

Hifiece R. Salters #EN6285  
Box A  
Bellefonte, PA 16823

COVETOUS

by

Hifiece R. Salters

Screenplay Genre:  
Sci-fi thriller/Fantasy  
World Rights 2014

Dear Agency,

If you could steal the soul and live the life of the one you covet, would you?

NATHAN PARKER, personal assistant to mega movie star, TJ MACNAMERRA, is fed up with his life and job. The Hollywood life isn't what he thought it would be, having come to Los Angeles a NYU grad- the aspiring director is double crossed by an old friend; who happens to now be his boss. Covetous of his bosses' movie star lifestyle Nathan vows to get revenge.

What does he do?

After being introduced to a dark magic called soul extraction, Nathan jumps at the opportunity to, "...live the life of another unworthy of their position in society." Even though this life is that of his movie star boss. Even though soul extraction causes for Nathan to steal a man's soul.

How far will he go to live as another?

Unbeknown to Nathan is that a soul can not reside in a body not its original home for long without expulsion.

How will TJ respond trapped in his new body?

Will anyone come to his rescue?

Can Nathan ever learn to accept who he is, instead of trying to live vicariously through another?

My latest screenplay, COVETOUS, is a Sci-fi thriller. It's original in concept and would fit great in the line up of original movies for network television.

Please use the SASE or email me at JPAY.COM for a copy.

Sincerely,

*Hifiece R. Salters*

Hifiece R. Salters

#EN6285

Box A

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FADE IN:

EXT. HOLLYWOOD SKYLINE - DAY

The sun shines brightly over the Hollywood hills, as the palm trees sway in the wind.

EXT. MANSION - BACKYARD - DAY

TJ MACNAMERRA, the flamboyant, world renowned movie star lays shirtless on a float in the middle of his large pool, talking on his smartphone. Expensive shades hide his eyes.

Two beautiful and flirtatious women float on each side of him.

TJ

(agitated)

God Art. I won't take anything less than twenty, you know that... I don't care what Spielberg asked... I'll tell you what — when Dinero, Decapereo, and Tom take less than twenty, I'll consider it. I'm a heavy hitter in this game baby... I got three other projects lined up. If I start accepting less now, my stock will drop...

(sighs)

I gotta go. Bye.

TJ clicks the phone off.

TJ

Where's Nathan?

INT. MANSION - OFFICE - DAY

NATHAN PARKER, the reserved young white male sits at a desk typing on his laptop.

MARY ELLEN, a young attractive woman struts into the room.

MARY ELLEN

Nathan, TJ needs to see you.  
Doesn't seem happy today.

Nathan continues to type without looking up.

NATHAN

(sighs, to himself)

Yeah, when is the perfect TJ ever happy?

Nathan gets up leaving the website he was surfing visible.

INSERT: LAPTOP SCREEN

A description for SOUL EXTRACTORS is displayed in a strange wording.

Nathan comes back and flips the laptop down.

REGULAR SCENE

EXT. MANSION - BACKYARD - DAY

TJ lays face down on a flat as the two beautiful women massage him down with sun tan lotion. His toned back glistens in the sun.

Nathan walks over with his head down texting on his blackberry phone.

NATHAN

TJ. I just got done talking to Mann's people, it's a go on that thriller. Plus you're booked for Ellen, and the Today show later this week.

TJ rolls on his back and grab a cold drink sitting next to him.

TJ

(unmoved)

And what about this evenings event?

NATHAN

Your tux is ready. The white and black one. We got the driver for the aston... I'm on my job TJ.

TJ

You wouldn't be my personal assistant if you weren't...  
(sipping his drink)  
I remember when I was like you.  
(smirking)  
An insecure hopeful, looking for my place in this competitive world.

NATHAN

That so?

TJ

Hell no.  
(jumping up)  
Now get my mom on the phone.

Nathan pulls another phone from his pocket and presses a button.

Nathan hands the phone to TJ who snatches it and walks to the edge of his yard.

NATHAN  
(to himself)  
Let's see how you feel...  
(menacing grin)  
...being an insecure hopeful.

EXT. OUTDOOR GALLERY - NIGHT

Paparazzi's snap camera's as E news, MTV, EET, and other major network reporters, and celebrities flood the red carpet.

Bordering the red carpet, fans stand faithfully screaming out to their favorite celebrities.

Suited security guards are stationed throughout.

A aston martin pulls up and a doorman opens the back passenger door.

TJ steps out dressed to kill. He's accompanied by a female model.

TJ, swagged out, adjusts his suit and enters the carpet.

FEMALE FAN  
TJ you are so sexy. I love you.

TJ smiles and gives the fan a kissed and blown peace sign and continues up the carpet.

EXT. NATHAN'S HOUSE - NIGHT

The small two story home sits in a quiet suburban neighborhood. Its narrow driveway and unkempt yard causes it to stand out in an unfit manner compared to the other pricy homes on the block.

INT. NATHAN'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Nathan lounges on his living room couch drinking bottled beer.

His laptop sits on a small coffee table in front of him.

Nathan watches the Red carpet event on television as TJ is stopped by a reporter.

Nathan looks on in content.

EXT. RED CARPET - NIGHT

REPORTER  
TJ MacNammerra. How's it goin'?

TJ  
(smiling)  
I'm great. Just soaking up the atmosphere.

REPORTER  
You're definitely one of the most sought after actors in this business. How does it feel to be one of few in such a competitive industry?

TJ  
(condescending, smiling)  
Well, can you blame the people? I just attribute it to my work ethic. There's only one TJ MacNamerra...

INT. NATHAN'S HOUSE

NATHAN  
(scoffs)  
Please...  
(mocking)  
I just attribute it to my work ethic.

Nathan mutes the television while TJ is still on screen.

NATHAN  
(to tv)  
All you do is abuse and stab others in the back to get ahead...  
(scoffs)  
...the people. If they knew you like I knew you, they'd hate you too.

INT. GALLERY - LATER

TJ entertains a group of friends as the men sip champagne.

TJ  
(laughing)  
Yeah, they told me some crap about there being over twenty-seven million people enslaved around the world. And that they wanted me to be a spokesman to bring awareness to it --

MAN #1

(smiling)

So what'd you say? I mean that would be free. Do you have time?

TJ

(coldly)

I told them that instead of worrying about the sweat shops and how companies are getting cheap labor. They should find a way to make their own way. plus they patronize the same businesses they speak out on. The hell do I care...

(scoffs)

Plus there's no check.

The crowd laughs.

EXT. NATHAN'S HOUSE - LATER

PATRICK MCCORMICK, Nathan's geek best friend pounds on the front door.

PATRICK

(yelling)

Nate, open up man... Don't be sleeping.

INT. NATHAN'S HOUSE

Nathan is passed out on the sofa. Empty beer bottles are scattered on the floor and sofa.

Nathan's laptop is open on his lap.

Patrick creeps into the dark living room and turns on a lamp.

He see's Nathan asleep and shakes his head. Patrick grabs the laptop and sits on a love seat.

PATRICK

(interested)

Soul extraction? What the hell is this dude?

Nathan is still passed out.

PATRICK

(reading from screen)

" A way to live the life of another, unworthy of their position in society...

(more)

PATRICK (CONT'D)  
(laughing)  
What the fuck dude?

Nathan slowly comes to and see's Patrick with the laptop.

NATHAN  
(shocked)  
Pat? What the hell...

Nathan springs from the sofa and grabs the laptop.

How the hell did you get in?

PATRICK  
(smiling)  
The extra key... Dude. What  
the hell is soul extraction?  
You thinking of leaving me?

Nathan flips the laptop closed and sits back down on the sofa.

NATHAN  
(rubbing his eyes)  
Fuck you Pat... Stop going  
through my shit. What time is  
it?

PATRICK  
Eleven, the night's young. You  
wanna play video games?

NATHAN  
(rubbing his face)  
No I don't wanna play video  
games. I wanna be in action  
flicks and get hot chicks.

PATRICK  
I don't know about action  
flicks, but what's up with  
that one babe you met?

NATHAN  
She only wanted to get to TJ.  
Tried to use me to do so...  
(rubbing his head)  
I got a headache. How many of  
them damn beers did I Drink?

PATRICK  
(smiling)  
Looks like fifteen dude. You  
really can't sit around...  
(more)



PATRICK (CONT'D)

...every weekend drowning in your sorrows. You're in a pretty good position.

NATHAN

Pat. I'm an assistant, more like a slave to a movie star. What good is in that? Getting to watch another guy live it up, while listening to the jerk gloat about it? I'm surprised I'm not on call now.

PATRICK

Nate you sound pathetic. I took the programming gig at facebook as a stepping stone. to learn the game and move on to a bigger position. We're both making a living, why be so negative?

NATHAN

Pat. Do you see a luxury car in that driveway? Do you see babes running in and out of here? Stepping stone?

(scoffs)

I'm a stone away from being homeless. When my parents died I came to this town to be a director. I thought opportunities would be abundant. All I found was closed doors Pat. No one wants to put anyone on, rather exploit'em. I've found my ticket --

PATRICK

(shaking his head)

Dude, by being someone else?

NATHAN

(angrily)

You're my best friend Pat. I don't need your criticism.

PATRICK

Calm down. I was just saying...

(more)

PATRICK (CONT'D)

(sighs)

Whatever. You wanna play video games or what? I feel like killin' something on modern warfare.

NATHAN

(nodding)

Set it up.

FLASHBACK - INT. CLASSROOM - DAY - (10 YEARS AGO)

Nathan is directing a cast and crew in an independent film.

TJ is playing the leading man in a scene with a YOUNG LADY.

NATHAN

And... Action.

NATHAN'S POV

TJ

I never thought I'd ever fall inlove... You mean everything to me. I don't see myself with anyone but you...

TJ pulls a ring and gets on bended knee.

Will you marry me?

YOUNG LADY

(tearful)

Yes... Yes... Yes.

TJ places the ring on the young lady's finger.

NATHAN

And cut... Perfect TJ.

TJ approaches Nathan with a smile.

TJ

You think? I hope this'll be the project that gets me the big audition.

NATHAN

It will. Hopefully it'll be the project that gets us a budget to really shoot a smash.

INT. PRODUCTION STUDIO - OFFICE - DAY

TJ sits in front of the desk of the hot shot PRODUCER.

PRODUCER

TJ. We really loved the short,  
and we want you to audition  
for a role in a major...

TJ

(excited)

I'm all in sir. This is why I  
came here.

PRODUCER

(smiling)

That's great... Who directed  
the short though?

TJ

(uneasy)

I did...

FLASHBACK ENDS

INT. MANSION - DAY

TJ does laps around his indoor pool. After a few laps he gets out  
and grabs a towel.

INT. NATHAN'S HOUSE - DAY

Nathan is passed out on the couch with the xbox 360 remote control  
on his lap.

Patrick is passed out beside him.

Nathan slowly comes to.

NATHAN

(yawning)

Damn. I gotta go to work.

Nathan gets up and kicks Patrick who just rolls over.

NATHAN

(sighs)

Pathetic huh?

Nathan shuffles out of the room.

INT. MANSION - WORKOUT ROOM - DAY

TJ jogs shirtless on his treadmill. His chiseled frame drips with sweat.

A BUTLER enters the room.

BUTLER  
Sir, Mr. Parker just pulled  
up.

TJ wipes his face with a towel.

TJ  
Send him in...

EXT. MANSION - DAY

Nathan pulls up in his old model buick and parks. He exits his car and adjusts his shirt in his pants. Unorganized and hung over he rushes into the mansion.

INT. MANSION

The butler approaches Nathan as he enters.

BUTLER  
Mr. MacNamerra wants to see  
you immediately.

NATHAN  
(unmoved)  
Whatever.

WORKOUT ROOM

Nathan shuffles into the room.

TJ approaches him, squirting recovery fluid into his mouth.

TJ  
(scoffs)  
You just don't get it huh?

NATHAN  
TJ. I had a rough night. It  
won't happen again.

TJ  
I know it won't. Cause you're  
done. You're fired. Get the  
hell of my property...

TJ goes over to a heavy bag and puts on some hand wraps.

NATHAN  
(confused)  
Are you kidding me?

TJ ignores him and starts punching the bag.

NATHAN  
TJ, you know I need this job  
dude.

TJ continues to ignore him.

FLASHBACK - INT. NATHAN'S HOUSE - NIGHT - (12 YEARS AGO)

TJ, suitcase in hand follows Nathan up a flight of stairs to a back room.

BEDROOM

Nathan opens the bedroom door.

NATHAN  
(inviting)  
All you man. You can stay as  
long as you need.

TJ  
Thanks man. It means a lot...

NATHAN  
No problem. I know you need  
this.

FLASHBACK ENDS

WORKOUT ROOM

TJ aggressively punches the bag with combinations.

NATHAN  
(grimaces)  
After all we've been through?

TJ  
(angrily toward  
nathan)  
Listen... I don't owe you shit.  
I warned you about being late.  
(pointing)  
You're my assistant. Not my  
friend. Yeah, you helped me  
early on, but don't let it go  
to your head. My hard work and  
talent has got me where I am..  
(more)

TJ (CONT'D)  
 (pokes nathan's  
 chest)  
 ...now get out. Before I put  
 you out.

NATHAN  
 (scoffs)  
 Man.

Nathan walks out.

TJ resumes pounding the heavy bag.

INT. NATHAN'S HOUSE - DAY

Nathan angrily paces back and forth in his front room.  
 He finally sits down on his sofa and opens his lap top.

NATHAN  
 (typing on keys)  
 I'll show him, once and for  
 all.

EXT. CREEPY STORE - NIGHT

The store borders downtown Los Angeles on a desolate and littered  
 side block.

INT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

Nathan pulls up to the store and peers out the window.

NATHAN  
 This should be it...

Nathan parks.

Here goes.

Nathan pulls a white envelope from the glove compartment and places  
 it in his chest pocket.

EXT. CREEPY STORE - NIGHT

Nathan gets out of the car. A strong gust of wind blows Nathan to  
 the side.

NATHAN  
 Whoa.

Nathan enters the store. A hanging ball on the door chimes, giving  
 notice of his arrival.

INT. CREEPY STORE - NIGHT

Nathan looks around in shock. The store is marbled with expensive chandeliers hanging evenly throughout.

A classical symphony plays beautifully in a surround sound manner as Nathan walks deeper into the store.

Various exhibits: Stuffed white lions, bears; war memorabilia, give hint that the store is a museum.

Lost in amazement Nathan doesn't notice the extremely large BLACK MAN approaching his rear.

BLACK MAN  
(deep baritone)  
Fascinating... Isn't it?

Nathan turns around startled.

NATHAN  
Oh...  
(gathering himself)  
Umh... Excuse me for my  
curiosity. This place is  
amazing.

BLACK MAN  
(smirking)  
Yes... It is. But my third  
eye tells me you seek  
another...

NATHAN  
Umh...  
(smirking)  
My name is Nathan... I —  
I don't think I'm in the  
right place. Excuse me.

Nathan turns for the exit.

BLACK MAN  
(elevated tone)  
"...A way to live the life  
of another, unworthy of  
their position in society..."  
Yes, you are in the right  
place...  
(snapping)  
But your perception is  
(laughing)  
obscured...

Suddenly the museum atmosphere converts to an inner cave with flamed torches aligning the walls providing light. Under each torch a hooded figure sits humming in harmony.

INT. CAVE

NATHAN  
(rubbing his eyes  
amazed)  
What the fuck is this?

The large black man is gone. PALGRAVE, a small white man dressed in a surgical jacket steps forward.

PALGRAVE  
(smiling)  
Welcome Mr. Parker, we've  
been awaiting your arrival  
since your first visit to our  
site.

NATHAN  
(looking around)  
What is this place?

PALGRAVE  
What you initially envisioned  
it to be.

Palgrave walks over to a table of potions.

PALGRAVE  
See Mr. Parker, dark magic  
is a rare, often misunderstood  
spectacle. Taken wrong because  
of its name.

Palgrave grabs two vials of potion, a green and a purple.

NATHAN  
So how do I do this whole...  
soul extraction thing?

PALGRAVE  
(devilish smile)  
These.

Palgrave holds up the two vials.

Nathan grabs for the vials.

Palgrave pulls them away.



PALGRAVE  
 (shaking his finger)  
 Uh ah... Do you have the  
 capital?

NATHAN  
 Oh...  
 (removes the  
 envelope)  
 Here.

Palgrave accepts the envelope, examines the cash inside, then hands Nathan the vials and a paper.

PALGRAVE  
 The two inhabitant's who's  
 soul you wish to be extracted  
 must consume the fluid. The  
 purple will knock the consumer  
 out immediately, causing a  
 amnesia type side effect.  
 They'll also stay asleep  
 at least fifteen minutes. The  
 green won't put you out  
 initially, giving you time to  
 recite the spell. After  
 extraction you'll immediately  
 come to.

NATHAN  
 That's it?  
 (smirks)  
 You gotta be kidding me.

PALGRAVE  
 The fluid loses its potency as  
 you wait. Do not seek me again.

Palgrave starts to walk off.

NATHAN  
 But...

PALGRAVE  
 Goodbye Mr. Parker.

Palgrave smacks his hands together causing everything to go black.

INT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

BEEP, BEEP, an angry driver hits his horn to signal Nathan to move his car blocking traffic.

Nathan jumps up from his trance and looks around.

NATHAN

What the fuck...

Nathan feels his pocket and removes the two vials of fluid and the spell.

NATHAN

This shit is crazy.

Nathan pulls off.

INT. TELEVISION STUDIO SET - BACKSTAGE - DAY

ELLEN, the humorous talk show host talks to her ASSISTANT while she gets her makeup done.

ELLEN

Where are we with our guests?

The assistant flips through some papers on a clip board.

ASSISTANT

The musical guest has arrived. The child psychologist and TJ MacNammera's people will be here momentarily. TJ's assistant is setting up his dressing room.

ELLEN

Great. Lets get this show going.

INT. DRESSING ROOM - DAY

Nathan is setting the room to TJ's liking.

Nathan pours the vial of purple fluid into a solid pitcher of water.

NATHAN

(sighs nervously)

This is it.

EXT. TELEVISION STUDIO - DAY

A stretched limo pulls into the lot. A chauffeur gets out and opens the rear passenger side door.

TJ, cell phone to ear gracefully gets out of the limo and quickly enters the studio.

Mary Ellen follows close behind him.

INT. TELEVISION SET - DAY

The live audience applauds as Ellen comes on stage.

ELLEN

(smiling)

Thank you. Everyone's lively today. You should be, we have very special guest today. First I'll talk to the psychologist behind the book, "A good man is not hard to find," all you single ladies will get a chance to ask questions. Especially since our other guest is the single ladies man, TJ MacNammerra...

The women cheer.

(smiling)

Yeah... He'll tell us about his latest movie, and we'll get into his business a little about the publicized firing of his long time friend and assistant. That's all ahead, but first, let me introduce our musical guest: Hifiece.

The audience applauds.

INT. DRESSING ROOM

TJ, still on the phone enters the room alone and shuts the door.

TJ

(on the phone)

Of course I'll be there... I wouldn't miss it for the world...

CLOSET

Nathan peeks from a crack in the door. He watches TJ closely.

TJ sits on the sofa and turns the tv on, the Ellen show appears.

Hifiece, the musical guest, is still performing.

TJ

Let me get back to you... Okay bye.

TJ clicks the phone off. He stands and starts pacing the room.

TJ  
 (clearing his throat)  
 Yeah Ellen. The new movie is  
 one I enjoyed filming. I'm  
 sure my role will surprise my  
 fans. I went outside myself.

## DRESSING ROOM

TJ  
 My career?  
 (smiling)  
 I didn't believe I'd be here.

## CLOSET

NATHAN  
 (anxious whisper)  
 Drink the water.

## DRESSING ROOM

As if on cue TJ pours a glass of water.

He doesn't even notice the strange discoloring of the water as he  
 downs half the glass.

TJ  
 (looking at drink)  
 Mio?  
 (shaking his head)  
 I'm gonna kill her. She  
 knows plain ice water.

The fluid immediately takes effect.

TJ  
 (stumbling)  
 Whoa...  
 (squinting, rubbing  
 his head)  
 Whoa...

TJ takes a seat on the sofa and drinks the rest of the fluid from  
 the glass.

TJ  
 (gagging)  
 What the...

TJ drops the glass, circles his upper body a few times, then passes  
 out.

CLOSET

Nathan watches for a few more moments then creeps out.

DRESSING ROOM

NATHAN  
 (looking around  
 nervously)  
 Umh...  
 (sighs, grabbing  
 head)  
 What am I doing?

Nathan paces in front of TJ nervously.

NATHAN  
 (exhaling)  
 Get it together Nate...  
 (gathering himself)  
 This is what you wanted.

TJ is out cold, his head slumped over, mouth wide open.

Nathan pulls out the paper with the spell.

NATHAN  
 Okay think... Think.

Nathan goes over and locks the dressing room door. He then pulls out the vial of green fluid.

NATHAN  
 Water...

Nathan grabs a glass, filling it with water from the rest room sink.

Nathan pours the vial of green fluid into the glass. he then sits next to TJ on the sofa.

NATHAN  
 (sighs)  
 Here goes...  
 (downs the water,  
 smacking his lips)  
 Not bad.

Seconds later Nathan gags, dropping the glass.

NATHAN  
 (wobbled)  
 Uhh... Oh...

Nathan shakes off the initial impact and focuses on the spell.

NATHAN  
 (chanting melodious)  
 Soul of the un-deserving. Soul  
 of the one who covets. Extract  
 yourself. Extract yourself.  
 (repeating a second  
 time loudly)

Nathan passes out.

The room is silent except for the voice of Ellen on the television screen.

A moment later, TJ and Nathan, still unconscious, start to moan in pain.

Their bodies start to shake uncontrollably, like they're having a seizure.

White foam streams from the mouths of the two men.

Suddenly, a jolting jerk upward occurs, causing the souls of the men to extract from their bodies.

The souls scream out in displeasure like new born's upon birth.

The souls look to each other for comfort. The Nathan's soul, as if instructed, slams into the chest of TJ causing an upward jerk.

TJ's soul, alone, hovers for a second, then with a shrieking cry slams into the chest of Nathan.

Silence resumes as the bodies fall back unconscious.

ELLEN (OS)  
 We're gonna go to a quick  
 commercial break and be back  
 with our next guest.

The studio audience applauds.

INT. TELEVISION STUDIO - SET - DAY

Ellen goes over to her musical guest and shakes his hand.

Ellen's assistant approaches.

ASSISTANT  
 Should I put TJ MacNamera on  
 stand by?

ELLEN  
 Yes please.

INT. DRESSING ROOM - DAY

Nathan, in the body of TJ starts to come to.

TJ, in the body of Nathan is still out cold.

Nathan stands up and brushes himself off. He looks down at his old body as fear and shock overtake him.

Nathan sprints to the rest room slamming the door behind him.

Vomiting is heard from behind the door.

Suddenly there's a knock on the dressing room door.

OUTSIDE DRESSING ROOM

Ellen's assistant and Mary Ellen stand outside the door.

MARY ELLEN

(knocking)

TJ, they'll be ready for you  
in five.

RESTROOM

Nathan admires his new face in the mirror above the sink. He rinses his new face with water, then dry it with a face towel.

Nathan charges into the dressing room.

DRESSING ROOM

NATHAN

Yeah... Just a minute... I'll  
be right out.

Nathan looks down at TJ who lays out cold in his old body.

Nathan quickly grabs TJ under the armpits and drags him to the closet.

Nathan places TJ in the closet, shut the door. He nonchalantly adjusts himself and exits the dressing room.

INT. TELEVISION SET - DAY

Ellen is standing up in front of her studio audience.

The crowd applauds.

ELLEN

(smiling)

Okay. Yes. Now I'd like you all to give a warm welcome to actor, millionaire, last summer's sexiest man award winner. Mr. TJ MacNammerra.

The women in the audience cheer uncontrollably.

Nathan, walking just as TJ would, comes on stage waving to the audience.

NATHAN

(smiling)

Thank you. Thank you.

Nathan hugs Ellen.

The two sit side by side on a sofa.

ELLEN

Okay... Okay. So I heard you've been in the gym lately, any particular reason?

NATHAN

I'm actually preparing for a new role as a underdog MMA fighter who seizes the moment and wins a title. So -- but I've always trained in boxing.

ELLEN

Right. So tell me about your other projects.

NATHAN

Well, actually there are two films ready to be released...

The audience cheers.

(laughing)

Yeah, yeah. Thanks. But the first, due out this christmas is a romantic comedy. I play a player that falls inlove, but find out I was getting played all along.

A WILD FEMALE from the audience screams out.

WILD FEMALE

I'd never play you TJ.



NATHAN

Thanks baby. Yeah... But it was really fun. The next release, scheduled for next summer is a film -- well actually it's derived from the first short I've ever done. The one written and directed by my former assistant Nathan Parker.

ELLEN

Hold up. Hold it...  
(inquisitive)  
Isn't that the same assistant you fired?

NATHAN

Yes actually. We make mistakes. What most people don't know is -- I have to credit my early success to Nathan. When I first came to this town, he took me in...

INT. PATRICK'S APARTMENT - DAY

Patrick is laying back watching the Ellen show on his flat screen.

Patrick grabs his cell phone.

PATRICK

Nate has to see this...

INT. DRESSING ROOM - CLOSET - DAY

TJ remains out cold in the body of Nathan.

A cell phone in his pocket rings.

INT. TELEVISION SET

The audience laughs.

ELLEN

Okay, now to the beef...  
(smiling)  
What happened with this assistant?

NATHAN

I told you. I was a jerk. I was in a bad mood... I have no hard feelings for Nathan though...

INT. DRESSING ROOM - DAY

TJ slowly comes to, gets up and walks out of the closet into the room.

TJ  
(rubbing his head)  
Oh man...

The cell phone in TJ's pocket rings.

TJ answers.

TJ  
Hello?

INT. PATRICK'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

PATRICK  
(excited)  
Dude, are you watching the  
Ellen show right now?

INTERCUT - TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

TJ  
What? wait. Who is this?

PATRICK  
Nate, it's me Pat. What's up  
with you.

TJ  
(confused)  
Nate? Who's Nate?

PATRICK  
Nate, I know your voice. Stop  
playing, this is serious. If  
you're near a TV, you need to  
turn to the Ellen show. TJ is  
speaking about you.

TJ shuffles over to the sofa, he sits down and turns the television,  
already on, up a few notches in volume.

Nathan, in the body of TJ is on screen.

NATHAN (VO)  
But like I said Ellen, we make  
mistakes in life...  
(smirking)  
I guess I'm just an insecure  
hopeful.

TJ looks at the screen confused. The fluids amnesia side effect clearly taking its toll.

TJ  
Wait. I know that guy.

PATRICK  
Nate, you use to work for him.  
What's with you today? Where  
you at anyway?

TJ looks up and see's a sign that say's: THE ELLEN SHOW.

TJ  
Oh my god... I'm in the  
dressing room.

PATRICK  
(shocked)  
What? Where?

TJ  
The Ellen show.

TJ jumps to his feet and runs into the rest room.

He drops the phone.

PATRICK (VO)  
Nate. Nate? I'm on my way. Get  
out of the building... Nate?

INT. RESTROOM

TJ runs some water over his face. He slowly raises up and looks in the mirror.

The reflection of Nathan peers back.

TJ  
(screaming)  
Ahhh.

TJ touches his face.

Who am I?

TJ sprints from the restroom.

DRESSING ROOM

TJ picks up the cell phone.

Nathan is on screen laughing MOS.

INT. NATHAN'S HOUSE - NIGHT

TJ paces back and forth.

Patrick plays a video game as he sits on the edge of the sofa.

PATRICK  
Nate you're weirding me out  
with this fake amnesia stunt.

TJ  
Well... I don't know who this  
Nathan cat is, but I'm not  
him.

PATRICK  
(laughing)  
Well then who are you Nate?  
Humor me. Oh, wait let me  
guess... TJ?

TJ  
(confused whisper)  
TJ? TJ? I don't know?

TJ sits down frustrated and confused.

TJ  
Dude, you gotta help me. I  
really don't know this Nathan  
cat... Or whatever you called  
me.

Patrick throws down the controller and turns to TJ.

PATRICK  
(interested)  
Okay. All jokes aside, what do  
you remember?

TJ  
(rubbing his head)  
I don't know how to describe  
it. It was like — like an  
out of body experience.

PATRICK  
(squinting)  
Whoa... Out of body?

TJ  
(sighs)  
Yeah.

PATRICK  
(smirking, shaking  
his head)  
No. It can't be?

TJ  
What? What do you know?  
(hype)  
Do you know who I am?

EXT. MANSION - NIGHT

A limo pulls up to the door of the property. A doorman opens the rear passenger side door.

Nathan, accompanied by two women arm and arm exits the limo.

Nathan looks up admiring his new residence.

NATHAN  
(smiling)  
Let's live it up...

WOMAN #1  
(seductive, kissing  
him)  
Let's.

MONTAGE - NATHAN SEXES THE TWO WOMEN

INT. BEDROOM

— Nathan is pumping woman #1 doggystyle while she gives oral sex to woman #2 who lays spread eagle on her back. The women moan.

— Woman #2 straddles Nathan and rides him erotically. Woman #1 straddles Nathan's face as he reciprocates her orally.

MONTAGE ENDS

INT. BEDROOM - LATER

Nathan sits up on the bed. The two women lay exhausted and asleep to each side of him.

Nathan sips a beer then dials a number on his cell phone.

INT. NATHAN'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT

TJ lies asleep in Nathan's bed.

## DOWNSTAIRS

Patrick stands in the shadows of the front room. A dim light emits from the paused video game on the television screen.

Patrick has his cell phone to his ear.

PATRICK

(unmoved)

Yeah right buddy... If you're Nathan then why am I standing in his living room?

INT. MANSION - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Nathan relaxes in bed.

NATHAN

(whispering)

Pat, its me dude. I did it.

INTERCUT - TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

PATRICK

(impatient)

Listen, I don't know who this is, but I'm done playing. So stop calling before --

NATHAN

-- Patrick McCormick, computer geek. My best friend since Stetson... Mother's name Irene. Only child. Our favorite pass time is video games. And if that's not enough...

(giggles)

You almost lost your virginity to Darlean, but before you could put it in, you let off. She was so embarrassed, you had to wait a year later, when in the tenth grade you finally got laid by Betty. Come on Pat, it's me...

PATRICK

(shocked)

No? I freakin' knew it. You are shot dude.

Patrick sits on the sofa.

NATHAN  
(sarcastically)  
So where am I?

PATRICK  
In your bed sleep. Without any  
knowledge of who you are...  
(sighs)  
Where are you?

NATHAN  
(giggles)  
In TJ's bed beside two hot  
babes -- Did you catch the  
Ellen show today?

Patrick jumps up.

PATRICK  
(yelling)  
I knew it.

NATHAN  
Quiet down. You know I can  
sleep light.

PATRICK  
Yeah, right... I called you...  
Well, I called him as you were  
on air. I knew it was too good  
to be true. To actually hear  
that prick give you credit.

NATHAN  
(laughing)  
A, don't talk about me like  
that...

PATRICK  
(laughs)  
I can't believe you went  
through that... How? I mean...

NATHAN  
I'll tell you all about it in  
the am. In the meantime you  
gotta convince TJ that he's me  
until he goes with it. I'll  
send --

PATRICK  
(uncomfortable)  
-- Man I don't know. I don't  
want to get in trouble.

NATHAN

Pat I stole his soul and  
swapped with mine. What's the  
charge? Mistaken identity?  
Kidnapping?

(giggles)

Anyhow. Just be cool, see you  
tomorrow.

PATRICK

All right. Just know he  
already thinks he isn't you.  
But I'll try.

The two hang up.

INT. NATHAN'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - LATER

TJ rolls in his sleep mumbling. He seems to be having a nightmare.

DREAM - INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

TJ's soul walks up to TJ who stands petrified in the body of Nathan.

TJ's SOUL

(screaming)

Free me idiot...

The scream echo's out.

TJ trembles in fear.

DREAM ENDS

INT. NATHAN'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - DAY

TJ, with sweat dripping profusely from his face and head, snaps up  
from the dream.

TJ looks around.

TJ

What is up with me?

FRONTROOM - LATER

TJ sits across from ~~Patrick~~ in the living room.

TJ

So you're trying to tell me  
that I'm this Nathan Parker  
from Toronto, who graduated a  
film major from NYU?



PATRICK

Yeah, and you came to L.A. to  
build a career as a director --

TJ

(scoffs)

What happened? This doesn't  
quite seem like a director's  
life.

PATRICK

(frustrated)

I told you. For the last six  
years you've been the personal  
assistant of a movie star.

TJ

(scoffs)

How pathetic. Have I just given  
up being a director?

PATRICK

Well... No. I mean you quit  
your personal assistant gig to  
dive back into the directing.  
You told me, you refuse to give  
up and give in to a life  
nature tries to force upon you.

TJ

(nodding)

That's right. And as soon as I  
figure this all out and --

(sighs)

I'll do it.

PATRICK

Good. Won't you get settled.  
I'll swing back through later.

Patrick stands to leave.

TJ

Pat?

PATRICK

Yeah?

TJ

It's good to have a friend  
like you. Thanks.

PATRICK

Hey... I'm your best friend.  
That's what I'm here for.

TJ

Right.

PATRICK

A. Be who you are. Not who society say's you should be. You're unique, so no matter who you may ever want to be. There's only one you.

INT. CAR - DAY

Nathan is driving a tented lamborgini. Patrick is sitting back in the passenger side seat.

NATHAN

(smiling)

Bro? This movie star life is definitely one I could get use to.

PATRICK

I still can't get use to this... I mean you look like him, but I know it's you. How long you gonna stay in this body and be this guy?

NATHAN

Why not for good?

PATRICK

(rolling eyes)

Uh... Your body.

NATHAN

(laughs)

Pat, chill. You'll get use to it... But I got a few shoots scheduled, I'll be busy. You should just come work for me.

PATRICK

What? As your assistant? Please, you know I'm interning at facebook. Then I want to venture off into my independent programming thing.

NATHAN

Exactly. I'll finance it. I need someone I can trust to be around me and my other self. Plus, TJ's friends are snobs.

PATRICK

Yeah, I see your point...  
(thinking)  
If I do it, you don't treat me  
like some little flunky.

NATHAN

(smiling)  
Pat? We're best friends.

Nathan sticks his hand out and Patrick slaps it.

INT. NATHAN'S HOUSE - DAY

TJ flips through Nathan's personal affects to learn more about himself.

He happens upon a small case filled with DVD's. A marker reads: Nathan's short's.

TJ pulls out one of the DVD's and plays it on the room television.

Nathan appears on screen facing the camera.

NATHAN

Following are a series of  
short films. Written and  
directed by me, Mr. Nathan  
Parker. Please enjoy.

INT. CELL - DAY

In the secluded cell Palgrave lays strapped to a bunk. He sweat's profusely as he moves his head around nervously.

A man enters the cell with blue medical gloves on tending a needle.

PALGRAVE

(screaming)  
Please. Please. I'll tell you  
everything.

The man, BOOKMAN, an athletic built army looking type, comes over and sits on a chair beside the bunk.

BOOKMAN

(smirks)  
Now that's better. I knew  
you'd come around.... Who  
bought the last bottles of  
extraction fluid?

PALGRAVE  
Some creep name Nathan Parker.

BOOKMAN  
(whispering)  
Who did he covet?

PALGRAVE  
(crying)  
I don't know. You gotta believe  
me Bookman.

Bookman smacks Palgrave on the face lightly.

BOOKMAN  
(smiling)  
I do. That's why I'm gonna do  
you a favor.

PALGRAVE  
(relieved)  
Thank you... Thank you.

Bookman sticks the needle into Palgrave's neck.

PALGRAVE  
(screaming)  
No. What are you doing?

BOOKMAN  
(calmly)  
I'm killing you...

Palgrave screams in horror as Bookman plunges the deadly liquid into  
his neck.

INT. NATHAN'S HOUSE - NIGHT

TJ, amazed, finishes watching the short films.

TJ  
This is great stuff.

TJ grabs his cell phone of the coffee table and dials a number.

TJ  
(phone to his ear)  
Hello? Yes... This is Nathan  
Parker, director. Can I speak  
to Wayne Taste, head of short  
film submissions.

INT. MOVIE SET - NIGHT

Cast, crew, and director are surrounding a scene.

Nathan and a cast member playing a FIGHTER, are sitting on a bench in a steamy locker room with towels around their waist.

Patrick stands off by a refreshment table.

DIRECTOR

(instructive)

Okay Teej, I want you to pour your emotion into this scene. Basically improv your desire to get a title fight.

NATHAN

No problem.

DIRECTOR

And... Action.

NATHAN

(to cast mate)

I deserve more than these nobody under card fights. I'm a real contender.

FIGHTER

Yeah, I can relate. I mean at your weight class you're one of the best.

NATHAN

I've been in this game five years. I wanna get paid.

FIGHTER

(rubs nathan's shoulder)

I feel you.

NATHAN

(looking fighter in the eyes)

You know... I feel like I can talk to you about anything...

FIGHTER

You can.

Nathan searches the fighters face. He then leans in and kisses the man. The fighter caught up in the moment goes with it.

## REFRESHMENT TABLE

Patrick spits out a donut.

The director looks at his crew in shock but holds out his hand, signaling to keep filming.

Nathan and the fighter make-out passionately.

Nathan stands the fighter up, pushes him up on the locker, drops his towel, turns the man around and starts to have anal sex with him.

The fighter moans in passion as Nathan plunges in and out of him, while kissing and sucking his neck.

After a few moments Nathan lets out a passionate moan and stops.

The fighter turns amazed.

FIGHTER  
(smirking)  
That wasn't in the script.

DIRECTOR  
(shocked)  
Cut.

NATHAN  
(smiling, to  
director)  
You said improvise.

SERIES OF SHOTS - TJ ACCEPTING AND MAKING GOOD OF HIS LIFE

-- TJ shakes the hand of the PRESIDENT of a major film company.

PRESIDENT  
Congratulations.

TJ  
(smiling)  
Thank you.

-- TJ's at an outdoor location directing a cast and crew on set.

-- TJ's at a film festival watching his film with cast and critics. Everyone applauds at the conclusion of the film.

-- TJ meets an attractive young woman and they date.

SERIES OF SHOTS ENDS

SERIES OF SHOTS - NATHAN DOING THINGS UNCHARACTERISTIC OF TJ

-- Nathan donates a million dollars to the cystic fibrosis foundation. He holds a check as the company, children, and media surround him.

-- Nathan speaks out for gay rights at a rally. A large billboard with him in a gym towel reads: Gay - Bi - Straight, hangs overhead.

-- Nathan gets into a scuffle with TJ's former friends and gets arrested.

SERIES OF SHOTS END

INT. PATRICK'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Patrick receives a text message and jumps up and heads out the door.

EXT. POLICE STATION - NIGHT

Patrick walks out of the station with Nathan.

Reporter's and cameramen approach.

REPORTER

Mr. MacNammerra what's got in to you? Was it something he said?

Nathan and Patrick push through the swarm of reporter's and get into an awaiting limo. The driver pulls off.

INT. LIMO - CONTINUOUS

PATRICK

What the fuck dude?

Nathan is visibly hung over.

NATHAN

(rubbing his head)  
Not now Pat. I got a major headache.

PATRICK

You're crazy. First the gay scene, now the fights. What's up?

NATHAN

I'm just living my life. That's all.

PATRICK  
By ruining another?

NATHAN  
I don't need to hear this shit.  
You said you were on board.

PATRICK  
(smirks, looking  
away)  
This is starting to get too  
weird for me Nate. I mean --  
Your other self is doing the  
right things, getting along  
good --

NATHAN  
-- Fuck TJ.

PATRICK  
(sarcastically)  
Nate. He's you. Listen, he's  
got a budget to shoot a indie  
film, and he's in line to get  
a three picture deal. Why  
couldn't you do that?

NATHAN  
(angrily)  
Listen. I don't need to hear  
this. If you're so impressed,  
won't you go be his friend.

PATRICK  
Maybe I will...

INT. SHOPPING MALL - NIGHT

TJ and his beautiful new girlfriend APRIL MAY, stroll hand in hand  
through the mall.

TJ  
April, these past few weeks  
have been so great. You're a  
special woman.

APRIL  
(smiling)  
Thank you. I've enjoyed  
spending time with you too.



TJ stumbles holding his head.

TJ

Whoa.

April grabs him.

APRIL

(concerned)

Nathan? Are you okay?

TJ takes a seat on a bench as other mall goer's look on.

TJ

My head. It's pounding.

APRIL

Wait here. Let me get help.

April jogs off.

VISION - TJ GETTING HAUNTED BY HIS SOUL

TJ envisions his soul running toward him.

TJ's SOUL

(screaming)

We're dying idiot. Return me.

INT. MANSION - FRONT ROOM - NIGHT

Nathan storms into the room followed by Patrick.

Nathan walks up to a liquor cabinet and grabs a bottle and a shot glass.

PATRICK

Nate. This has to end buddy. I love you but --

NATHAN

(knocking back a shot)

-- But what Pat?

Nathan pours another shot.

NATHAN

(menacing giggle)

We're living the life.

PATRICK  
(unmoved)  
I can't let you go on like  
this.

Nathan grabs a bottle of brown whiskey, pops the top and takes a swig.  
He flops down on a couch.

NATHAN  
(flagging patrick)  
Get the fuck out.

Mary Ellen, TJ's assistant, quietly enters the room.

MARY ELLEN  
(nervously)  
Umh. TJ. Is everything okay?

Nathan laughs hysterically.

Patrick comes over and tries to grab the whiskey bottle.

PATRICK  
(concerned)  
That's enough...

Nathan pushes Patrick off and stands.

NATHAN  
(devilish)  
Watch it Pat...  
(pointing)  
Get the fuck out.

Patrick breaks from a momentary shock and rushes at Nathan.

Mary Ellen looks on without word.

PATRICK  
No.

Nathan side steps, smacking Patrick in the head with the bottle, which  
shatters.

Patrick falls to the floor in pain.

Mary Ellen runs over to Nathan.

MARY ELLEN  
(holding out her  
arm)  
TJ please. You'll kill him.

Patrick stumbles to his feet as blood and whiskey pour from his face.

PATRICK  
 (shocked and afraid)  
 That ain't TJ... And it damn  
 sure ain't my friend.

Nathan stares at Patrick possessed as Mary Ellen stands between the two.

Patrick stumbles from the room holding his head.

PATRICK  
 You can't pretend anymore...

EXT./INT. HOSPITAL - NIGHT

The streets are pretty busy outside the hospital.

In a unmarked vehicle Bookman sits in the passenger side seat with another man in the drivers seat.

Inside the hospital waiting room April May sits nervously.

A female doctor walks in.

DOCTOR  
 Mrs. Parker?

April jumps up and hurries up to the doctor.

APRIL  
 (concerned)  
 Yes... Is he okay?

DOCTOR  
 (smiling)  
 Yes... Test's were  
 negative... He just  
 experienced a dizzy spell.

APRIL  
 From what?

DOCTOR  
 (shaking her head)  
 There are numerous reasons;  
 working nonstop without rest.  
 Too much movement, dehydra-  
 tion... Just keep him rested  
 a few days. I've prescribed...

TJ, escorted by a nurse, walks out.

April May runs over.

APRIL  
(happily)  
Nathan.

April hugs on TJ.

TJ  
(smiling)  
Hey baby. They can't keep a  
good man down.

DOCTOR  
(smiling)  
Well, I told your wife that  
you need your rest.

TJ and April meet eyes.

TJ  
Yeah, my wife...

They all laugh.

EXT. HOSPITAL - NIGHT

April and TJ walk toward the parking lot.

Bookman and another man approach.

BOOKMAN  
TJ MacNamerra...

TJ and April turn confused.

INT. NATHAN'S HOUSE - NIGHT

TJ sits on a couch next to April May.

Bookman and three other SOUL RETRACTOR's are also in the room.

BOOKMAN  
I know its hard to believe, but  
you may look and sound like  
Nathan Parker, but you're  
really TJ MacNamerra.

TJ  
(shocked and  
confused)  
The movie star.

BOOKMAN  
You soul was extracted from  
your original body and  
switched... Obviously the  
fluid caused amnesia.

April looks at TJ shocked.

SOUL RETRACTOR #1  
What was the last thing you  
remember before --

TJ  
Waking up in a closet --

BOOKMAN  
-- Exactly. And are you  
having any strange visions?

TJ remembers the scary vision.

VISION - TJ'S SOUL HAUNTING HIM

TJ'S SOUL  
(echoing)  
Free me...

REGULAR SCENE

TJ  
(standing)  
Actually I have...

TJ approaches a mirror.

TJ  
Strange visions of some ghost  
telling me to free him.

Bookman walks over to TJ and meets eyes with him in the mirror.

BOOKMAN  
That's no ghost...

INT. MANSION - NIGHT

Nathan sits with his shirt open, whiskey in hand, on a plush sofa  
clearly drunk.

NATHAN  
(slurring)  
I don't need anyone...

Suddenly Nathan jerks forward like something is trying to bust out of his chest.

Nathan falls to the floor, dropping the whiskey, as he passes out.

DREAM/VISION - NATHAN IN A DARK ROOM

Nathan gets up from the floor where he comes face to face with a bright soul of himself.

Nathan looks around in fear.

NATHAN  
(touching self)  
Where am I?  
(whispering)  
Am I dead?

NATHAN'S SOUL  
(echoing)  
No. But we don't have time...  
You have to return us.

NATHAN  
Return what?

Suddenly Nathan starts falling in mid air.

NATHAN  
(screaming)  
Ahh...

DREAM/VISION ENDS

INT. MANSION - CONTINUOUS

Mary Ellen is on her knees shaking TJ's body.

MARY ELLEN  
TJ wake up. Get up...

Nathan gasps awake.

NATHAN  
(confused)  
What... Where am I?

MARY ELLEN  
TJ, your home. I'll call an ambulance.

Nathan shakes it off.

NATHAN

No... No... I'm all right. I  
must have passed out.

Nathan struggles to his feet with Mary Ellen's assistance.

MARY ELLEN

You were screaming about dying.

NATHAN

I'm good.

INT. CAR -

Patrick drives in disgust. He picks up his cell phone and dials a  
number.

PATRICK

Yeah... Nate, we need to talk.  
I'm on my way...

INT. NATHAN'S HOUSE - NIGHT

TJ paces back and forth.

Bookman and the Soul Retractor's stand around.

Patrick explains himself.

PATRICK

TJ, you have to know I never  
initially agreed to this. I  
mean you... he's my best  
friend.

TJ

So you let him steal my body?

PATRICK

Actually I wasn't there. I  
just helped to convince --

TJ holds up his hand silencing Patrick.

TJ

(confused)

So what now Bookman? How do  
I...

BOOKMAN

(clearing his throat)

Firstly you must give in to  
your inner soul, that voice.  
That's the only way the anti-  
amnesia fluid will work.

TJ  
And where am I?

Patrick stands up.

PATRICK  
At the mansion. Drunk and  
goin' mad... I mean I've never  
seen him like this.

BOOKMAN  
I'll assemble the rest of my  
team. If we don't return your  
soul and his by the stroke of  
midnight tomorrow... It's  
over.

APRIL  
(grabbing tj)  
What?

TJ  
What do you mean? You never  
said anything about --

BOOKMAN  
— A soul is created for a  
particular body. Like a puzzle  
piece. When forced it doesn't  
fit. The dizzy spells will  
increase, and the body and  
soul will die... We must work  
fast. Because as do you, he  
has to give in to his inner  
soul to return...

Bookman picks up a tabloid magazine.

BOOKMAN  
(giggles)  
From the looks of it. He has  
no intent on doing that.

INSERT - MAGAZINE PAGE

A picture of TJ, when Nathan was in the locker room wrapped in a towel  
is displayed.

REGULAR SCENE

PATRICK  
I think I just might know who  
could convince him.



INT. MANSION - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Nathan is in the master bathroom, freshening up in the shower.

Mary Ellen is relaxing in the rooms bed.

Mary Ellen's phone chirps.

Mary Ellen notices and answers.

INTERCUT - MARY ELLEN IN BED/ PATRICK AT NATHAN'S HOUSE

MARY ELLEN

Patrick?

PATRICK

Shh... Mary Ellen. Where's TJ?

MARY ELLEN

(confused)

In the shower. Where are you?  
Why are you calling me?

PATRICK

Listen, it's important. I want  
you to go into the next room.

MARY ELLEN

Why —

PATRICK

— Just listen. It's a matter  
of life and death.

Mary Ellen reluctantly scurries out of bed and into the hall.

BATHROOM

Nathan steps out of the shower.

HALL

Mary Ellen looks back not wanting to be caught.

MARY ELLEN

(whispering)

Now what is it?

PATRICK

What I'm about to tell you  
is gonna freak you out...

BEDROOM

Nathan comes in drying his hair with a towel.

NATHAN

Baby where you at?

(laughing)

Daddies ready to rumble.

Nathan grabs a universal remote and clicks his plasma screen on.

Security footage of every room in the mansion is displayed.

Nathan spots Mary Ellen on a camera and brings that screen up.

HALL

MARY ELLEN

(scared)

Patrick you're freakin' me  
out...

(sighs, looking  
around)

That can't even be possible...

PATRICK

Get out of there. We'll  
explain it all.

MARY ELLEN

When —

Patrick hangs up.

MARY ELLEN

Patrick. Patrick.

BEDROOM

NATHAN

(devilish)

That sneaky lil' bitch.

Nathan turns the screen off.

Mary Ellen enters the room shocked to see Nathan standing there.

MARY ELLEN

(trying to stay cool)

Oh... TJ, you startled me.

I —

NATHAN  
Who were you talking to?

MARY ELLEN  
(afraid)  
No one. I --

Nathan charges Mary Ellen who screams.

MATCH CUT:

TJ burst's through two double doors.

INT. MANSION - MASTER BEDROOM - LATER

The room is empty. Only a turned over chair and scattered bed spreading give evidence that anyone was there.

Bookman and a group of Soul retractor's enter the room seconds later followed by Patrick.

TJ  
(angrily)  
I can't believe this. Why  
would he do this?

Bookman walks over to the plasma television and see's a piece of tape on which is written: PLAY ME.

BOOKMAN  
We got something.

TJ, Patrick, and the other Soul retractor's turn toward the screen.

Bookman picks up the remote and plays the disc.

INSERT: PLASMA SCREEN

Nathan appears on screen.

Mary Ellen is tied to a chair behind him with her mouth gagged.

INT. MASTER BEDROOM - EARLIER

NATHAN  
A TJ. If you're watching this  
it's because my bitch ass best  
friend talked.

Patrick scoffs.

NATHAN

I'm well aware that you know  
you aren't me, and I'm not  
you. I know about your new  
group of...

(scratching his head)

Soul retractor's I believe  
they are...

Mary Ellen muffles a cry.

Nathan turns to her.

NATHAN

(smirks)

Sorry about your flunky  
assistant. Bitches ain't shit.  
She has some good pussy though.

TJ

(to screen)

What do you want?

NATHAN

I know you're wondering what  
I want...

(pacing)

It's what I always wanted.  
For you to appreciate me.  
Appreciate what you've been  
blessed with. You've forgotten  
where you come from... Yet now  
that your soul friends say  
we're dying, you want your  
body back...

(laughing)

I was just getting use to this.

Nathan suddenly jerks forward in pain.

NATHAN

(staggering)

Here's the deal. Meet me alone  
eleven PM sharp at the place  
we filmed our first short...

Nathan moves in closer to the camera.

NATHAN

Hey Teej? How do you like  
being an insignificant nothing?

The recording ends. TJ looks around to the other men.

INT. VAN - BACK - NIGHT

Bookman and three other Soul retractor members are seated around TJ. The van is equipped with computer screens and a radar tracking system. Bookman puts a tracker device under TJ's shirt collar.

BOOKMAN

Now remember. You have to convince him to give in to his inner soul for this to work.

TJ

(nervously)

I got it...

TJ holds up two vial of fluid.

TJ

I just pray I can do it before midnight.

SOUL RETRACTOR #1

Boss, trackers are functional.

BOOKMAN

Good. TJ, your soul's on the line here. We'll be no more than five minutes away. Have him give in, then you both consume the fluid. Then recite this spell...

Bookman hand TJ a card with a spell written on it.

BOOKMAN

We clear?

TJ

(sighs)

Yeah.

TJ looks at his reflection in the vans window.

MATCH CUT:

INT. CABIN - NIGHT

Nathan comes face to face with his true reflection in a mirror above an unlit fire place.

Candles around the cabin give off a flicker lighting.

Nathan rubs his eyes.

The true reflection doesn't budge.

NATHAN 's POV

REFLECTION

What are you doing?

NATHAN

This is what you wanted...

REFLECTION

(snaps his tongue)

What I wanted? What I wanted was for you to live up to your true potential, and let go of the past —

NATHAN

-- Fuck you... I know what's best for us.

REFLECTION

Yeah?

NATHAN

(angrily)

That's right...

REFLECTION

We're dying idiot. We can't stay in this body.

Nathan grabs his head in frustration.

NATHAN

So what. We can't go back now...

(menacing laugh)

I'm goin' crazy.

Nathan looks away momentarily.

The true reflection remains in the mirror.

REFLECTION

No you're not. What you see is  
what is true...  
(yelling)  
Now return us.

The scream echo's loudly until Nathan shatters the mirror angrily.

NATHAN

Shut up.

Nathan looks back into the shattered mirror and see's his original reflection of TJ.

Nathan jumps a little.

INT. CAR - NIGHT

TJ, concern written on his face drives silently up a desolate dirt road which is surrounded by forest.

A full moon illuminates the night as forest creatures scurry at the sound of the approaching car.

TJ peers from the old Buick into the night as he passes a lake.

The road ends, opening into a wide filed. On a hill a creepy looking cabin sits.

TJ pulls over and turns the car off.

TJ squints his eyes, looking and focusing on an image in one of the cabin's windows.

His concentration is disturbed when he hears something scuffling outside the car.

TJ

(whispering)  
This shit is crazy...

EXT. BEGINNING OF DIRT ROAD - NIGHT

The soul retractor's van pulls up silently to the side of the dirt road.

INT. VAN

Bookman sits in a ready position next to the tracking radar. The system is being operated by two soul retractor tech's.

Bookman looks up at a large rectangular digital clock which reads: 11:05.

BOOKMAN

Come on TJ.

EXT. CAR - NIGHT

TJ slowly gets out of the car, shuts the door, and heads toward the cabin.

INT. CABIN - CONTINUOUS

Nathan stands in the shadows watching TJ approach the cabin.

The window is shaded.

EXT. CABIN

TJ slowly walks up the small ascending steps on to the cabin wooden porch.

TJ approaches the door, looking around suspiciously. He glances down at his watch which reads: 11:10.

TJ knocks on the door softly.

TJ  
(low tone)

Nate?

The door creaks open by the force of TJ's next knock.

TJ reluctantly enters the dark residence and is suddenly jerked forward.

The door SLAMS shut behind him.

INT. NATHAN'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Patrick, April May, and a Soul retractor sit anxiously.

Patrick looks at a clock on the wall. It reads: 11:20.

PATRICK

This can't get anymore weird...

There's a knock at the door.

The Soul retractor gets up and answers the door.

A short HOODED MAN, from the creepy store stands beside Mary Ellen.

The Soul retractor reaches for his weapon. The hooded man counters slinging some dust into the retractor's face who falls unconscious to the floor.

Patrick and April May look up shocked as Mary Ellen and the Hooded man enters.



INT. CABIN - NIGHT

The candles flicker as TJ and Nathan stand across from each other.

Nathan glares at TJ like a crazed menace as he stands half shadowed, half lit.

NATHAN

I see you remembered the place  
that got you your start.

TJ

(clearing his  
throat)

How could I forget Nate? I  
never forgot.

NATHAN

(paces)

Huh... I see I still look  
good.

TJ looks his current body up and down, then glances at his watch.

TJ

Nathan, we don't have much  
time I --

NATHAN

-- I don't give a fuck Teej.  
You don't get it do you?

Nathan pulls out a plastic vial.

TJ

What's that?

NATHAN

Poison. One sip and you're,  
rather we're gone... Dead.

TJ

(emotional)

Nate, what do you want from me?

NATHAN

(yelling)

For you to understand. For you  
to do the right thing.

INT. NATHAN'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Patrick ties up the Soul retractor.

April May, Mary Ellen, and the Hooded man stand aside.

PATRICK

If what you tell us is true, we  
gotta get to that cabin before  
TJ recites that spell...

(standing up)

Come on.

The four dash from the house.

EXT. NATHAN'S HOUSE

Patrick jumps into the drivers seat of his car.

April May and Mary Ellen get into the back.

The Hooded man gets into the passenger side front seat. As Patrick  
pulls off.

INT. CABIN - NIGHT

TJ walks closer to Nathan, then rushes him.

TJ

I can't let you destroy us  
Nate.

The two men begin to scuffle causing the poison to shatter on the  
floor.

INT. CAR - NIGHT

Patrick weaves through traffic.

PATRICK

All along Bookman is a soul  
collector trying to steal both  
souls?

HOODED MAN

Yes. But he needs the  
individual to convince the  
other to give in to their  
inner souls while the spell  
is recited.

PATRICK

Only the spell won't return  
the souls to their body, but  
be gathered to Bookman?

APRIL

So how do we stop it?

HOODED MAN

Before the stroke of midnight  
if your friend doesn't recite  
the spell, Bookman's time will  
have expired... See when he  
killed my master Palgrave, he  
never knew he had disciples.

PATRICK

Do you have the correct spell?

HOODED MAN

Yes. But the key is. The one  
who originally stole the soul,  
the one who covets must no  
longer harbor the ill feelings  
that possessed him when he made  
the decision to follow through.  
Only then can he recite the  
spell requesting to return...

MARY ELLEN

(concerned)

No. They remain imprisoned  
in the others body forever.

PATRICK

We better hurry.

Patrick punches down on the gas, beeping the horn as he speeds through traffic.

INT. CABIN - NIGHT

TJ pushes Nathan back.

TJ

Nate. We can't do this.

NATHAN

Oh yes we will.

MONTAGE - NATHAN AND TJ FIGHT

-- Nathan takes off his shirt revealing TJ's chiseled body. He then charges TJ with a barrage of punches. TJ covers up.

-- TJ finally gets angry and charges back. Taking Nathan by surprise.

-- The two men tussle some more, then TJ jumps up.

MONTAGE ENDS

INT. CABIN - CONTINUOUS

TJ  
(yelling)  
Nathan stop...  
(out of breath)  
Stop... Stop...

TJ slumps to the floor defeated.

TJ  
(emotional)  
You win buddy... I don't want  
to do this anymore...

Nathan, still angry and a little bloodied, takes a seat on a log across from TJ.

NATHAN  
You learn your lesson?

TJ  
Actually I did...  
(scoffs)  
I never thought I could be so  
stupid as to overlook and not  
appreciate you man.

NATHAN  
(taken aback)  
What? What do you mean?

TJ  
The truth is — I've always  
envied your eye for film Nate.

NATHAN  
(wry smirk)  
Really?

TJ  
(smirking)  
Yeah man. I admit I let a lot  
of things come between us, but  
I'm human. I make mistakes  
bro...  
(standing)  
These past few weeks living  
as you has given me an  
appreciation for you and your  
work...

NATHAN

My work?

TJ

(wry smile)

Yeah, I found your short films...

TJ looks at his watch.

TJ

I submitted them and got a three film deal.

NATHAN

I... I don't know --

TJ

(remorseful)

-- Listen. I'm sorry for everything...

(holding out hand)

Can we put the past behind us, and be friends?

Nathan, tearful gives in and hugs TJ.

EXT. BEGINNING OF DIRT ROAD - NIGHT

Patrick's car speeds up the dirt road leading to the cabin.

Bookman looks out of the Van and meets eyes with the Hooded man.

INT. VAN

BOOKMAN

(yelling)

No... Stop them.

The Soul retractor van peels off after the car.

Dirt clouds pollute the air as the chase begins.

SERIES OF SHOTS - THE VAN CHASES THE CAR

-- INT. CAR - Patrick floors the car as fast as it can go. The van is still hot on its tail.

-- INT. VAN - Bookman scoots into the front passenger side seat as a soul retractor pulls the van up beside the car, trying to force it off road.

-- INT. CAR - Patrick manages to get back ahead as the car approaches the cabin.

SERIES OF SHOTS END

INT. CABIN - NIGHT

TJ and Nathan stand side by side, each with a vial of fluid.

NATHAN  
(drinking fluid)  
Bottoms up...

TJ  
(drinking fluid)  
Bottoms up...

Nathan and TJ gag from the taste of the fluid.

TJ  
Now... I'm suppose to recite --

Patrick burst through the door.

PATRICK  
(yelling)  
No... It's a trick.

Patrick runs up to TJ.

A wooden clock in the corner of the cabin strikes midnight.

April May and Mary Ellen run into the cabin followed by the Hooded man.

Bookman and two Soul retractors enter moments later.

PATRICK  
(breathless)  
It's a trick. Bookman is a  
soul collector. He was trying  
to steal your soul...

TJ  
(confused)  
What?

TJ turns to Bookman as the clock finishes it's last stroke.

Bookman claps.

BOOKMAN  
Congratulations... Now you  
all will die.

Bookman emits a blinding light from his hands as he spreads his arms with a scream.

The Hooded man immediately cast a counter spell, diminishing the light.

HOODED MAN

Get out of here. Patrick give  
the one who covets the spell...  
Go...

PATRICK

Come on Teej... Nate?

TJ, Nate, and the girls start to run for the door.

The two Soul retractor's attempt to grab them.

Simultaneously TJ and Nathan punch out one of the Soul retractor's.

EXT. CABIN - CONTINUOUS

The light chases the five from the cabin as they all run for Patrick's car.

PATRICK

Here's the real spell Nate...

Nathan accepts it.

PATRICK

Since you initially cast the  
spell, you have to uncast it.  
Yet if your intentions and  
heart aren't cohesively  
sincere... Free of the envy and  
jealously that guided your  
actions, the spell will back  
fire, imprisoning you both  
in your current bodies.

Nathan nods.

NATHAN

(remorseful)

Pat... I'm sorry buddy... Will  
you ever --

PATRICK

(yelling)

Save the dramatic's for the  
screen. Now recite the spell.

The light from the cabin gets brighter and an explosion follows.

TJ falls to the ground convulsing.

MARY ELLEN

Nathan hurry.

NATHAN

(from card)

Soul of mine. Return to thee,  
the rightful inhabitant I'll  
always be...

(louder)

Soul in he. Return to me, it's  
rightful place, I long to be...

Suddenly Nathan falls out.

TJ and Nathan begin to shake violently.

Patrick, April May, and Mary Ellen back away huddled together.

With a quick jerk the souls of TJ and Nathan seethe from the other's  
body.

The soul's shriek like new born's and on cue slam into its original  
residence.

SUPER: ONE YEAR LATER

INT. ARENA - ACADEMY AWARDS - NIGHT

Inside the famous Los Angeles Staples Center movie stars, directors,  
fans, and media sit as a male and female couple approach a mic on  
stage.

MALE

How's everyone?

FEMALE

We've come to the award of the  
evening.

MALE

Best new film.

FEMALE

Now you've already heard the  
nominees. So here we go.

The male reveals a white envelope and opens it.

The two look at the card then to each other.



MALE AND FEMALE  
The oscar goes to: Soul Takers.

FEMALE  
Directed by Nathan Parker,  
starring TJ MacNammerra.

The crowd applauds.

In the front row Nathan and TJ sit side by side with April May and Mary Ellen.

Patrick has a date too.

Nathan and TJ look at each other as they rise to accept their award.

ONSTAGE

TJ and Nathan each hold awards.

NATHAN  
All the time we're asked what  
inspired this film —

TJ  
And we always say...

TJ AND NATHAN  
An out of body experience.

FADE OUT.