

BIOLOGICAL CLOCK

FADE IN:

EXT. THE GRAND SIERRA NEVADA MOUNTAIN RANGE - NIGHT

A gentle breeze sweeps through the vast landscape of alpine trees. The moon reflects its light off the Lake Tahoe surface.

CLOSER: An isolated elegant SUMMER HOME in the middle of the wilderness. Crickets chirp in unison, and light glows from a downstairs window. The rest of the windows are dark.

INT. SUMMER HOME - LITTLE GIRL'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

THE LITTLE GIRL, seven years old, tosses and turns under the bed covers. From somewhere in the house we hear the faint GIGGLING and the dull, rhythmic THUMP-THUMP of two consenting adults.

A distinct CRUNCH of bushes outside the window prompts the Little Girl to suddenly bolt up in bed. She gets out of bed and moves slowly, cautiously for the window. The GIGGLING and THUMPING SOUNDS escalate in the background. The Little Girl peeks out

CHILD'S P.O.V. - OUTSIDE THE WINDOW

A manicured lawn, trimmed trees, complete calm. In the blink of an eye, a SHADOW cuts across the garden.

RESUME - BEDROOM

the Little Girl jumps off the bed, runs to the bedroom door, opens it and steps into

THE HALLWAY

The child looks back into the bedroom, hesitates, runs up the hallway to

ANOTHER BEDROOM DOOR

with light spilling under the crack. The GIGGLING and THUMPING of adults is loud behind the door. The Little Girl pushes the door open to

THE ADULT BEDROOM

to find TWO ADULT FIGURES having intercourse. The FEMALE FIGURE straddling the MALE FIGURE.

A VOICE (O.S.)

Mommy?

Mommy and Daddy jump off each, grabbing the sheets to cover themselves. The Little Girl looks on with a confused expression.

MOMMY

Sweetie, you're supposed to be asleep.

LITTLE GIRL

I saw something outside. I'm scared. Can I sleep with you tonight?

Daddy puts on some shorts, goes to the Little Girl and picks her up.

DADDY

Honey, it's just the wind, I promise you.

LITTLE GIRL

First I heard a noise, then I saw a big ugly shadow in the window.

Mommy puts on a robe, steps to and hugs the Little Girl.

MOMMY

Sweetie, come on.

Daddy and Mommy take the Little Girl back to

THE LITTLE GIRL'S BEDROOM

Mommy and Daddy tuck their daughter back in bed. Daddy peeks out the window, takes a good solid look around.

DADDY

There's nothing out here, pumpkin.

Mommy tucks a TEDDY BEAR in with the little girl.

MOMMY

Dudley will keep you company,  
okay? He'll protect you.

LITTLE GIRL

Mommy, please? Please, can I  
sleep with you tonight? I know  
I saw something!

Mommy exchanges a glance with Daddy.

DADDY

(to Mommy)

Well. I guess we had our fun,  
huh?

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. SUMMER HOME - PARENT'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Everyone is asleep. The Little Girl tucked tight in the middle of the bed, between Mommy and Daddy. The TV set, with the volume off, plays a late-late-late-night b-movie.

A distinct CRUSH of bushes outside the window.

The Little Girl bolts upright in bed, looks toward the window. A SHADOW cuts across the window. A FIGURE steps up to the window from the outside, peeks inside. For an instant, the FIGURE outside locks eyes with the Little Girl inside. The figure takes off.

LITTLE GIRL

(stutters, in a growing  
panic)

Mommy? Daddy? Mommy? Daddy?  
Mommy? Daddy? Mommy? Daddy?

Mommy and Daddy are fast asleep.

A silent CLICK and SLIDE of another window being opened.

The Little Girl's eyes widen with terror as she glances toward the bedroom door. She tries shaking her Mommy

awake to no avail.

The bedroom door CREAKS OPEN. THE FIGURE of A LARGE MAN with a blunt instrument in one of his hands appears at the door.

The Little Girl SCREAMS AT THE TOP OF HER LUNGS.

Mommy and Daddy bolt upright in bed. And the Large Man lunges at the trio.

The Little Girl struggles to crawl out of the bed as her Mommy and Daddy struggle with the unknown assailant. Blood-curdling screams, grunts of anguish and struggle. A body flies against the wall. A night lamp shatters. Sound of a blunt instrument making contact with a softer body. Blood splats against the wall and onto the Little Girl.

The Little Girl crawls away, turns around to see her Daddy trying to pull the Large Man off Mommy. The Large Man turns, shoves a large KNIFE through Daddy's stomach. Another through Mommy. Then the Large Man turns to the Little Girl's POV, and lunges at her.

The Little Girl SCREAMS at the top of her lungs.

MATCH-CUT:

INT. JESSICA AND RICHARD'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT

The Little Girl wakes with a start, SCREAMING incoherently. But the Little Girl is no longer 7 years old. She is an attractive adult woman in her late thirties -- JESSICA TOWNSEND. Next to her, her husband, RICHARD TOWNSEND, bolts upright in reaction to her screaming. He sees her condition and tries to calm her down.

RICHARD

It's okay. Honey, it's okay.

He holds her tight. Jessica slowly calms down, sobs uncontrollably.