# REALITY TV

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#### 2. EXT. ALLEY - DAY

NAT (19) is seen walking down a weathered alley way, stomping into the freshly made puddles of water with her big black Doc Martins. TIFF (19) is walking close behind her, making careful and confident steps to avoid getting her sneakers wet.

The two continue down the alley until they pass an open garage with a sale happening within.

Tiff walks by initially, but Nat stops just outside the entrance for a moment before entering.

NAT

(Shouting to Tiff)

Yo Tiff!

She walks back to Nat, and the two walk inside.

#### 3. INT. GARAGE SALE - DAY

The sale only has a few other patrons walking amongst the fold up tables with boxes and scattered items within. The SALE OWNER (39) is seen standing in the corner silently observing the sale.

Nat looks amongst the boxes and finds a crate full of old VHS tapes of various movies and TV shows. Tiff walks up behind her as she is digging through the tapes and peeks her head over Nat's shoulder.

TIFF

Find anything good?

NAT

Well unless you consider the entirety of season 5 of "Three's a Family" a good find, then I would say this box is a dud.

Nat drops the tape back into the box and continues down the alley of plastic tables and cardboard boxes.

TIFF

(Sarcastic)

Nat, that show was revolutionary in it's hay day!

Tiff's eyes are then drawn to an old type writer on one of the tables and stops to check it out for a moment in facination. Nat continues down towards the back of the garage. She then hears a faint ringing with what sounds like a laugh track coming from behind a few boxes.

After pushing away the heavy cardboard crates and other bits of junk, she finds an old CRT Television covered in dust. Her eyes are fixated on the old piece of technology and takes a knee to look it over in more detail. The ringing continues on and slowly gets louder until someone sneaks up behind Nat.

SALE OWNER Are you interested in that?

The ringing abruptly stops. It seems only Nat was the only one that heard it. She is startled for a moment and jumps back in shock from the unexpected observer.

SALE OWNER

Oh sorry! I didn't mean to startle you...

NAT

(Soft spoken)
It's, it's alright.

Nat looks back at the television and continues to look it over.

SALE OWNER

I couldn't tell you if it still works, haven't ever seen it turned on.

NAT

(Still fixated on the TV) How old is it?

SALE OWNER

Aw geez, it's probably from the 70's or 80's at least. It belonged to my mother before she went missing a few years-

The voice of the sale owner is drowed out and muffled as Nat stares blankly into the empty screen of the TV, and the ringing picks up once more with the faint laugh track underneath the noise.

She picks herself off the ground and the ringing stops. Nat turns back to the sales person.

NAT

How much would you take for it?

SALE OWNER

Uhh, ten bucks?

Nat reaches into her pocket and pulls out her worn leather wallet. All that is inside is a crumpled up five dollar bill. She takes it out and thinks it over for a moment.

NAT

Would you take a five?

The Sale Owner looks at the five, lets out a sigh and takes the five dollars from Nats hand.

#### 5. EXT. TIFF'S PORCH - AFTERNOON

Nat and Tiff are sitting on Tiff's wooden porch with the TV and the typewritter they found at the garage sale. Tiff is going down the row of keys checking if they all work, and Nat is fiddling with the knobs on the TV.

TIFF

Wow only 4 of the keys aren't working! You know for this model that's pretty good!

Nat is fully fixated on the TV, investigating every nook and cranny.

NAT

(Not paying attention)

Uh huh...

Tiff seems a little awkward, it's obvious that Nat is more interested in the TV than her. She puts down her type writer and turns towards Nat.

TIFF

So! How's the job hunt been!

NAT

Not great.

Nat pushes the TV off to the side and turns towards Tiff.

NAT

Sent resumes to five places, got three no's and two "We will keep you in mind"s.

TIFF

Well at least that is something!

Nat crosses her arms and burries her head in them in disapointment.

TIFF

(Comforting tone)

Look, something will pop up don't worry.

NAT

I just need something so I can get enough money to get away from this shit hole...

Tiff seems a little conflicted in that moment. She only wants the best for Nat, but is afraid of losing her.

TIFF

Well, think of this as the last hurdle. You just got to put that nail in the coffin and you'll be on your way.

(Beat)

NAT

Nail in the coffin...

A near by car honks it's horn and pulls up infront of the house. The radio is blasting punk rock music from within and when the window rolls down, LUCAS (22), Nat's older brother, clad in torn denim and a greasy hairdo and stahce, is seen sitting in the drivers seat.

LUCAS

(Yelling over the music to

Ňa+)

Yo sleaze bag whats with the microwave?!

Nat looks up from the Tv and is annoyed at Lucas' intrusion.

 $\mathbf{r}$ 

(Shouting at Lucas from the porch)

What do you want Lucas.

Lucas turns down the music, but not all the way.

LUCAS

Mom has been looking for your sorry ass, she says you have to clean the house by tonight or you won't be getting dinner.

 $\mathbf{r}$ 

Don't you have somewhere better to be?

LUCAS

Yeah! My job! Now get your sorry ass home before dinner or mom is gonna freak!

Nat gets up and approaches Lucas' car.

NAT

Well maybe if you gave me a ride I'd have plenty of time to-

Before she is able to finish her scentence, Lucas turns the radio onto full blast and drives away in a hurry, kicking up water that soaks Nat.

She takes a moment to take in the situation.

NAT

(To herself)

Dick.

#### 7. INT. NAT'S LIVINGROOM - AFTERNOON

The front door opens and Nat enters her home carrying the large television and kicks the door closed with her heel and a loud thud.

Her MOM (47) is seen with her back turned at a small cheap desk. She is fixated on a small laptop displaying a virtual slot machine, blasting colorful lights and loud sounds.

The room is sparsley deorated other than the desk. A small trash can is placed next to the desk filled with crumpled up paper and old lottery tickets.

Nat after a moment of waiting for a reaction, moves past towards her room until her mother calls out to her.

MOM

(Monotone)

Where were you.

Her gaze is still glued to the match on the laptop. Nat pauses and turns towards her.

NAT

(Softer)

Just out with a friend.

There is a pause with no response from her mother. The laptop plays a winning jingle and anouncing "Winner Winner!". Nat's mom then jots down a number on a notepad beside her, before continuing.

MOM

Have you cleaned the dishes yet.

Nat is slowly making her way into the dining room. On the small table in the center of the room are a pile of letters and bill, all of which state unpaid.

NAT

I'll do them before dinner...

Again, there is no response from her mother, just the sound of the slots. Nat takes the opportunity to go into her room, quietly closing the door behind her.

EXIT NAT

## 8. INT. NAT'S ROOM

Nat enters her room and places her prized TV on the floor.

The walls are completely covereed with posters for films and tv shows dating back to the late 70's. Most of the pieces depicted are horror and mystery flicks, ranging from more artistic pieces to cheezey slashers.

Clothes are strewn about the room, from her bed to the floor and even crawling up the small desk next to the window. Christmas lights crown the room around all four walls, creating a colorful ambience to her domain.

She takes a seat right infront of the TV and comes up with a mental plan on how to tackle this pet project of hers.

After picking up the singular power cable that dangles off the back side, Nat crawls under her bed past the dust bunnys, forgoten shoes, and trash to plug it into the one empty outlet.

Emerging from the crevas and dusting herself off, she turns on the TV.

A moment goes by with no response, but in the flash of a second the screen lights up with static and an ear piercing screach whales from the old contraption.

Covering her ears in pain, Nat reaches for the volume knob and turns it down to a more bearable level. Nat peaks out her bed room door and peers into the living room, her mother seems unphased by the whales of the TV and continues to watch hers.

Returning to the TV, she turns the channel knob, investigating for any sort of response. The sound warps and distorts as she searches through the frequencies, but nothing comes through.

Nat is slightly defeated in that moment, but what was she expecting in the first place.

Returning to the underside of her bed, she reaches for the plug to the TV. It wasn't until the noises started to shift on their own and form a single word:

THE TELEVISION

HELLO!

Nat jerks up from the sudden voice and hits her head on the wood frame above, and scurries out from under the bed.

The screen still shows the same static, however the ringing has disapeared.

## 9. THE MEETING

Nat sits confused on the floor, facing the white and black fuzz.

NAT

(Cautiously)

H- Hello?

The screen flashes with all sorts of imagery, quickly cutting together comercial clips and sound bites in an attempt to formulate words and scentences.

THE TELEVISION

HELLO - VALUED CUSTOMER!

NAT

Who- What, are you?

THE TELEVISION

TIRED OF YOUR OLD - WASTEFUL - LIFE! - WANT TO TRAVEL TO - A

BETTER TOMORROW?

Nat takes it all in for a moment. She has no idea how to react, but the possibilites run through her head as she peers out the crack in her bedroom door before responding to The Television.

NAT

(Softly)

I'm listening...

THE TELEVISION

WONDERFUL! - ONLY FOR THE LOW LOW PRICE OF - THREE EASY INSTALMENTS - YOU TOO CAN - CAN LIVE THE LIFE OF YOUR DREAMS!!

She sits facinated by The Television, but she doesn't know quiet how to feel about the situation.

Looking upon the flashing images of people laughing and living happily in far off places, she looks for a response:

NAT

Ok, what- what do you want exactly?

THE TELEVISION

FABULOUS - FIRST AND FOREMOST - YOU - NEED TO - GET THE BRAND NEW CD ALBUM HITTING THE TOP CHARTS! - OH NO - BUT THIS ISN'T ANY - OLD TIME JAZZ...

The Television beggins to rattle off the title of the exact album Nat needs to get. As it does, she scrambles around her room to find something to write this all down on in a frantic panic.

THE TELEVISION (CONT.)
YOU NEED - "NETWORK LIFE" BY THE
WEST COASTS NEW PUNK SENSATION
"TRANCE" - BRING IT HERE GIRL - AND
WE CAN GET THIS SHOW ON THE ROAD!

The Television shuts off abruptly, leaving Nat all alone.

## 10. INT. MUSIC STORE - AFTERNOON

Nat wanders the halls of an old record store, bins and shelves full of miscellaneous tapes and Cd's. She skims over each case to see if she can find the exact copy she needs.

Lucas is behind the store counter silently watching and pretending to look busy. There's no one else in the store other than them and the faint rock music playing overhead.

After a minute of searching, Nat excidedly pulls out a CD from the shelf and takes it over to the counter. Lucas looks at the CD placed before him, looks back at Nat judgementally and rings it up for her.

LUCAS

Do you even listen to this band?

NAT

Do you even think you look good with that nasty stache?

Lucas took that personally.

LUCAS

Hey! Every man that has a mustache gets famous!

Lucas starts to count off people on his fingers, Nat is not amused.

LUCAS (CONT.)

Steve Harvy, Freddy Mercury, Hulk Hogan-

NAT

You look like Jeffery Dahmer.

Lucas took that too personally, but is too stunned to have a comeback.

LUCAS

Five twenty six.

Lucas takes a second look at the CD while Nat is getting the money.

LUCAS

(Confused)

What even is this band? Where did you find this?

Nat pulls out her wallet and sees that there is nothing left inside, she spent the rest of her savings on The Television.

NAT

You can put it on my tab.

In a switft motion, she grabs the CD from Lucas and heads out the door.

LUCAS

Hey!

Lucas frantically gets up from behind the counter and pursues her out the store.

## 11. EXT. MUSIC STORE - DAY

The two barge out of the shop and Lucas yells out for his sister.

LUCAS

This is the fourth time you have stolen something from the store!

NAT

It's five dollars you will be fine.

LUCAS

Actually jackass I wont.

Lucas grabs Nats shoulder and pulls her aside.

LUCAS

My boss has gotten pissed that I have let you steal on my shift and I've had to pay for all of it!

NAT

(To herself)

And you can pay for this one too.

LUCAS

(Mad)

I'm not going to lose my job because you want to be a god damn fucking leach!

That hit Nat hard. She storms off in a rush.

EXIT. NAT

LUCAS

(Shouting)

I want the money by the end of the day asshole!

Lucas straigtens out his mustahce and returns to the store.

#### 12. INT. NAT'S ROOM - LATE AFTERNOON

Nat returns to her room with the CD and sits down right infront of The Television.

NAT

Alright, I believe this is it.

After a moment, The Television sparks to life once more with the sounds of cheering and applause. The white fuzz lights up Nat's face with a faint glow

THE TELEVISION

FABULOUS! - NOW FOR ROUND TWO - THE NEXT INGREEDIENT - GET YOURSELF - A WINNING TICKET - THE BIG ONE - THIS LEPRECHAUN'S GOLD POT IS UP FOR GRABS - IT COULD BE YOU - GET THE WINNING TICKET NOW - BRING IT HERE - FOR THE CHANCE TO WIN BIG - BIG - BIG!

Once more, The Television shuts off.

Nat heads to her alley way and starts going through her family's garbage. She rips open bag after bag looking through countless discarded lottery cards.

After the fith bag she gives up and sits down in the middle of the alley.

After a moment, her head perks up with a new found spark in her eye.

She heads back inside and sneaks into the dining room to get a look at her Mom still sitting in the living room.

The computer is still on, but her mother is no sitting there scratching tickets with a quater, most of them she is tossing into the trash.

However after a moment, she places one into her wallet sitting beside her.

Nat returns to her room and ponders for a moment, before a newfound plan pops into her head. She grabs her phone and dials a number.

## 13. THE HESIT

### 14. INT. NAT'S ROOM - EVENING

Tiff walks up to Nats bedroom window and knocks on the glass. Nat opens it up peeks her head out.

TIFF

Ok what's up?

NAT

(Whispering)

I need you to go to knock on the front door and distract my mom.

TIFF

(Now also whispering,

confused)

May I ask why?

NAT

I just need to grab something without her seeing, it will be really quick.

TIFF

(Starting to get a little concerned)

Is everything ok Nat?

ΝΔΤ

(Slightly aggitated)

Yes just, please do this, I'll meet you at your car once I'm done, ok?

Tiff stands there conflicted for a moment, she has never seen Nat this desperate and she can easily tell that she is hiding something.

NAT

Please...

Beat

TIFF

\*Sigh\* Ok. Just be quick. I don't know how long I can hold her off for.

NAT

Thank you.

Nat closes the window on Tiff.

#### 15. EXT. NAT'S LIVINGROOM - EVENING

Tiff knocks on the front door, while Nat's mom is still at her desk.

MOM

(Yelling)

Natalie open the door!

NAT (OFF SCREEN)

(Yelling)

I'm in the bathroom!

Nat's mom lets out a groan and gets up, the door knocks again.

MOM

I'm coming!

Nat's mom opens the door and sees Tiff standing there.

TIFF

Hello Ms. Wozniack! How are you this evening!

Nat creeps out from her room and starts to make her way to the coffee table.

MOM

Natalie's in the bathroom she'll be out in a second.

She begins to close the door on Tiff. Tiff sees Nat sneaking behind her and in a moment of panic she puts her foot on the door to keep it open.

TIFF

(Panic)

Uhm, actually... I was here to speak with you for a moment!

Nat's mom looks at her confused.

As Tiff is speaking, Nat is slowly approaching the table and grabs the remote.

TIFF (CONT.)

(Improvising)

You see, the highschool's marching band is doing a fundraiser for the sports department, so we are doing a raffle and the winner gets half the money raised!

Nat begins to make her escape to her bed room.

MOM

Not interested.

She begins to close the door

TIFF

(Panicked)

Wait!

Tiff holds the door open, Nat is frozen in the living room

TIFF (CONT.)

The winning pot is currently at fifteen thousand!

MOM

(Now interested)

Wow, I can throw you guys a couple bucks if that's whats in it. Let me get my wallet.

Tiff stutters for a moment as she turns around and goes for her wallet.

Hearing this, Nat quickly snatches the lottery ticket from the wallet and stuffs it in her pocket.

Nat stands ther silently panicing, hoping she doesn't notice the missing ticket. Her mom stares at her, and then grabs her wallet before returning to Tiff.

MOM

Here's ten dollars.

TIFF

(Stuttering)

Great! I'll get everything set for you and will let you know the results!

Nat's mom gives her a breif smile and closes the door. Nat rushes back to her room and closes the door.

#### 16. THIRD TASK

#### 17. INT. NAT'S ROOM - EVENING

The ticket drops to the ground next to the CD.

NAT

(To The Television)
Ok remote done, what next a book?
Baseball bat? Video game?

The Tv turns on once again, buzzing with static before giving another round of applause.

THE TELEVISION

FANTASTIC - NOW WE CAN - MOVE ON TO THE FINAL ROUND - ARE YOU READY?

NAT

(Snarky)

Sure!

The Television turns off, everything is dead silent for a moment that lingers on and on.

Nat's desk light starts to flicker, and slowly so does every other bulb in her room. They grow more eratic and flash more and more. Lost and confused Nat is left to observe the chaos. She tries flicking the light switch on and off, but she is powerless in this situation.

Ringing returns and builds up until all the lights go dark. The room becomes a void, baren of any light. That is until The Television flashes on with nothing but white static illuminating Nat's face.

It begins to speak with a robotic voice, reading off text appearing on screen. Low fidelity visuals appear along side, showing pictures of locations and instructions for the girl to follow.

THE TELEVISION

(Robotic)

Your objective: Go to the woods beyond the town boarders, to the underside of the bridge where old trains ran.

The picture changes from the bridge to that of an old tree stump.

THE TELEVISION (CONT.)
There lies an old stump, dig to its roots and find an old box burried next to it.

It's screen changes to old instructional graphics depicting the instructions spoken.

THE TELEVISION (CONT.)
Bring the items you gathered here
and follow the instructions within.
Once done, return here.

It's screen flashes eratically once more before going dark. The void lingers for a moment before the lights quietly flicker on once more, revealing a ghostly Nat looking off into nothingness.

#### 18. SNEAKING OUT

#### 19. EXT. NAT'S HOUSE - DUSK

Tiff waits in her car listening to the radio. Lucas pulls up right infront of her and storms out of his car. The two make eye contact and Lucas stomps over to Tiff's window.

LUCAS

(Mad)

Where's my sister!

TIFF

(Nervous)

What's going on...

LUCAS

That litte shit just got me fucking fired! Now where the hell is-

He looks over towards her window and sees the lights on with a slight flicker. Without a moment to think he heads to the front door and barges in.

#### 20. INT. NAT'S LIVINGROOM - DUSK

Within the living room, Lucas and Nat's mom is searching around, ripping up couch cusions and tearing down book cases to find the lost ticket.

Lucas walks in and heads straight for Nat's door and bangs on it.

#### 21. INT. NAT'S ROOM - DUSK

Nat jumps out of her hypnosis and looks towards the door in fear.

LUCAS

(Shouting)

Nat open up!

The door knob shakes and the door bangs one more time.

LUCAS (CONT.) OPEN THE DOOR!

Nat looks around, grabs the items, and makes a dash for the window and jumps out. Clouds start to brew in the horizon and thunder echos from the distance.

She makes a mad dash for Tiff's car and hops in the passenger seat and quickly buckes up.

TIFF

(Freaking out) What the hell is going on?!

NAT

(Avoiding eyecontact)

Go to the forest.

TIFF

What?!

NAT

(Direct to Tiff, louder)

The forest! Go!

TIFF

Jesus Christ OK!

The two drive off into the storm.

22. THE WOODS

23. EXT. WOODS - NIGHT

The car drives up to the entrance to the forest, at this point it is pouring out and the woods are shrouded in darkness.

Before she can exit, Tiff grabs Nat's arm and stops her in her tracks.

TIFF

Hey!

NAT

(Annoyed)

What?

TIFF

Where are you going?

Nat gives a heavy sigh, but is still visibly tense

NAT

I have to go do something I'll be right back.

She tries to leave but Tiff yanks her back into her seat

TIFF

(Concerned)

Do what? What the hell is going on Nat you aren't like this you don't just run away from your family and go out into the woods pretending that everything is fine!

Nat looks down at her feet, ashamed of herself.

TIFF

(Gentle)

Nat, I'm here for you, and I want to help you, but I don't want you to do anything you will regret.

Beat.

NAT

(Quetly)

Once I do this, all of this will be over.

Tiff looks concerned and is almost in tears, still holding on to her friend.

NAT (CONT.)

I need you to trust me. Please.

She looks back fighting back tears, and when Nat pulls away once more, Tiff doesn't hold on.

#### 24. EXIT NAT

#### 25. EXT. DEEP WOODS - NIGHT

Nat trudges through the mud and debris, rain pouring down upon her and nothing lighting her way except her phone flash light.

She enters into a clearing and finds the old train tracks with the bridge that The Television showed her.

After scaling a gravel slope, she kneels down to an old stump and starts to dig with her bare hands.

Clump by clump she carves away dirt and mud until she uncovers an old wooden box and peers inside.

On the underside of the lid is a small camera and a note, and within the main basin are scattered framents of miscelanesous objects, with a rusted knife in the center of it all.

Carefully, Nat picks the note from the box and reads it aloud.

NAT

"Turn on the camera and press record. Take the items you have brought and leave their broken remains in the box. Lastly, use the knife to give up a part of yourself, and show us how far you are willing to go."

Nat looks up at the blank lens of the camera, puts down the note, and turns it on.

The camera watches her as she takes the cd and struggles to snap it in two. The shards of plastic scrape against her, as the cover picture gets stained by the water from above.

Next, she rips the tickets to shreds gathers the pieces to place in the box.

Finally, she turns to the knife and slowly places it into the palm of her hand.

She looks it over, she looks at her hands.

(Shakey)
How far will I go?

She looks back up at the camera staring back at her.

NAT

Nail in the coffin.

She takes the knife and places it by her finger nail.

NAT

Nail in the coffin.

She places it underneath the nail.

NAT

Nail in the coffin.

She closes her eyes and start to struggle. The camera stares at her, as her grunts turn into screams of pain.

- 26. GOING HOME
- 27. EXT. WOODS NIGHT

Tiff is waiting in her car with the lights on, nothing is playing on the radio as she sits in her own mind.

She spots something emerge from the woods. Nat walks towards the car clutching a bloody fist.

As she walks closer, Tiff leaves the car and runs over to Nat.

TIFF

(Concerned)

Jesus Christ Nat what the fuck did you do?!

NAT

(Exhausted)

I put the nail in the coffin, just like you said.

TIFF

(Freaking out)

Oh god ok we are getting you to a hospital now!

As Tiff begins to drag her back to the car, Nat tugs back and pleads to Tiff.

NAT

(Perking up out of fear)
No! I need to go back to my house!

TIFF

Natalie you need a doctor!

NAT

(Yelling)

No!

Beat

TIFF

(Angry)

What the fuck did you do out there! What is wrong with you! For all I know you could have died and now you come back with blood all over you and denying to see a doctor! I'm not taking you home I'm not going to let you do this to yourself!

Nat pauses for amoment staring at Tiff, then she sees the running engine of the car.

With all the strength she has left she shoves Tiff down to the ground and runs to the drivers seat.

TIFF

(On the ground, wind knocked out of her) \*cough\* Nat! Stop!

She slams the car door, shifts into gear, and hits the gas. Tiff gets up and runs after her before giving up half way into the road.

TIFF

(Shouting)

Nat!!!

#### 28. EXT. NAT'S FRONT DOOR - NIGHT

Nat drives up and pulls over infront of her house and takes a quick scan to see if her family has noticed her. Once she feels like the coast is clear, Nat sneaks towards her window.

She gets about half way through the front lawn until her mother bursts out the front door.

MOM

(Shouting)

Natalie!!

Nat makes a break for it. Her brother emerges from the back yard and as fast as she can Nat jumps into her room through her open window and slams it shut.

## 29. INT. NAT'S ROOM - NIGHT

Lucas bangs on the window and yells at Nat before running to the front door.

In a hurry Nat turns to The Television and grabs it, now desperately begging to it on the floor.

NAT

(Nearly in tears)
Please... please... I did it... I
did my part... now do yours.

THE TELEVISION
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN - PLEASE GIVE
A ROUND OF APPLAUSE - FOR OUR -

SHINIG STAR.

The Television turns on with applause and cheers, while Nats mom and brother start banging on her door and yelling from behind. She now hangs her head down infront of the screen in full tears now.

THE TELEVISION

NOW - FOR THE GRANDE FINALE - CLOSE
YOUR EYES - AND BE WHISKED AWAY! ARE YOU READY?

NAT

(Crying)

Yes... Yes..

Nat closes her eyes and all the lights begin to flicker once again. The ringing begins one again, but now it starts to almost take form into the sounds of screaming.

The screne is static, but from the fuzz emerges a hand that reaches out to the glass.

Then it all goes black.

#### 30. ON STAGE

## 31. INT. SITCOM STAGE

Nat slowly wakes up, gripping her head in pain as she slowly comes to. Her clothes aren't the same as before, now looking like sterotypical clothing for a girl from the 80's.

Looking around, she finds herself on a dimly lit stage set up to look like a living room.

She stares out into the audience, but is met only by a deep dark abyss, void of any thing beyond the front of the stage.

While struggling to her feet, Nat is blinded from a spotlight aimed directly at her, while a disembodied voice begins to speak to an audience not seen.

ANNOUNCER

(To Audience)

LADIÈS AND GENTLÉMAN, GIVE A WARM ROUND OF APPLAUSE FOR OUR SHINING STAR, NATALIA WOZNIAK!

Cheers and applause are heard coming from the abyss infront of Nat, as the rest of the stage is slowly lit up around her.

NAT

(Quiet and confused)

What- what is-

Before she can take a moment to fully process everything, two figures walk in from a door on stage right. Lucas and Nat's mom walk in wearing similar style attire to Nat, and are more cheery and plesant than usual.

MOM

(Cheery)

Well look who decided to get out of bed today!

Applause errupts from the audience as the two members walk into the scene.

NAT

(Confused)

Mom? Where are we?

This version of Lucas strolls over to a couch and hops ontop into a perfect lounging position.

LUCAS

(To Nat)

Looks like someone has a bad case of bed brain!

Laughter errupts. Nat doesn't get the joke.

Their Mother walks over and feels Nat's head, checking for any signs of illness.

MOM

(Worried)

Oh sweetie are you not feeling well? Do you feel too hot? Too cold? Any aches? Any rashes? How 'bout a sore throat?

She tries to open Nat's mouth to check down her throat, but is cut off as Nat pulls away, causing the audience to respond with "ooo"'s.

Nat feels like she's being watched.

NAT

(Starting to freak out)
Where are those voices coming from?
Who are they??

LUCAS

Woah woah woah, chill out! Your ears are playing tricks on you sis!

MOM

(To Lucas)

Oh do you think we need to go to the doctor today to get her checked out?

Lucas jumps out from his spot on the couch and struts over to a media stand in the center of the back wall.

LUCAS

Why go to the doctor, when I got to perfect medicine right... Here!

After skimming through the shelf of records he pulls out one and places it on an old style record player.

The moment the small needle hits the vinyl, the ear peircing ringing begins one more.

Nat grabs her ears and collapses in pain. It takes a moment for her to gather the thoughts to realize where she is. NAT

No. No no no no no this can't be happening.

LUCAS

Psh, everyones a critic!

More laughter from the audience.

MOM

Oh Natalia, always such a drama queen!

The two actors start laughing with the audience.

NAT

(Quietly, still on the floor)

Please... This isn't what I wanted. This isn't what I want... Please... Please make it stop...

The laughing and cheering continues, as the camera slowy zooms out to show this all on the screen of The Television.

The more we back away we see it standing all alone in a dark void, with the light of the screen illuminating dozens of cables all stretching out from the box and into the darkness.

We follow the lines until they fade away from the light, and the laughing continues as it all goes dark.

# 32. INT. NAT'S ROOM - NIGHT

Lucas finally opens Nat's door and barges in.

LUCAS

(Angry)
You little shi-!

He stops in his tracks when he looks around the room and sees his sister no where to be seen, and all he notices is the old tv in the center of her room.

He kneels down, and turns it on.

#### 33. THE END