

EXT. LOG CABIN - DUSK

A rugged man in flannel and a beanie chops wood outside a cozy cottage. THWACK. His axe strikes the log. THWACK.

As the man in flannel raises his axe again, another THWACK. His axe lingers above his head before falling to the ground.

A much larger and more decorated axe sticks into the man's beanie. Blood pours down his face. A raven caws above.

EXT. WINTER COUNTRY ROAD - SUNSET

An SUV rounds the bend on a snow-dusted road. Upbeat music plays. Three siblings and their friend are in the car.

INT. ANDERSON SUV

MICAH (22), a flamboyant nerd in glasses and a Christmas sweater, drives, frantically checking the GPS. His twin sister, MILEY (22), daydreams out the window behind him.

MORGAN (26), the oldest Anderson sibling, rides shotgun with her feet carelessly raised on the dashboard.

The Andersons are blonde with high cheekbones.

DAMIAN (21), a tall, black track star, sits behind Morgan, smiling wide as he looks around.

CAR GPS (V.O.)

In a half mile, take a left.

DAMIAN

Thank you guys again for picking me up.

MORGAN

Absolutely. Sorry we were late.

MICAH

Your campus layout is confusing. They should hire a new engineer and redesign all the one-ways.

MILEY

(turning to Damian)

That's Micah's way of saying he drove the wrong way down a one-way.

Damian and Morgan chuckle. Micah snaps his tongue in disbelief.

MICAH
I stand by what I said.

DAMIAN
I'll tell someone your thoughts.

MICAH
Thank you.

MORGAN
He didn't say who.

MICAH
Oh my God, shut up.

Miley leans to Damian and lowers her voice.

MILEY
You can just tell me. Then when he inevitably asks about it, you won't be lying that you told someone.

Damian laughs and shakes his head. Miley smiles.

DAMIAN
(a little serious)
Hey. By the way.

MILEY
Yeah?

DAMIAN
(starting seriously)
Uhh... So, Micah Anderson thinks we should do something about the campus one ways.

Damian smiles. Miley playfully pushes his shoulder.

CAR GPS
IN TWO HUNDRED FEET, TAKE A LEFT.

EXT. FARM DRIVEWAY

A long dirt driveway. A light layer of snow blankets the surrounding fields.

A sign stands on the corner of the path. It reads: HARPER FARMS EST. 2026. The SUV turns onto the driveway, passing it.

Ravens sit in the trees, watching the car.

MORGAN
This is awesome!

DAMIAN
Seriously.

MICAH
Yay, dirt.

INT. ANDERSON SUV

Micah turns the music down and looks up the dirt road.

MILEY
What did you expect, you knew where
this party was?

MICAH
Can a farm not have a paved
driveway, Miley?

MILEY
Don't say my name condescendingly,
I'm older than you.

MICAH
One minute. One minute older.

Damian snickers.

MORGAN
Don't encourage them, Damian.

DAMIAN
So nothing has changed in six
years, huh?

The siblings argue over each other.

EXT. FARM

A small ranch house at the end of the road. Across from it
stands a two-story red barn. A forest surrounds the property.

INT. ANDERSON SUV

The SUV approaches the house. The bickering dies down.

MORGAN
How cute!

MICAH
It's surprisingly well kept. At
least the exterior.

MORGAN
Do NOT start being a judgy bitch in
there! Keep any rude thoughts to
yourself.

Micah parks, locks his lips, and tosses the imaginary key.

EXT. FARM

JARED (26), a handsome man and new farmer, walks out the front door, followed by his little brother, ROY (23). Roy is shorter and noticeably better dressed than Jared.

Morgan runs out of the SUV and jumps into Jared's arms, squeezing her legs around his torso and kissing him.

Roy says hello to the other three. They meander to the door.

INT. HOUSE

The ranch home could be the cover of a Christmas magazine. Beautifully decorated tree by the fireplace. Stockings hung. Greenery, lights, and mistletoe adorn moldings and doorways.

The door opens. Jared carries Morgan in like a newlywed.

MORGAN
ARE YOU KIDDING ME?!

JARED
Well, I had some help.

The group enters. They each compliment the decor. Micah's mouth is agape. Damian chuckles as he passes by. Miley stops.

MILEY
I'm actually disappointed I don't
get to hear your bitchiness.

MICAH
(with a sigh)
Me too.

Miley puts her arm around him as they walk further in.

MICAH
It's just so beautifully done.

MILEY

There, there. It'll be okay.

The open concept home has a living room, kitchen, dining-room combo in the front of the home with two large skylights.

On the kitchen counter are a handful of beers.

JARED

Please make yourselves at home!
Grab a beer if you want. Liquor's coming soon.

MORGAN

Who's bringing liquor?

JARED

Uhhh... Phoenix and Liam.

Miley and Micah scoff and gag respectively.

MORGAN

Well. Fine. I thought you were going to say Carmen was coming.

Roy stands in the corner of the dining room, alone.

ROY

El, oh, el.

JARED

Uhh, Carmen is coming.

Miley, Micah, and Damian's eyes all widen.

MORGAN

Jared, what the actual fuck?

Morgan turns away from Jared. He puts his arm around her.

JARED

Baby, I'm sorry. I invited everyone from the old neighborhood.

MILEY

And Phoenix and Liam for some reason.

JARED

Come on, they were part of the gang too. They were always coming over.

ROY

You always invited them over.

MORGAN
(to Jared)
I cannot believe you.

JARED
There's nothing between us. We had
a summer fling once. She's bringing
her boyfriend!

MICAH
Great, more people not from the
neighborhood.

Micah sits on the couch opposite Damian, Miley in the middle.

JARED
Actually, no. It's-

A loud car with no muffler is heard out front

EXT. FARM

Behind the Anderson's SUV, a big run-down pickup truck parks.

The Christmas party migrates outside. The truck doors open.

The driver, EDDIE (27), has a mullet and a high-school
letterman jacket.

Behind him, JASMINE (24), a curvy girl with curly hair, tight
jeans and a tighter sweater steps out.

On the other side of the truck, CARMEN (26), a beautiful
brunette who is dressed to show it, joins Eddie.

Lastly, ANGEL (20), Carmen's, long-haired, little brother,
pops out from behind the truck in a puffy coat and backpack.

The two groups say hello through mostly feigned excitement.

DAMIAN
No way!

Angel makes eye contact with Damian. They jog to dap up with
an old familiar handshake.

ANGEL
My dude! I didn't know you were
coming!

DAMIAN
Me neither, bro. It's great to see
you! How's school?

Morgan, pissed off, walks back in the house first, followed by Roy and Jared. Carmen, Eddie, and Jasmine enter last.

ANGEL
Dropped out. Three weeks in.
Couldn't do it.

DAMIAN
Hey man, it's not for everyone.

ANGEL
It's honestly a blessing. You know
how much I saved on loans?

Angel smiles. He slips off his backpack shoulder strap.

DAMIAN
Ha, I get that. So what have you
been doing?

Angel pulls a pound of weed and pre-rolls out from his bag.

ANGEL
(shrugging)
Drugs mostly.

Damian gets lost in thought.

ANGEL
Hey, man if this isn't your thing
anymore...

DAMIAN
It's absolutely my thing. I'm
figuring out how much time I have
until track season drug tests.

Damian whispers calculations. Angel laughs and grabs a joint.

DAMIAN
Nah, we good.

They share a smoke and continue catching up.

INT. BEDROOM

Morgan paces past the bed. Jared sits on the edge.

MORGAN
This just isn't at all what I
expected.

JARED

I know. But let's just try to relax and have a great night. We can get drunk, say hi, and go to bed early.

MORGAN

I hate her.

JARED

I know.

MORGAN

Who dresses like that?

JARED

I know right.

MORGAN

Oh, WOW. So you admit you checked out her dress?

Jared groans and falls back into the bed.

INT. HOUSE

Roy stands in the kitchen. Eddie, Carmen, and Jasmine are on the couch, talking to the blonde twins at the dining table.

EDDIE

Five years? Really where does the time go.

MICAH

Six actually.

MILEY

Yeah, we moved out of the cul-de-sac when I was sixteen, so-

MICAH

I was also sixteen.

MILEY

And yet, I was sixteen for one more minute than you.

CARMEN

(to Roy)

Where is your brother?

ROY

I think he's in the bedroom with Morgan.

JASMINE
Wow, he works fast.

ROY
No, no. They have been together
their whole lives.

CARMEN
Most of their lives anyway. How
boring.

EDDIE
Yeah seriously. Who could stay with
the same chick forever?

Carmen punches Eddie's arm.

EDDIE
I obviously mean the first one you
been with! And I hate to break it
to you doll, but you are far from
my first.

MICAH
Charming.

ROY
(to Carmen)
Wasn't Jared your first?

Carmen looks at Roy with disgust. Eddie and Jasmine laugh.

CARMEN
Be useful and bring me a beer.

Roy opens a bottle from the counter and walks it to Carmen.

EDDIE
Don't worry. I ain't the jealous
type.

JASMINE
Carmen is.

EDDIE
I'll have to test that myself. Come
here, Jasmine.

Carmen punches Eddie again. He laughs.

MICAH
So, Jasmine... ummm, who are you?

Jasmine smiles and turns her attention toward the twins.

JASMINE
I work with Carmen.

Miley leans in close to Micah.

MILEY
(whispering)
Strippers.

CARMEN
Bitch, we heard that.

MILEY
And? Am I wrong?

Jasmine laughs, but Carmen is ready to explode.

JASMINE
We're nurses.

MICAH
(whispering to Miley)
Basically the same thing.

EXT. FARM

Angel and Damian puff the shrinking joint by the cars.

DAMIAN
Well, she sounds crazy, bro.

ANGEL
Yes. But man, the sex was so-

DAMIAN
Of course it was! Because she was
crazy!

ANGEL
And because we were on Molly.

DAMIAN
Pshh. Get out of here, bro. Meet me
inside when you finish that.

Damian enters the house. Angel puffs alone. He looks up at the starry sky. The moon illuminates the wintry farm. Angel's smoky breath swirls in the cold air.

Up above, in the distance over the horizon, Angel sees it. A sleigh. In the sky. Being pulled by a line of animals.

He blinks a few times as the sleigh crosses the stars.