. I'm impressed.

ELLIOT

I don't like to talk about it.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Elliot, I want to thank you for trusting me with what happened. It showed a lot of...*open'ness* I think.

ELLIOT

You're welcome.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

But also, when a woman wants you to know where she lives, she'll give you the fucking address.

ELLIOT

Thank you for smiling while you said that.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I've never been told a story like that.

ELLIOT

I've never said it out loud like that.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I should fuckin' hope not. It's not a good story, Elliot. It's not good story. But I'm also sorry that happened to you. I can imagine, well, I can't imagine all of it, but I do maybe understand. I've gone through what you're going through, in my own way.

ELLIOT

You're not so much older than me.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I know it doesn't seem like it, but a lot is going to happen to you in the next how many years.

ELLIOT

I doubt it.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

If you doubt it, then you're absolutely right, nothing's going to happen.

ELLIOT

You and me don't have to be anything defined or whatever, just whatever happens happens.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

And what do you imagine happens?

ELLIOT

Earlier maybe I wanted to drive around with you so you would see how cool my car is, so you would hear how cool my music and want to be my girlfriend.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

And now?

ELLIOT

Now I just with you would say to me what you're thinking.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I'm thinking about your parents, about how you grew up, and how strong it took you to tell me what you told me.

(Beat)

ELLIOT

I drive around a lot. Usually by myself—*often* by myself. I go all over, there's some really cool spots—

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

How long ago did you say you moved here?

ELLIOT

So, I'll be back at Goleta tomorrow. Probably in the afternoon. Same time.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Are you asking if I'd like to meet you at Goleta Beach tomorrow, Elliot?

ELLIOT

I haven't been in IV too long. That's how come I don't know many people yet. I kinda like it though. Having a little time to myself before it gets all crazy.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I go to Goleta Beach a lot too. Often by myself. Often in the afternoon; same time. Goodnight then, Elliot Rodger.

(She closes the door; porch light out. Light bulbs come up over FEMALE and INVESTIGATOR)

INVESTIGATOR

You do realize, even if there was documented proof of—it wouldn't change anything. The public's perception is...in truth, most people don't even care by this point—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

This would give them a reason.

INVESTIGATOR

This isn't Hollywood, there isn't some smoking gun. It's been months. Nobody cares about—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

History?

INVESTIGATOR

...taking the time to rethink what they previously thought. People put things down. Besides, I'm sure it won't be long before the—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Next shooter?

INVESTIGATOR

...yes.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

And what do you make of that then?

INVESTIGATOR

What do I make of it?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

All what gets talked about, written about, ranted about.

INVESTIGATOR

Do I believe guns should be—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Do you?

INVESTIGATOR

I think that firearms should be in the hands of the professionals; I think we've seen what happens when they're not.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Do you believe this specific tragedy would have occurred were Elliot to not have had firearms so easily at his want?

INVESTIGATOR

...I believe those students shot in Isla Vista would likely not have been shot.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

If your son, or daughter, were to have posted videos like Elliot's videos, were to have purchased automatic weapons—

INVESTIGATOR

I'm not going to—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Would you want for stricter gun laws?

INVESTIGATOR

Of course. What parent wouldn't.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

And if those gun laws were actually put in place, would you feel everything was then alright with your son, or daughter?

INVESTIGATOR

No. Of course not.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Why.

INVESTIGATOR

If my child were to have planned to—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Yes, what would you do?

INVESTIGATOR

I would take them out of school, I would quit my job, I would never sleep again to get them help, I would *anything in the world* to find out what was inside them, I would anything in the world...to find out what I'd done wrong.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

How does Elliot Rodger go from being just lonely and so badly wanting female companionship to... This is an unknown.

INVESTIGATOR

I understand what you're—I honestly do. But *there is no evidence* that—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

So you're saying, even if I was to produce a woman, who was with Elliot Rodger on Goleta Beach, who was visited by him later that evening—

INVESTIGATOR

Even if you were to—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Produce a woman who was with him the day before, possibly the day of the—

INVESTIGATOR

The day of?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

There does seem to be more to this story than most people know about. Or can explain even. And I bet, if we look even closer, who knows what we could find.

INVESTIGATOR

The same could be said for every case, ever.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

So that's it then? Why bother looking if there's too much ever to look at.

INVESTIGATOR

Like I said, if you find something—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

I have found something; someone.

INVESTIGATOR

Great, produce her then.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

I am.

INVESTIGATOR

What does that mean.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

In your expert opinion, how do you suppose Elliot was feeling after he left her house that night?

INVESTIGATOR

...I suppose he must've been *excited* about seeing her the next day.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Imagine if we could talk to him though, can you imagine that? The details he could detail, the mystery he could de'mystify. I mean the first question, obviously...

(Appears ELLIOT, he takes a seat, looks up at A FEMALE IN A SUIT;
INVESTIGATOR watches from the sidelines)

So, you look well. Are you?

ELLIOT

Um, I'm grand, actually. (pause) Did my dad—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Your dad is very talented, I see big things for him.

ELLIOT

But he said you should talk to me? What did he say about me?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

I see here, you're a self-described "drop'dead gorgeous, fabulous, stylish, exotic'ass gem amongst thousands of rocks."

ELLIOT

...uh, I mean yea, I think I said that...

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

You think??? Don't hold back on me now. That's just...there's lots I can do with that. That sounds like a goddamned autobiography. Can you imagine the font.

ELLIOT

Autobiography?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Do tell me if you're following along here. Whatever you are, I've got to know it upfront if you are an intelligent person. It's not in-the-way if you're not. But, are you?

Am I?

ELLIOT

Intelligent in the brain.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

I'm a goddamned crystal.

ELLIOT

Noted. And your heart?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

My...

ELLIOT

You know, for other people.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

...wait, what was the question?

ELLIOT

Your heart. Do you have one. Is it working.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

...yes.

ELLIOT

Yes, what.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

I do. Have one.

ELLIOT

Have one what.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

One that works.

ELLIOT

Prove it.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

...how am I supposed to—

ELLIOT

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Tell me a name. Of a person you say you love, with your heart, as it works.

ELLIOT

...my mother.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

But not your dad? Not your stepmum? How about your little step'brother, what's that she named him, Jazz??? Such a cool name, *Jazz*. Do you like that name, do you wish that had been your name? (pause) So who else do you love; non-family.

ELLIOT

...I don't wish to say her name, if you don't mind.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Interesting. So it's a her and you don't want her noted. Interesting. Elliot Rodger does not want his love recorded.

ELLIOT

Recorded?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

In your footprint.

ELLIOT

I just don't want to—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

You've never had a girlfriend, correct?

ELLIOT

...I—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Boyfriend?

ELLIOT

No.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

No need to raise the volume, I'm right here, I'm not your camera.

ELLIOT

I didn't raise my—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

And...you've never...been around a *girl* romantically, physically.

(ELLIOT agrees)

But *now*, or as of late, there is this...printless person, the opposite sex, and...why I'd think you would want to scream about her from the...wherever it is young people scream from these days.

ELLIOT

I just—I don't want her to—I'm trying to play it cool, do you know?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Of course. How do you think I got achieved this my position. (pause) By being cool. Coolness matters. Know that.

ELLIOT

Um...am I allowed to ask.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

You're allowed the entire world, Elliot.

ELLIOT

Who like are you exactly? My dad just said—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

What did your dad just say?

ELLIOT

that he would reach out for contact, that he could do that, that he knew you—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

I knew your mother too; at one point. Stepmum also; she's interesting. Not Jazz though, I haven't met him yet—

ELLIOT

Fuck Jazz.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Yes, I can comprehend it's been hard. The glamour of lives your parents, and stepparent, have lived; the sort of celebrities they've met, slept with even. I can only imagine how that must excite and punch you across your face at the same time.

ELLIOT

But what do you *do*?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

I take star'qualities like yours, Elliot, and I speed the lightyears between you and everyone else. I constellation'ize who you are to who you ought to be.

(A flashing of lights; media)

That is the life you yearn for, yes? That of a stone'cut gem who shines above the rest. Oh, I see how *unlike* every other motherfucker you operate, how destined your days are for distinction. I see that you will no longer be just a child conceived from the second Unit Director of the fucking *Hunger Games* and the brief arm-candy of George the fuck Lucas. I see you will be the main attraction, Elliot Rodger. *That* is what I do.

(FEMALE touches his face; understanding its structure)

ELLIOT

...so um...you could like...make me famous?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

First, I need to know about this woman though.

ELLIOT

What does she have to do with—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

The public needs to know she existed.

ELLIOT

Existed?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

In this time and generation, people need hope. And what is more hopeful than love, yes?

(ELLIOT agrees)

There is no reason to go off'record with our hearts, Elliot. I need for you to get something down, anything down, about her. On the online, in a computer document, anything that just says...what you're telling me is truth.

ELLIOT

Wait, what did I tell you?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

That right this morning of May the 22nd, you Elliot Rodger love another person and that she—

ELLIOT

I never said she—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Well, how does one love somebody and them not...

ELLIOT

...

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Do you mean that she hasn't said the *word* love back to you? (pause) But you *have* told *her*, yes?

ELLIOT

...

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

I'm confused then. How is it you say you—

ELLIOT

I *have* love for her. I just...I just can't tell her yet.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Why not? Who wouldn't want to hear that?

ELLIOT

It like, hasn't been enough time or—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

But you do *know* her, yes? This isn't one of those, I could tell you where she'll be at certain times of the day, but I couldn't tell you what her actual voice sounds like, is it?

ELLIOT

She knows me.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

I see. I get it. I've never been there myself, but well, look at me. (pause) Elliot, have you ever spoken to your father about this sort of—

ELLIOT

My father barely talks to me, he's barely even around.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Would you like a little...female ad'vice then?

(ELLIOT nods vigorously)

Be out somewhere with her. In the world.

ELLIOT

What do you mean, like downtown, like State Street?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Be seen with her around *people*.

ELLIOT

...but what if she doesn't want to?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Let me inside you to a little something from my business...nobody has any fucking clue what they want until you show it to them.

ELLIOT

I...I don't want to force her—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Am I forcing you right now to do any of this?

ELLIOT

...

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Hello? Answer please.

ELLIOT

No.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

I am merely showing you what the possibilities, and it is up to you to make more from them.

ELLIOT

...how though?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Jesus Christ, Elliot, there are some qualities a man gets from doing on his own. Not everything in life can be fucking handed to you; not every twenty-something gets to attend the Star Wars Revenge of the fucking Sith premiere or drive around a brand new black BMW 328i.

ELLIOT

Everything has not been fucking handed to me.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

So fucking prove it then.

(She motions ELLIOT offstage. He takes a moment, then exits.
A moment of A FEMALE IN A SUIT alone, having sent him off;
INVESTIGATOR watches. Lights out)

Lights up on Goleta Beach; ELLIOT and
POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN stand
a bit awkwardly.

ELLIOT

Thank you for meeting me.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Look at the waves today, it's almost as if they never go anywhere they're so small.
Barely crashing before pulling back out again.

ELLIOT

It's okay that you bring your own car.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

There's been more sharks here lately; in the shallow waters.

ELLIOT

We can always just meet places if you want.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

There was that attack. A few years ago. A UCSB student with a boogie board. Just a couple feet away his friend with a surfboard. They were less than a hundred yards out when the 18-foot shark showed itself and pulled the boogie board student under. I remember reading the friend say how fast it happened; how stealth. All he saw was this red wave in the blue water; this one single wave was entirely not the color it was supposed to be.

And afterwards, there was so many sightings all the time right here by campus.

I remember wondering how come the students don't get more warned.

How many students must be in danger and they don't even know it, they've no idea what swims under.

Anyways, the surf board student pulled his friend's body, with its leg bitten off, back to shore, but it was too late, the boogie board student was pronounced dead still on the scene.

ELLIOT

Coulda been worse.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

What coulda been worse than—

ELLIOT

He coulda been out in that water and had nobody to watch him get taken under, nobody to pull his... If he'd been alone, you an me might not even be talking about him. He'd just be just some kid who never got heard from again and nobody ever knew what happened.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

They woulda found his things on the beach, his flip-flops, towel.

ELLIOT

But no one would know his story.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Would that really matter, if you were him?

ELLIOT

If no one knows about you, you didn't even have to be alive to begin with.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I know what you mean, about his not being alone.

ELLIOT

Thank you.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I wouldn't want to be anywhere alone with any kind of shark.

ELLIOT

You won't be.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Well, we're on land.

ELLIOT

I know.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Sharks don't walk.

ELLIOT

We could go inland anyways though. Maybe downtown. Maybe State Street.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Ugh, I can't with downtown when its nice out. Tourists.

ELLIOT

What about IV?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

You wanna go *out* in IV?

ELLIOT

We could get something to eat.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I'm not hungry.

ELLIOT

Or drink.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Are you even twenty-one?

ELLIOT

We can take separate cars.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Cars? Its right there.

ELLIOT

You could see my apartment.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Don't you have roommates?

ELLIOT

So you don't want to go anywhere with me then?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

...I'm worried...

ELLIOT

For people to see you with me.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

You're young is all.

ELLIOT

I'm *twenty-two*.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Says the twenty-two year old. (pause) I dunno. Its all students there, I'd feel weird.

ELLIOT

They don't care. They don't see anyone besides themselves anyways.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

There must be girls you have your eye on. You don't want them to see you with some—

ELLIOT

You're barely older than me.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I'm older than IV.

ELLIOT

Couldn't we just go to Woodstock's, or Freebirds?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

You wanna eat drunk food with me?

ELLIOT

I wanna anything with you.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Are your roommates home, do you think?

ELLIOT

Probably the library; always the library.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I'd be curious to see what your room looks like. But if they're home—

ELLIOT

Don't worry, they won't be. They won't get in the way.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

What, you don't like them?

ELLIOT

They steal from me.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

They *steal* from you???

ELLIOT

They did.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

What'd they steal then?

ELLIOT

...

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Tell me.

ELLIOT

Candles.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Candles???

ELLIOT

Three candles worth twenty-two dollars.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Where the fuck are you getting three candles for twenty-two dollars. Hasn't anyone taught you to shop?

ELLIOT

No.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

...I'm gonna say okay, we can walk over there, but please just understand, if I feel old or out of place—

ELLIOT

You won't.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

If it feels like people are—then I'm gonna haffta—

ELLIOT

Go, I know. So, shall we?

(ELLIOT leads WOMAN towards Isla Vista. Lights switch to
INVESTIGATOR and FEMALE IN A SUIT)

INVESTIGATOR

So, we're saying, what, that, that, that Elliot and this...this woman, they, what, they, they met up at Goleta Beach, *after* he'd showed up at her house uninvited, and he has now, what, somehow *convinced* her to take a *stroll* with him into Isla Vista, possibly to see his apartment, possibly she saw his apartment, possibly, what, they were, what, possibly intimate???

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

It is indeed possible, yes.

(Beat)

INVESTIGATOR

What did he say to you. At the premiere?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

He...looked at me.

INVESTIGATOR

He looked at you.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Wouldn't you? At that age. When a woman's thighs, almost any woman's thighs, are just the height of things.

INVESTIGATOR

So, you *caught* him looking at you, you mean.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

He wasn't dressed appropriately. For a premiere. Something plaid if I remember correct.

INVESTIGATOR

Why would somebody like you remember some kid from—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Do you imagine I'm somebody who wouldn't notice some kid?

INVESTIGATOR

What else then, besides his wardrobe.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

I remember noting how his father and stepmother were walking out in front of him; their faces to the cameras; their eyes desperate for anyone to... They didn't even notice when I walked right up to him. Asked his name and how old he was. He had trouble speaking honestly.

INVESTIGATOR

Meaning what.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

I asked him if he'd ever like to be back someday, on his own red carpet, without his father, without his—

INVESTIGATOR

And what did he respond.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

He said that he *would* be back. That there was no doubt. I told him he'd better dress like an adult and then he took my hand and assured me that he would shine brighter than all the rest; that he could outshine anybody.

INVESTIGATOR

Well, that's...not normal. Did he seem...troubled, to you?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

He seemed presentational.

INVESTIGATOR

Did you talk about anything else?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

I asked him what he wanted to do with his life.

INVESTIGATOR

And?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

He said he wanted to do something absolutely divine, so divine that every last model or actress on that carpet would be dying of desperation to be on his arm, that all the cameras and crowd would say his name. *Elliot Rodger*. That's how he spoke it to me. *Elliot Rodger*. That I would remember it, for when he did what he was destined to.

INVESTIGATOR

Is that how come you're here? Because you met him, because you've talked to him?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

I suppose. In a way. But also no.

INVESTIGATOR

Did you recognize his name when you found out what—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Of course. But to be fair, I'm also a fucking genius.

INVESTIGATOR

His parents, have you ever had a conversation with *them*?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

I've spoken to his father on occasion.

INVESTIGATOR

What occasion?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

He wasn't around steadily, but when he *was* involved on a project, he was very specific to be seen at all the social events, parties, after-parties.

INVESTIGATOR

And do you have any recollection of any particular conversation?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

He didn't technically *converse*. He would more look beyond you; to the left or right of your head...marking who else was in attendance.

INVESTIGATOR

Did he ever mention his family?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Not to me.

INVESTIGATOR

Did he strike you as...

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

A parental parent?

(INVESTIGATOR nods)

He struck me as somebody for whom my industry is all things.

INVESTIGATOR

Is it for *you*, all things?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

This isn't about me.

INVESTIGATOR

What is it about then? I've listened to you question my investigation, I've been open to the possibility that Elliot could've met a young woman, and okay so you've had an interaction with the Rodger family which you've now told me about. Thank you.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Those are the facts of our conversation. Why though?

INVESTIGATOR

Why what?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

People are tunneled, are they not? So tunneled into asking who and what and where and how, but always *Why* goes completely unconsidered.

No matter how tragic the latest disaster or unfortunate event, always there is so much anger, so much time spent on where or who the liability lay. I find it no wonder how often we turn to violence.

I won't at all be surprised when a disagreement literally about one shooting will lead to another, maybe a third, then a fifth.

INVESTGATOR

Maybe we *should* think more of why things happen, but in the world we currently live in, the Rodger family—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

What about them?

INVESTIGATOR

Their son will still go down as the Virgin Killer from UC Santa Barbara and go remembered for his unnerving videos with that unsettling voice and laugh.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Do we still think of Lee Harvey Oswald as a "lone, crazed gunman" or is that now debatable; is our long-term understanding of him now deeper than some magic bullet theory?

INVESTIGATOR

Do you really think what you're dealing with here is on that level???

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

I didn't realize there was levels to human atrocity.

INVESTIGATOR

I'd say the assassination of a fucking President of the United States is of far more—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Importance than school shootings? I think the families would disagree. I think the families could give a fuck about J.F-fuckingK compared to their son or daughter.

INVESTIGATOR

Even if Elliot met a woman, even if what they shared was... Look, he was a lonely, unstable kid who—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Who happens to be just one in a continuing phenomenon in our country which nobody seems to have any real answers to, nor understanding of how to stop.

INVESTIGATOR

WHAT THE FUCK DOES THAT HAVE TO DO WITH YOU?!?! All you really have to say is about is some woman who *might* have visited an apartment building, who *might* have shared a kiss. You offer nothing. I don't care about your industry of celebrity, or fame, or whatever you wanna call it; none of this has anything to do with—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Except Elliot's parents. And stepparent. They very much care about me and what I do. They based their entire life aim on it.

INVESTIGATOR

...okay...whatever.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

It's just here you are saying how I am completely irrelevant, but here I am repeatedly intimately involved in this epidemic.

INVESTIGATOR

You are...a fucking mention. Elliot Rodger's parents happen to have been in the picture industry, and you once shared a red carpet, so what.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

February 23rd, 2001, UC Santa Barbara student David Attias, plows his father's 1991 Saab 9000 at 50 miles per hour through the 6500 hundred block of Sabado Tarde *in Isla Vista*, where he kills four students and critically injures a fifth.

FEMALE IN A SUIT(cont)

David, the son of very prominent television director *Daniel Attias*, then gets out of his father-bought Saab, and begins using very seriously his lungs to announce that he is in fact the “Angel of Death.” It would later be found at David also blamed his unsteady frustration in life at a lack of sexual contact.

INVESTIGATOR

...so you’re very big in Central California; its only about a hundred miles north of Los Angeles; not so surprising.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

What isn’t.

INVESTIGATOR

That both...assailants had parents in the industry.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

As well gave the same very reason for their unhappiness in life.

INVESTIGATOR

They were both young men, I hardly think that’s—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Symptomatic of something?

INVESTIGATOR

It’s an odd...coincidence.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

A coincidence that two young men, both for some reason unable to engage sexually with other people, a hundred miles north of the entertainment capital of the world, who just happened to be parented by mothers and fathers rooted in my industry is nothing more than...a fact of proximity?

INVESTIGATOR

California is a very entertainment industry employed state.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

What about the Batman though.

INVESTIGATOR

I can’t believe I get to say this, but...what about the Batman?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

July 2012, Aurora, Colorado,

(INVESTIGATOR sighs, rolls his eyes)

During a midnight screening of *The Dark Knight Rises*, one James Eagan Holmes dressed in—

INVESTIGATOR

Alright, alright, I know what about the Batman.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

And still just coincidence.

(INVESTIGATOR begins to clap)

INVESTIGATOR

Wow. You solved it. It was Hollywood's fault all along, who'd uh thunk it.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

And why are they all men. No women.

INVESTIGATOR

There was one. Woman.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Fine. There was been one woman recorded. But the others...mostly single, males.

INVESTIGATOR

Fine. It's gender-related too then.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

All Elliot wanted one day was walk down some red carpet, have flashbulbs flashing, with an aesthetically pleasing woman on his arm. He wrote about this.

INVESTIGATOR

So. I've wanted that too. I didn't order automatic weapons when it didn't happen.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

No, but in the world we currently live in, a lot of boys do.

INVESTIGATOR

...

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

You said you would “anything the Earth” for your—

INVESTIGATOR

Please.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Should we not behave as if this *was* our child. Should we not *anything the Earth* to understand what exactly occurred inside that apartment on May 22nd.

INVESTIGATOR

I investigated this case with the same level of professional attention that I would any other.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

If you truly believed that your professionalism did *anything* to help our understanding of *why* this keeps happening, you would have gotten out of your chair a long time ago.

But look at you.

So scared that your *presentation of an investigation* is one of the very reasons why our country has almost zero understanding what’s inside the minds of our young people.

(Beat)

INVESTIGATOR

...We are all just trying to do our work and then go home to our families.

(FEMALE IN A SUIT speaks strangely intense; personal)

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Except the victims. Those children never go home to their families not ever.

They stay out there; lost. Don’t they. They remain always wherever it is that dead children lay.

(He looks at her oddly; unsure of her connection to all this. Beat)

INVESTIGATOR

So, what then?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

...

INVESTIGATOR

...we were at the apartment, yes?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

...the apartment, yea...

(FEMALE stands up, she speaks somberly to somebody offstage)

...the uh, ocean, the ocean please...

(Sounds of ocean. Mist)

It should be noted, that the uh...*Isla Vista* beach is only...beachy dependent on the time of tide. Mostly it's just a...strip of sand; small waves...but, after dark they crash harder though; up against the forty-foot crumbling rock cliffs underneath the beach houses where the students live...on Del Playa Drive. (pause) I'm...I'm not hearing a crash.

(We hear the crash of small waves against a bluff)

Three college blocks away, Elliot Rodger's residential complex grey with blue'green trim;

(Some form of Elliot Rodger's apartment complex appears)

These are the...

(She checks her notes)

...Capri Apartments, on the 6500 hundred block of Seville Road. Dormitory'style; and residents are placed based upon a personality questionnaire.

(We hear the chatter of student life and sounds of a college town near dusk; the scent of pre'gaming and cheap food)

I'm okay with it. Don't love. Never love.
Anyways, our woman.

(Appears A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN)

...and for the umpteenth time, woman, as do we all, has the potential to be judgmental.

(Lights morph WOMAN's face, making it hard to pinpoint)

And of course, him...

(Appears ELLIOT, looking at WOMAN with nerves and happiness while she looks up at his apartment complex)

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I wonder if they're home.

ELLIOT

Who.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Uh, *your roommates*.

ELLIOT

I want them to be home.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I still haven't even decided if I'm going up. They might not even meet me.

ELLIOT

I'd like them to see me. With you. I'd like them to look at the me that's with you.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

What is it you want them to think, that you came up to me, *charmed* me, and now here I am?

ELLIOT

...isn't that what happened?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I have no idea what happened, I have no idea if this is even—

ELLIOT

What?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

You can't ever know, Elliot, what some person will mean to you. Or you to them. It just has to happen the way it happens. We can build it up when we're lonely, we can tear it down when we hurt, but none of us has any control over how other people feel about us, and that is what makes love so goddamned...humbling.

ELLIOT

Can we go up anyways though?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Are you sure they'll be so impressed? I'm not that impressive. I mean I *am*, but it's more impressive if I insist that I'm not.

ELLIOT

They would be.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Tell me how come.

(She readies for a compliment)

ELLIOT

Because they're not so different from me. The girls here don't look at them either. Even though how smart they are. People like me and them aren't what IV's about.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

And what is IV about?

ELLIOT

Isla Vista...is about how close you can always hear the waves on the bluff and smell the ocean in the air. It's about young people getting a taste of what living a life *could* be like. Beachfront property and rolling on x while looking out at the crash of the tide. Confident boys holding confident bottles of whatever and blonde girls showing so much tanned skin from morning through sunset; even during the week. Isla Vista is like all the attractions that could be coming to our entire generation if we last long enough in getting older.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Wow. And all those parents so stupid in still thinking it's about their children getting an education.

ELLIOT

I'll show them all, you know. I'll show every one of them and leave this entire town in the startdust of what I'm capable of.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Elliot, I don't know what the fuck you're talking about, so why don't you show me what's up your stairs; what your room looks like.

(A light from an apartment window; ELLIOT and WOMAN glow underneath it)

What are their names anyways?

ELLIOT

...

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Are they secret names?

ELLIOT

They have a friend staying. A third.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Do you now *not* want me to go up?

ELLIOT

My room isn't drop'dead gorgeous, or stylish or—

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Nobody's is. And if it is, if somebody's room actually, literally, is drop'dead gorgeous, stylish or has gems anywhere...then there's something wrong with them.

ELLIOT

When we walk inside...can you put your arm around, like you're with me, like we're in all this together.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

All what?

ELLIOT

...life I guess.

(A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN puts her arm around ELLIOT as he walks her out of the glow.
Sounds of two sets of feet going up stairs; we hear a key into a lock and the creak of a door being opened.
From the light of the window, we see movement. We hear the muffled voice of Elliot introducing somebody. The light of the window sputters out as the sounds of a growing tide grow louder in the darkness. We hear waves go somewhat violent and hear shards of rock from a cliff coming undone then falling into the Pacific Ocean. End of Act One)

act two

Lights up on A FEMALE IN A SUIT and
INVESTIGATOR.

INVESTIGATOR

IV isn't always what people like you make it out to be.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Voted by Playboy Magazine to be *thee* place to party in the entire country on
Halloween.

INVESTIGATOR

That's just—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Partiers burned a bank down some years back, no?

INVESTIGATOR

Okay, yes, but there are also normal students, getting a normal education.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

The first time I heard about Isla Vista was the drunken bodies.

INVESTIGATOR

Most college towns have some unclothed people running around from time to time.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Oh, no, I meant the falling bodies. You know, the ones that occasionally slip from the
over'looking balconies off Del Playa and land lifeless on the rocks and water below.

INVESTIGATOR

Well, alcohol.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Intoxication, yes. That's most likely it.

INVESTIGATOR

There's no conspiracy about the cliffs. These kids are partying, they get too close, they
don't have their faculties.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Oh, I get it. The bumping music, the bloodstream all laced up, and these ocean'view houses lined up along our Pacific coast. Most people never get that ever. People dream of it though, don't they. Being special enough to just live like that. Really, honest-to-God believing that something inside them is so fucking unique that they're almost owed it.

INVESTIGATOR

Everybody believes they'll be something, isn't that what being young is for?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

I can imagine, being that age, so surrounded by a life and way of living that almost mocks you. Imagine living in some version of paradise and not being allowed to partake.

INVESTIGATOR

Have you ever *been* to IV? They burn couches into public bonfires weekly, the students are cramped beyond capacity so the Santa Barbara landlords can snake multiple rent, there's vomit *often*—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

And yet most of these students will still grow up and recall with photographic memory those years they lived right up along the California'view. With very little responsibility.

INVESTIGATOR

Well, the nostalgia from getting older.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Not Elliot though. He doesn't have any memories of laughing with friends while dragging a couch into the street and howling as they put the lighter fluid, he doesn't have any stories of meeting a tipsied'girl and making-out while overlooking the—no, he only has stories of watching *other* people do those things.

INVESTIGATOR

Well, guess what, I don't have any memories of doing that shit either. Lots of people, through our entire country don't even get to go to college, they don't get any of the shit that this kid got and they would never, not in a thousand years do what he—

(Another strangely personal outburst from FEMALE)

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

So he's a freak. Does that make it easier on you? He's a fucking lunatic from lunacy'town. He doesn't fucking belong breathing the same air as us. Is that what you think; that he is a fucking mistake from God that should never have been created. Is that what you thought the night of May 23rd when you were assigned this case?

(INVESTIGATOR takes a moment)

INVESTIGATOR

What I thought when I received this case was how awful for those young people. And will their parents, any of their parents, ever recover. There is no argument whether or not Elliot Rodger committed these acts; and I believe that those for whom this incident means the most would rather let the deceased rest with as little postulation as possible.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Postulation.

INVESTIGATOR

Postulation.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Good word.

INVESTIGATOR

Thank you.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

You're welcome.

INVESTIGATOR

Nothing you can talk about, or even uncover, will bring any parents back with their children. (pause) Do *you* have kids?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

...

INVESTIGATOR

Ever married?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

...

INVESTIGATOR

So you're singular.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Postulate. To suggest or assume the existence of something as a basis for discussion, or belief.

INVESTIGATION

Congratulations.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

On what?

INVESTIGATOR

Defining something.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

No parent would want to postulate anything concerning the death of their son or daughter. Nor would the mother or father of a murderer, as they're called.

INVESTIGATOR

I can't speak for everyone, but sounds about right.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

But what about the next parents, what about the next children.

INVESTIGATOR

Next how?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

The next to gun down or be gunned down, knife or be knifed. What about the very next student who goes down flat and the student that made them that way. What about their parents; victims *and* assailant. Do you think they would mind if you and I postulated this case?

INVESTIGATOR

Do you honestly believe simply meeting another person...could have prevented it? Taking some woman up to his apartment, do you honestly—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

I honestly do wonder what it could mean if every lonely, struggling person was, even if just for a night, was able to bring just a little human contact close to where they live. I wonder would we have the killings that we do in this country.

INVESTIGATOR

...I don't know. I don't imagine it would be that...

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

What.

INVESTIGATOR

Simple.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

I'm not advocating preventative escort services the nation'wide. I'm advocating that Elliot Rodger was not alone in his apartment, nor BMW 328i on the day of the tragedy—

INVESTIGATOR

(sighs) We're back to this.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

What we're back to is that it may be easier to paint Elliot Rodger, and so many others, the color of being of their own; those who just seep through our cracks. But just how wide and deep are these cracks that the rest of us seem to step over so easy, and how did we ever let them fall to begin with.

INVESTIGATOR

You, lost me.

(An uncharacteristically emotional open response from A FEMALE IN A SUIT)

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

No. You and I are not lost; not ever.

You and I, and everyone else who lives in the world don't get to just post our condolences and then scroll past whenever we read about somebody who couldn't find their way.

Elliot Rodger was not alone in that car,
he had every person he'd ever met sitting beside him,
he had every person who shouldered past him or rolled their eyes,
he had every human being who never bothered to look in his direction while he wasn't doing well.

Elliot Rodger was not alone in that car,
and all I'm asking is what a world would it be, if somebody, if just one, particular woman was that much more open of heart than the rest of us.

(Beat)

INVESTIGATOR

What did his roommates react?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

...

INVESTIGATOR

Inside his apartment, when he walked in with her arm around him.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Thank you. For asking.

INVESTIGATOR

Its fine.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

How would you imagine them to react?

INVESTIGATOR

I don't know, I never lived with roommates.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Me either. Gross.

INVESTIGATOR

So.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Well. Think about those people we've all met along our way; the sort of person you're fairly certain would grow into middle age having never kissed another human being.

Maybe they weren't birthright attractive, maybe their individuality was just too individual, maybe they simply weren't stamped normal.

Picture them.

Try to remember their name, if you can.

Now, what would you react if you were to see this person again, and somehow they now have a decently attractive person's arm wrapped around them? How do you imagine you'd react?

INVESTIGATOR

...I'd be—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

And don't you dare fucking lie that you'd be happy for them.

INVESTIGATOR

I'd wonder what was wrong with the person with their arm around them.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Yea. Wondering 'what was wrong with the person with their arm around them' sounds about universal.

(Both look over as a soft, room-light illuminates A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN, sitting on a single bed, while ELLIOT looks out the window; he seems to be crying)

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

...forget them; they didn't mean anything by it. Even if they think they know what they mean by it, they don't. And besides, they didn't *really* say anything.

ELLIOT

You Saw Them.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I did.

ELLIOT

It doesn't matter what I do, they still just—

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I know, I get it. But do they really matter? I mean in the whole scheme of the world, do those three guys in there really have anything to do with the whole rest of your life?

ELLIOT

No. They *won't*.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

So why do you care.

ELLIOT

They didn't even acknowledge you.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

And I'm okay with that.

ELLIOT

They fucking acted like you weren't even fucking there.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Please don't speak like that around me.

ELLIOT

You curse.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Not like that, I don't.

ELLIOT

I'm sorry.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Are you?

ELLIOT

I just...I don't understand why they look at me like that.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Like what?

ELLIOT

Like they don't even understand what I'm doing being alive.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I understand what you mean, really I do. But have you ever thought about how *you* look at *them*?

ELLIOT

What?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

You didn't walk in and introduce me like you openly wanted them to enjoy the acquaintance of somebody new. You did it all...expecting. With your voice all weird.

ELLIOT

Yea, I *expected* them to at least say something to you, at least look at you.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Maybe they didn't care about me because they don't care about you.

ELLIOT

I brought home a fucking woman, I brought her up to my fucking apartment and now she's in my fucking room; what the fuck do they want from me.

(She gets up)

No, please.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I asked you not to speak like that.

ELLIOT

Please don't look at me like that.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

And how am I looking at you, Elliot Rodger?

ELLIOT

Like everyone else.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGEMENTAL WOMAN

And how do *you* look at everyone else, Elliot Rodger?

ELLIOT

Why do you keep saying my name.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Because you're hard to pinpoint, and I can't find a center to you.

ELLIOT

Can you just look at me like how you did before, like at the beach.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

At the beach you behaved like somebody who was appreciative and happy to even be talking to me.

ELLIOT

I'm sorry that I got upset. I'm sorry that I didn't introduce you more...openly.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

You have to try, Elliot Rodger.

ELLIOT

Why do you keep saying my name?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Elliot Rodger.

(Beat)

ELLIOT

Sometimes I go online. And I post these recordings that I record.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Do you go online a lot? Is there where you spend time sometimes?

ELLIOT

No. I barely do.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

What are the recordings of, that you post?

ELLIOT

Me. Driving around Santa Barbara, or Montecito.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Just, driving...?

ELLIOT

Talking. To myself. Things I think, things I want. I put them on YouTube.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

What for.

ELLIOT

Lots of times I say my name in them. On the recordings. My full name.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

For who to hear?

ELLIOT

That's the thing, I know nobody is watching, I know not one single person is listening. So I say my name and I think about what I could do that everyone *would* be saying my name.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

And what could you do?

ELLIOT

Do you know the date?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

The date, as in what day is it?

(He nods)

The 22nd, tomorrow's the 23rd.

ELLIOT

If I could open my eyes on May 23rd with you laying next to me, if I could walk out from my apartment on May 23rd with another human being by my side, if I could experience what that must feel like...

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

What must it feel like?

ELLIOT

Then none of the past twenty-two years will matter anymore. Not my stepmom, not my stepbrother, not every single night that I—

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Wait, I thought your parents were still married.

ELLIOT

None of anything would matter if I could just—

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Do you really see them all the time, did you really talk to your parents in the morning?

ELLIOT

I talk to my mom a lot. But I know she wanted me to move up here because how hard it was to deal with me.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

And your dad?

ELLIOT

He's busy. Or says he's busy. With his wife and her...

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

You don't like her?

ELLIOT

Do you know what she said to me? (pause) That her son Jazz has a audition; that he's gonna be in movies like her. She said to my face that Jazz isn't gonna have *any* trouble losing *his* virginity.

(She holds him. A few moments. He tries to kiss her)

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I'm sorry. I know you probably don't wanna hear this right now, but I can't *do stuff* with you, Elliot.

ELLIOT

...

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Did you hear me? Do you understand what that means?

ELLIOT

Just waking up next to you will be enough. That's how happy you make me. That's how many lightyears I'll travel.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I could lay up against you though. My body to yours. While you sleep. But only if you promise not to talk ugly, promise not to get any more upset, promise that tomorrow, no matter how anyone looks at you—

ELLIOT

Us.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

no matter how anyone looks at you or us, that you will not let them get inside you.

ELLIOT

I won't.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Do you promise me that is how tomorrow will go, Elliot Rodger?

ELLIOT

I promise.

(A moment of them looking at each other. In inexperience, ELLIOT quickly turns the light off and lays on top of his bed and covers; she considers him by moonlight)

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Little female insight: it's nice when you ask the other person if they're ready to go to sleep before you... (pause) Nevermind. It's okay.

(A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN lays alongside ELLIOT in bed, she places her arm around him as he stays motionless and awkward)

Are you going to be able to sleep?

ELLIOT

Uh, noldontthinkso.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Tha's okay. Maybe me neither. Sometimes that's kinda the best part though...

(A FEMALE IN A SUIT steps into a light)

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Let it be noted, that on the morning of May 23rd, the day of the murders, Elliot Rodger was described as being in good spirits. Something in his face, or way of walking seemed...almost satisfied.

(*INVESTIGATOR enters A FEMALE IN A SUIT's light*; they both stare with curiosity at the sleeping ELLIOT and WOMAN)

INVESTIGATOR

Can I also note, during questioning when a person claims to have done something solely on another person's behalf...they have the potential to be lying. Truth is often found in selfishness; what do *we* get out of things, what are *we* after. The moment any human being even suggests that they did something for another person, they become suspect.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Meaning?

INVESTIGATOR

If I were to have questioned her, I would've asked what really she's doing there.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

So do so then; question.

(A FEMALE IN A SUIT motions to somebody offstage. Lights switch, INVESTIGATOR now sits across from A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN)

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

What is this about.

INVESTIGATOR

...uh, well, welcome.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Welcome to what? What is this.

INVESTIGATOR

I...would like to ask you a few questions.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Yea, I got that. About what.

INVESTIGATOR

...May the 21st .

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

So...day before yesterday then...

(A moment while INVESTIGATOR figures out what day it is)

...unless you meant May the 21st of like *last year*, in which case...good luck.

INVESTIGATOR

This year. 2014. Day before yesterday.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Alright, what about it. For like third time.

INVESTIGATOR

Pardon me, before we—do you happen to have the time? My phone is—

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Its daylight.

INVESTIGATOR

The hour though.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

A little after eleven. In the a.m.. Of May the 23rd. Of twenty-fucking-fourteen.
Is that all you needed, glad I could be of service.

(She gets up; he stands, motions her to sit back down)

INVESTIGATOR

May the 21st , you were at Goleta beach in the afternoon, you met a young man there.

(She sits back down)

I'll take that as a yes. (pause) Who approached who?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Excuse me.

INVESTIGATOR

Which one of you approached the other?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I don't know, we just kinda sorta—

INVESTIGATOR

Alright, put a clearer way, which one of you walked up to the other and which of you was stationary?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I was stationary. He was un'stationary.

INVESTIGATOR

And what were you doing, stationarily, before he—

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Well, shocker, I was looking out at the—

INVESTIGATOR

Just looking?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

It's an ocean. Human beings like to look at it. What.

INVESTIGATOR

Were you waiting for anything, anyone?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

No.

INVESTIGATOR

You weren't *hoping* somebody might approach you.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I don't understand what you mean by hoping.

INVESTIGATOR

The young man, you'd seen him before, no?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Goleta Beach was our first meeting.

INVESTIGATOR

Alright, what about his car. Black, BMW 328i.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

...I had seen it before.

INVESTIGATOR

How many times.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

...a handful, I don't know, I don't count how many times I see particular vehicles.

INVESTIGATOR

And where exactly had you seen this particular vehicle?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Near my work, around town.

INVESTIGATOR

And were you ever able to see inside the car; the driver?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

...I'd seen...the outline of his face before. An imprint. While he was driving.

INVESTIGATOR

And was his black BMW 328i parked in the Goleta Beach parking lot when you pulled in?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Yes. It was.

INVESTIGATOR

Was he in it?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I didn't know if he was, at the time.

INVESTIGATOR

Did you enter the Goleta Beach parking lot because you saw his car pull in.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

...I did not solely go to the beach that day because—

INVESTIGATOR

But you saw his car pull in, and you did the same very shortly after.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Yes.

INVESTIGATOR

And were you *hoping* to encounter him?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I wouldn't have minded meeting him.

INVESTIGATOR

So you were stationary in hopes that he might—

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Have I broken some law because I wanted to engage with another human being?

INVESTIGATOR

And you kissed him, no?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

...

INVESTIGATOR

I repeat, did you kiss Elliot Rodger on May the 21st at Goleta Beach.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Yes, I did.

INVESTIGATOR

And what happened after that?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Nothing. We talked a bit more, I then left. (pause) Later on that evening he stopped by my house, we talked some more, and he went home.

INVESTIGATOR

And the next day?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

We met again; same beach. And afterwards I walked home with him. Now, seeing as how I haven't broken any laws and that I've answered each of your rather personal questions, why don't you tell me what this is about and what right you have to be—

INVESTIGATOR

What right is that approximately three weeks ago, on April 30th, Elliot Rodger's mother contacted a mental health line regarding some potentially threatening videos he'd posted on YouTube, they then notified the Santa Barbara Police Department; after which four deputies visited Mr. Rodger to check on his welfare.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

...and how was it, his welfare?

INVESTIGATOR

The officers concluded that Mr. Rodger was not an immediate threat to himself or others and thus they had no cause to place an involuntary mental hold or to enter his residence.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

...so, what was on the videos then?

INVESTIGATOR

What was on the videos was a very troubled young man who potentially may have wanted to harm other people because he was so troubled.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

You say potentially a lot.

INVESTIGATOR

It is possible, that as of several weeks ago, Mr. Rodger purchased three semiautomatic handguns; legally.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

...look, I barely know him so—

INVESTIGATOR

But you have seen the inside of his bedroom, yes?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I didn't see any semiautomatic handguns laying around if that's why we're talking.

INVESTIGATOR

What time did you leave? His residence. This morning.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

...when we woke up.

INVESTIGATOR

And did—

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Did we have sex?

(INVESTIGATOR motions her to continue)

Well, we didn't. We laid next to each other until we both got sleepy. Then we slept.

INVESTIGATOR

Did Elliot Rodger say anything to you at any time about his wanting to or thinking about potentially harming any—

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

No.

INVESTIGATOR

Do you know where he is now?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

His apartment? Driving around?

INVESTIGATOR

Did you make any plans to see him again?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Would it be illegal if I had?

INVESTIGATOR

When are you supposed to meet him?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

A little later maybe. Early evening.

INVESTIGATOR

Where.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Alright, am I being accused of something here?

INVESTIGATOR

No.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN
So I don't legally have to tell you anything about what I'm doing later.

INVESTIGATOR
You don't.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN
You just *want* to know.

(He nods)

Why.

INVESTIGATOR
Has anything I've told you—

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN
What.

INVESTIGATOR
affected you in any way.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN
What way.

INVESTIGATOR
You tell me.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN
It has the potential to.

INVESTIGATOR
...

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN
What is it you'd like me to say? Am I uneasy by what you told me, do I regret where I spent the night last night?

INVESTIGATOR
Do you?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Was that your intention? That I would look at him with the same eyes that you do.
That I would stand him up later. That he would go back to being so alone that he doesn't know what to do with how alone.

INVESTIGATOR

And how would you look at him if tonight, May 23rd, Elliot Roger follows through on what he seems to be suggesting in his videos?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Tonight, Elliot is going to be driving me around in his black BMW 328i, to all his most favorite spots he wants to share with me with his most favorite music he likes to listen to. And we'll roll the windows down and people will see us, together. We'll have eyewitnesses that Elliot couldn't have done anything harmful to anyone, because he was with me right by his side, in that front seat. May I go?

(A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN exits from INVESTIGATOR and walks back to the sleeping ELLIOT, she crawls back into bed with him; her arm back around him protectively. FEMALE IN A SUIT and INVESTIGATOR watch them sleep)

INVESTIGATOR

Why don't we take a look at what happens when they wake.

(INVESTIGATOR motions to somebody offstage)

Can we pull up the beach, waves, all that.

(Sunlight appears over A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN and ELLIOT, as they awake in each other's arms)

ELLIOT

You're so fucking beautiful. Sorry. You're...really beautiful.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Well, I should stay over more often.

ELLIOT

You can, you can stay over as many times as people do that.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I'm sure my novelty would wear off.

ELLIOT

I'll never believe being this close to another person, being able to smell the scent of another person would ever—

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

You'd be surprised. But thank you. It's nice to be reminded of mornings like this.

ELLIOT

Can we stay like this. Never get out of bed, just stay up'close and never be un'close.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I have to go to work. And you, what do you have to do—

ELLIOT

There's nothing I was gonna do I can't not do.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

...look, I don't even know if I should be here to begin with let alone—

ELLIOT

But you feel how I feel, right?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

It's nice. That you tell me exactly what you're feeling. Always do that. Even if some girls pretend they're scared by it, inside they appreciate.

ELLIOT

But if you could, if you didn't have work, would you want to stay in bed with me for longer?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

You are going to make some open'hearted girl very much at ease one of these days.

ELLIOT

But would you?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

If I was university, or city college, I would so skip class to stay in bed with you.

ELLIOT

What time do you get off work?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Six o'clock. *Why...*

ELLIOT

We can go driving around. I can show you where I like to go. I can play you really cool music.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

You wanna drive around with me?

ELLIOT

Do you ever listen to The Police?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

...oh, you mean music; like with Sting.

ELLIOT

...

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

As in the band The Police, with Sting?

ELLIOT

...I didn't know Sting was—

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Alright, no, don't say anything else, I already feel old enough.

ELLIOT

So, can we?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

...sure. But I will be sleeping in my own bed tonight. Do you believe me when I tell you that is exactly how tonight will end?

ELLIOT

Me in my bed, and you in yours. Deal.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

So what were these plans you had today; that you were gonna cancel?

(They kiss; it means something to both of them.

Afterwards, the light of Elliot's room begins to move; we watch as

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN dresses and exits while

ELLIOT stares out the window.

We hear the sounds of a college town; the occasional howl, girls giggling and boys being loud.

We watch as ELLIOT calmly goes into his closet and brings out a Glock 34 pistol and two SIG Sauer P226 pistols, he lays them on his side of the bed, then returns to the closet and returns with a fixed blade knife, hammer and a 9-inch boar hunting knife; he lays all the weapons and just stares at them.

He is distracted however and begins smelling the pillow WOMAN had slept on. ELLIOT holds the pillow close, burying his head into the sheets where she lay, with the weapons still next to him.

A few moments of this, of INVESTIGATOR and A FEMALE IN A SUIT watching him.

ELLIOT begins to hum The Police's "Every Little Thing She Does Is Magic." A FEMALE IN A SUIT quickly motions to somebody and the song cues up. ELLIOT sings along softly at first, but then with the sort of abandon as one might after an amazing night with somebody)

ELLIOT

"Every little thing she does is magic
Everything she do just turns me on
Even though my life before was tragic
Now I know my love for her goes on

Do I have to tell the story
Of a thousand rainy days since we first met
It's been a big enough umbrella
But it's always me that ends up getting wet"

(The elation of Elliot's song is broken to a halt by a stylized pounding on his bedroom door.

ELLIOT stares at the door, then walks to it, he pounds back, they answer. ELLIOT goes to his bed and picks up the hammer)

I'm not doing anything weird. I'm just singing. People sing. People who have women stay over sing in the morning. But you idiots wouldn't know that cuz you never have women anywhere. (pause) I know you saw her; last night. And this morning. I know that's how come my stylish singing bothers you. Because you're jealous of me; how drop'dead gorgeous I'm being.

"I resolved to call her up a thousand times a day.
And ask her if she'll marry me in some old fashioned way"

(More pounding on Elliot's bedroom door; he sings louder as he heads back to the bed and picks up the two knives)

ELLIOT(cont)

"But my silent fears have gripped me long before I reach the phone
Long before my time has tripped me must I always be alone"

(ELLIOT begins stabbing and slashing *his* pillow and sheets, but
being careful not to touch where WOMAN had slept. The
pounding continues)

"Every little thing she does is magic
Every little thing she does
Every little thing, every little thing, every little thing."

(ELLIOT tires himself out, the pounding stops. Lights back to
INVESTIGATOR and A FEMALE IN A SUIT)

INVESTIGATOR

Note, if Elliot were to have murdered his roommates and visiting guest without
interruption we approximated it at just under eight minutes.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

That's approximately one-hundred and fifty-six seconds per victim; who were all roughly
Elliot's size and build.

INVESTIGATOR

He had a Boar's knife, also a long blade and a hammer.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

If you had two knives and a hammer could you fight and kill three men of your size and
stature, with no injuries to yourself?

INVESTIGATOR

If I had three semiautomatic handguns possibly. Nobody is suggesting that Elliot Rodger
came slashing out of his bedroom and took them all down by hand; he could very well
have restrained them in some way or had them up against a wall with a gun pointed.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Okay. I'll accept. And *why* do you supposed he killed them?

INVESTIGATOR

The practicing on his pillow and his sheet suggested it was premeditated; not passion.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

You don't believe the roommates *did* anything that particular afternoon to set him off.

INVESTIGATOR

There was no reports of an argument—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Nor of a struggle.

INVESTIGATOR

Well, the bodies, the stab wounds.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

So you're supposing that he exited his bedroom with a semiautomatic pointed, forced them up against the wall, quietly, and then basically gave them no choice but to wait in a slaughter'line.

INVESTIGATOR

It would explain his overpowering them.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

That's almost...torturous what he did then. To torture somebody, three somebods, would require a severe breach of some sort, would it not?

INVESTIGATOR

He and his roommates had had conflicts previously.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Some stolen, overpriced candles, sure. But not *that* overpriced.

INVESTIGATOR

You believe it was about *her* then?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

If Elliot had indeed brought a woman back to his apartment on May 22nd, and these roommates paid her zero mind, refused even to acknowledge her existence—

INVESTIGATOR

It would send his entire belief system into...

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

chaos. What Elliot truly trusted was that if he could have a female by his side he would no longer be looked at as some... he would be re'framed normal.

INVESTIGATOR

Well, normal. In his videos, that *voice* he uses, that laugh; the entire line of twenty-plus videos reek of—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Presentation?

INVESTIGATOR

They're like he's reading from a fucking script. It never sat right with me. At no time does he say "um" or "like," he just says what he says straight through; clean. Normal people don't record like that.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Except in the movies.

INVESTIGATOR

He wanted to be "re'framed" more than normal.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

A gem, amongst thousands of rocks. And what do you think he would react in finding out he wasn't. Nothing gem about him. And having a woman by his side did nothing to make him one.

INVESTIGATOR

He reacts by walking into his living area with a firearm pointed, he tells them to shut up that if they make a sound he'll shoot. He secures them in some way, and then one by one...

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

And after he slaughter'lines these three boys—

INVESTIGATOR

He takes a break. That never sat right with me either. Its not until three hours later that he sends his final email with his manifesto that he wrote—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Titled "My Twisted World;" attached to specifically selected family members and friends.

INVESTIGATOR

He also uploads his final video,

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

assumed to be pre'recorded

INVESTIGATOR

to YouTube in which he outlines exactly what he's going to do.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

If what Elliot wanted most was to inflict pain from a place of hatred for the human race with no remorse, his body would've been so full of adrenaline after that first spill of blood he would've rushed out right out—

INVESTIGATOR

He wants people to know why he's doing this, he wants his video to reach record hits—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

So why not send the manifesto before, why not upload previously.

INVESTIGATOR

He could have. But he *chose* to take a three-hour break.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Could it be he *wanted* to be stopped. He *wanted* some person to step in, to intervene, to *give a shit*.

INVESTIGATOR

He believes that there *is* something, *someone*, that could make him *not* carry out—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

what he was about to carry out.

INVESTIGATOR

So between the stabbings in his apartment and the shootings in IV...Elliot goes on a date.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Potentially he does; very much possible, yes.

(A FEMALE IN A SUIT motions somebody offstage.

We hear a car idling, we see ELLIOT sitting in the driver's seat, he smiles as A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN climbs in; they both look nervous; date-nervous)

ELLIOT

...so, uh, how was work?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Well, it was work, you know? (pause) Have you ever worked; do you work? (pause) Okay. So, what'd you with your day then?

ELLIOT

...I cleaned up the apartment some.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Cleaned it up cuz...

ELLIOT

Uh, it was dirty.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Sorry, I just thought—

ELLIOT

That I cleaned it for you? No. It's still fairly messy, so even if you were begging to come over I couldn't let you.

(ELLIOT leans over, she obliges, they kiss)

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

..are you okay?

ELLIOT

I'm grand. Why do you ask.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Just, your lips, they seem tight or tense, I dunno.

ELLIOT

Maybe I'll relax, as the evening goes.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

So, shall we?

ELLIOT

Your chariot...shifts into drive.

(ELLIOT begins driving, he plays CD, we hear The Police's "Every little thing she does is magic."; she laughs warmly)

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Tell me how come you like it so much.

ELLIOT

Because I believe what he's saying. Sting.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Lookit you, learning. Believe how.

ELLIOT

I believe that some people *are* magic, they can change everything. I feel like in the short time that I've known you, even when you've been upset at me—
I believe this song is about you, for me.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I'm touched to hear you feel that way, Elliot, but...

ELLIOT

What's wrong?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I'm not doing anything specifically for you, solely for you; I'm not some—

ELLIOT

What.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I do have the potential to look at you just like...how I'm assuming a lot of other people look at you.

ELLIOT

How do they—

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Like there's something centrally wrong with you.
Like they'd rather keep a distance.
Like you don't matter, really, to anyone.
And I imagine they wonder how you even get by every day and why you go on.
At least that's what I was made to feel from your YouTube channel.

ELLIOT

Wait, which one did you—

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

All the ones that were up this afternoon.

ELLIOT

...you weren't supposed to see those—

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Wasn't I?

ELLIOT

...

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I can't be magic to you, Elliot. And even if I drove around with you every night—

ELLIOT

But you help. People need help.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

They do. But I have no idea if me next to you is actually helping or if I'm—

ELLIOT

What.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

If I'm messing with something I shouldn't be messing with.

(Beat)

ELLIOT

I can drop you back at your car.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

No. The person in those videos should not be alone tonight.

ELLIOT

I can't believe you saw those. Nobody was supposed to—

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Why else would you post them.

ELLIOT

So...what do we do now?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

If I hadn't said yes to you, about tonight. What would you be doing?

ELLIOT

...

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Would you be somewhere in Isla Vista?

ELLIOT

I think so.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Do you have semiautomatic guns in his car, Elliot?

ELLIOT

...I think so.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

And what were you going to do in Isla Vista?

ELLIOT

...

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Drive me there.

ELLIOT

What???

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Drive me where you would've gone exactly. I want you to show me exactly where you would've found yourself if I hadn't said yes to you.

ELLIOT

Are you fucking serious?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I think I fucking am.

(They stare at each other a moment, then ELLIOT drives off.
\Lights back to INVESTIGATOR and A FEMALE IN A SUIT)

INVESTIGATOR

Waitwaitwaitwait, hold on, just hold on. He drives into fucking IV with guns in the car, *with her* in the—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Of the witnesses questioned, the only one with actual communication with Elliot, who was interviewed a half hour after the incident, says she was approached by the BMW containing one person in the driver seat *and one person in the passenger seat*. The driver held up what she thought to be an air-gun, and said the words “Hey, what’s up.” Moments later she was opened fire on, she could feel the wind of the bullets narrowly miss her ear as she ran for cover.

INVESTIGATOR

Have you ever been on the ground during a— People panic, news flies faster than it should, every little tidbit or half-caught phrase gets overheard and twisted about and before you know it you have countering reports of everything from there’s a bomb about to go off to— You ever play Telephone???

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

You ever play Monopoly? Hours later this witness’ original statement and interview would be edited, removing all mention of two persons in the vehicle.

INVESTIGATOR

Of course, they don’t want false information still up where—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

It wasn’t just her. There were others, all stating the same thing: two persons in the car, not one. Now, why would these *eyewitness accounts* become unanimously altered to identically match mainstream media reports of a lone, crazed, gunman?

INVESTIGATOR

Reports need to correspond, to a degree, to minimize panic. With contrasting information people don’t understand that—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

that this was categorically being sold as a mass school shooting with a crazed, lonely gunman still on the loose.

INVESTIGATOR

As information comes in—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

and a story created—

INVESTIGATOR

Look, I want to believe in this, that Elliot could have...had even a taste of being happy, but at the end of the day, there was no additional accomplice found—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

But is it *possible*? Given your professional knowledge of the case, is there enough grey that she could've been with him?

INVESTIGATOR

...I don't know.

(A FEMALE IN A SUIT motions lights back to the car.
ELLIOT pulls to a stop; we hear sounds of girls talking, laughing)

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

So this is—

ELLIOT

Sorority row.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Alright, so you were going to drive here. And then what.

ELLIOT

I think we should go.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Just say it out loud to me, say out loud to another person what you wanted to do.
(pause) You can say anything on the Earth, remember.

ELLIOT

...I was gonna go up to that one.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Which.

ELLIOT

Alpha Phi.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

To do what?

ELLIOT

...I was gonna knock on the door...

(INVESTIGATOR slips in)

INVESTIGATOR

Noting, that aggressive knocking, lasting approximately two minutes in length, was reported at the Alpha Phi house; it went unanswered. Moments later, just outside, Elliot Rodger opened fire on three Tri-Delt sisters, killing two of them and wounding the third.

(INVESTIGATOR out)

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Is there a girl you like at Alpha Phi, is that why we're here? A girl you can't get the attention of? (pause) What if *she* were to open the door when you knock though. What if she opened, said hi to you.

ELLIOT

...I...

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

If she was standing right with you face to face.

ELLIOT

She would never—

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I did.

ELLIOT

That was different.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

If you just said to her that you'd like to take her out and even if she said no, that'd still be something, wouldn't it?

ELLIOT

...no, no that's not what would—

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

But how do you know.

ELLIOT

Girls like her don't—

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I was a girl like her. Not sorority maybe, but I was.

ELLIOT

Can we please go.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Where would you have gone next? After Alpha Phi.

ELLIOT

Please, can we just—

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Would you like me to drive?

ELLIOT

No.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Might be nice to sit in the passenger seat for a change.

ELLIOT

I can drive.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

You know what, I feel like driving, Elliot.

(She opens the car door; intense sounds of waves and partying pour in; we hear catcalls at her as she moves around to Elliot's side; he reluctantly gets out and they switch seats; they reclose the doors)

Do you mind if I...

(She adjusts the seat and mirror)

ELLIOT

I don't like this.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

And I don't like that as soon as I'm out of your car you might drive yourself back here to—

ELLIOT

I won't.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

But if you do, if no matter what I do, you still come back to sorority row, I want you to see my face next to you. I want you to remember that you were with someone beside yourself just a little while earlier. Now, where to then, your apartment?

ELLIOT

No. I don't want to. Me an my roommates—How about Starbuck's?

(Lights back to INVESTIGATOR and A FEMALE IN A SUIT)

INEVESTIGATOR

I don't understand.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

What, tell me.

INVESTIGATOR

So he goes to all these—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Potentially he goes.

INVESTIGATOR

With *her*. And then it doesn't do anything. He still comes back later that night and—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Does he?

(INVESTIGATOR pulls out several notes)

INVESTIGATOR

In the surveillance video from the Starbuck's at 888 Embarcadero del Norte at approximately 7:30pm, Elliot Roger was seen alone; he purchased a single triple vanilla latte with his Chase debit.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

I love it when somebody else is driving and I can just hop out.

(Lights back to the car where ELLIOT clings to a coffee, A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN looks out the window)

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

So this is where you often get coffee?

ELLIOT

I guess.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

We're still on the same street as Alpha Phi. Is this where you see her sometimes, walking by? (pause) How come you don't want me back at your apartment?

ELLIOT

What are you doing here with me?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Did you and your roommates get into an argument over me? That I was there last night, this morning; that they didn't say anything to me?

ELLIOT

You didn't answer my question.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

I'm just here with you, Elliot. In your car. Isn't that what you wanted?

ELLIOT

I didn't want to come here like this; tonight was supposed to be different.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

It is different, Elliot. In your videos, you said that all you wanted in life was to be somewhere with a girl, that you'd do anything to have a girl in your 328i. And here you have one—

ELLIOT

Did somebody make you be at Goleta Beach?

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Nobody wishes you ill, Elliot.

ELLIOT

My roommates did.

(She starts the engine; begins driving)

What're you doing? (pause) Hey, where are we going? (pause) Um, hello, do you wanna tell me where you're...

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Your apartment.

ELLIOT

...yea, okay...

(They drive in silence a few moments, she spots the apartment and pulls up; engine idles. She looks up it)

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Lights are out. Are they home?

ELLIOT

Sometimes they go to sleep really really early. They're so boring. I thought we were gonna drive around to places that I wanted to show you.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Did something happen today?

ELLIOT

I can drive you back.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Why, what's wrong?

ELLIOT

I just don't feel like being around people right now. I'm sorry.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Is it really these kids in Isla Vista that you hate so much, Elliot? Or have you turned them that way in your mind? Against you. Just like you're now turning me.

ELLIOT

I don't know what you're talking about.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

You said if you could wake up this morning with me—

ELLIOT

I told you, I just don't feel like—

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

What do you feel then. Tell me.

ELLIOT

It doesn't matter.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Tonight I say it does.

ELLIOT

Tonight is not supposed to be like this.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

What is it supposed to be like.

ELLIOT

You're confusing me and I don't know what to do.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Why wouldn't you want a woman to go back up to your apartment, Elliot? Isn't that all you ever wanted?

ELLIOT

It is. Having you in my apartment was my most alive ever. But I know it can never ever happen again.

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Why can't it happen again. Why never.

ELLIOT

What you said about your face, its not true. I can see how scared you are. I can see how you're looking at me. I think I need to be in the driver's seat now.

(ELLIOT gets out of the car, she follows suit; they switch seats.
ELLIOT starts the car)

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Elliot, listen to me. If you did *do* something to your roommates you can tell that to me. You can tell that to me and I would stay here in this car with you and hear you out. I wouldn't go anywhere, no matter what my face looks like.

ELLIOT

I Haven't Done Anything To My Roommates.

(ELLIOT begins a seemingly staged, horrific laugh)

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

What are you doing? Why do you sound like that?

(ELLIOT now speaks with a strange false voice; as though a bad actor almost; very much like in his videos)

ELLIOT

You should consider yourself blessed to have been in this car with me. On this day.
On this night.

(ELLIOT starts the engine, begins driving; he plays 80's music)

A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN

Where are you going, why're you going so fast?

(ELLIOT pulls the car to a fast stop; tires screech)

No, Elliot, we shouldn't be back here.

(ELLIOT pulls an automatic handgun from under his seat)

Look at me, Elliot, listen to my voice, Elliot, please, look at me, face your face at my face. Elliot, can you hear me, can you hear me what I'm telling you, I'm right here, Elliot, I'm in the car with you, people are walking by us, they're walking by and seeing me in the car with you, they see me that I'm in your passenger seat, they see that you're not alone, they see, Elliot, they see that you're not alone, Elliot, people can see us, you and me; Elliot, you are not...

(ELLIOT turns slowly, almost cinematically towards A POTENTIALLY JUDGMENTAL WOMAN; he looks at her oddly, he still holds up the gun; she is crying, has been crying. A strange look across ELLIOT's face)

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

STOPPIT, STOPSTOPSTOP, ENOUGH STOP ALL OF IT STOP!

(Lights sputter out on Isla Vista. INVESTIGATOR stares at A FEMALE IN A SUIT, who is filled with emotion we don't yet understand)

INVESTIGATOR

It stopped. You can look up now, they're...not there anymore.

(A FEMALE IN A SUIT composes herself)

Are you...?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Apologies, for the...dramatic.

INVESTIGATOR

You're fine.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

No, I should not have let my—anyways.

INVESTIGATOR

Am...am I allowed to ask?

(She manages a professional courtesy smile)

...what happens? Does he get out of the car?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

...do you believe he does?

INVESTIGATOR

Maybe she couldn't reach him.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Maybe she did though.

INVESTIGATOR

Did she? I mean...

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

What.

INVESTIGATOR

Was she even—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Real? (pause) I very much hope with the entire of my heart that she is.

INVESTIGATOR

We never looked, for any evidence of another person, in his car. Even after those first few witnesses; we figured them for young, for wanting to be part of...for just wanting to be heard.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

...

INVESTIGATOR

After we watched his videos, none of us even—it made more sense, the whole thing just made more sense that he was...alone.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Do you believe that is how come the parents of the roommates are suing the Santa Barbara Police Department?

INVESTIGATOR

Should the police have responded differently to Elliot's previous altercations? That party on Del Playa after which he filed a report about being attacked, his citizen's arrest of his roommate over stolen candles, the call from his mother after he first posted several videos? Yes. Somebody should have done something. Anything. Somebody should noticed that he wasn't—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

All of us should have noticed. Every single one of us.

(Beat)

INVESTIGATOR

Can I re'ask you a question, is that allowed right now?

(She nods politely)

Do you have children?

(She takes a moment, then makes a number one with her finger)

You have one, an only child.

(She nods politely)

Where, if I'm allowed to ask—

(She smiles politely and shakes her head that she doesn't know)

You...don't know where your...

(She smiles politely and shakes her head)

You're very successful, in your industry. Is this a fair assessment?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

...I'm a goddamned crystal...

INVESTIGATOR

And your child—

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Son. I have a son.

INVESTIGATOR

Your son then, I gather you don't see him all that...often?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

...I've traveled a lot, for work. I...no, I've not seen him all that often. But that doesn't mean I didn't think of him; that doesn't mean I didn't see him, in my thoughts.

INVESTIGATOR

How old?

A FEMALE SUIT

...close to Elliot's age.

INVESTIGATOR

And you have no idea where he could be...?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

...he doesn't...he doesn't respond so much to me anymore. It used to be *me* who didn't respond so much...but now its his turn I guess.

INVESTIGATOR

Would you like some help locating your son, ma'am?

(She nods)

Am I allowed to ask you one more thing?

(She nods)

When Elliot *does* exit his car, wherever he exits his car...does she get out with him?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

These kids can do anything in the atmosphere their hearts long for; anything at all.
I believed that. Promised that.
That is the story I spun.
But that is not true.
That's just only what we sell, what I have sold; made my career selling.
While my own son was home with hired caretakers.

(Beat)

INVESTIGATOR

Do you really know Elliot's father? His mother. Stepmother. Did you really speak to him on that red carpet?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Despite what you may have read, his father spent just four days on *The Hunger Games*, his mother was a unit nurse on *Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade* over twenty years ago.

INVESTIGATOR

So they weren't then, in the Industry.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

In the public perception they were; are; maybe always will be.

INVESTIGATOR

Why did you do all this?

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

All what?

INVESTIGATOR

...

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Just think, that out there, somewhere maybe, could be these kind, maybe unbelievably kind human beings, who stand on lonely beaches and maybe notice people that the rest of us do not. In the way friends ought to, if one has friends. That talk to them in the way maybe some parents fail to.

INVESTIGATOR

So Elliot maybe doesn't exit the car at Alpha Phi. Rather, he turns and looks to his passenger seat.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

He lowers the gun.

INVESTIGATOR

And they drive.

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

Away, out of Isla Vista, back to...

(The atmosphere back to Elliot and Potentially Judgmental Woman's beach; where we see them both connected at the kiss, as though nothing else had ever occurred between them.

INVESTIGATOR and A FEMALE IN A SUIT both watch peacefully)

INVESTIGATOR

C'mon. We can go get started locating your boy...

(He sees her still staring at Elliot; he exits quietly)

I'll be outside; whenever you're ready.

(A FEMALE IN A SUIT walks close to Elliot and No Longer Potentially Judgmental Woman; she reaches out as if to touch, but holds back. They finish their kiss and stare into each other's eyes)

A FEMALE IN A SUIT

I like. No, love, rather. Yea, definitely love.

(She motions off the lights and sounds of the beach back to the world we actually live in, then stands alone onstage in her silence)

Thank you.

(A FEMALE IN A SUIT removes her exterior jacket and lays it carefully on the floor, she stares at it for several moments; she adjusts how it's displayed, and then exits. As we stare at the jacket, it should begin to resemble that of a young person tossed aside and waiting somewhere for any person to come find them.
END OF PLAY)