

THE CAVE

By Phoenix

(Scene 1 – Ext – fly over of Fernview, shots of the lighthouse, an old fisherman on the top, vanishes as the light passes him using the light as a transition tool to the next shot, over the neighbourhood where we see everything is *almost* perfect, with shots of homeless people raiding bins behind a bakery and the shop owner coming out with a shotgun, something that the people of the town shouldn't have due to its England setting, of the library with shots inside of books with titles such as "historic towns", "Fernview: a history" and "Conspiracy theories for the uninitiated", of the beach where the camera glitches, almost like the beach itself doesn't want to be filmed, finally, finishing on the college as Alex speaks)

Alex: (OS)

Welcome to Fernview, the town where is always quiet but never silent, all that "it's a small town" bullshit which you've probably heard like a bajillion times, basically, this shits about to get weird

(Cut to exterior shot of college)

Alex: (OS)

This is Fernview college, the place where stereotypes come to life, you have the "popular girl" Emily Valentine

(Cut to Emily walking through a group of people down a corridor, Toby following suit, people staring, boys looking her up and down and their girlfriends pulling disgusted faces at her, a muffled "she tries too hard" can be heard, but only if you really listen for it, a few people whispering behind her back, which we don't know what they say, and Emily seems unbothered, the world seems to have rose tinted glasses on, she goes into her locker and we see it is covered with pink, aside from a small picture of a man in a prison uniform with the name "Damian" under it, cut out of a newspaper)

Alex: (OS)

Whilst her so called "acts of kindness" didn't earn her the title, the fear of her brother, who is serving time after killing the last head of college because he got bad grades, did. Then, you've got the "jock" although ask him to spell jock and he's stumped, Toby Curtis

(Slide to Toby walking next to Emily, stumbling along, the camera has a certain grime to it, much duller than the rose tint we just had with Emily, his locker is very basic, stuffed with unused, dusty books, as well as a rugby ball, well used, and sweatbands, gross looking and in a puddle of dried sweat, he's smiling widely and clearly unaware of the stares that Emily is getting, just happy to be along for the ride, enjoying life, not a care in the world and he likes it that way, his expression softens a little as he looks at the trophy in his locker, he may struggle in college, but he's clearly not as dumb as he lets on)

Alex: (OS)

And, because he's dumber than a sleeping rock, he's dating Emily. Now, you can't have a college without a teacher's pet, and well, Alice Jones is your girl for that

(Cut to Alice in class, sitting up straight, her hand ready to shoot up at a moment's notice, her desk arranged neatly, work book open, filled with notes even though it's clear the lesson has barely started, as she walks out of her classroom, she holds her books in front of her, looking more like a stereotypical nerd but this way she can get her books out faster, to impress teachers, plus she can report any rule breaking, even the smallest room, for example we see her measure Emily's skirt, whom rolls her eyes and pushes her away)

Alex: (OS)

Her nose could not be browner if she tried, and trust me, she does. I'm sure she has a folder of just dress code violations somewhere, anyway, we've met the dumbest, now the smartest, Tyler Silver

(Cut to Tyler in a romantic light, stereotypical slow motion hair flip as he works, tapping his pen to Alex's favourite song, he focuses, getting frustrated by not knowing something, then his eyes, and the screen light up as he figures it out, whispering under his breath "it's not even that hard", the screen filling with love hearts before they pop like bubbles as Alex moves on)

Alex: (OS)

Some may call him a nerd, but I'd like to disagree, he just knows his stuff, and he makes this cute ass face when he's concentrating, oh and his eyes just spark... um, anyway, last up, we have

(Cut to Alex walking through a door)

Alex:

Me, I'm Alex, Alex Blackwing, the self-proclaimed social outcast. Everyone thinks I'm a loser but I'm not, I just don't need friends.

(Alex sits in their seat, with the others spread through the class, Alex is far at the back, all the desks are arranged neatly, aside from Alex, who is visually distant from everyone, as close into the corner as they can get, as they walk to their seat, they keep their head down, not looking at anyone, not that anyone looks at them, except Tyler, who even smiles softly, Alex doesn't notice)

Alex:

Oh, and this is our history teacher, Mr Bright, which if you ask me, the wrong name

(Alex chuckles to himself as the camera pans to Mr Bright, writing on the board, making a joke about how old he is, which he only looks in his early 40s, late 30s, checking his watch, which hides his watch tattoo directly under it, it had been broken for nearly 100 years but Felix gave it to him, he wasn't giving it up any time soon, it was his only connection to his past, to his brother, to his family)

Alex:

Anyway, enjoy the shitshow

(Scene 2 – Int – Classroom – Mr bright is just finishing addressing his students when the bell rings for the end of the day)

Mr Bright:

Now, before you all rush off to go and party or whatever it is you youngsters do these days

(Mr Bright does finger guns in a tragic attempt to look cool)

(Theres a collective groan from the students, mixed in with Toby's deep snores, prompting Mr Bright to roll up some paper on his desk and begin walking over to him)

Mr Bright:

Don't forget that your homework "The Battle of The Somme and its Historical Importance" is due on Monday morning, and I expect five hundred words off each and every one of you, even you Toby

(Mr Bright gently taps Toby head with some paper to wake him up)

Toby: (half asleep)

Y..yeah... uh huh, 500 words....

(He slumps back over in his chair as Mr Bright continues talking)

Mr Bright:

You all know what I expect of you by now, you've had 3 months to get use to it, and...

(He is cut off by the bell)

(The bell rings)

(Like a fire had been lit under his ass, Toby jumps up and almost sprints out the classroom, forgetting his stuff)

Emily:

Every single fucking time

(Emily rolls her eyes and picks it up, use to this by now, everyone knew Toby couldn't wait to get out onto the field and play rugby)

Mr Bright:

Now go, I don't want to keep you for your awesome rest of the week, and then weekend I'm sure you all have planned instead of my homework

(Everyone leaves except Tyler who walks to Mr Bright's desk, before starting to walk to the door, but then he turns around, opens his mouth before shaking his head and turning around again)

Mr Bright:

What is it Tyler

(Tyler sighs, turns back to face Mr Bright and walks back over)

Tyler:

Um, sir, could I speak to you, about that after college club you mentioned earlier? I know it's not something you'd expect someone like me to be interested in but, w...well I am

Mr Bright: (Smiling softly)

Of course Tyler, why don't you take a seat

Tyler:

I've been doing a lot of research at home

(Mr Bright chuckles)

Mr Bright:

Of course you have, I'd expect nothing less from you Tyler

(Tyler blushes and smiles meekly)

Tyler:

Y.. Yes well, I think I know, I mean..

Mr Bright: (supportively)

I know what you mean, I may be old, but I'm not exactly new to this whole thing, it's been around forever you know? I know what its like to feel like...

Tyler:

like an outsider, like if you tell someone your secret, you'll be rejected, pushed away?

(Theres a moment of silence, Mr Bright takes a breath and smiles softly)

Mr Bright:

Yes, exactly, but you won't, not here, not by me

Tyler: (Smiling wider)

T..thank you sir, so you mean I can join?

Mr Bright:

Of course, its open to anyone and everyone, we meet on Fridays after college

Tyler:

We?

Mr Bright:

Yeah, I run it, I may not be down and hip with the kids, but I know how important it is to have somewhere safe, someone to talk to about, well anything really, plus, free pizza

(Mr bright smirks and nudges Tyler, before Tyler stands up, thanking Mr Bright again and leaving)

(Door shuts, fade to black)

(Scene 3 – Int – College hallways – Alice is walking around, carrying a clipboard, a few bits of paper and a pen, going around the college, watching like a hawk, writing up any students for infracting on the rules, almost like another teacher, except one that actually takes her job seriously)

(Alice walks up to a small group of students sitting, eating on the floor)

Alice:

Get up Mr Henderson, this is a hallway, not a dining room, and are those trainers Mr Hornsby? You know only black shoes are allowed!

(She walks away before coming to another student, a female student with a skirt halfway up her thighs)

Alice:

Excuse me Miss Porter

(Alice speaks with acid in her words)

that skirt is nowhere near long enough, how many times are we going to have this conversation

Hannah Porter:

As many times as it takes to get it through your little ass kissing face that you don't make the rules, nor do you have any power to enforce them

(Hannah Porter throws the remainder of her water bottle over Alice, getting a scream from her as she runs into the bathroom, Hannah porter laughing hysterically)

Hannah Porter:

I guess you had better add "waterproof" to that list

Alice: (Wiping water out her eyes)

That doesn't even make sense, this list is for rule breaking, being waterproof isn't breaking any rules, nor is.... Oh I don't have time for this, out of my way

(She gets frustrated and pushes past Hannah Porter and storms into the bathroom)

(Scene 4 – Int – College bathroom stall – all the bathrooms in the college are gender neutral so it wouldn't be weird to find boys and girls hanging out, however there are cameras, just in the main area not the stalls, so that any sort of inappropriate activity is handled quickly, Alice is sat on the closed toilet lid crying, struggling with all the pressure she feels is on her)

(Alice blows her nose, flushing the toilet paper down the toilet before coming out, washing her face in the mirror, drying her hair under the hand dryers, very awkwardly due to how low the hand dryers are in relativeness to her head, before walking back over to the sinks to wash her hands, she splashes water on her face, the faint chatter from outside slowly subsiding as the bell for next period rings, the silence is deafening)

Alice: (to herself)

Just relax Alice, it was just water this time, you've taken much worse to the face and come out the other side fine, like that time she got a slushy from the canteen just to cover you in it, what a waste of money

Alice's Reflection: (echoey, softly, like a siren of sailor lore)

I bet you wanna get revenge on her, don't you? But how can you, when you're such a perfect, posh rule followers

Alice: (taken aback, splashes her face)

What? That's not all I am, in fact I'm not even that, I'm not posh

Alice's Reflection: (Rolling her eyes)

Yeah, that's not the part I had issue with, obviously, I'm referring to you incessant need to follow the rules, to stay in line, afraid to even put a toe over in rebel territory in fear of (mockingly) mommy dearest

Alice:

I...I'm not scared

Alice's Reflection:

Prove it, break a rule, any rule, go on, you can do it, mommy will never know

(Alice looks around, thinking about what to do to calm the voice inside her head, she looks down and smiles, pulling her skirt up slightly, barely above the allowed length, not even noticeable but it seemed to have satisfied her. She hesitates a moment, putting her hand on her skirt, debating whether or not to pull it back down, even tugging it a little so the difference is even less noticeable before looking back up)

Alice:

There, better?

Alice's Reflection:

Meh

(Alice walks out the bathroom)

Alice's Reflection: (Fading out as Alice leaves)

Pathetic

(Scene 5 – Int – College windowsill – Alice walks past Tyler, the camera following from her out the bathroom, Tyler is sat in the windowsill, writing in his notebook, making notes about the assignment from Mr Bright as well as other teacher's lessons)

(In the corner of his notebook is a little heart with "A+T" inside, representing Tylers crush on Alex without being overt, although that isn't the cameras main focus, just a fun detail of foreshadowing for the audience, as he writes, he looks longingly at the various clubs outside the window, the rugby club where Toby is helping the new applicants, as a sort of mentor figure, helping them when they fall over and such)

Tyler: (To himself, starts off quiet but gets louder as he speaks)

Why is it so easy for people to make friends, no one even looks at me a second time, not unless they need their homework doing or something, I'm more than just my brains you know!?

(A guy clears his throat, announcing his presence)

Jason:

I'm... sure you are, sorry, im Jason, I sit behind you in history, I just wanted to say your notes are really pretty, maybe we could study together sometime?

Tyler: (oblivious to the obvious flirting)

Huh? Oh um, yeah sure, sorry, lost in my own world

(He chuckles awkwardly)

(Theres a few moments of awkward silence, both boys waiting for the other to speak)

Jason:

Right, sorry, I should get off, I've got friends waiting

(Tyler nods slowly before looking back out the window, clearly something caught his eye)

Tyler:

Mmh hmm, see you around

(He mutters, not really paying attention)

(After a few minutes of pretty much drooling on the window, he stands up and walks towards a door, with a sigh for the club, all the camera sees is the word "club" on the bottom of the poster, Tyler grips the handle, quite hard as he breaths deeply)

Tyler: (To himself)

Ok, you can do this, just one little club

(Scene 6 – Int – college halls – Alex walks past the club room, not seeing Tyler in there as they carry a clipboard with a list of different clubs, most already crossed out with only three left, Art, Choir and Rugby, with massive letters “LAST RESORT” next to rugby, they have been trying different things all day, trying to find something they are good at)

Alex: (Exasperated)

Come on Alex, you’ve tried nearly everything, there’s got to be something your good at and that can’t be quitting

(Alex walks into the Art room, looking around at everyone else mid paint, no one looks at them except the teacher, and yet they still feel everyone’s eyes on them as they take their place at their easel, their hands shaking as they pick up a pencil, all goes well for a few moments, before the hand shaking causes Alex to smudge a line, they growl softly under their breath, their face contorting in frustration, their hand clenching tightly around the pencil the teacher comes over and says “art isn’t about perfection” but Alex will hear none of it, snapping their pencil, throwing the pieces behind them as they pick up their clipboard and leave, trying to keep calm so they don’t disturb the other students, as soon as they get out the room, they scream “FUCK” at the top of their lungs, before walking down the hall, entering into the choir room where the kids are mid song, Alex enters silently, standing at the back, muttering along to the song, actually getting into it, even walking to the front near the end of the song, they look so confident that the choir teacher gestures to them for the final solo, as they attempt it, their voice breaks and everyone stares at them, their face flushing red out of embarrassment, not cruelly, more a sympathetic look, a few kids even pipe up with “are you ok?” and “you did great”, but again, Alex won’t hear any of, leaving as a few tears stream down their face, finally they walk out to the rugby grounds, where Toby walks over to meet them)

Toby:

Hey Alex, decided to join us have we?

Alex: (Coldly)

I didn’t have much choice, I had to join at least one club so I don’t get kicked out, this is my last resort, everything else I suck at

(Toby is silent for a few moments before smiling, telling Alex the basics of rugby, and soon a match is underway, after a riveting first half, Alex is excited, ready to get stuck in after watching for a while, as the second half begins, someone throws the ball to Alex and they run with it, unfortunately, they get a little too excited and they drop the ball, their hands sweaty, and they trip over the ball as they drop it, Toby runs over and helps them up)

(When Alex is standing up, they are breathing heavily, clearly trying to hold in their anger, their shoulders tense, their teeth baring)

Toby:

Aww, hard luck, its ok, happens to the best of us

Alex: (Angrily)

Yeah well, I'm the worst, whatever, I knew this was a bad idea

(Alex storms off the pitch, leaving toby confused as to what just happened)

(Scene 7 – ext – College fields – Time rewinds like a VHS tape, this time we see the interaction from toby's point of view. Toby is on the fields, helping the younger students, trying out for rugby, showing off his kind heart as he is very supportive of anyone trying out)

(Toby is in a group of his friends, cracking jokes and laughing, patting his friends of the back)

Toby:

You've gotta keep your feet firmly planted on the ground or you'll be knock onto your ass quicker than you can say "ouch"

(He taps a guy's thighs, prompting him to open his legs more, improving his stance, Toby looks up and sees Alex walking over)

Toby:

Hey mate, finally decided to join the best club?

(He chuckles softly)

Alex: (Rolls his eyes)

Whatever, it was the only option I had, just get on with the teaching

Toby: (A little hurt by Alex's rushness)

Ok.... Well, rugby is a great way to get any underlying issues out, anger, stress, whatever, its all good fun

Alex: (Annoyed)

I said get on with it!

(Toby just shakes his head, hurt more but he gives Alex the basics, letting them decide if and when they wanna play, leading to Alex joining in during the second half of the match, leading to Alex having the ball, dropping it and falling over, Toby runs over, worried)

Toby:

Aw mate, im so sorry, are you ok? It happens to the best of us, don't worry, no one thinks you look stupid or anything

Alex:

Yeah, well, I'm the worst. Whatever, I knew this was a bad idea

(Alex storms off, leaving Tyler confused)

Toby:

What did I do wrong?

(Toby ponders for a moment before he is called back to help, giving advice on how to deal with sore muscles)

(Scene 8 – int – café – Emily is with her girlfriends, the very few genuine friends she has, or at least she knows that they don't see her as a monster, they see her talent that she has, and she enjoys spending time with them)

(Emily's friend Jessica waves a fork with cake in her café)

Jessica: (Dramatically)

Come on Em, try the carrot cake, it's sooo nice

Emily: (chuckling as she pushes the fork away)

Thanks but no thanks jess, I'm still working all those calories from that chocolate cake off the other week, but my god was it worth it

(she smiles, remembering how good the chocolate cake tastes as her phone buzzes, instantly her smile disappears as she reads the reminder about the deadline for the design competition she was supposed to enter, she shrinks in her chair as she withdraws from the conversation, her friends notice)

Nieve: (concerned)

What's the matter Em? Still worried about the competition?

(Emily nods slowly)

Jessica:

Don't be Em, you're great!!

Nieve:

Yeah, remember those posters you made for the drama club?

Emily: (blushing)

Oh please, that was just some doodles, I wasn't even trying, I don't know if I'm ready for something as big as this

Nieve:

Exactly!! You did that and you weren't even trying, you've got this, I know you Emily, I know your skills, you can do this, I believe in you

(Emily smiles at the praise, although it's clear she doesn't believe it herself, after a while she gets her sketchbook out, absentmindedly doodling, and it looks great, fitting in with the theme at the top of the page, clearly Emily enjoyed this, this was her safe space)

(Scene 9 – int – Tyler’s bedroom – Tyler is sat at his very messy desk as he finishes his homework)

(Fade from black to door opening)

Tyler: (reading aloud)

“And that is why the Battle of the Somme was the most important battle in history”

There, done, 1500 words, just to be safe, that should do it, and I’ve still got..

(He looks at the clock)

Tyler:

Three days and 7 hours left, new record

(Tyler chuckles to himself)

(Tyler’s phone rings and he raises his eyebrow, this was an unknown number, albeit the only numbers he did have was his mother and father but still, we hear half the conversation)

Tyler: (on phone)

Hello?... Alex? What’s up?... Important how?... When?... As in now now?... Alright, alright, I’m on my way now, bye.

(He hangs up)

Tyler:

Well that wasn’t weird at all, I guess I’m needed....by Alex...(muttering) finally

(He gathers his homework together so its neat and slings his backpack onto the back as he rushes out the door, before walking back in)

Tyler:

Homework... check, Phone.... check, bike keys..... check, god I’m a walking checklist

(Tyler looks around the room one last time)

Tyler:

Ok, now I can leave

(Tyler Leaves)

(Scene 10 – Emily’s bedroom – Toby and Emily are making out on Emily’s bed)

Toby:

You know baby, we’ve been together for ages, a whole two weeks now, so I think we are ready to take the next step in our relationship

Emily: (clearly embarrassed) (under her breath)

Please don't propose

Toby:

I brought these

(Toby holds up as pack of condoms)

Emily: (horrified)

Are... Are those what I think they are?

Toby:

Well, if you think they are flashlights then no, they aren't. they're condoms

Emily:

Yes, I can see that thank you.

(She pauses)

Emily:

You know honey, I don't think im ready for such a big step, how about we start with, I don't know, building sandcastles or something? At least for the first year or so?

Toby:

Well, how long until a year?

Emily: (hastily)

Oh, not long at all, I promise

(She rolls her eyes as her phone starts to ring)

Emily:

Could you pass me my phone please darling?

(Toby passes her the phone, she answers, again, we only hear half the conversation)

Emily: (on the phone)

Hello?... No, I don't know any Alex's... Oh, from history, how in the hell did you get this number?... Yeah, he's here too

(She puts the phone to Toby's ear)

Toby: (on the phone)

This is toby, how can I help

(Emily takes the phone back)

Emily: (on the phone)

More important than Beyonce? Shit, right well, we're on our way, bye Alex from history class
(She hangs up)

Emily:

How would you like to go to the beach?

Toby:

I say, I'll bring the castle, you bring the sunscreen

(She smiles softly as they walk out the door)

(Scene 11 – Alice's kitchen – Alice has just finished eating her dinner with her family)

Alice: (putting her cutlery down)

Thank you mummy dearest for the most wonderful dinner

(Her phone rings faintly upstairs)

Alice:

I hear my telephone ringing; may I go and answer it mummy?

Alice's mum:

Yes dear, of course

Alice:

Oh thank you ever so much mummy

(Alice goes upstairs and answers her phone, yet again, we only hear half the conversation)

Alice: (on phone)

Yo, wassup?... yes I know who you are Alex, I'm not dumb... How important?... Fuck me, ok,
I'm on my way, bye.

(She hangs up and walks downstairs)

Alice:

Wonderful mummy of mine, could I go to the beach to meet a friend

Alice's mum:

Sure sweetie, stay safe and have fun

Alice:

I will mummy, bye

(Scene 12 – Ext – Beach side – Tyler gets off his bike and is greeted by then rest of the gang who were already there)

Tyler:

So, I guess Alex called you guys too?

(There is a murmur of agreement)

Tyler:

I'm guessing they said it was more important than end of year exams?

Emily:

They said it was more important than a Beyonce concert, in the front row!

Alice:

A parents evening when I've got perfect grades for me

Tyler:

Whatever excuse they used, they said it was urgent?

(Again, another murmur of agreement)

Tyler:

So, in that case, where are they?

Emily: (Rolling her eyes)

And why couldn't we have all met up at Tradition Teas?

(Alex climbs over a sand hill)

Alex:

I'm over here, I'm sorry I kinda lied to you all, but it is important I promise you all that,
follow me

(Everyone follows Alex down the beach, this beach was always empty, the group had always heard stories of people being driven away from the beach, some unseen force pushing them away, and yet, the group had never felt so comfortable, like this was where they was meant to be at this exact time.)

(As the group walk, Alex cracks some jokes, a few laughs here and there, Tyler is almost caught smiling at Alex, but he looks down before they catch him, he's blushing insanely brightly)

(Everyone follows Alex to some rocks)

Alex:

Well?

Emily:

Well what? It's just some rocks

Alex:

Clever observation Emily but it's just not "some rocks", see that hole?

(Alex points to a small opening with a dim light coming out)

Alex:

We are going to explore this thing and find out where that light is coming from

Alice:

And what makes you think we'll do that?

Alex:

Well, you're here now aren't you? And you wouldn't have come if you weren't the least bit interested, right?

Tyler:

I mean, you're not wrong I guess

Alex:

Right, good, now, who's first? I would but, well I have to be last to make sure nobody pussies out

(Everyone stares at Alex, confused but knowing they're right)

(Toby steps forward)

Toby:

I should go first, I'm the strongest

Alex:

Well I can't say I was expecting that but, sure thing

(Toby walks toward the hole cautiously before jumping down it, a faint "whee" is heard)

(Slowly, one by one, everyone goes down the hole, Alex looks around before jumping down himself)

(Scene 13 – int – cave – Alex is the last to arrive at the bottom of the hole, everyone's face is illuminated by various coloured gems in the wall, everyone is looking around, amazed by the sight before them)

Alex: (Softly, to himself)

Wow, this place is incredible, these gems must be worth millions, each... I have a feeling that isn't why we're down here

Emily:

Does anyone else feel that weird vibrating? Its like there's static under my skin

Toby: (in awe)

It's like... my brain is making connections its never made before

(Everyone stops and stares at toby, jaws dropped in confusion and then mild concern)

Toby: (Confused)

What?

(Everyone looks around for a few minutes before something is noticed)

Alice: (hesitant)

Hey, um Alex, I think I found something

(Alex and everyone else walks over to Alice who is staring at the wall, where you can see 5 golden disk shapes in a V formation, with two clearly missing)

Toby: (Pointing at the missing disks)

Who do you think they belong to? (About the other disks) And what do you think they are?

Tyler: (Anxious)

No idea, but I don't think we should touch them, I really think we should get out of here,
right Alex?

Alex: (Almost trance like, shaking their head to try to focus, it doesn't do much)

I... I'm not sure, it's like, its calling to me

(Everyone bar Tyler agrees, although you can see, as much as it pains him to admit it, Alex is right)

(Alex reaches out to grab one, everyone following suit one by one, ending with Tyler. All their hands reach the stone at the same time, which seemingly melts away as their hands get close)

Toby:

Anyone else feel that, like, I don't know, like they feel like they were made for us or something?

(He glances at the camera slightly before looking back at his hand)

(Everyone's disk starts to glow, a warm red to begin with, pulsing with light, but soon they are a searing, blinding white, before smoking, burning everyone's hands making the gang drop them on the sandy floor)

(The disks have burned symbols onto everyone's hands, but no one notices)

(Toby looks at Alex, shaking his hand, blowing it to calm the burning sensation)

Toby:

What the fuck was that?

Alex: (Also trying to cool their hand)

You think I had any idea about this?

Alice: (Trying to keep her composure)

Well, it is convenient that there's five of us

Tyler:

Any ideas on how we get out of this place?

Alex: (Looking around for a moment)

I'm gonna go with that?

(Alex points to a very obvious green exit sign)

Emily: (deadpan)

Seriously?

(No one has the energy to question it, and they all walk towards the exit and leaves)

(Scene 14 – int – Collection of all 5 teen's houses getting home and going to bed, visibly affected by the burns, they all put their pj's on, put their disks next to their bed and they go to sleep as their disks glow bright and consume the screen)

(Tyler is riding on his bicycle, sweaty, he looks pale, his eyes open wide as he looks panicked, he swerves his bike towards the pavement, almost jumping off as his body convulses and he throws up, holding a streetlamp for support. He breaths deeply, wiping his chin on his sleeve and stand up, picking up his bike and walking the rest of the way home)

(Alice is in the car, trying to keep her eyes open, she looks just as pale as Tyler did, her mum is talking about something but its muffled and unintelligible as Alice tries to keep her composure, but eventually she gives in and passes out)

(Emily and Toby are on the bus, once again, looking as pale as the rest, they seem to keep it together until they get back to Emily's house, Toby stumbling down to road towards his own house, Emily fumbles with the keys, struggling before she finally finds them, unlocking the door, barely shutting it before she passes out on the floor)

(Alex looks pale, but that's really the only thing in common, they don't look or feel sick, like their cells are fighting it much better, they just look concerned, maybe a little worried, but they dismiss it and lay down, staring at the ceiling, deep in thought before they finally close their eyes)

(Scene 15 – int – Tyler’s bedroom – Tyler wakes up to see his disk has vanished, and he has a new tattoo of a tie all down his chest, although he can’t see it yet, it also has the same symbol that was burned into his hand, which has since fully healed, at the top)

Tyler:

What the fuck?

(Tyler looks around for the disk, thinking he lost it until his mum calls him and distracts, he heads towards the stairs, past his mirror where he catches a glimpse of his chest, he stops)

Tyler:

What the actual hell

(His hands trace over his new tattoo, from his collarbone down to his belly button, with a brooch at the top that contains the same symbol we saw burnt into his hand, as his mother calls him again, he hastily throws on a top and jumper, and goes downstairs)

Tyler’s mum:

Are you ok honey? You slept all though yesterday, its Monday

(Tyler looks confused, looking at his watch, surely he came back on Saturday night, right?)

Tyler: (confused still)

Um, yeah, I’m ok, sorry mum, no idea why, I’m ok, promise

(He puts on a smile as his mum puts his breakfast in front of him)

(Tyler’s mum kisses Tyler on the head before she walks out the door)

(Tyler’s brother walks into the kitchen while Tyler is reading as he eats)

Tyler’s Brother:

Wassup nerd, doing maths for fun again?

Tyler: (Annoyed)

Dude, that was one time

(Tyler gets angry at his brothers comment and clenches his fist, forgetting about the ceramic cup in in his hand, however, he crushes it easily, his brother looks at him terrified and rushes out the door, in his pjs. Tyler looks down at his hand, his mind racing about what just happened)

(Scene 16 – int – Alice’s Bedroom – Alice turns her alarm off and sees her disk has turned into a ring tattoo on her finger with the same symbol she had on her hand)

Alice:

Huh.

(Alice kind of questions the ring but her body runs on autopilot, doing her morning routine and she doesn't think about it and goes downstairs)

Alice:

Good morning mummy dear, how are you this fine morning?

Alice's mum:

I'm good, thank you darling, I've made you some toast for breakfast, since you're clearly ill, sleeping all of Sunday

Alice: (clearly disappointed, not registering the comment about sleeping all of Sunday)

Oh, I was kind of hoping for pancakes mummy

(As Alice speaks, we see sound waves vibrate through the air and into her mother's ear and her eyes go foggy)

Alice's Mum: (monotone)

Yes darling, pancakes coming right up

(Alice's mum throws the toast away and starts making pancakes, all while moving unhumanly)

(Alice's mum gives Alice the pancakes and just stands as if in standby)

Alice:

Um, thank you?

(Alice eats her pancakes in confusion)

Alice: (whispering to herself)

That was really weird

(she gets up and walks out the door)

(Scene 17 – Int – Emily's Bedroom – Emily reaches over and sees her disk is gone, there is a new tattoo around her neck of a quite fancy neckless, which she doesn't notice also not noticing the same symbol on it. She rushes over to her mirror, checks herself out, her dress covering the tattoo and heads through to the kitchen)

Emily:

Good morning dad, good morning papa

Emily's Dad:

Hey sweetie

Emily's Papa: (Hearing his thoughts)

Wonder what she wants from us this morning, little spoiled brat

Emily:

I'm sorry what?

Emily's Papa: (confused)

I didn't say anything sweetie

Emily:

Sorry, I... I thought you said something, I'm gonna go, don't wanna be late

(She chuckles nervously)

(She grabs her backpack and rushes out the door)

(Scene 18 – Int – Toby's bedroom – Toby sits up, stretches and heads into the shower, after he's done, he heads back into his room and noticed a wristband tattooed on his arm with the symbol on, he just shrugs, gets dressed and goes downstairs)

Toby's Mom:

Morning honey, rugby really took it out of you, huh?

(She puts a large bowl of protein filled breakfast in front of him, which he quickly digs into)

(Toby's brother is doing his maths homework)

Toby's Brother:

Hey mum, what's thirteen times eighteen, plus seventy-nine, take away four then divided by seven

Toby: (without missing a beat)

44.142857143

(Everyone stares at Toby, dumbfounded as his mum checks a calculator and lo and behold, he was right)

(Toby doesn't know what's going on, nor does he even realise what happened as he leaves for college)

(Scene 19 – int – Alex's Bedroom – Alex sits up and looks at the new choker tattoo on their neck with the symbol on it. They think for a moment before walking through to the living room)

(Alex walks into the living room, their dad passed out on the couch with a beer bottle in his hand, his sister sees them and stares at them)

Alex:

What are you staring at?

Alex's sister:

Dude, your eyes, they're green

Alex: (confused)

The fuck you on about, my eyes are blue, like always

Alex's sister:

If you don't believe me, go check it out

Alex:

Fine!

(Alex goes through to the bathroom and looks in the mirror, only their eyes to change from green back into blue, they gasp)

Alex:

What The Fuck!

(Hard cut to black)

(credits roll)