

1 EXT. THE WOODS - AFTERNOON**1**

Chalise is walking through the woods behind the estate, she's carrying a tote bag and is heading towards her usual spot. Past a few trees is the familiar small clearing with the yellow maple. Chalise sits down next to the small stone shrine, leaning against the tree.

She lets out a deep sigh, and speaks to the forest as if it's listening.

CHALISE

I'm stuck, I don't know what to do.

She thinks to herself for a moment.

CHALISE

Hopefully you're here and actually listening to me, otherwise this is gonna be a little awkward...

She pulls out a book, the one with all her notes, and skims through to find the photo of Karoline and her family tucked safely between the pages. She studies it for the 20th time, but doesn't seem to find anything useful and slams the book shut out of frustration. She leans back against the trunk and lets out a long sigh, closing her eyes to take in the sounds around her. A bird chirping. The wind rustling the leaves of the large maple tree. The sound of her own breathing.

She sits and listens for a while, breathing deeply until... it suddenly gets dark and Chalise seems to be falling...

Falling...

Falling backwards until...

2 EXT. THE ASTRAL REALM**2**

She hits the forest floor, her vision is blurred. It's the same place but gloomier, more quiet, and a girl is standing patiently and curiously to her side.

Chalise stretches and rubs her eyes.

KAROLINE

Chalise?

She pauses, taken off-guard by the sudden by familiar voice.

CHALISE

(turning towards the girl)

What did you say?

KAROLINE

Did you just- Can you hear me?

Chalise looks directly at the girl, and recognises her face as the one that's been both haunting and comforting her at night for over a week.

CHALISE

Is- are you.. Is this happening?

She sits up in excitement and Karoline smiles.

KAROLINE

I've been attempting to reaching out to you for days now-

CHALISE

Wait, am I actually talking to you?

Karoline gives a timid nod and Chalise lets out a cry, not all her research efforts have been useless after all.

CHALISE

(beaming)

God, where do I start?
I don't know if you know - you probably do - but I've been researching.

Karoline reaches out to place a hand on Chalise's, she looks down, expecting it to faze through like it had before, but instead she feels a soft and slender hand grasping hers.

KAROLINE

I know, and I can not thank you enough, but I need your help.

Chalise stutters, still reeling from the shock of the situation. She starts to take in her slightly new surroundings. Everything is more dull and the air is damp and foggy.

CHALISE

Yes. Yes of course you do. Um...
I've been trying to solve what happened to you, to help you, yknow, move on.

KAROLINE

(on the verge of tears)

I am aware, I've been watching.

CHALISE
Watching? Like-

KAROLINE
Not- okay, I do not know how much
time I have to say this but I need
you to help me, I have been stuck
in this forsaken house since 1946.

She picks up on '1946', which is new information to her.

CHALISE
1946? I thought- the internet says
you went missing in 1945.

KAROLINE
Internet? Is that the Mr. Google in
your bright book?

CHALISE
My book? you- oh my laptop? It's a
bit difficult to explain-

KAROLINE
I went 'missing' in 1945, and died
in 1946 right here.

CHALISE
Right... here? Like here here?

She point to the ground, and looks down as if she is going to
find a body right underneath where she is sitting.

KAROLINE
Not in this exact spot, I mean on
this land.

CHALISE
If you died here, how did you go
missing?

Before Karoline can speak, Chalise interrupts again.

CHALISE
Actually, wait maybe just start
from the beginning so I can help
you when I wake up... wake up? Am I
asleep right now? Or am I dead?

KAROLINE
You are not dead, but I also do not
know what you are. So many people
come and go and not one of them has
spoken back to me like this.

CHALISE

Okay okay, tell me from the start
what happened to you.

Karoline looks reluctant but begins to talk.

JUMP CUT TO:

Chalise is listening intently, but something Karoline has
said seems to make her speak up.

CHALISE

So they just-

KAROLINE

Yes, that is how I 'went missing',
no one saw me again except Oliver.
He would come and take care of me
for a while, until our father
caught him.

CHALISE

That's fucked up.

KAROLINE

What was worse was living amongst
the rest of the bodies down there-

The word 'BODIES' makes Chalise's eyes grow wide.

CHALISE

The what?

Karoline looks slightly embarrassed at Chalise's reaction.

CHALISE

Oh god that's horrific...

They sit in silence for a while, Chalise starts to try digest
the information. Time hasn't moved at all, the sky is still
bleak and grey and theres no clue to how long she's really
been in this new 'world'.

KAROLINE

All those people, they deserve what
happened to be revealed to the
world.

Theres an anger in her voice as the sky gets even darker that
makes Chalise cautious.

KAROLINE

(quietly)

I deserve it do I not?

CHALISE

Karoline, I don't know if that's possible-

KAROLINE

Of course it is. Write to the papers, put letters through peoples doors, post it everywhere in town, they need to know.

CHALISE

People... don't do or read stuff like that anymore.

Karoline shuts her eyes in an attempt to calm down and think.

KAROLINE

What about Google, he could tell people, you said anyone can message him.

CHALISE

It doesn't work like that either.

Theres another silence, but this time it's more tense. Chalise takes a moment to look at Karoline, but with a clearer mindset. The girl is visibly cold and malnourished, and her long black hair and smart day-dress have been eaten away at by something.

She's the same as when Chalise has seen her in her dreams, but she seems more define.

CHALISE

I'll see what I can do, maybe I'll find an answer soon, but I can't promise anything.

KAROLINE

Please, you are my only hope of leaving.

Theres a pause, until a sudden and loud ringing plays from Chalise's pocket. She reaches down to get it, but then-

3 EXT. THE WOODS - SAME AFTERNOON

3

She's back to the world of the living, Karoline has gone and colour seems to be back to the world around her, along with the bird chirping and the wind blowing. Letting out a grunt of frustration, she looks at her phone to see 'MUM' is calling her.

CHALISE

Hello?

HANNAH

(through the phone)

Where're you at, I'm gonna order a
takeaway to the motel and need to
know what you want.

CHALISE

Uhhh... Just the usual.

Chalise hangs up abruptly on Hannah and rubs her head to
soothe the oncoming headache.