

DIRT GIRLS

Written by

Victoria Vincent, Daniel Libman & Matthew Libman

INT. LUCY & PIA'S ROOM - MORNING

LUCY (11) and PIA (8) sleep peacefully on twin beds.

Pia's side of the room is clean, decorated with tomboy kid things: robots, space stuff, etc. Lucy's side is stereotypically girly but covered in trash and grime.

The sound of their parents loudly arguing echoes throughout the house when suddenly "IMMORTAL RITES" by Morbid Angel blares from Lucy's alarm.

Lucy, still half asleep, shuts off the alarm then yanks open their closet. Clothes spill everywhere on the floor.

Pia springs up, happy and wide awake. She carefully selects neatly folded clothing from the dresser, then watches as Lucy haphazardly tears through her mess.

PIA

Come on, Lucy, I don't wanna get another tardy at school.

LUCY

Then make yourself useful and find me some socks.

Lucy attempts to rub a stain out of the shirt she just put on. Pia digs through the mess, trying to help, when she pulls a male doll out from the pile and lights up.

PIA

Hey, it's the Brian Dunkleman doll I got from the minor league hockey game! I thought I lost him at science camp.

LUCY

Actually, that's mine.

Lucy snatches the doll and shoves it into her pocket.

PIA

What!? No it's not! You always do this! You take my stuff and say it's yours!

LUCY

Doesn't sound like me.

Lucy slyly pushes a trophy that says "PIA. REGIONAL SWIM COMPETITION. FOURTH PLACE." into her desk drawer as she runs out the door and slams it in Pia's face.

INT. LUCY & PIA'S HOUSE - BATHROOM - LATER

The sisters brush their teeth. Lucy's brush is flattened from violent brushing; Pia's electric brush plays music.

LUCY

You don't even know who Dunkleman is.

PIA

(clearly doesn't know)

Yes I do! He's awesome and cool!

Their brother, ALAN JR. (17, punk, guitar on his back), stumbles in. He looks like he had a rough night. He grabs them both by their shirts and throws them out in the hall.

ALAN JR.

Out.

He slams the door and pukes loudly.

INT. LUCY & PIA'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - LATER

The sisters finish brushing their teeth in the kitchen sink. Lucy carefully guards the doll. Pia eyes it over the mountain of dishes. MOM and DAD argue in the distance.

LUCY

Since you obviously don't know, he was on American Idol season one. Then he quit and moved back here to run his family's stupid department store.

PIA

That's where mom gets the Otter Pops I like. See, I knew he was the coolest.

LUCY

No, you dumbass. Running a department store isn't cool. He's a loser!

PIA

Then why do you even wanna keep him? Plus, you said toys are for kids with low IQs, which hurt my feelings, but whatever.

LUCY

Look, I'm a complicated person. I have complex opinions on things. You'll understand when you're older.

MOM (O.S.)

Why on God's green earth is there a long,
dark hair in my coffee?!

A mug flies through frame. Lucy and Pia instinctually
duck as it smashes against the fridge. Yikes.

EXT. LUCY & PIA'S HOUSE - LATER

The parents are in their old Mazda 929, still arguing.

DAD

I swear, it's *your* hair! The coffee must
have dyed it brunette!

Lucy and Pia hop in back, unfazed by their parents' fight
as the sad neighbor kid, NILS (8, always wears a bike
helmet), runs up from his Greek Revival house next door.

NILS

Morning, everyone. Unfortunately, my aunt
is recovering from her breast implant
revision and can't drive me to school
today. Any way you could give me a ride?

PIA

Let me ask my Mom.

Lucy leans over Pia and slams the door in Nils' face.

LUCY

She said no.

The car pulls away REVEALING an old, beat up Mazda 626.
Alan Jr. sits at the wheel, lighting a cigarette.

NILS

Um, hi, Alan Jr. My aunt is recovering
from her breast implant revision and
can't drive me to school today. Is there
any way you could--

ALAN JR.

I'm not a fuckin' babysitter. Plus, the
whip is full.

REVEAL Alan Jr.'s precious electric guitar is buckled in
next to him in the passenger seat. Alan Jr. blows a giant
cloud of smoke in his face.

NILS

Wow, real life cigarettes. You're just
like the guy from Fight Club!

Alan Jr. backs out like a maniac, hitting the already-bent mailbox twice before eventually peeling away.

NILS (CONT'D)

Oh well. Guess it's ol' scooty again.

Nils grabs his sad Razor scooter that's leaning against the fence and "glides" off slowly using tons of effort.

INT. MAZDA/EXT. SANDSVILLE - VARIOUS - LATER

The family car drives through the post-American-dream, sun-baked, suburban sprawl-scape that is SANDSVILLE: Rows of cheap houses with barren, sandy yards. A wheelchair factory. A Mazda dealership. Another Mazda dealership...

PIA

I'll trade you my gel pens? My fanny pack? My library card? You can watch beheading videos on their computers!

LUCY

I've seen all the good ones, and the rest of your stuff sucks.

In the front, Mom slaps Dad's hand away from the dash.

MOM

Don't you dare move that vent! You don't deserve any AC!

...A burnt-out library, an abandoned public pool, a place called Gun Ranch and a huge Dunkleman's department store.

EXT. DONUT-O-RITO - DRIVE THRU - LATER

The car pulls into the drive-thru of Donut-O-Rito (a fast-food chain where they put mashed-up donuts in a tortilla, for some reason). Their parents hand the girls a bunch of greasy paper bags filled with donut burritos.

PIA

I'll do your homework for a whole year!

Lucy tears into a donut burrito, speaking through bites.

LUCY

My homework's too hard for you. You wouldn't be able to do it right.

Lucy demolishes her burrito then eyes Pia's, greedily.

LUCY (CONT'D)
You gonna finish that?

Pia realizes she finally has leverage. She smiles wide.

LUCY (CONT'D)
Ugh, fine! Take your dumb-ass toy. Like I said, he's a dud anyway. And you only like it cause you have something I don't.

Lucy throws the doll at Pia then grabs her burrito and goes to town on it. Pia holds up the doll, making it "talk" in a fake-deep voice toward Lucy.

PIA
"So you admit it! I belonged to Pia all along. Time to go, I've got important business to attend to."

LUCY
Low IQ, exhibit one zillion.

EXT. SANDSVILLE SCHOOL - LATER

The car speeds up to a basic K-12 public school. A large faded sign reads: "HOME OF THE CHINCHILLAS."

Suddenly, their mom slams on the breaks, but not in time to avoid hitting... Nils on his scooter. He and his scooter go flying and hit the pavement with a hard thud.

DAD
Great! You killed the neighbor! And traumatized our own children!

Lucy and Pia hop out, oblivious, as their parents continue screaming. Nils sits up, unscathed.

NILS
I'm okay! This is why I wear a helmet. You never know when a car is coming. Or a baseball bat. Or when you're going to be dropped from a fourth-story window.

In the background, the girls' mom shoves their dad out of the car and throws a bag of donuts at his head.

MOM
If my driving's so terrible, then walk!

DAD
I will! I could use the exercise! Maybe you should try it someday!

Mom speeds off. Dad begins his sad walk to work in the opposite direction. Nils follows the girls into school.

EXT. SANDSVILLE SCHOOL - MOMENTS LATER

As kids hustle to class, Nils wedges between Lucy and Pia.

NILS

Oof. Sounded like a pretty bad fight back there. Are they getting divorced yet?

PIA

"Da horse?" Do we have room in the yard?

LUCY

What? They're not even fighting. That's just how they talk.

NILS

Well, from what I can hear from my house, which is everything in your house, it seems they've been talking like that non-stop. Divorce is imminent.

PIA

Wait, what's a divorce?!

NILS

Oh, you know. It's when parents break up and then your dad marries a woman in the army who has four kids so he moves to Germany and he can't see you anymore, and your mom starts dating a cruise ship captain who she told she doesn't have kids, so you have to go live with your aunt, but you don't mind because one day your older brother, Travis, is going to come back for you and you guys are gonna go to a ton of baseball games.

Pia's a frantic sweaty mess. Lucy just rolls her eyes.

LUCY

Hey Nils, look! It's Travis!

NILS

I knew the Coast Guard would find him!

As Nils excitedly turns to look, Pia also falls for the trick. They scan the area, but no Travis. Nils shrugs.

NILS (CONT'D)

Not him, but thanks anyway! I'm sure
he'll be back tomorrow or the next day!

Then, something catches their eye. The BILLBOARD above the school: An ad for Dunkleman Vodka featuring BRIAN DUNKLEMAN, vandalized with an anthropomorphic blunt smoking another, smaller blunt. Pia holds up the doll.

PIA

See, Lucy? If Brian wasn't so awesome and epic, then why'd they put a big picture of him in front of our school?

Lucy isn't listening. She just drags Pia away with her.

LUCY

It's an ad, Pia. Only stupid idiots fall for ads. Also, Nils is a moron, don't listen to him about that divorce stuff.

Nils continues staring, confused, as Alan Jr. walks by, pausing to admire the "artwork" as well.

NILS

What is it supposed to be?

ALAN JR.

Uh, it's supposed to be sick. Duh, bro.

INT. DUMB ASSEMBLY - AUDITORIUM - LATER

Students file into a run-down auditorium. A banner reads: "ELVIS THE CHINCHILLA WELCOMES OUR NEW JANITOR, LARRY."

Lucy enters, scans the crowd, then sprints up to the last row and climbs over a bunch of people and plops down next to her friend, KITTY (13, badass covered in tattoos and band-aids), who sharpens a shank on the floor.

LUCY

'Sup Kitty. How was juvie this time? I can't believe you're out after you boosted that Zamboni from the ice arena.

KITTY

Pffft, I'd hardly call that an arena.

LUCY

Didn't you say they were gonna give you the chair?

KITTY

Nah, that was just the DA blowing smoke. Luckily I have a kick-ass lawyer who got me out of everything.

Lucy's in awe, almost overwhelmed by Kitty's coolness.

LUCY

Really? How?

KITTY

I dunno, lawyers fix everything. I'll hook you up if you get thrown in the pen.

LUCY

Sweet. I probably will pretty soon.

ON STAGE the PRINCIPAL speaks into the mic. A fuzzy chinchilla, ELVIS, sits on his shoulder.

PRINCIPAL

As many of you know, our now former janitor, Glenn, was a no-show during the brunt of last week's toilet fiasco. Which was odd since he hadn't missed a day of work in 47 years. Anyway, we now pass the ceremonial mop to our new janitor, Larry!

The Principal hands the mop to LARRY. Elvis eyeballs him suspiciously. A KID in a chinchilla mascot costume dances suggestively. This seems to aggravate Elvis.

ANGLE ON Pia who sits with a large group of kids, including her BFF, SOPHIE (rich, cool). They share a Lunchable as Pia proudly shows off the Dunkleman doll.

PIA

Pretty sweet, right?

SOPHIE

Jealous! My brother saw him at Foot Zone the other day. So did your parents get you that to make up for their divorce?

PIA

(instantly panicked)

What!? Who told you? Did Nils say that?

SOPHIE

It's not so bad. I mean, I wouldn't know because my parents love each other. But a lot of people's parents are divorced. Like that kid.

Sophie points to a KID nearby, holding a leash tied around a kiwi. He occasionally strokes his "pet."

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Or them.

She points to a GROUP OF KIDS playing "human bowling" down the aisle. One kid rolls herself up into a ball as another violently launches her down.

SOPHIE (CONT'D)

Or her.

Another KID with a recorder plays a loud, off-key note directly into a TEACHER's ear. The teacher goes ballistic and the pair begin to brawl. Pia starts to panic now.

PIA

I don't want to be mean, but they all seem like they have... issues.

Pia is a sweaty mess again, now spinning out of control.

ON STAGE, Janitor Larry is mid-speech. Elvis is fuming.

JANITOR LARRY

And I know I have some big boots to fill after Janitor Glenn disappeared-- I mean, left, but I look forward to getting to know you all. Even little Elvis here.

That's it. Elvis leaps and attacks Larry's face. Larry tries to pull him off and howls in pain as teachers rush to his aid. But the kids just laugh and cheer Elvis on.

KIDS

ELVIS! ELVIS! ELVIS!

The student volunteer chinchilla WRANGLERS struggle to subdue Elvis. Mascot Kid continues dancing.

BACK ON Lucy and Kitty, oblivious to the mayhem on stage.

KITTY

Everyone's talking about it. Floating in the abandoned pool by the Gun Ranch. I kid you not... *a dead body*. People are even saying it might be Janitor Glenn.

LUCY

(didn't know that already)
Uh, yeah, I knew that already. Chlorine gets rid of DNA evidence. Why else would they put a pool next to a Gun Ranch?

KITTY

Feels like a no-brainer. Hey, I know we've never hung out outside of school because I'm a solo act or whatever, but do you wanna check it out with me later? I'd go alone, but I need someone to take a pic of me next to it.

Lucy's bursting with excitement but tries to play it off.

LUCY

Yeah, sure, that sounds cool.

KITTY

My mom lets me use her car. Can you drive stick?

LUCY

No, but I can watch a tutorial.

ON STAGE, a CHOIR now sings an annoying song. A shaken Janitor Larry christens his new mop by cleaning his own blood off the floor as Elvis mean mugs him from his cage. Mascot Kid dances by and "accidentally" frees Elvis. Elvis instantly mauls Larry again and everyone cheers.

INT. SANDSVILLE SCHOOL - HIGH SCHOOL WING - LATER

Alan Jr. is at his locker with his guitar strapped over his back, as usual. Nils rushes up to him.

NILS

Hey Alan Jr., do you have any extra triple A batteries? My TI-84's dead and we're finally getting to do tangents in Trig. As you know, since we're in the same class and all.

ALAN JR.

Trig? More like twig. Which is what I'm gonna break you like. School is for losers, you dweebus!

Just then, Alan Jr.'s gaze is captured by a punk girl, JENNY JUNGERS, walking by. Alan Jr. shoves Nils into his locker, slams the door, then coolly lights a cig.

A tired teacher, MR. SCHLOTTHAUER, sees it all, sighs, then holds out a paper cup and a pink detention slip.

MR. SCHLOTTHAUER

You know the drill, muchacho.

Alan drops the cig in the cup and takes the slip. Jenny rushes over. Alan Jr. plays it cool in front of her.

ALAN JR.

Pffft, whatever. Another detention. No biggie though, I get 'em all the time. Me and authority figures just don't mix. 'Cuz I hate rules and stuff. You could say I'm a bit of a humongous anarchist.

Jenny's disgusted and instead helps Nils from the locker.

JENNY JUNGERS

Are you okay, Nilsy?

NILS

Yeah, don't worry. I've actually learned how to unlock them from the inside.

JENNY JUNGERS

Of course you have. Must be all those books you read. Speaking of, did you finish the Bio extra credit reading?

NILS

Yep! I can do the dihybrid Punnett square now. Want me to show you how in Trig?

NILS (CONT'D)

After we finish our quizzes early, of course!

JENNY JUNGERS

After we finish our quizzes early, of course!

The pair walk off laughing. Alan stares, dumbfounded.

EXT. SANDSVILLE SCHOOL - PICK UP AREA - AFTER SCHOOL

Billboard WORKERS replace the vandalized Dunkleman vodka billboard. Down below, the girls sit on a bench, waiting for their parents. Pia is on the verge of a breakdown, while Lucy plays a one-sided game of...

LUCY

Would you rather... Break both of your legs and arms or... have all your teeth fall out every time you eat?

PIA

What if when we get in the car we like, surprised them with a big family hug?

LUCY

What? A hug? That's honestly disgusting. Now play the game properly.

PIA

Fine. The teeth one, I guess?

(then)

Ooh, what if we staged an intervention?
Like on TV? I know you love that show.

LUCY

What the hell are you talking about? Is
this about Mom and Dad getting a divorce?

PIA

Yes! And we need to stop them. Otherwise
we're gonna turn into weird freaks.

LUCY

What? Divorce doesn't affect how you turn
out at all. I don't really care what Mom
and Dad do. I'm probably getting my own
place soon anyway.

PIA

Please, Lucy? C'mon! I need your help.

LUCY

Well, I'm busy. Because the second we get
home, I'm meeting up with Kitty cuz we're
gonna check out a real-life corpse.

PIA

Isn't that the girl who sells counterfeit
tires?

LUCY

Yep! And she's probably going to become
my best friend now, so get used to it.

PIA

Well, is she any good at lyrics? Cuz I
was thinking we could write a song with
all the reasons not to get a divorce and
sing it to Mom and Dad after dinner.

One by one, every other kid is picked up, including
Sophie who hops into her LOVING PARENTS' SUV with her
adorable DOG. Soon Lucy and Pia are the only ones left. A
CONCERNED TEACHER walks up.

CONCERNED TEACHER

Girls, it's past 3:00. Your parents
clearly are not coming and you can't sit
out here any longer.

LUCY

I actually have some hugely important plans, so I'm just gonna--

Lucy tries to run but the teacher grabs her, then Pia, and pulls them back toward the school.

CONCERNED TEACHER

I've spent the afternoon euthanizing a crazed chinchilla. You don't faze me.

PIA

No! First our parents, now Elvis?!

LUCY

Where are you taking us, lady!?

EXT. SANDSVILLE SCHOOL - YARD - MOMENTS LATER

The teacher shoves the girls out into the yard.

CONCERNED TEACHER

Beyond the Bell. Don't worry, it's federally subsidized so it's great.

They look around. It's an after-school program taking place in a fenced-in, drought-ravaged field. There are two tetherball poles and a dinky, hot, metal slide.

LUCY

Why would Mom and Dad abandon us here?

REVEAL it's populated by all the divorce kids from before: Kiwi Kid, Bowling Ball Squad, Recorder Kid, etc.

PIA

(hyperventilating)

Oh god. Lucy. Every single kid here has divorced parents! Don't you get it?

It finally starts to dawn on Lucy. She turns to Pia--

LUCY

Okay, fine. Maybe our parents are getting a divorce.

As Lucy and Pia process this bombshell...

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

EXT. SANDSVILE SCHOOL - BEYOND THE BELL - LATER

Lucy and Pia are reeling as they observe a group of FREAKS hunched together by the slide. One of them wipes her bloody nose and tastes it.

FREAK GIRL

Mmm. Tastes like spaghetti sauce!

LUCY

What's with those psychos?

PIA

Those are the weird freaks I was talking about! And that could be us if we don't stop Mom and Dad from getting a divorce.

NILS (O.S.)

I would definitely steer clear of them if I were you.

REVEAL Nils is standing behind them.

LUCY

Yeah obviously, Nils.

PIA

They're eating their own bloody boogs.

NILS

Okay, I'm just saying don't-- Ya know, trust them or befriend them in any way.

LUCY

We get it, man!

PIA

Wasn't planning on it.

Nils spots a couple of the freaks eyeballing him hard.

NILS

I'm actually gonna go find some shade. We really shouldn't be standing outside. My aunt always says my skin is grass and melanoma's the lawnmower. C'mon!

Nils scurries off assuming the girls will follow, but they've got other plans. Lucy eyes an escape.

LUCY

I'm out. Peace, loser.

PIA

Can I please come with you? Please?

LUCY

Fine. If you beat me in a game of Mercy.

Lucy grabs Pia's hands and twists them back, violently.

PIA

Okay, okay! Mercy!

LUCY

Bummer. Later.

PIA

Wait, you're really just gonna leave me here? Alone?

LUCY

Wait, you're really gonna cry about it? And you're not alone. You have your precious little doll, remember?

Pia is clearly hurt but covers.

PIA

You know what? I don't want to see a dumb old dead body anyway. It would probably traumatize me! I'm gonna stay and hang out with these kids who actually seem kinda cool.

ANGLE ON the freaks crawling around, barking like dogs.

PIA (CONT'D)

And I'm very excited to play tetherball with them 'cause you never play it right. No matter how many times I showed you how to do it without aiming the ball at my head, you did it anyway!

Lucy hops the fence, grabs Nils' Razor from the nearby bike rack and scoots away. Pia approaches the freaks who are now taking turns taking bites from a glue stick.

PIA (CONT'D)

Ummm, hi, y'all. Not sure why I said y'all. I've never said that before.

None of the freaks acknowledge her. Kiwi Kid offers the glue stick to his "pet," to no avail.

PIA (CONT'D)

So, uh, anyone want to play tetherball?

Silently, they surround her like the zombies in Thriller.

ANGLE ON Nils walking toward the shade, oblivious.

NILS

Beyond the Bell? More like, "Beyond the H-E-double-hockey-sticks." Get it? Guys?

He turns around and realizes he's alone. Then he spots Pia by the slide surrounded by freaks.

NILS (CONT'D)

Oh, no, not again!

Pia disappears into a hole under the slide!

INT. SANDSVILLE SCHOOL - HIGH SCHOOL WING - LATER

Out of breath, Nils runs up to Alan Jr. outside detention.

NILS

I need your help. Your sister, she's--

ALAN JR.

I don't get it. You're a pathetic little nerd. Jenny Jungers is hardcore. It just doesn't make sense.

NILS

You need to take Pia home now!

ALAN JR.

I have detention. Because of you, remember, you anus?

NILS

Can't you just sneak out? I thought you didn't care about rules and stuff.

As Alan Jr. considers this, Jenny Jungers walks up.

NILS (CONT'D)

Jenny? What are you in for?

JENNY

Protesting the Pledge of Allegiance. Again. It's fascist propaganda.

Jenny enters detention. Alan Jr. watches her longingly.

ALAN JR.

I'm sorry, but I can't help you. I must reform myself and become anew.

Alan Jr. trails Jenny in. Nils follows but is blocked by--

MR. SCHLOTTHAUER

This is detention, Nils. A sweetheart like you doesn't belong here. I don't belong here either, but I was spotted doing DraftKings during a lockdown drill.

He slams the door hard in Nils' face.

EXT. KITTY'S SAD APARTMENT - LATER

Lucy scooters up to the unkempt building. On the balcony, a creepy OLDER BOY with a bloody gauze eye patch plays a handheld video game. As Lucy stares, Kitty comes out.

KITTY

That's my half brother, Clint. He has anger problems.

LUCY

Did he just come from a street fight?

KITTY

What do I look like? A snitch?

They approach Kitty's mom's Miata. Lucy's excited.

LUCY

Whoa! Is this a real Miata?

KITTY

Yeah, except for the tires.

Kitty grabs the keys from the sun visor when-- loud crying resounds from the apartment above.

KITTY (CONT'D)

Oh no. That's my mom.

LUCY

So?

INT. KITTY'S SAD APARTMENT - LATER

Kitty sits on the couch with her mom, TRISH, who cries uncontrollably. Kitty scrolls through Trish's iMessages.

KITTY

You gave him the last 4 digits of your social? Again? Mom! Are you kidding? We've talked about this.

Her mom just sobs unintelligibly in response.

KITTY (CONT'D)
That's it. I'm deleting your Inmate
Mingle account!

Trish breaks down, throwing herself over Kitty. Kitty
rubs her back, consoling her.

LUCY (O.S.)
Welp, we should probably get going...

REVEAL an annoyed Lucy sitting on a folding chair nearby.

LUCY (CONT'D)
Uh, Mrs. Kitty's Mom? Me and Kitty have
this, um, thing to go to-- Fine, I'll
just tell you, it's a dead body. And it's
not gettin' any fresher, so...

Lucy gets up and starts to gather her things.

KITTY
(whispers)
Are you dumb? I can't leave her now!

TRISH
No, no, go have fun with your friend.
I'll be fine. Even though I don't feel
safe being alone with Clint. And I can't
really walk because of the amount of
stress in my feet, shins and hips--

KITTY
(to Lucy)
Stress migrates to her lower half...

TRISH
I can wait til you get home to eat or
use the restroom. Have fun, girls. I'll
just be here. Alone.

Trish coldly pulls away to the other side of the couch.
She blows her nose loudly into her shirt.

LUCY
See? She's fine.

KITTY
Mom. No. I'm staying here. Let's order
Ryan's Grand Old Buffet, your favorite.

TRISH

Oh my Kitty. I don't know what I'd do without you. You're my best friend in the whole wide world!

She falls back into Kitty's lap, crying hard again.

TRISH (CONT'D)

You can stay for food if you want. Menu's on the fridge. While you're in there grab me an Amstel, would ya? Thanks, Luna.

LUCY

It's Lucy.

Lucy heads to the kitchen, so weirded out.

INT. KITTY'S SAD APARTMENT - KITCHEN - MOMENTS LATER

Lucy enters the filthy kitchen. A photo on the fridge tells the story of a family that used to be: A YOUNGER KITTY, a smiling TRISH, a man, presumably her DAD, and another YOUNG GIRL stand in front of a nice house.

LUCY

(calling to other room)

Hey, I never knew you had a sister.

KITTY (O.S.)

Yeah. My dad won her in the split.

TRISH (O.S.)

Those two deserve each other. She was a complete bitch anyway, no offense.

(then)

If there's any gin left, mama Trish'll take a floater. Thanks, Londa!

Lucy's seen enough. Divorce sucks. She looks around, spots a small window and clumsily climbs out.

INT. SECRET HIDEOUT - LATER

PIA'S POV: Black. Then, a bag is pulled off her head. She looks around the dark, underground chamber. A clubhouse with strong dungeon vibes. She's completely freaked out.

A group emerges from the shadows, including Recorder Kid, and all the other freaks of divorce from before.

RECORDER KID

Who are you? What are you doing here?

PIA

I'm Pia. And my parents couldn't pick me and my sister up, I guess. I'm sorry!

RECORDER KID

What do you want with us?

PIA

Um, nothing? You're the ones who sort of black bagged me and dragged me into a hole. I'll leave, if you want.

KIWI KID

Nils sent her to try to take us down. It's so obvious.

BOWLING SQUAD KID

DAMMIT!

BSK punches the wall. His arm disappears into the soil.

PIA

Nils didn't send me! You can blame my parents. They're abandoning us and moving to Germany.

RECORDER KID

Sounds like Nils told you to say that. Let's waterboard her to find the truth.

The freaks pull out a bucket. Desperate, Pia fishes the Dunkleman doll out of her bag and mimes him speaking.

PIA

"Don't attack her! She's too young to be tortured. And I'm Brian Dunkleman so you better listen to me."

The freaks all laugh at her.

RECORDER KID

You think some loser celebrity is going to save you? Pathetic.

PIA

He's not a loser! He's actually really cool. He was on American Idol!

KIWI KID

He was also on an episode of Friends.

RECORDER KID

So? Friends sucks.

The other freaks encroach closer on Pia. Pia gulps, panicking. But she thinks quickly on her feet.

PIA

Think about it, guys. Look at your recorder. Where's it from?

Recorder Kid flips his recorder around, reading a small sticker that says: DUNKLEMAN'S BRAND INSTRUMENTS.

RECORDER KID

...Dunkleman's. Weird.

PIA

And uh, you guys ever noticed that billboard above school? Who's on it?

The freaks all pause for a moment to consider this.

BOWLING SQUAD KID

Wait, she may be onto something...
That billboard works like magic on my dad every time.

All the freaks ad lib in agreement. "Mine too!" etc.

PIA

It's almost as if he has powers from high above...

BOWLING SQUAD KID

DAMMIT! MAYBE I WAS WRONG!

Bowling Kid punches the wall again with his other arm. Pia takes a deep breath, then holds the doll up above her, with everyone watching, transfixed. She makes him speak:

PIA

"I am Dunkleman. God of Sandsville. I have the power to make your dads buy my vodka and my other various products. So listen to me! Do not attack Pia with torture methods. In fact, you should be really nice to her, and play tetherball with her! And help her with her homework, if she needs it. And share your snacks with her, if you have any good ones!"

RECORDER KID

You heard the man! Get the Uncrustables!

All the freaks rush to get Pia a snack from the supply crates in the back. Pia looks at the doll and smiles.

INT. DETENTION ROOM - SAME

All the detainees are focused on their work, except for Alan Jr. who stares at Jenny Jungers, smitten, scribbling: *"Alan Jr. Jungers, Alan Jr. Jungers, Alan Jr. Jungers..."*

INT. SANDSVILLE SCHOOL - HIGH SCHOOL WING - SAME

Outside the room, Nils jumps up and down and waves his arms like crazy, trying to get Alan Jr.'s attention.

NILS

Pia! Help! Danger!

But Alan Jr. doesn't see. Nils hangs his head as we...

BEGIN MONTAGE:

-- Nils grabs a cig from Alan Jr.'s locker and pops it in his mouth, hoping to get caught. A DEPRESSED TEACHER walks by and... offers him a light!? Nils accepts, then makes a big show of smoking it as a DOWNTRODDEN TEACHER grabs it from his mouth and... smokes it herself as she walks away!

-- Alan Jr. drops "The Myth of Sisyphus" on the ground near Jenny, making a big scene of it. Jenny looks up, annoyed, then returns to her massive 800-page nonfiction book.

-- A WIDE SHOT: A shell-shocked Janitor Larry shuffles across school grounds carrying a shoebox and a shovel.

-- Nils stuffs paper towels in the sinks and turns on all the faucets, flooding the bathroom. He runs out, soaked. An EXHAUSTED TEACHER notices Nils and cringes.

EXHAUSTED TEACHER

(into his walkie)

Bandito to office, we got a Code Yellow.
And from the smell of things probably
also a Code Brown but that's unconfirmed.

He grabs Nils and carries him off kicking and screaming.

-- Mr. Schlotthauer hears rushing water in the hall and leaves to inspect it. Alan Jr. plugs his guitar into the room's PA speaker and shreds an epic punk riff. Everyone descends into chaos, except for Jenny who now wears noise-canceling headphones. Alan Jr.'s pissed.

-- Janitor Larry digs a tiny grave. Shovel, dirt, toss. Shovel, dirt, toss. In the distance, Mascot Kid watches.

-- Nils is tossed into the PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE and goes berserk. He pours coffee everywhere, rips up papers and infects the Principal's computer with a Trojan virus from sketchy flash game sites. He stands on the desk, proudly.

NILS

Hello? Anyone? I'm being terrible!

Out the window, Nils eyes the Principal in his car, crushing up confiscated pills. Nils sighs, giving up. Then he spots... a pad of pink detention slips!

-- Janitor Larry finishes digging. He goes to lay the box in the hole when... Does he hear something from inside the box? No. Impossible. He puts his ear up to it. Could it be? Mascot Kid nods like that Jack Nicholson GIF. Larry knows he shouldn't, but he slowly lifts the-- ELVIS FLIES OUT AND THRASHES LARRY'S FACE, TAKING HIM DOWN HARD! Mascot Kid jumps for joy, landing in the splits.

-- Nils proudly hands the now drenched Mr. Schlotthauer a detention slip then happily takes a seat next to Alan Jr.

INT. SECRET HIDEOUT - LATER

Pia plays tetherball (they have one down there) with Recorder Kid. She drills him in the face with the ball and he goes flying. He gets up, woozy.

RECORDER KID

Are you sure Brian says you need to slam the ball in my face?

PIA

Lemme check.

(holds up doll, mimes speech)

"Thou's face shall be slammed. Also thou shalt not question thy Prophet."

She winds up and slams him again. Then Kiwi Kid walks up with a tray of blue Ring Pops. Pia studies them.

PIA (CONT'D)

Uh, he said Strawberry, so... Fix it! I would be cool about it, but I don't wanna disobey Brian's commandments, ya know?

Kiwi Kid scrambles away. The Bowling Squad Kids approach.

BOWLING SQUAD KID

I beg your pardon, there's a girl here who claims to be your sister?

REVEAL Lucy, across the room, restrained by two BSKs.

PIA

Well, well, well. Look who came crawling back. If it isn't the abandoner...

LUCY

I need to talk to you alone right now.

PIA

No. Anything you need to say, you can say in front of my new family.

(pointing as she names)

That guy. Him. Them. Her. Her. Them...

LUCY

Pia, what the hell are you talking about? You've known them for like 45 minutes.

RECORDER KID

Don't address the Prophet by her parental-given name. She who holds the Dunkleman doll shall be... The Grand President.

LUCY

Yeah, I'm not calling her that. What is this, some sort of cult? That's so corny.

BOWLING SQUAD KID

NON-BELIEVER!!! UNACCEPTABLE!!!

The freaks gear up to attack Lucy when--

PIA

Wait!

The freaks freeze. Pia thinks. For the first time maybe ever, she has all the power over Lucy.

PIA (CONT'D)

Take her to the hole.

LUCY

What? We're already in a hole.

PIA

Well, there's an additional hole. It's right over there. Get in it.

REVEAL a smaller hole in the ground. The guards toss Lucy in. She cannot believe what's happening.

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. SECRET HIDEOUT - A LITTLE LATER

Things have escalated. Recorder Kid points his recorder at Lucy's throat.

LUCY

That's not even sharp.

RECORDER KID

Yeah, but it's unsanitary as hell.

PIA

What do you want, Lucy? I don't have all day. My pizza rolls are getting cold.

LUCY

You were right about divorce. It sucks. I saw some stuff out there. Some very dark stuff and--

PIA

I actually changed my mind. If this is what divorce is...

A SERVANT FREAK brings her a tray of awesome snacks. Lucy almost seems impressed by Pia's power over the freaks.

PIA (CONT'D)

Then I love divorce. Divorce is amazing.

LUCY

But what about all the stuff you said before about how it's terrible?

PIA

Look, I'm a complicated person. I have complex opinions on things. And you only changed your mind cuz you're obviously jealous that I found a new, better family. Who doesn't call me stupid and take all my stuff.

This lands on Lucy. She *does* kinda do that.

PIA (CONT'D)

Plus, I'm the chosen one slash epic holy leader.

LUCY

That's the dumbest thing I've literally ever heard. You and all these kids all have serious mental problems.

RECORDER KID

I would not disrespect us if I were you. Or you'll pay the ultimate price.

LUCY

Oooh, wow, I'm sooo scared. What're you gonna do? *Hot Cross Buns* me to death?

(then)

Man, your guys' vibe sucks. I never should've given you that doll, Pia.

KIWI KID

Wait, what? You said you found him floating down a river in a basket.

PIA

I did! No, I totally did! She's just trying to break us up!

Noticing Pia's distracted, Lucy jumps out of the hole, snatches the Dunkleman doll and makes a run for it.

PIA (CONT'D)

Get her!

INT. DETENTION ROOM - SAME

Mr. Schlotthauer is distracted doing DraftKings on his phone. Nils leans in and whispers to Alan Jr.

NILS

Okay, just hear me out.

ALAN JR.

Only if you put in a good word with Jenny. And tell her that I'm a complete badass but also really smart and know about anarchy and nihilism and deep stuff. Otherwise I'll kill you.

NILS

You have it all wrong. Yes, she likes all that stuff, but mostly she likes nice guys with strong moral compasses.

ALAN JR.

Great. Can I order one of those online?

NILS

No, it's like helping others. Which is what I'm trying to get you to do for your sister, who I believe may be mixed up with a group of very bad kids.

ALAN JR.

Sweet.

NILS

No, not sweet! There's this after school program called Beyond the Bell, and all the kids there are very, very dangerous.

Alan Jr. stares blankly. The others lean in, intrigued. Mascot Kid enters and takes off the mascot head to listen in. Another KID looks up from his desk graffiti (a blunt smoking a smaller blunt). As Nils narrates we FLASHBACK...

INT. SECRET HIDEOUT - LAST YEAR

It's the same hideout from Beyond the Bell with all the same kids, except now Nils is there too. The hideout itself is rougher around the edges, not as polished.

NILS (V.O.)

Anyway, we had this hecka dope clubhouse, but we wanted to make it a clubhome. So we needed money for decorations. I knew a thing or two about getting quick cash...

EXT. RENO HIGHWAY - FLASHBACK

A car speeds past a sign that reads: "WELCOME TO RENO. THE BIGGEST LITTLE CITY IN THE WORLD."

EXT. BUSTLING RENO HOTEL POOL - FLASHBACK

Nils and his AUNT (50s, bikini, big fakies) lay on sun chairs scratching scratchers. His Aunt throws her arms up in celebration. A camera flashes. MATCH TO...

INT. SECRET HIDEOUT - LAST YEAR

A PHOTO of Nils and his Aunt with the winning scratcher. WIDEN to see Nils and crew flip through a scrapbook documenting his Aunt's excessive gambling.

NILS (V.O.)

That's where old Janitor Glenn comes in.
We pooled our allowances for him to buy
us scratchers since we were underage. And
we'd cut him in on any winnings.

A JANITOR ("GLENN" nametag) enters, pushing his cleaning
cart. Recorder Kid hands him cash from a briefcase, then
Glenn unleashes a flood of scratchers from his pockets.

NILS (V.O.)

We were rich. And the hideout was looking
spectacular.

Dope stuff starts to appear: A lava lamp, a ball pit, a
kitchenette, a row of pimped-out Razor scooters, etc.

NILS (V.O.)

But Glenn wanted a bigger piece of the
pie. Said if we didn't give it to him,
he'd rat us out to the principal.

The freaks savagely beat Glenn with his own mop, broom,
etc. Nils cowers in the back, unwilling to partake.

NILS (V.O.)

They didn't love his pitch.

EXT. PARKING LOT - MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT

The freaks use the janitor's cart to transport a rolled
up "rug" toward... THE ABANDONED POOL BEHIND GUN RANCH!

NILS (V.O.)

Sent him to the great custodial closet in
the sky via the pool behind Gun Ranch.

TIGHT ON a bloody mop wrung out in a mop wringer bucket.

INT. DETENTION ROOM - BACK IN PRESENT DAY

Everyone's jaw is on the floor as Nils finishes his
story. Even Schlotthauer is eavesdropping. Nils whispers--

NILS

Rumor has it he's still floating there to
this day. And as for me, I'm considered a
defector who should be attacked on sight.

Stunned silence. But after a moment the spell is broken.

GRAFFITI KID

Those dweebs didn't kill him. My
brother's friend's cousin did it! I would
know, I was there--

INT. GUN RANCH POOL - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

Graffiti Kid, his OLDER BROTHER, the FRIEND, and the
COUSIN all arrive on epic motorcycles. Janitor Glenn is
cowering near the pool, out of breath from the chase.

COUSIN

That's it, Janitor Glenn. You should've
never reported me for that Code Brown all
those years ago.

GLENN

C'mon! Can't we let bygones be bygones?

COUSIN

My parents bring it up every Christmas.
Now it's time for you to *be-gone*!

The cousin pulls out a flame thrower and burns Janitor
Glenn to a crisp. They push his charred corpse into the
pool, then do wheelies and high-five nonstop.

INT. DETENTION ROOM - BACK IN PRESENT DAY

Mascot Kid angrily shakes his head and rolls his eyes.

MASCOT KID

That's not how he died, you doofus!

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - NIGHT - FLASHBACK

A DOCTOR briefs a WOMAN in the shared room. Nearby, a
male NURSE with his back to us monitors an EKG.

DOCTOR

He's sedated. We couldn't save the arm
but he's definitely going to make it.

REVEAL Janitor Glenn in bed with a bloody, bandaged stump.

WOMAN

He's saying a clown ate it.

DOCTOR

Clearly years of Linoleum polish exposure
have taken their toll on his sanity.

(MORE)

DOCTOR (CONT'D)

It's gonna be a long night. Why don't you get yourself a cup of coffee?

She smiles and they both exit. Moments later, the nurse turns around and we see he's... A KILLER CLOWN! He unhinges his jaw and finishes what he started, devouring Glenn's comatose body.

The dividing curtain in the shared room slides open REVEALING Mascot Kid visiting his GRANDMA. He watches in horror as flecks of blood stain the fur of his costume.

INT. DETENTION ROOM - PRESENT DAY

Graffiti Kid is pissed that his spotlight was stolen.

GRAFFITI KID

Stop trying to make clowns relevant again! They're not a thing anymore!

Graffiti Kid and Mascot Kid begin to fist fight.

NILS

Alan Jr., please, you've got to believe me. I'm begging you. Be a hero, man!

Alan Jr. glances at Jenny, steels himself, then--

ALAN JR.

Attention, everyone! I must leave to save my sister from some janitor-slaying freaks. And if that lands me in more detentions, so be it. Cuz I'd rather be detained for the rest of my life than put my family in danger with the murderous freaks I just talked about earlier.

As he and Nils and charge out, Jenny cracks a tiny smile.

EXT. SANDSVILLE SCHOOL - BEYOND THE BELL - SAME

Lucy hauls ass across the dirt field. Behind her, the freaks give chase wielding "weapons" fashioned from school equipment: one swings a tetherball with sharp pens sticking out of it, another utilizes a Lysol spray flame thrower, and one just throws a heavy dictionary at her.

An Expo marker spear drops Lucy to the ground. The freaks go ballistic and pounce on her. In the distance, Pia looks on, arms crossed, doing nothing to stop them.

LUCY

What the hell, Pia? Call off your goons!
I swear I'm not jealous or anything, it's
just-- I don't get why you need a new
family when we're already sisters. That's
why I came back. I don't want Mom and Dad
to get divorced because... I don't want
anything to happen to us. So yeah, I need
your help stopping them, okay?

Pia softens. This is all she ever wanted to hear from Lucy.
She raises her hand, signaling the goons to stop.

PIA

Enough.

RECORDER KID

Wait a second, your parents aren't
divorced?

LUCY

No, but we can read the tea leaves--

KIWI KID

Did you all hear that? The "*chosen one*"
is a double-together-parent-haver!

BOWLING SQUAD KID

I WAS RIGHT!!! UNACCEPTABLE!!!

The freaks now surround Lucy and Pia. Nowhere to go. They
grab them and start dragging them away.

PIA

Put me down! Brian says so!

But they just ignore her and continue dragging.

PIA (CONT'D)

Where are you taking us!?

RECORDER KID

To be sacrificed...

EXT. SANDSVILLE SCHOOL - MOMENTS LATER

The maintenance team puts the finishing touches on the
new billboard as the freaks arrive dragging Lucy and Pia
down below. They look up to see the Dunkleman ad is now
"DENNY RASKIN, DIVORCE LAWYER" (with an arrow pointing to
his office nearby). They completely fucking lose it.

RECORDER KID
 (absolutely destroyed)
 Dunkleman abandoned us!? How could he!?

KIWI KID
 (a crying mess)
 After all we've done for him...

BOWLING SQUAD KID
 (furious as ever)
 KILL ME!!!!!!!!!!

As the freaks continue going insane, screaming, crying and barking like dogs (major abandonment issues), Lucy and Pia manage to crawl away from the mayhem.

LUCY
 Follow me! We're going to that lawyer!

PIA
 What? Why?

LUCY
 Just trust me.

Lucy grabs Pia but Pia pulls away, hesitant.

PIA
 Just... Pinkie promise you won't ditch me again, okay?

LUCY
 (rolls her eyes, then)
 God, you're such a baby. Fine.

The two sisters lock pinkies, then book it away from the distracted freaks just as Alan Jr. and Nils arrive.

ALAN JR.
 Yo freaks! Where the hell is my sister!?

The freaks all looks around. No sign of Lucy and Pia.

BOWLING SQUAD KID
 DID THEY ESCAPE!? DAMMIT!!!

RECORDER KID
 But look! The defector! Get him!

So they turn their rage on Nils instead. They begin to attack him in a massive dog pile. SLOW PUSH on Alan Jr.

NILS (V.O.)
 (reverb drenched)
*Moral compass... be a hero... homicidal
 freaks... breast implant revision...*

Alan Jr. steps in and "heroically" wields his precious guitar like a broadsword, batting the feral freaks across the school yard. Nils is moved to tears by Alan Jr.'s bravery on his behalf. Just like a big brother would do.

INT. DENNY RASKIN'S OFFICE - LATER

Lucy and Pia both sit in one office chair, barely peering over the desk at Denny Raskin.

DENNY RASKIN
 So lemme get this straight. You want my help *stopping* your parents divorce?

LUCY	PIA
Yeah, 'cause I might have to be best friends with my mom and serve her gin beer.	I kinda created a cult that worships a former American Idol host and they'll kill me if I go back.

DENNY RASKIN
 Hmmm, I see. This is a very common reaction to divorce. Well, not your specific reasons, but your overall sentiment. Now hear me out. Let's say your parents do split. Worse yet, they both remarry. Terrible, right?

Lucy and Pia both anxiously nod.

DENNY RASKIN (CONT'D)
 Wrong. Now you're looking at two houses. Which means two bedrooms. You're talking new furniture, toys, gadgets, you name it. And I know what you're thinking, what about Christmas? Birthdays? Splitting time sounds tough, right? Except for the fact that you're hauling in twice the amount of presents. And you got your parents competing against each other, which increases the size and scale of each present itself. Plus you get to play your folks against each other. Dad says you can stay up til 10:00. Mom's gonna let you stay up til 11:30, plus eat those Gushers before bed. Well Dad's not to be outdone.

(MORE)

DENNY RASKIN (CONT'D)

He's lettin' you stay up til 2:00am
eatin' Kid Cuisine and falling asleep on
the couch to Animaniacs. Not a bad deal
if ya ask ol' Denny.

Both girls process Denny Raskin's smooth pitch.

LUCY

Okay, I admit it. Divorce sounds awesome.

PIA

But what about all the stuff about us
being sisters?

LUCY

So? We can still be sisters in different
houses. Just with better presents and
later bedtimes.

Pia sighs. There's the Lucy she remembers.

DENNY RASKIN

If you wouldn't mind giving this to
your folks...

Denny hands the girls his card.

EXT. DENNY RASKIN'S OFFICE - LATER

The girls sit on the curb outside Denny's office. Lucy
holds up Denny's card, pondering her plan of action.

LUCY

Do you think that we should give it to
them straight away or hide it in their
room somewhere to make them think it was
their idea?

Pia's just clutching her stomach, looking sick.

PIA

I think I ate too many Uncrustables.

LUCY

Here. Maybe he'll make you feel better.

Lucy pulls the Dunkleman doll from her pocket and hands it
back to Pia. Pia smiles and squeezes it tight. Then Alan
Jr.'s Mazda screeches to a stop with Nils in the back.

ALAN JR.

Get in, comrades.

Lucy and Pia stare at him, confused. This isn't the mean brother they are used to.

ALAN JR. (CONT'D)

What? I'm an activist now.

They hop in and the car fishtails off.

INT. ALAN JR.'S BEATER MAZDA - MOMENTS LATER

Nils interrogates Pia about the cult.

NILS

Did they kill anyone else?! Do I need a witness protection program?

LUCY

Those freaks didn't kill anyone. They don't even have cool weapons.

ALAN JR.

Wait, I'm confused. Pia, did those tiny nerds actually kill the janitor?

NILS

YES! I swear!

LUCY

NO! Shut up, helmet head!

Pia leans out the window and pukes.

INT. LUCY AND PIA'S HOUSE - LATER

The kids walk in. It's oddly quiet. Their parents aren't screaming. Instead, they're on the couch watching TV.

LUCY

Oh, come on! This is bullshit!

Lucy storms upstairs. Alan Jr. trudges to his room and slams the door. Pia glances back at her parents, secretly relieved. She looks at the Dunkleman doll, now beaten and weathered and whispers--

PIA

Thank you.

Pia follows Lucy up to their room and very gently closes the door behind her.

END SHOW