SOMEBEWHERE INBETWEEN

"Frostbite"

by

Waylon Wyche

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Inside a dusty old building, with birds clustered together in the rafters cooing quietly to themselves, and rays of light filtering in from outside highlighting how thick the air is with dust.

From somewhere below us, there is a loud COUGH, and the birds are disturbed from their perches, fluttering manically around as they relocate themselves.

TWIST (O.S.)
Why?
   (beat)
Why is it always a place like this?

Craning down towards the floor of the largely empty warehouse, we see CHRIS and TWIST. Twist is pacing around a large circle of powder that Chris is creating on the floor—a knapsack full of other ingredients sits by Chris as he crouches over his work, applying more powder from a packet.

CHRIS
Because after all this time and all your complaining, things just don't seem right any more if you're not fussing about something.

TWIST
   (not listening)
I mean, I don't even breathe and I'm coughing. That's just a tiny, minute hint that you pick the worst places on earth just to annoy me.

Chris puts the packet back into his bag.

CHRIS
   (sarcastically to himself)
That's not what I said at all.

TWIST
Which brings me to my original point of ‘why’?

CHRIS
Because I'm not sure how this spell is going to work, so I needed somewhere private to try it out. It could flash up an image of where we need to go next, or it could even briefly transport me there.

(MORE)
Either way, I’m not doing it out in the open. You can sit in the van with Danyael and Julie if you like. I won’t be much longer with this.

TWIST
No. I’ll stay here. I’m just trying to figure your choice of ‘private’ locations out. Admit it, you’ve got a thing for skanky old warehouses, haven’t you?

CHRIS
If you haven’t figured me out by now, it’s not likely that you will.

TWIST
Yeah, but I’m a completist. I can’t just stop in the middle of something. It bugs me.

CHRIS
And we can’t have that.

TWIST
(raising eyebrow)
Do I detect a hint of sarcasm, Christopher Berkley?

CHRIS
(sprinkling another ingredient)
I think you mistake love for sarcasm.

Twist turns her back on Chris as she looks round the warehouse again, scrolling him out of frame as we follow her.

There is a soft WHOOSH, like a strong gust of wind, but Twist doesn’t notice the noise.

TWIST
(turning around)
See, ‘love’ is a tricky word. Always gets to me how one word can be used to apply to so many-

Twist turns back round – but Chris is nowhere in sight.

TWIST (cont’d)
Chris?
(beat: loudly)
You’re going to have to stop ragging on me for acting childish if you’re gonna play games like this!

(CONTINUED)
Her voice echoes throughout the building, with no response.

TWIST (cont’d)
Chris?
(beat; concerned)
Chris?!

Having realized that something is definitely out of the ordinary, Twist begins scouring the vacant building for any sign of Chris. The circle of powder he created has been disturbed, scattered by the wind we just heard.

TWIST (cont’d)
(to herself)
Okay. Stay calm. There's got to be a logical... well, not necessarily, but there has got be an explanation.
(excitedly to herself)
Danyael!

Twist spins on her heel and dashes towards the exit, throwing the door open and heading onto:

EXT. CITY STREET - DAY.

It's an overcast day, allowing Twist to dart safely across the street and pound her fist against the side door of the black Ford van that the team use for transport.

The door slides open to reveal JULIE, with DANYAEL craning his head round to look over from the passenger seat.

JULIE
Twist? What is it?
(looks round)
And where's Chris?

TWIST
Uh, good question. I was kinda hoping you knew.

DANYAEL
You two went in there together, he hasn’t come back out.

JULIE
What happened?

Twist clambers into the van and pulls the door shut:

INT. BLACK VAN - CONTINUOUS.

Twist tries to settle down but looks pretty tense, and the mood soon spreads to Julie and Danyael.
TWIST
He was doing that locator spell thing, and I turned my back for a second, and then fwoosh! He was gone, just like that.

JULIE
‘Gone’? Gone where?

TWIST
I don’t fricken know! I wasn’t exactly planning on playing ‘Where’s Waldo’ with him!

Julie opens her mouth to respond, but there is a sudden loud BANG, and a bright burst of blue-white light flares outside the van.

The trio exchange curious looks, jumping in alarm as the van door suddenly slides open, letting a cloud of smoke into the back of the van.

Once the proverbial smoke has cleared, we see Chris is standing outside the van, one hand on the door handle. He’s covered almost from end to end with ice and snow, shivering.

JULIE
Oh my god! Are you alright?

Chris, still shivering, tries to get the words out, but is having a more difficult time than he expected.

CHRIS
(quietly)
Al-a-alaska.

TWIST
What?

Chris clears his throat.

CHRIS
(speaking more clearly)
W-we've g-got to go t-to A-alaska.

Twist and Julie exchange a look, and we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF TEASER
ACT ONE

FADE IN:

EXT. SKIES - DAY

It's a dark, cloudy day up here in the skies, and as we pick out a small flashing light moving steadily through the murky clouds, we push in to eventually reveal a small cargo plane buzzing through the air.

The plane is extremely small and doesn't necessarily appear air worthy, as we push up close to one of its windows and into:

INT. AIRPLANE - CONTINUOUS.

Chris, Twist, Julie and Danyael are in the 'passenger' area of the plane, that looks as though it is accustomed to hauling barn yard animals instead of people. They sit upon small wooden crates, staring out through the windows. Danyael is asleep, Twist is bored (as usual) and playing cards with Julie. Chris, however, appears to be extremely nervous.

TWIST
Wouldn't it be great if all the myths and movies were true, and we could turn into bats and just fly to Alaska?

JULIE
Good for you three, maybe. I prefer travelling the old-fashioned way.

Chris doesn't respond, drawing his coat tighter around himself as the plane bounces through an air pocket, the entire cargo bay RATTLING noisily.

Danyael is woken by the racket, yawning and rubbing his eyes as Twist eyes Chris curiously for a few seconds.

TWIST
Are you going to be okay?

CHRIS
Of course. Why do you ask?

TWIST
You look like a high school kid at a frat party.

CHRIS
Excuse me?

TWIST
In that you look like you're about to vomit?

(CONTINUED)
CHRIS

Oh.
(looking around nervously)
No. I'm good. It's just... I've got a small fear of heights.

JULIE

I thought you three flew all the time?

CHRIS

We do. I'm fine in the commercial airliners and such, I'm even alright on tall buildings or high rises, but planes like these are still a little... iffy for me.
(beat)
Plus, I'm pretty sure I saw duct tape on the wing earlier.

TWIST

You're immortal, and you're scared of flying. That is borderline pathetic.

CHRIS

Believe it or not, airplanes weren't always as easily accessible as they are now. Time was we would have taken a boat.

DANYAEL

Good luck trying to find a boat from Florida to Alaska.

Danyael puts on a pair of headphones and leans back against the plane's wall. Chris stares at him for a few seconds before we cut to:

EXT. TOWN - LATER

TITLE OVER - Sicily, Alaska.

As the plane prepares to land, we descend alongside it to see that the plane is landing in the middle of a street that goes right through the one horse Alaskan town; we'll call it main street.

As the plane comes to a halt on the street, we see a sign that says 'WELCOME TO SICILY.'

EXT. SICILY - LATER

Upon the plane's landing, the group pile out of the plane, Chris more wearily than the others.

(CONTINUED)
Alright, we're here. First step is to find a place to stay, then we can start our search.

Anyone care to remind me what we're looking for again?

Another piece of that healing machine Chris is going to make up for me.

Chris glares at her choice of words, but Twist just pokes her tongue out at him.

Oh, get over yourself. You know I'm kidding.
(to Julie)
It's for me and Danyael.

Chris sighs and walks shakily away from the plane, as the pilot grabs the last of their bags from the back of the plane and follows them out onto the street.

What's wrong with him?

He forgot his Vagisil.

Hey, folks. My office is just this way, so if you'd like to follow me?

The pilot heads towards a small building just off the street, leading the team into:

The small, wood-lined cabin is full of framed photos of the pilot standing proudly before dozens of famous locations around the globe, and as he nudges the door open he motions for the others to wait over by his desk.

The pilot drops their bags on the floor alongside Chris. As he does so, however, one of the bags burst open and a portion of its contents scatter upon the floor. The pilot looks down at several stakes, spell books, and assorted weapons.

Confused, he looks back up at Chris, who is obviously searching for the words. Before he can get any kind of explanation out, however, Twist steps in.

(Continued)
TWIST
Bigfoot.

PILOT
Excuse me?

TWIST
We're looking for Bigfoot.

PILOT
(incredulous)
Bigfoot?

TWIST
Yep.

PILOT
With sharpened pieces of wood?

TWIST
(smiling)
Don't ask, don't tell.

The pilot stares at her for a moment before Julie interrupts.

JULIE
(politely)
We're also due to leave for Scotland in the next few days in search of Nessie, so if you wouldn't mind stepping this up a little bit, we'd-

TWIST
(interrupts)
We'd really be a lot less likely to kick your ass.

CHRIS
Twist!

TWIST
(to Chris)
I'm sorry.
(to the pilot)
I'm sorry.
(to Chris)
He really shouldn't look at people like that. He's nosey, and his lazy eye gives me the creeps.

CHRIS
(to the pilot)
I'm sorry. It's that time of the month and she is just...
(MORE)
...you know how women get.

Twist slaps him on the arm, then so does Julie. Chris tries to give the pilot a disarming smile, but luckily for him the pilot decides to let it slip, heading over to his desk as we cut to:

EXT. MAIN STREET - LATER

Danyael and Twist are underneath the cover of a porch that belongs to one of the local stores, as we see Chris and Julie inside gathering information. Twist stares thoughtfully at the sky.

TWIST
Do you think that I was out of line back there?

DANYAEL
Not particularly. His eye was so lazy, it was practically comatose.

TWIST
I know. Chris says that he doesn't, but I know that he still feels guilty about what happened to Manon and he takes it out on me. I, personally, wouldn't feel as badly about something that was clearly...

A bell rings out from behind her as the door opens and Chris emerges, stopping Twist's conversation dead in its tracks.

CHRIS
What are you guys talking about?

TWIST
(quickly)
Nothing.

CHRIS
(walking past her)
I don't feel guilty.

She watches as Chris starts walking away, soon followed by Julie, who is clutching a map of the area.

TWIST
(to herself)
How does he do that?

She hurries to catch up and walks in the middle of the team.

TWIST (cont’d)

So?

(CONTINUED)
JULIE
We've got to talk to a local guide. He's the cartography expert of the area, and most surrounding areas, so I'm told. Hopefully he can tell us how to get to the mountain pass we're looking for.

TWIST
And what exactly is it that we're looking for once we find the path?

CHRIS
I'm not one-hundred percent sure, but I'm hoping that it's the artefact.

DANYAEL
She means 'what does this thing look like'?

There's a beat as everyone looks at Chris, waiting for an answer. It soon becomes obvious that he has no idea.

TWIST
(sighs)
So we're going hiking through the mountains of Alaska for no reason.

JULIE
(upbeat)
Well, if nothing else, it'll be a good workout. Right?

Twist shakes her head and rolls her eyes, as the team approach:

10 EXT. OUTSIDE GUIDE'S OFFICE - DAY

A building near the edge of the tiny town, with flags hanging from its porch. Chris looks around to make sure that he's headed in the right direction.

CHRIS
(pointing to the building)
I think that's it.

TWIST
Works for me.

They head over, but when they're a mere few feet from the front door, a voice rings out from the nearby alleyway.

VOICE (O.S.)
Christopher Berkley?

(CONTINUED)
The group stops immediately and look to each other, puzzled, before taking a step back to the peer into the alley. Chris is the first to look and see the source of the voice.

A Native Alaskan, PAKAK, wrapped in a thick fur coat, beckons the team to come closer from within the darkness of the alley. Chris steps cautiously over as a car rolls past in the background, the others hanging back.

CHRIS
Who are you?

PAKAK
I'm Pakak. Literally translated, it means ‘one who is into everything.’

CHRIS
So you’re an informer, I take it? How do you know me?

PAKAK
How would I not know you? You are a legend on all sides of the fight. To some you are an ally, to others and adversary. Either way, you're well known throughout.

Chris glances across at Twist as she strolls into frame, obviously having decided Pakak isn’t a threat.

CHRIS
(to Pakak)
And what am I to you?

PAKAK
A friend, although not one you have met before.

TWIST
(rolling her eyes)
This is getting so old. Every town we roll into, seems like we meet another one of your quote unquote ‘friends’!

CHRIS
It’s not my fault I know a lot of people! I did spend a good many years travelling the world before you came along, you know.

PAKAK
And you are Twist, I take it?

Twist automatically perks up as she sees that she's finally being recognized as well.
TWIST
(excitedly)
You know who I am?

PAKAK
Of course. You have also become a significant part of underworld lore over the last year, more specifically with your recent single handed slaughter of the wicked in New York City.

TWIST
(gleefully to Chris)
He knows who I am!

CHRIS
(to Pakak)
So is this just a social call?

TWIST
(almost ecstatic)
Do you want an autograph?

Pakak grins at Twist’s exuberance, but the smile quickly fades and his expression becomes all business again.

PAKAK
I've come to give you this.

He hands Chris a piece of paper, which has a detailed drawing of what looks like a snow-capped mountain pass on it.

PAKAK
And to warn you.

CHRIS
Of?

PAKAK
The path that you seek will not be one easily traveled. It is guarded by a band of monstrous creatures.

TWIST
(looking to the heavens)
You couldn't throw us a bone, could you? Just one easy mission is all I want.

CHRIS
What kind of creatures?
PAKAK
This species has no official name. I believe them to be native to this land. I've never seen anything like them anywhere else, in this world or any other. They resemble the fabled yeti; large, powerful, covered with fine white hair and not known for their love of trespassers.

CHRIS
But you have seen them?

PAKAK
From a distance. I've not tried to gain entrance to their territory. They hunt in packs and appear to be fierce warriors. I haven't the nerve. But I doubt that will be a problem for you.

CHRIS
I don't see it as being one.

PAKAK
Then my duty is done.

Pakak turns to walk away. Chris glances over his shoulder to check on Julie and Danyael, then looks back.

CHRIS
Thank you. I...

Pakak is gone. Chris looks around for a moment, but finds nothing.

TWIST
(sarcastically)
Yeah. It's all funny when you do it, but when someone else does it, it's rude.

Chris throws a tired glance at Twist and starts back for the street.

INT. GUIDE'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER
The door, like every other in this town, lets out a bell's ring as it opens. Chris steps inside, with Julie, Twist and Danyael just behind him.

They look around the room and into a room through the back, but don't see anyone.
TWIST
(to Chris)
Are you sure that wasn't the guide in the alley? Because if it was, I think we lost him.

CHRIS
I think an actual guide would have given us more than a vague warning.

TWIST
Just checking.

JULIE
(calls out)
Hello?

As Chris searches for signs of life, Danyael examines a map of the area that hangs on the wall.

DANYAEL
(pointing to a place on the map)
Is this where we're going?

CHRIS
(without looking)
No. The place isn't supposed to be on any map.

TWIST
Why not?

CHRIS
Because it's a secret, I suppose. It wouldn't be a very good secret location if everyone knew where it was, would it?

TWIST
Okay. Seriously. You're twice as sarcastic as me sometimes. Why do I always catch crap for it?

Before she can get a response, they hear movement in one of the back rooms. Twist swings around, ready for anything, as Chris and the others tense up.

The doorway remains vacant for several seconds before an older man at least in his fifties, the GUIDE, steps into view wearing nothing except his underwear. The team stares at him curiously as he stands looking back at them.

GUIDE
(happily)
Can I help you?

(CONTINUED)
TWIST
If you promise to put some pants on.

GUIDE
You'll have to excuse my dress, you caught me napping, you see. I usually sleep in the nude, but it's a bit chilly outside today so I'm afraid you folks missed out.

TWIST
That is a shame.
(grabbing Chris' arm)
Terribly sorry for having bothered you. We'll be on our way now.

Twist tugs on Chris' arm. Chris doesn't budge, and Twist rolls her eyes, reluctantly standing alongside Chris with her hands on her hips.

JULIE
Are you Mr. Wiley?

GUIDE
Frank Wiley's the name. You can call me Wile E. Coyote. Everyone else does.
(beat)
You people looking to go into the hills, I take it?

CHRIS
We are.
(handing him a drawing)
This is a basic drawing of the place we're looking to go.

Wiley takes the picture from him and studies it.

WILEY
That's Devil's Pass.

TWIST
(shaking her head)
Why does that not surprise me?

WILEY
That's a pretty vivid account of the pass. Where did you get it?

CHRIS
From a friend.
WILEY
Must be quite a fellow. In all the years that I've been doing what I do, no one has ever asked me to take them to Devil's Pass.

CHRIS
Why would you say that is?

WILEY
Because the place is haunted.

TWIST
(unconvinced)
Haunted, huh?

WILEY
(smiling boldly)
That's right.

TWIST
We heard that it was...

Chris glares at her quickly before she goes on spilling the proverbial beans.

TWIST (cont’d)
... uh, inhabited.

WILEY
(for effect)
Inhabited? Yes... by ghosts.

JULIE
Right... but you've been there?

WILEY
Of course. On several occasions. I'm not one to shy away from a mission just because it seems a bit dangerous. I've got a great sense of adventure, ya know!

DANYAEL
(looking to Twist)
Sounds like someone else I know.

CHRIS
So you'll take us there, then?

WILEY
Sure. It won't be free, of course.

CHRIS
I wouldn't expect it to be.
WILEY
Well then, let me head to the back and get changed.
(motioning to Twist)
That is, unless your friend here would like me to keep wearing what I'm wearing, because, honestly, the cold doesn't bother me that much.

TWIST
If you don't-

CHRIS
(interrupting her)
That's really a judgment call.

WILEY
I'll put some clothes on then. Nothing worse than frostbite in places that I'd rather not have it!
(winking at Julie)
If you know what I mean.

He turns and walks back into the back.

TWIST
Oh, my God. What a horny old bastard!

CHRIS
Give him a break. He's lonely. It's got to be tough living in a town like this.

TWIST
It figures that you would sympathize with him.

CHRIS
(offended)
Why do you say that?

TWIST
Because if you weren't a semi-vampire, that would be you.

CHRIS
I resent that.

TWIST
Resent all you want. Take a good look because if you live to be two hundred, that's what you've got to look forward to.

Chris stands without saying anything for a moment.
CHRIS
No, it's not.

TWIST
(sarcastically)
Whatever you say, chief

CHRIS
(to Julie)
You don’t think that’s going to be me, do you?

Julie starts to snigger, and before Chris can speak again, Wiley emerges from the back room – thankfully now fully clothed.

WILEY
Are we ready?

CHRIS
(darkly)
I think we’re about done here.

Wiley nods and heads towards the office door, and we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT ONE
ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. PICKUP - DAY

The team are dressed up in hiking gear - thick, fur-lined coats and big spike-soled boots, and riding in Wiley's old extended cab Chevrolet pickup, along a narrow and barely visible mountain trail.

The trail itself appears to be quite the challenge, carrying on alongside a sizable drop and leaving little room for error.

TWIST
(from the backseat)
So how likely is it that the sun is going to come out while we're out here?

WILEY
Not likely at all.

DANYAEL
Are you sure?

WILEY
Positive. The clouds rarely lift during this time of year. We're more likely to partake in an orgy than we are to see the sun. And we know that's not going to happen.
(looking back to Twist)
Of course, I'm sure we could arrange some one on one time if your heart so desired.

Twist appears as though she's about to attack.

TWIST
Look-

Before she can get another word out, however, the man's lack of attention to the road in front of him causes him to hit an embankment of snow with a bone-jarring CRUNCH. Twist and Danyael are thrown around in the back seats, as are Chris and Julie in the front.

WILEY
We're here!

He opens up the truck's door and happily hops out.

TWIST
(to Chris)
I'm about to hit him.

(CONTINUED)
CHRIS

Twist...

TWIST
I'm about to hit him. One more time is all that it's going to take.

Julie is trying not to laugh, but lets a small giggle slip.

TWIST (cont'd)
It's not funny.

JULIE
I know. Sorry. It's just his persistence with you is the stuff good sitcoms are made of, is all!

TWIST
(scowls)
Keep it up, and you're next.

She opens up the door and lets herself out, slamming the door behind her. Julie turns to Chris.

JULIE
She's sweet when she gets worked up, isn't she?

DANYAEL
She sure is.

Julie looks at Danyael and raises an eyebrow, and he hurriedly jumps out of the pickup before he incriminates himself any further.

EXT. PICKUP - CONTINUOUS

Chris and Julie exit the truck, and meet Twist, Danyael and Wiley around the back.

Twist grabs her bag out of the back of the truck. As she starts to put the strap around her shoulder, Wiley grabs for the bag.

WILEY
Let me carry that for you. I wouldn't want you to hurt yourself.

TWIST
If I were you, I would be more worried about me hurting yourself.

WILEY
You're kind of feisty, aren't you?
(elbowing Danyael)
I like that in a woman.
Danyael and Chris are trying frantically not to laugh so they don't encourage Twist's wrath.

TWIST
Can we just get moving, please?

WILEY
Your wish is my command.

He puts his arm around Twist and starts walking. Twist looks back angrily at Chris as she shrugs the man's arm from around her.

As soon as they exit our view, Chris, Julie and Danyael crack up laughing, and as they finally start to follow Wiley, we dissolve to:

EXT. TRAIL - LATER

The group hike along the trail, which isn't really a trail, just more of a way. There is no apparent signs that anyone has been in the area as of late. The snow isn't fresh, but there are no visible tracks. Nonetheless, they continue their trek up the side of the mountain.

CHRIS
(to Wiley)
Back in town, I heard a rumor about a kind of beast that inhabits these mountains.

WILEY
You didn't let them scare you, did ya?

CHRIS
‘Intrigued’ is more the word.

WILEY
Of all the years that I've been coming up here, I've never seen one of those damn things.

CHRIS
One of what 'damn things' exactly?

WILEY
Those damn yetis.

TWIST
Yetis?

WILEY
That's right, darlin'. Don't be frightened, though, I'm here to protect you.

(MORE)
AND if for some reason we were to have to stay the night out here, I'll let you cuddle up with me for my body warmth. I'm a good guy like that.

(to Chris)
It's nothing more than local folklore. Over the years, there have been several hikers that have disappeared; got themselves into a jam and had no way to get out it. Most likely fell off of a cliff or got caught under a snow drift. The yetis are just the town's way of explaining it and to keep the young uns' from coming up here to play.

JULIE
So there's no truth to it?

WILEY
Of course not.

(beat)
You don't believe in monsters do you?

Julie glances at Chris, then smiles back at Wiley.

JULIE
Of course not.

WILEY
Well then. Nothing to worry about... except the ghosts.

TWIST
Let me get this straight. You don't believe in monsters, but you believe in ghosts?

WILEY
I've never seen anything that made me believe in monsters.

TWIST
But you've seen things that made you believe in ghosts?

WILEY
Yep.

TWIST
What?

WILEY
Ghosts.
Wiley chuckles and keeps on walking, as Twist pauses to throw a sceptical eyebrow back at Chris. Chris shrugs and motions for her to carry on, and we cut to:

EXT. TRAIL - LATER

Twist stares in disbelief as Wiley stands no more than ten yards from her, pissing on a tree. Steam rises up from the snow as he moans - loudly.

TWIST
(revolted)
I cannot believe that I'm seeing this.

CHRIS
Then stop looking.

TWIST
That's hardly the point! The point is, Christopher, that you've dragged us up into the fricken Alaskan highlands, following a senile old man and looking for something that most likely isn't even there anyway!

CHRIS
It's there.

TWIST
Well, it had better be, because I'm about ready to sprout my wings and fly back home.

Chris looks around his surroundings cautiously.

JULIE
What are you looking for?

CHRIS
Nothing.

TWIST
You're looking for the yetis.

CHRIS
If you knew, then why did you ask?

TWIST
Just making sure. Assumption is the mother of all bungles.
(beat)
You think they're real?
CHRIS
Don't you?

As they carry on the conversation, Chris kneels down to tie his bootlace while they wait for Wiley.

TWIST
No reason to suspect otherwise. You think we should do something about it?

CHRIS
Do you?

TWIST
Stop answering my question with a question.

CHRIS
(smirks)
Why?

Twist pushes him over in the snow and walks off. Julie helps Chris back to his feet.

JULIE
Does she seem more on edge than usual to you?

DANYAEL
I think it's the old man.

Chris and Danyael share a curious glance before walking off screen.

EXT. TRAIL - LATER

Though they've obviously made headway, the exterior seems to be oddly familiar. Twist eyes her surroundings with curiosity.

TWIST
Haven't we already been here?

WILEY
No ma'am. We're drawin' in close to Devil's Pass. It's no more than half a mile from here.

CHRIS
Are you familiar with any caves in the surrounding area?

WILEY
Caves? You searching for treasure of something?

(CONTINUED)
CHRIS
Something like that.

WILEY
Well, I doubt that you're going to find any riches hidden within them, but there are quite a few caves in these mountains.

DANYAEL
Are we getting close to any of them?

WILEY
There's one on just the other side of the pass. We'll be there before you know it.

As they walk along, a few solitary snowflakes have begun falling. Danyael walks alongside Wiley, apparently engaged in conversation, as Twist has pulled Chris and Julie a few steps behind the other two.

TWIST
(quietly to Chris)
You know that this man is insane.

CHRIS
That's enough.

TWIST
(quietly)
No seriously... what kind of man with the slightest hint of sanity is going to pee in front of a group of people who are paying him for his services?

CHRIS
(amused)
I'm sure he's just very comfortable with his own body.

TWIST
I'm comfortable with my own body. Have you ever seen me pee? I don't think so. Furthermore-

CHRIS
This is becoming weary extremely quickly. I've got an idea, however, that is going to change that. You and I are going to play the time honored quiet game.
But-

CHRIS
No, if you read the rule book to this game, it strictly prohibits the act of talking.

But-

CHRIS
(sternly)
It's part of the rules.

TWIST
(pouts)
Fine.

Chris smiles as he enjoys the few moments of silence that he gets. The silence doesn't last as long as he might have hoped, however, when Twist interrupts again.

TWIST (cont’d)
(worriedly)
Chris...

CHRIS
Twelve seconds. That's all you could manage?

JULIE
(also worried)
Uh, Chris?

He turns to look at Twist whose stare is caught within a treeline about forty yards from them.

CHRIS
What?

As he searches for exactly what Twist is referring to, his face quickly becomes very solemn. He stops in his tracks.

Within the distant treeline, barely visible, stands one of the yeti-like CREATURES that they had been warned about. Just as they were told, the yetis are of great size. It's body is lined with long, white hair from head to toe, its eyes glow red, and a set of sharp fangs show through as it hisses at them from its spot in the trees.

TWIST
I'm not getting the 'hug him and squeeze him and call him George' vibe off these guys...

(CONTINUED)
CHRIS
Does it look like a fierce warrior
to you?

TWIST
Ooh, let me check. Fangs? Taller
than me? More muscles? Freaky red
eyes? Check, check, check and
check.

CHRIS
Then I say that we go ahead and
treat it as one until it proves
otherwise.

TWIST
Deal.

CHRIS
(quietly)
Wiley! Danyael! Look out for-

Before Chris can get a word of warning through his lips, two
of the creatures BURST OUT from within a snow drift.

CHRIS (O.S.) (cont’d)
It's a trap!

Each of the yetis take the closest target.

One quickly chases after Wiley who turns and tries to run.
Before he can get more than a few feet, however, the demon
exhibits superior speed for its size and catches Wiley.

With its larger-than-life hands, it engulfs Wiley's head and
SNAPS his neck. As soon as it has done so, the creature
throws Wiley's body over its shoulder and heads for the
hills.

Danyael opens his bag and frantically searches for a weapon,
but before he can retrieve one, the closest yeti snatches him
up and carries him away.

TWIST (O.S.)
Danyael!

We watch as the yeti carries him over a small hill and out of
view.

Chris, Julie and Twist finally make their way to the ground
where the demons had attacked.

TWIST (cont’d)
(urgently)
Come on! We've got to find Danyael!

(CONTINUED)
CHRIS
I know! Just calm down.

JULIE
Did you see those things?! They were so quick to be that big!

CHRIS
I know.

Chris opens his bag and grabs his katana from within. Twist pulls forth her baseball bat from her bag, and Julie takes out an oversized handgun - another keepsie from her time with Osbourne's team - and also a small black box which she slips into her coat pocket.

TWIST
(off gun)
The hell is that thing?

JULIE
Insurance.

Twist gives Chris the nod before the trio go rushing through the pass and over the hill, as we cut to:

EXT. BEYOND THE TRAIL - LATER

The demon appears as though it has yet to stop as it carries Danyael, still further away from the group. As he is being dragged across the snow, his bag is dangling behind him with the strap caught around his neck.

Danyael desperately reaches back to grab the bag, but as he does so, the strap loosens itself from his neck and begins to fall to the ground. Before it can do so, however, Dan grabs it by the strap.

He pulls the bag in closer to his body. The bag is still opened from his earlier efforts to retrieve the weapon. He is finally able to grab the axe from within.

Letting the bag fall behind, he grabs the axe with both hands and rears back as far as he can without getting it caught on the ground below.

With all the might he can muster, he swings the axe and sticks it into the demon's back. The demon ROARS in pain as it falls to the ground, releasing its grip on Danyael.

As it does so, Danyael rolls several times and finally comes to land on the edge of the mountain; the axe just behind him.

As he looks down, we see that the drop would have most definitely killed him. He lays motionless as he takes in the view that nearly did him in.

(CONTINUED)
DANYAEL

Whoa...

He slowly gets to his feet and cautiously steps back from the ledge. He picks up the axe and looks around. He appears to be in the middle of nowhere.

He looks up to see that the mountain still continues upward for some ways. He shakes his head and begins walking back in the direction he came from to find the group.

EXT. BEYOND THE TRAIL - LATER

As Danyael continues searching for the others, his surroundings have changed. He feels more confined as he can see that there are walls on both sides of him. This is surely the pass that they were searching for.

DANYAEL

Huh. Figures I’d find it when no-one else is around...

Before he has any time for celebration, however, he suddenly becomes very aware of the fact that it seems to becoming increasingly brighter around him. He looks to the sky to see that the clouds are beginning to shift; giving way to the sun.

DANYAEL (cont’d)

Uh-oh. ‘Clouds rarely lift at this time of year’ my ass!

Danyael quickly dives into the shadows that are being cast by the mountain’s walls on either side of him. With the sun moving in the sky though, the shadows are becoming more and more sparse.

He looks about furiously for an alternate place of refuge, but is coming up short, and as the rays of sunlight creep across the walls towards him, we:

BLACK OUT:

END OF ACT TWO
ACT THREE

FADE IN:

EXT. BEYOND THE TRAIL - EVENING

As Danyael moves quickly throughout the shadows in search of a more long term oasis, he spots a small entrance to what appears to be a cave about twenty yards away.

Danyael walks to the edge of the shadows for a better look. Though it's a relatively short stroll under more relaxed circumstances, this twenty-yard scamper across the snow has Dan extremely worried. He hasn't the luxury of devising a more in depth plan, however, as the sun appears to be playing the part of the predator.

Danyael quickly removes his jacket and holds it over the top of his head. He stands fast for several seconds, gathering the courage to bound for the other side.

EXT. OUTSIDE YETI'S LAIR - EVENING

From a distance we can see the opening to another cave; this one much larger than the other that Danyael had found. Standing just outside of the cave as though it's standing guard is one of the yetis. It paces back and forth in front of the cave, inspecting the area, before heading back inside.

INT. YETI'S LAIR - CONTINUOUS

As the yeti begins walking back through the frigid cave, we hear a small noise from somewhere near the cave's entrance. The yeti grunts and quickly spins around.

Before the creature can react, a DAGGER comes out of nowhere and STABS into its eye. The yeti stays upright, as though he's merely stunned, but after a few moments it falls backwards and CRASHES to the ground.

Chris, Twist and Julie step into frame, Chris' stern gaze telling us he was the one behind the yeti's quick exit.

TWIST
Oh, evil! You couldn't have just given him a warning or something first?

CHRIS
And what was your plan?

TWIST
I dunno, tap him on the shoulder or something. At least give him a chance.

She peers down and grimaces at the yeti's body.

(CONTINUED)
TWIST (cont’d)
I mean, damn!

JULIE
Let’s keep moving, we don’t know how many more of these things are living in here.

The trio cautiously enter the demon’s lair. As they pass, Chris removes the dagger from the yeti’s eye with a wet POP, and continues onward into the depths of the cave.

EXT. BEYOND THE TRAIL - EVENING

We catch Danyael in the middle of his mad dash for the cave. Smoke sizzles off of the jacket as Danyael’s skin tries to catch fire from underneath.

As he is just a few yards from the cave, the jacket covering his head is just enough to obstruct his view of the near completely snow covered branch that lies in his path.

Without the slightest warning, Danyael suddenly TRIPS violently over the branch and tumbles to the ground below.

Though he appears to be doomed, Danyael pulls forth a bit of finesse from his back pocket and rolls across the ground as soon as he hits, and ends up in the comforting darkness within the cave.

INT. CAVE - CONTINUOUS

Though he has made it into the cave, he still has a small problem – the skin on his right arm has CAUGHT FIRE! Danyael slaps wildly at his arm in an attempt to extinguish the flame, before coming to the realization that he’s completely surrounded by snow.

He administers the stop, drop, and roll technique and is finally able to douse the flames. Catching his breath, he stares back outside into the sunlight, before reaching into the thick body of his coat and retrieving a pack of cigarettes and a lighter.

Once he gets the cigarette going, he then takes a look behind himself into the depths of the cave’s darkness.

He reaches into his bag and produces a flashlight before beginning to cautiously shine the light into the darkness.

After walking about twenty feet within the cave, Danyael finds that the path comes to an unexpected end. Dan looks around but there’s no other way forward down this particular tunnel.

(CONTINUED)
He shrugs his shoulders and turns to head back, but something catches the torchlight and he pauses, not sure of what he saw. He takes a step back and raises the flashlight to the wall.

Upon the wall, directly in front of Danyael, is a large and apparently very old MURAL. The drawings aren't those of a modern day variety. They appear more as though stick figures than a three-dimensional renaissance type painting.

Danyael stands for several moments observing the scene, peering closely at it, before we cut back to:

INT. YETI'S LAIR - EVENING

Chris, Twist and Julie, meanwhile, are continuing their exploration of the demon's lair. Julie has a large mag-lite in one hand to help them see in the gloom, but the group stop when Twist suddenly JUMPS like a frightened cat.

TWIST
(tense)
Did you hear that?

CHRIS
You've been hearing things since we got in here.

TWIST
That's because I am a full fledged vampire and you're only half. My hearing is much better than yours.

CHRIS
I doubt it.

Julie takes a step forward - and Twist jumps up again, grabbing Chris' shoulder.

TWIST
Did you hear that?

CHRIS
Damn it, Twist! You're hearing things.

JULIE
It's alright, Twist. You're just letting your mind play tricks on you.

TWIST
(shivers)
It's this cave. It gives me the creeps.

(CONTINUED)
CHRIS
(smug)
You're immortal and you're scared of caves. That's borderline pathetic.

TWIST
Alright. Have your laughs, but when one of those sounds I'm hearing attacks you, I'm going to stand by and watch.

CHRIS
The only thing to be heard within this cave is you.

No sooner can Chris get the words out, than is he alarmed by a voice in front of them.

WILEY (O.S.)
You finally made it!

Chris jumps back and Twist lets out a SHRIEK, swinging her bat round as Wiley steps out of the darkness before them.

To her surprise and horror, the bat SWINGS THROUGH the incorporeal, but still horny old man.

WILEY (cont’d)
In the last fifty years, I don't think I've found a woman as full of life as you are, missy. If I had the ability, at the moment, I'd lay one on you.

Julie shines her torch at Wiley - and the cave walls can be seen through his body! Twist stares in disbelief at the old man for a moment, before turning back to Chris, who has the same look upon his face.

CHRIS
(confused)
You're dead.

WILEY
You're one to talk.

JULIE
Who are you?

WILEY
The guide.

TWIST
I hate to sound like a bitch, but I watched that demon snap your neck.

(CONTINUED)
That's the thing. I'm not one bound by the laws of this world. I mean, I am because I'm dead, but that body was just a loaner anyway. Helps keep me in business.

Twists stare at the old man for several seconds, before he realises they're all still waiting for an explanation.

WILEY (cont’d)
You know how people make deals with the devil?

TWIST
(to Chris)
He's evil!
(to Wiley)
I just thought you were a pervert, but now I've got more than enough reason to take you down!

CHRIS
Twist, calm down. You couldn't do anything to him anyway.

WILEY
(mischiefous)
No, no, let her try. I'd love to watch that.

JULIE
Would you go on with your story?

WILEY
Sorry. Like I was saying, some people make deals with the devil. I, on the other hand, made a deal with the guy on the other side of the fight.

TWIST
You mean...?

WILEY
That's right.
(beat)
I came to Alaska in the good old days for the same reason that everyone else did. Gold. In those days this place was a small mining town. People were flocking here by the thousands until the hills were thought to have gone dry.
I was one of the few stragglers left in these parts when one day I met a man who said that he wasn't a man at all, but an angel; an instrument of God.

Chris and Twist exchange curious looks.

He told me that there was a great battle in store for mankind against the evil that walked this world. He said that there were champions among us who would one day help to claim victory against the demons and that there were certain things that they would need to find to complete their quest. One of such things he told me lied within these very mountains, but were protected by beasts who would never allow it to be used for the purpose of good. The only one that could retrieve it was the champion himself. He told me that my job was to wait here for that champion to come and to make sure that he found exactly what it was that he needed.

(beat)

That was almost two hundred years ago.

So you're an instrument of God?

Sure am.

(winking at Twist)

But don't think that means I can't get down and dirty, because I can. Well, I could anyway.

(sulking)

Damn demons.

Thank you.

Don't thank me yet. You don't have the artefact in your hands.

But it is in these caves?

It's in this very cave.
JULIE
Then what are we waiting for?

Wiley smiles back at Chris as he continues onward. Twist walks directly through him, and Wiley smiles boldly and lets out a sigh of joy.

TWIST
(to Wiley)
Stop it!

Julie and Chris exchange bemused looks as they follow Wiley, and we cut to:

INT. YETI'S LAIR - LATER

As they walk through the deeper parts of the cave we can see that the stalactites that hang from the ceiling are beginning to look as though they were arranged to appear evil. They look almost like fangs hanging down from the caves walls.

After going just a little further the path splits off into two separate paths. Chris and Twist look to each other.

CHRIS
We should split up. You keep looking for Danyael, Julie and I'll go with Wiley to retrieve the artefact.

TWIST
Sounds good.

CHRIS
Which one do you want?

TWIST
The one on the left.

CHRIS
That's the one I wanted.

TWIST
Really?

CHRIS
Yeah. I was--

Before he can get anything else out, Twist bolts into the left passageway and out of sight. Chris sighs, not really surprised.

WILEY
I'm going to follow her. You folks just need to carry on up this path, it's non stop all the way.

(CONTINUED)
The ghost disappears into the same tunnel, as Chris and Julie head for the path on the right.

INT. LEFT PATH - EVENING

Twist makes her way through the path with her flashlight and bat, followed shortly after by Wiley.

WILEY
So, where are you from, little lady?

TWIST
Look, old man. You had no chance when you were alive. You've got even less of a chance than that now that you're dead. So give it up.

WILEY
So you're saying that there's a chance...

TWIST
What I'm saying is that there's a chance that you're going to get your otherworldly ass kicked!

(beat)
Soon as I figure out how.

Twist shakes her head as she keeps moving.

INT. RIGHT PATH - EVENING

Chris and Julie walk along the path, which gets increasingly narrow as the walls press in.

JULIE
So what are we expecting to find?

CHRIS
Honestly, I don’t know. There’s something like a hundred different components for this device I’m trying to build, but I don’t know precisely what each one is when I locate them, just where they are.

JULIE
How many pieces do you have?

CHRIS
So far, seven.
JULIE
Right. So, we’re going to be looking for a while longer yet, then.

CHRIS
(grins)
I’m afraid so.

The tunnel becomes almost too narrow for them to continue, and Chris turns round to Julie.

CHRIS (cont’d)
It’s probably best if you wait here.

JULIE
Why? Come on, Chris, we got this far, don’t play the helpless female card on me now!

CHRIS
It’s not that, I’m just thinking that it’s rapidly getting below zero as we go further along here, and while I know I can’t freeze to death...

Julie gets the hint, smirking and nodding her head.

JULIE
Point taken. Yell if you get stuck, alright?

CHRIS
I will. Although the sound of me struggling to get free will most likely reach you first.

With a last smile, Chris continues to squeeze his way down the tunnel as Julie heads back to a more spacious section, and we cut back to:

INT. LEFT PATH - EVENING

Twist continues on her path, still arguing with the old man.

TWIST
I don’t care what kind of connections you’ve got. It’s not going to happen.

As Twist gets out yet one more rejection, she stops short as she hears something just around the next corner.

(CONTINUED)
WILEY
I'm telling you...

Twist holds her finger to her lips to shush the old man, who surprisingly follows suit and shuts up. Though they listen closely, nothing else can be heard.

WILEY (cont’d)
Wha-

Twist holds her index finger up to tell the man to wait. Wiley nods and Twist inches her way to the corner to peek around it. She cautiously begins poking her head around the corner.

INT. RIGHT PATH - EVENING.

Chris can't go any further, but through the narrow slit of the rest of the tunnel he can make out a small chamber just ahead, lit from within by a golden glow.

Sitting atop a large stone on the other side is what appears to be the artifact itself. It's a translucent golden sphere, which has what looks like an array of crystals embedded into its core.

CHRIS
There you are...

Chris struggles to get further in, but is unable to do so. He carefully observes the narrow entry, then steps back and begins to dig through his bag.

INT. LEFT PATH - EVENING.

Twist warily peeks her head round the corner in the tunnel - and looks straight into one of the YETIS, standing mere inches from her face.

Twist pops back from around the corner in a dead sprint as the yeti lets out a fierce ROAR, and we quickly cut to:

INT. RIGHT PATH - EVENING

We catch Chris in the midst of a spell. A glow of green energy is circling his hand, snaking long tendrils out towards the sphere and trying to dislodge it from its pedestal.

He's not having much luck, the object rocking slightly but staying firmly in place. Chris sighs and relaxes, the energy instantly dispelling.

JULIE (O.S.)
Why don't you let me try?
Chris snaps round to see that Julie has managed to press herself down the narrow tunnel, her coat pulled more tightly around her and her scarf over her exposed face.

CHRIS
Julie? What are you-

JULIE
Stand back, Merlin. I’ve got this.

Chris eyes her, then with some effort bunches himself back to let Julie get a little closer.

The two of them end up pressed very close together - not that Julie appears to mind! She winks at him as she brings out her oversized handgun, taking a small, pronged attachment from her coat pocket and screwing it onto the barrel.

CHRIS
So what’s that?

JULIE
Science triumphing over magic.

She takes careful aim at the sphere, the slit at the end of the tunnel just wide enough for her to poke the gun barrel through - and FIRES.

A small wire-guided capsule rockets out of the weapon, popping open in mid air to reveal a small triple-pronged grappling hook.

The hooks catch on the sphere with a set of CLINKS, and one tug from Julie brings the sphere rolling forward off the pedestal, bringing it to a stop just at the base of the slit.

Julie shuffles back to give Chris enough room to reach down and scoop the sphere up, dragging it with a few scratches out through the slit and into his hands.

Chris smiles as he carefully studies the object, examining its flawless craftsmanship.

JULIE (cont’d)
So... this is the part where you go ‘thank you, Julie, I couldn’t have done it without you.’

CHRIS
(grins)
Thanks, Jules. I owe you one.

JULIE
You owe me lots. Good job I stopped counting. C’mon.

(CONTINUED)
Chris takes two towels from his bag and wraps the artifact tightly within them, before placing it back inside his bag. He zips the bag up and turns to find his way back to Twist and the exit, and we cut back to:

INT. YETI’S LAIR - LATER

Back where the trail branches off, Chris and Julie walk back out into the main tunnel.

CHRIS
Right, let’s go and find-

He’s interrupted as Twist races into frame from the left hand path, COLLIDING with Chris and knocking them both to the floor.

Julie helps Chris up, clutching his head as a dazed Twist pulls herself back to her feet.

CHRIS (cont'd)
You know, I thought that I might get through this trip without a migraine, but-

TWIST
(urgent)
Shut up. We don't have time.

She quickly jumps from the ground and throws Chris his bag. He nervously catches the bag and glares at her.

CHRIS
You realize that this thing can't be replaced!

TWIST
Our bones are going to replace the emptiness in something’s stomach if you don't hurry up!

CHRIS
What?!

Before Twist can get anything else out, one of the yeti’s ROARS rings out through the cave.

JULIE
I think it’s time to go...

TWIST
Oh, now you get it!

As they run off screen, we stay behind to see that there are dozens of yetis pouring out from the innards of the cave.
EXT. OUTSIDE YETI'S LAIR - CONTINUOUS

Twist emerges first from the cave, with Chris and Julie close behind.

Once out, they continue on a good ten yards before Chris tosses his bag upon the ground and takes a fighting stance, katana in hand.

JULIE
What are you doing?

CHRIS
I'm using a weapon. I suggest you do the same.

TWIST
Did you see how many of them there were?

CHRIS
(beat)
No.

TWIST
Well, I did. There are a few.

CHRIS
You saw how fast they were. I doubt we'll be able to beat them to the town, and even if we do, we're going to have to fight them sooner or later. Might as well do it while we're fresh.

Twist realizes that he's right and raises her bat in preparation for the fight, before something hits her.

TWIST
Wait a minute! I've got an idea.

She runs over towards the cave's entrance. Julie and Chris exchange confused looks.

CHRIS
Are you going to talk them to death?

TWIST
I read something in one of your books a while back that I think might help us.

JULIE
Twist, we don't have time for this!
TWIST
Trust me! I'm going to seal off the cave by bringing those rocks down to cover the entrance.

CHRIS
Then that's definitely not a good idea. Danyael could still be in there, and anyway, up here that spell could cause an-

It's too late, however, because Twist has already started the spell that she's apparently committed to memory. She closes her eyes and focuses.

As she does so, we can see that the yetis are quickly approaching the entrance.

TWIST
Causa piedras a otono!

Just before the demons can exit the cave, the whole landscape around them starts to SHAKE violently, and the entrance to the cave comes crashing down.

Twist is knocked to the ground by the blast, but slowly begins to get up.

As she does, she appears to be somewhat shaky in doing so, but quickly realizes that it's the ground that's moving. She looks to Chris who already knows what's happening.

CHRIS (CONT'D)
(wearily)
... avalanche.

From much higher up, we can see that the dormant snow has been rattled enough so that it has indeed caused an AVALANCHE! The snow begins zooming toward us at unbelievable speeds.

JULIE
(horrified)
Oh, my God...

Twist stands beside Chris and Julie, and the group watches in horror as the snow and ice cascades down the mountain and towards them.

TWIST
(protests)
Well... why didn't you warn me?!?

Chris closes his eyes and lets out a weary SIGH, as we:

BLACK OUT:

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED: (2)

END OF ACT THREE
Not surprisingly, the avalanche is still on as Chris, Julie and Twist watch in horror. The Chemical Brothers remix of 'Tow Truck' by The Sabres Of Paradise starts to play as the snow thunders down the mountain towards them.

TWIST
(panicked)
What are we going to do?

CHRIS
I don't know.

JULIE
(also panicked)
We've got to do something!

CHRIS
I know!

TWIST
Well, what is it?!?

CHRIS
Okay. I may have a way to protect us from it. Just give me a second to think.

TWIST
What about the town?

Chris hadn't even had time to think about the town. He turns to look back down the mountain.

Sicily below lies directly within the path of the avalanche. He knows that it will be leveled if he's not able to do something about it.

CHRIS
Okay... I think I'm going to be able to handle this, but I'm not a hundred per cent sure, so I need you two to try to make it to the town and help get out as many people as possible, just in case I can't pull this off.

JULIE
What are you going to do?

CHRIS
What I do best. Save the day.
He forces a quick smile in Twist’s direction, before she turns and sprints back towards the town.

Julie hesitates, not wanting to leave Chris, but he nods his head reassuringly.

**CHRIS (cont’d)**

I’ll be alright. Go! Try to get Wiley’s pickup moving and get back to the town!

Julie hesitates again - and then turns and races after Twist. Chris looks back up towards the wave of snow rushing towards him.

**CHRIS (cont’d)**

(to himself)
I have no idea how I’m going to do this...

Chris sets his jaw and strides towards the sealed cave entrance, as we cut to:

**EXT. BEYOND THE TRAIL - EVENING**

Now that the clouds have provided cover once more, Danyael is walking out through the snow in search of his friends. He keeps one cautious eye on the sky as he walks, until he feels the ground begin to RUMBLE.

He turns to look up to the mountain’s top to see the avalanche quickly approaching.

**DANYAEL**

(resigned)
If it’s not one thing, it’s a damn nother!

He looks around for somewhere to hide - but he’s too far away from the nearest cave entrance. Danyael tosses his bag down on the ground and flops down alongside it, having gotten himself front row seats to his own demise.

**EXT. TRAIL - EVENING**

Twist, meanwhile, has made it back to the pickup, turning to call back to Julie as she struggles through the thick snow.

**TWIST**

C’mon, Julie! Go faster!

**JULIE**

I’m trying!
Twist checks the damage from the emergency stop the pickup made earlier, and with a satisfied nod throws open the driver's side door and hops inside:

INT. PICKUP - CONTINUOUS

Wiley left the keys in the ignition, so as Julie finally makes it to the pickup and clambers inside, Twist starts the engine and throws it in reverse.

With a ROAR of engine revs as she slams her foot down on the gas, the truck dislodges itself from the embankment and skids across the road.

TWIST
Hang on! I'm a terrible driver!

Twist rapidly turns the wheel and hammers the gas, as she steers the pickup back toward town.

EXT. OUTSIDE YETI'S LAIR - EVENING

Chris is standing surprisingly still, his eyes closed and his brow knotted in thought, trying to clear his head to come up with a solution.

He finally opens his eyes again, and his stare comes to be rest upon a far away tree. Upon the tree's limbs hangs an assortment of icicles. Chris stares at them for a beat, before his face lights up with a glimmer of hope.

Chris drops to his knees and closes his eyes. He appears to be trying to calm himself before the storm.

As the avalanche continues storming down the mountain, Chris raises his hands above his head, forming a circle with his motions. His hands come to rest in front of his face as though in prayer.

The snow seems to be only seconds away from engulfing Chris entirely, white spray already washing across him.

As Chris sits motionless, a white light appears before him in the form of a small orb, and sits hovering in front of him.

The noise of the rampaging avalanche is deafening, but Chris doesn't flinch as it surges high above him, ready to engulf him.

Just before the snow hits him, the orb of light transforms into a giant sheet of ICE, deflecting the snow to either side of it. Chris sits without the slightest movement as the snow thunders past either side of him.

(CONTINUED)
The noise is overwhelming as hundreds of tons of snow crash all around him, but Chris remains still and in deep concentration.

EXT. TRAIL - CONTINUOUS

Below the mountain, the snow sweeps down and covers the ground; leaving snow all the way up to the tree tops.

Chris’ plan has apparently succeeded as the town stands unscathed. The snow missed the town by maybe a hundred yards on either side.

Just outside of the town, as if the town itself had been dug out, the snow stands over ten feet high.

EXT. OUTSIDE YETI’S LAIR - EVENING

As the snow has finally stopped falling and everything finally seems calm, Chris has yet to break his concentration. The wall of ice remains in place, despite having served its purpose.

Chris’ face still appears without emotion; a perfectly relaxed state. He sits like so for several more seconds before his eyes pop open.

As soon as Chris opens his eyes, the wall DISAPPEARS silently. Chris sighs and looks around, smiling that it actually worked.

He starts to stand, but finds that the spell took a lot out of him, and he collapses onto his back, heaving for breath.

EXT. BEYOND THE TRAIL - EVENING

The ground where Danyael had sat appears to have fallen victim to the fleeting snow, and the ground is covered as far as the eye can see.

Within moments, however, a small hole appears in the freshly packed snow, and a hand soon pushes its way out into the air. The hand tries to find solid ground to pull the rest of the body up with it, but the snow gives way and the hand falls once more out of view.

Finally, Danyael’s head pops up from the hole as he looks around, spluttering and coughing out a mouthful of snow. His head disappears once more and his bag comes flying into view and lands a few feet away in the snow.

He manages to haul himself bodily out of the snow, scooping chunks of it away as he digs himself out, muttering bitterly to himself as he does so.

(CONTINUED)
I am never going back into the daylight ever again! I'm going to be a damn hermit from now on!

He pauses to catch his breath, looking around at the devastation caused by the avalanche but also noting the fact that the wall of snow seems to have been diverted either side of the town below.

EXT. OUTSIDE YETI'S LAIR - EVENING

Chris, eyes closed, lies on his back upon the ground with his bag propped up underneath his head for a pillow. He’s resting peacefully, still recovering his energy from the spell.

He hears approaching footsteps, but doesn't move. He already knows who it is.

JULIE (O.S.)
That was incredible!

Chris grins as Julie and Twist step into frame, gazing in awe at the piles of snow all around.

TWIST
How did you do that?

CHRIS
Magic.

Chris smiles at his subtle joke and opens his eyes.

TWIST
Duh! But how?

CHRIS
You've proven that you've got to become more careful before you learn any more spells. From now on my books are off limits.

Twist plops down on the ground beside him.

TWIST
What are you talking about? I saved the day!

It appears to take a lot for Chris to turn his head to glare at Twist. Julie chuckles at her eternal self-confidence.

CHRIS
I'm not going to argue with you for right now, but that's only because I physically lack the strength.
Chris slowly turns his head back and lies peacefully again as he closes his eyes.

TWIST
Admit it. Without me, you would be digesting within the stomach of a yeti right now.

CHRIS
Without you I would have slaughtered the lot of them and had been half way back to the continental United States by now.

TWIST
You just don't like to admit that you need me.

CHRIS
I do need you.

TWIST
(blinks)
You do?

CHRIS
Yes. I need you to go find Danyael and leave me here to enjoy my nap in silence.

TWIST
You're going to sleep?

CHRIS
Of the two of us, who exuded the most energy today?

TWIST
It was a pretty brisk jog back to town.

CHRIS
Try deterring the path of an avalanche, and then talk to me about physical exhaustion.

TWIST
(standing up)
Fine. You've made your point. But when you get rested, I expect an apology and a flat out thank you.

CHRIS
Can you please just go and find Danyael?
TWIST

Fine!

Twist turns and walks away. Julie stays, shaking her head and still chuckling at the way Chris and Twist interact.

JULIE
I don’t think I’m ever going to get tired of listening to you two, you know. It’s like having my own personal pair of jesters.

CHRIS
You should see me when I’ve been drinking. I’m a regular bloody stand-up comic then.

Julie offers her hand and helps pulls Chris to his feet, brushing off the snow from his back.

EXT. BEYOND THE TRAIL - EVENING

Twist walks alongside Danyael through the pass that he’d found refuge in earlier. Danyael is happily smoking another cigarette as he lets Twist let off some steam.

TWIST
And now he’s got to take a nap like it was such a big deal! He’s such a baby.

(beat)
How did you get away from the yetis?

DANYAEL
Magic.

TWIST
(rolls eyes)
I’m getting tired of hearing that.

DANYAEL
(grins; points)
I just stumbled across this place to hide out. It’s just over there.

He points towards the tunnel he used to take refuge from the sun earlier, and as the duo head over we cut back to:

EXT. OUTSIDE YETI’S LAIR - EVENING

Chris lies in the same position as he hears footsteps approaching once more. He scrunches up his face and huffs impatiently.
CHRIS
I thought I told you to give me at least an hour, Julie.

WILEY (O.S.)
I could come back if you want, but I've got a flight to catch if you know what I mean.

Chris’ eyes quickly flash open as he struggles to pull himself up from the ground.

WILEY (cont’d)
Hey... don't get up on my account.

CHRIS
I thought you were dead?

WILEY
I am.

CHRIS
Well, I meant...

WILEY
I know. I just came by to thank you.

CHRIS
It's I who should be thanking you.

WILEY
(shakes head)
I did only what I promised to do. You went above and beyond by saving the town, when all you had to do was save yourself and your friends. But I suppose that's why you're the hero, and I'm just some dead guy pretending to be alive so he can keep his business running.

CHRIS
I'm not so sure I'd call myself a 'hero.' I did what anyone in my position would have done.

WILEY
If you say so. But like I said, I've got to be going.

He turns to walk away, but stops short to add on.

WILEY (CONT’D) (cont’d)
Tell your friend that when her time comes, I'll be waiting.

(CONTINUED)
He smiles, turns, and walks away. Chris thoughtfully watches him go, then lays back down with a look of content taking over his face.

INT. CAVE - EVENING

Danyael and Twist have made it back into the cave that Danyael hid out in earlier. There are a few stones up against the wall that Danyael had used for a seat.

TWIST
It's nice. Very spartan.

DANYAEL
What can I say? I like to live in style.

TWIST
So where's this thing you mentioned at? Don’t keep me in suspenders, as Chris keeps saying.

Danyael points to the rear of the cave.

DANYAEL
Over there.

As the light slowly begins to shine in on the wall painting, we get to see a much more elongated version of it. At the top is a drawing of what appears to be an epic battle, with two sides hundreds of people strong clashing in a sea of violence. Three of them seem to be risen above the rest, the characters given much more detail than the others.

There’s an inscription running above and below the mural which Twist squints as she tries to read, running her finger across it.

TWIST
What is that?

DANYAEL
It's Latin.

TWIST
Do you speak Latin?

DANYAEL
A bit. I made some bad choices for subjects at high school.

TWIST
So what does it say, Claudius?

Danyael leans in closer to read.

(CONTINUED)
DANYAEL
It says something about a great battle... that will determine fate.

TWIST
The fate of what?

DANYAEL
I don’t know. I’m not that good at Latin, I should warn you now.

Beneath the drawing is what seems to be a continuation of the story. This depiction has bodies lining the ground at their feet. Only two of the original people are left standing, the third lays at the feet of the others, in between them.

From the drawings it's difficult to tell sides between the two central characters. Neither fights with each other in any of the scenes, but only others.

DANYAEL (cont’d)
It also says something about three great warriors all having... corrupt blood?

TWIST
Corrupt blood?

DANYAEL
But in the end, only one will stand... above the rest, to be crowned king.

TWIST
King of what?

DANYAEL
It doesn't say.

Twist peers closely at the mural again.

TWIST
Don't you love how these things tend to tell you exactly what's going to happen, but never in enough detail to prepare for it?

BLACK OUT:

TWIST (V.O.) (cont’d)
Screw it. Let's go back to town and find a bar.

END OF SHOW