INT. NOAH'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - LATER

Noah is washing dishes at a very slow pace, distracted by the TV playing classic slasher movies. He finishes up and pulls out the trash bag.

EXT. NOAH'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Noah walks outside towards the trashcans that are setup next to the curb.

Children are beginning to trick-or-treat.

As Noah reaches the trashcan, a black muscle car pulls up to the neighbor's house. Noah stops and watches it. He sees Jackie step out of the car and notices David in the driver's seat.

Jackie leans back in the car, kisses David goodbye, and closes the door behind her. David drives away. Noah finally snaps out of it and places the lid back on the trashcan.

Jackie sees him and smiles.

JACKIE

Hey!

Noah smiles back awkwardly.

NOAH

Hey, Jackie.

She walks towards him, throwing her backpack over her shoulder.

JACKIE

What are you up to?

NOAH

Just doing a few chores.

JACKIE

On Halloween night?

Noah shrugs.

NOAH

Yup. Helping out my mom.

JACKIE

She's working late again?

Mhm.

Jackie flashes a weak smile.

JACKIE

I'm sorry.

NOAH

It's okay. Honestly I think it's good, keeps her mind off of it.

Jackie nods, there is a moment of tense silence.

JACKIE

You got anything else planned? Once you finish up?

NOAH

Yeah, I'm, uh, doing a horror movie marathon.

JACKIE

No way! With who?

Noah chuckles, embarrassed.

NOAH

Just me.

JACKIE

That's cool. What, uh, what movies?

Noah gets excited about the topic.

NOAH

Well, I'm starting out with some classic slashers. HALLOWEEN, obviously, NIGHTMARE ON ELM, TEXAS CHAINSAW, that kind of stuff. Then I was gonna do a creature feature and end with a heavy hitter like, I don't know, THE EXORCIST or THE SHINING.

He catches himself and closes up again.

NOAH (cont'd)

Or something like that.

Zoe bursts out of the front door.

ZOE

Noah, what's taking so long!?

She spots Jackie and instantly smiles.

ZOE (cont'd)

(Waving aggressively)

Hey Jackie!

Jackie chuckles.

JACKIE

Hey Zoe. What are you dressed as, a ballerina?

ZOE

Zombie ballerina.

JACKIE

Sorry?

Zoe puts on the zombie mask. Jackie laughs.

JACKIE (cont'd)

I like it. It's really cool.

Zoe slips off the mask and smiles again, proudly. Then in an instant, it fades.

ZOE

Hurry up, Noah!

She walks back inside.

JACKIE

That was her idea?

Noah chuckles and nods.

JACKIE (cont'd)

You're rubbing off on her.

There is another short moment of awkward silence.

JACKIE (cont'd)

Well, I don't want to keep Zoe waiting.

NOAH

Yeah, right.

JACKIE

Look, uh, some friends and I are getting together in a bit. Myles' parents are out for the week. I'm going to grab a bite to eat, change and then head over. If you want to come?

Noah opens his mouth but no words come out.

JACKIE (cont'd)

If you'd rather do your marathon that's totally cool too.

NOAH

No, no. I'd love to go. Sure.

JACKIE

Cool. Just give me like 15 minutes and come over.

Noah nods, a big smile on his face.

NOAH

Okay.

Jackie smiles at him one last time and walks away towards her house. Noah walks towards his, trying to suppress his smile.

INT. NOAH'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Noah enters the house, closes the door and begins punching the air in excitement.

ZOE

What are you doing?

Noah looks up and finds Zoe staring at him from across the hallway, a confused expression on her face. Noah stands up straight.

NOAH

Uh, nothing.

ZOE

You're so weird. Are you ready yet?

It dawns on Noah and his excitement fades.

(Muttering)

Oh crap.

Noah walks closer to Zoe.

NOAH (cont'd)

Hey look, um... I know I'm supposed to take you trick-or-treating but you're pretty big now, what if you just go alone?

ZOE

(Frightened)

What!? No!

NOAH

Don't tell me you're scared.

ZOE

(Lying)

No. It's just mom told you to take me and I don't want to get in trouble.

NOAH

I know but... I have some plans.

ZOE

(Sarcastically)

Your movies?

NOAH

No, not my movies. I'm, uh, hanging out with some friends.

ZOE

You don't have friends.

NOAH

Shut up, yes I do.

ZOE

Who?

NOAH

Well... Jackie.

ZOE

Jackie!?

Noah cuts in quickly.

And some other people. A good amount.

A sly smile appears on Zoe's face.

ZOE

You like her.

NOAH

What?

ZOE

You do, I can tell.

NOAH

No, I don't.

ZOE

You want to kiss her.

Zoe puckers up her lips, taunting him.

NOAH

We're just friends. We're neighbors.

Zoe makes kissing noises over him.

NOAH (cont'd)

Stop it.

ZOE

Nope.

NOAH

Come on Zoe, seriously.

ZOE

Not until you admit it.

NOAH

There's nothing to admit.

Zoe goes back to making kissing noises.

NOAH (cont'd)

Zoe!

ZOE

You can go if you say it.

NOAH

Are you black mailing me?

ZOE

You can go for a bit and I won't tell mom. But only if you say it.

Noah sighs.

NOAH

Fine. I like Jackie, okay?

Zoe smiles and makes kissing noises again.

NOAH (cont'd)

Stop it, it's not funny.

Zoe laughs. Noah comes around and chuckles.

ZOE

Just for a little though. You still gotta take me trick-or-treating.

NOAH

Deal.

ZOE

It's not like anything's gonna happen anyways.

NOAH

(Chuckling)

Shut up.

He pushes her playfully.

ZOE

Hey, can I watch some of your movies?

NOAH

Sure, just keep it PG.

ZOE

Ugh, nothing good is PG.

NOAH

Poltergeist is PG.

ZOE

I don't wanna watch that. I wanna watch Dawn of the Dead.

Noah pauses for a moment.

NOAH

Fine, whatever. Just don't tell mom.

Zoe smiles in accomplishment.

INT. NOAH'S HOUSE - NOAH'S ROOM - NIGHT

Noah enters his room and goes straight to his closet. He flips through his hung shirts, beginning with button ups.

He pulls one out, places it against his torso and looks at himself in the mirror.

NOAH

Hmm, too much.

He puts it back and continues flipping through shirts. The majority of his closet is made up of graphic t-shirts. He stops on a T-shirt with "John Carpenter's The Thing" on it.

NOAH (cont'd)

Perfect.

Noah takes off his Nosferatu T-shirt and trades it for the other horror movie. He then looks at himself in the mirror, fixes his hair and smiles to himself. Noah walks out.

INT. NOAH'S HOUSE - STAIRS - CONTINUOUS

Noah hurries down the stairs and peeks into the living room.

INT. NOAH'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Zoe is sitting on the couch in her tutu and with her zombie mask beside her. George A. Romero's 1978 "Dawn of the Dead" begins to play.

NOAH

I'm heading out!

Zoe waves without turning around.

NOAH (cont'd)

You got your phone?

Zoe raises her phone in the air.

NOAH (cont'd)

Okay, call me if you need anything. Be back soon.

Zoe is in a trance with the movie. Noah flashes a proud smile and leaves.

EXT. JACKIE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Noah walks up to Jackie's font door. He stops, brushes off his T-shirt and takes a deep breath.

As soon as Noah reaches for the doorbell the front door opens, surprising him. Jackie walks out, also surprised to see him.

JACKIE

Oh! I was just about to get you. Ready?

Noah smile and nods.

EXT. MYLES HOUSE - NIGHT

Jackie's car pulls up to a large, wealthy house. The lights are on.

INT. JACKIE'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Jackie opens her car door and looks at Noah with excitement.

JACKIE

Come on!

She steps out of the car and closes the door behind her. Noah stays sitting in the car for a moment. He looks nervous.

Noah nods his head, hyping himself up and unbuckles his seat belt. He walks out and closes the car door.

INT. MYLES HOUSE - FONT DOOR - NIGHT

Myles opens the front door and sees Jackie and Noah behind his squinty, red eyes.

MYLES

Look who's here!

Jackie lunges at Myles and hugs him. She then walks past him and into the house.

Noah is left standing at the doorway. He raises his hand saying hello. Myles looks at him.

MYLES (cont'd)

Noah, right?

Noah shakes his hand.

NOAH

Yeah.

MYLES

Cool, cool. I'm Myles.

NOAH

Yeah, I know.

MYLES

Dope. Uh, come on in man. Make yourself at home.

NOAH

Thanks.

Noah walks in and Myles closes the door behind him.

INT. MYLES HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Noah walks further into the house towards the sound of the other teenagers. He looks around the house, amazed by the size of it.

He reaches the living room where he sees Jackie laughing and greeting Omar, Tina and Vivs. She then goes up to David who is sitting on the couch, kisses him and sits on his lap.

Myles walks up behind Noah.

MYLES

Hey guys, this is Noah from class.

Noah once again raises his hand to wave slightly.

NOAH

Sup, guys.

A "hey" is heard in unison from the other teenagers.

MYLES

Take a seat anywhere you want, man.

Myles takes a seat next to the coffee table where a dab rig is placed. He leans over it and begins prepping a dab.

MYLES (cont'd)

You smoke?

Not really.

MYLES

Wanna give it a try?

NOAH

Um...

While Noah thinks, clearly uncomfortable, Myles lights up the small blow torch and rips it. Noah is left stunned. He shakes his head.

NOAH (cont'd)

I think I'm all right. Thank you.

Myles starts coughing his lungs out.

MYLES

Suit yourself.

Noah takes a seat on an armchair.

DAVID

We got some beers if you prefer.

He points at an 18 pack that has already been open. David, Tina, Vivs and Omar are drinking.

NOAH

I'm good.

Jackie leans over and grabs a can. She pops it open and takes a sip.

**OMAR** 

Really dude?

TINA

You don't drink?

NOAH

No, I do.

OMAR

Then why won't you have one?

NOAH

Just...

He shrugs.

NOAH (cont'd)

Maybe later.

Omar scoffs.

OMAR

All right.

TINA

You're gonna be the only one not drinking.

NOAH

Myles isn't drinking.

Noah points at Myles.

OMAR

Yeah, but he's busy coughing his lungs out. I don't see you smoking either.

Noah sinks in his chair, feeling pressured and self-conscious. Jackie notices and taps David on the chest.

David, not paying attention, looks at her confused and she directs his attention to the conversation. He steps in.

DAVID

(To Omar)

Hey, cool it. He doesn't have to drink if he doesn't want to.

Noah looks at Jackie holding the beer can.

NOAH

You know what, I change my mind. Throw one over.

**OMAR** 

There we go!

DAVID

(To Noah)

You sure?

NOAH

Yeah, yeah.

DAVID

Okay.

David grabs a can out of the box.

OMAR

Pass me one?

David grabs another can and passes it to Omar. Omar hands it to Myles.

OMAR (cont'd)

Myles.

Myles looks at it confused.

OMAR (cont'd)

Let's start the night off right.

Omar looks at David.

DAVID

You serious? Were doing this.

NOAH

What?

David looks at Myles for confirmation. Myles shrugs.

MYLES

Fuck it.

OMAR

Let's fucking go!

David chuckles.

DAVID

All right, fine.

Noah looks at them confused.

NOAH

What are we doing?

David pulls out two other cans. He hands one to Omar, one to Noah, and keeps the other to himself.

DAVID

(To Noah)

Here hold this.

NOAH

Can someone explain to me what we're about to do?

DAVID

Shotgunning!

Huh?

David takes out his keys, feels the can for an air bubble and stabs it with a key, opening up a small hole. He carefully hands it to Noah and takes the other beer can from him.

Myles and Omar do the same with their cans.

DAVID

Take this one.

David does the same to the second can. Myles and Omar close in on David and Noah. David signals for Noah to stand up and come closer to the group.

DAVID (cont'd)

Come here.

Noah does as he's told.

DAVID (cont'd)

All right, at the same time we're gonna crack the beers open and you chug out of that hole. Cool?

Noah nods.

OMAR

Baby, start us off.

TINA

Ready?

The group of boys all look at Tina to give the signal. Tina looks at Jackie and Vivs, they all yell out at the same time.

TINA (cont'd)

Chug!

VIVS

Chug!

JACKIE

Chuq!

The boys crack their beers and beginning funneling them down. Noah is just a split second slower.

Omar is the first to finish, crushing the can and throwing it on the floor.

OMAR

Woooo!

David is the second to finish.

Although significantly slower, Noah finishes third. He looks as if he's about to throw up but holds it in.

JACKIE

Yeah, Noah!

David pats him on the back.

Just shortly after, Myles coughs and beer shoots out of his nose. The group erupts into laughter. Myles continues coughing while laughing simultaneously.

MYLES

Fuck!

He shakes the spilled beer off his hands and brushes his clothes.

MYLES (cont'd)

I'm not made for drinking!

Noah smiles, finally feeling comfortable.

INT. MYLES HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - LATER

The group of teenagers are watching a horror movie. Empty cans of beer are spread out around the table.

Noah is sitting in the arm chair, sucked into the movie. David and Jackie are seated close together and, while not as intrigued as Noah, are still paying attention. Omar and Tina are on the other side of the couch, kissing and giggling.

Vivs is watching the movie but appears bored. Myles is huddled beside her, trying to hide the fact that he's scared. After slightly jumping from a scare, he leans forward to take another hit off the rig.

Omar reaches for the beer box. David notices.

DAVID

It's empty.

OMAR

You serious?

Omar leans back, upset.

TINA

I told you we should've bought the 24 pack.

OMAR

(Annoyed)

Well I didn't, okay?

Tina sits back, hurt by his comment. Omar notices and holds her.

OMAR (cont'd)

I'm sorry babe, I didn't mean it. I'm just bored!

Omar stands up, grabs the remote and pauses the movie. Noah quickly looks around confused.

DAVID

The hell man?

MYLES

(Under his breath)

Oh, thank god.

Myles lets out a sigh of relief and relaxes on Vivs' chest. Vivs chuckles and holds him while stroking his hair, as if consoling a child.

OMAR

Is this really what we're gonna do? Just sit around and watch some shitty B movies?

NOAH

(Offended)

Hey, that's a classic.

OMAR

(Mocking)

Hey, that's a classic.

He looks around at his friends but no one seems to mind the movie.

OMAR (cont'd)

Really? No one?

JACKIE

I was liking it.

Omar looks at David.

DAVID

Yeah, me too.

Stunned, Omar looks at Vivs and Myles. Vivs shrugs.

MYLES

I don't like scary movies.

OMAR

Come on guys, it's fucking Halloween! We should actually be doing something! If I wanted to watch movies I would've stayed home.

DAVID

What, you want to go trick-or-treating?

OMAR

Ha-ha. Seriously. You want to spend the whole night in here?

David shrugs.

DAVID

What do you have in mind?

OMAR

I don't know. Go find a party. Hell, throw a party! We have a huge house all to ourselves.

MYLES

Na, man. My parents would kill me if they found out.

OMAR

How are they gonna find out?

Myles shakes his head.

MYLES

Something always breaks at a party.

OMAR

Fine, then let's find somewhere else to go.

NOAH

Like?

OMAR

Like, uh....

Omar stays looking at Noah for a moment and a smile grows on his face.

OMAR (cont'd)

Like somewhere scary. Somewhere in the spirit of Halloween.

DAVID

And what's that?

OMAR

Granny's house.

MYLES

Fuck that!

NOAH

I don't think that's a good idea.

OMAR

Come on, what's more Halloween than checking out an abandoned house. One with ghost stories around it.

Omar hovers over Tina, making ghosts sounds. She laughs.

TINA

Some ghost hunting, I'm in.

MYLES

I got an idea. How about we don't and say we did.

OMAR

Agh.

Omar brushes him aside.

OMAR (cont'd)

David, what do you say? You up for it tough guy?

David chuckles and looks at Jackie as if asking for approval. She doesn't say anything.

DAVID

Uh, yeah. Yeah, I'm down for it.

JACKIE

Really?

DAVID

Yeah, it sounds more fun than staying in all night.

OMAR

Sweet! All right, that's three in. Jackie? Come on, I know you want to.

JACKIE

Whatever, I don't care.

Vivs speaks up.

VIVS

I'm in too!

OMAR

Five!

MYLES

You serious, babe!?

VIVS

Yeah, It'll be fun.

MYLES

Look I love you but you're being stupid.

VIVS

Don't be a pussy.

The group laughs.

OMAR

She's calling you out man!

MYLES

Sure, I don't care. This is how people die so you know what? I'd rather stay home and be safe as a pussy.

Omar looks at Noah.

OMAR

Noah?

Noah shakes his head.

OMAR (cont'd)

I thought your whole deal was scary movies? This shit's like the real deal.

Noah looks at the time on his phone.

NOAH

I need to get back to my little sister.

**OMAR** 

It'll just be for a bit. We'll drop you off right after.

NOAH

I don't think it's smart. Pretty sure it's trespassing.

OOMAR

That house has been abandoned for decades. Highly doubt it's considered private property anymore. Come on, you had a whole presentation on it! Don't you want to check it out yourself?

There is a moment of silence.

OMAR

Or are you scared?

Noah looks around, all eyes appear to be on him. He lingers on Jackie for a moment and shakes his head.

NOAH

I'm not scared.

OMAR

Perfect, you're in then! Granny's house it is!

MYLES

I fucking hate you guys... I'm gonna need another hit.

The group, except for Noah, laughs as Myles goes back to his rig. Noah instead looks unsure.