

MOUNT HOPELESS

Written by

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FADE IN

EXT. ADELAIDE BOTANIC GARDENS - ORNAMENTAL LAKE - NIGHT

A full moon, distant sound of a dog howling. It's spooky.

Students, beer cans, and bottles litter the lawn and benches of the large park, drinking, smoking and making out.

ZITA, 17, alcohol-fueled and ready to fire, lies on the ground as she pashes VIKRAM, 17, Indian, the class clown and prankster, always up for a laugh.

VIKRAM

We gonna do the wild thing or what?

Zita rolls over onto him, straddles him, and kisses Vikram as they dry hump.

Nearby WANG, 18, Asian, she's intelligent, adventurous and amorous, sits on a park bench and snogs ROCKY, 18, a happy go lucky guy with a body built to last. They excitedly kiss, almost too far gone to stop. She pulls away from him.

WANG

What if someone sees us?

ROCKY

Who cares?

He places her hand on his groin, then touches her breasts.

WANG

My parents want me to be a  
Doctor...

She UNZIPS his trousers and looks down in amazement.

WANG (CONT'D)

This is the best way to study  
anatomy.

She goes down on him. He lays back, closes his eyes and MOANS in pleasure.

EXT. ADELAIDE BOTANIC GARDEN - PICNIC AREA - NIGHT

GEEK, 17, a pasty white nerdy teenager, he wears glasses and sits alone on the end of a park bench and appears nervous. He hears HEAVY FOOTSTEPS and looks up in fright.

It's CHANCE, 17, a chubby Aboriginal senior whose high IQ is only surpassed by what she weighs. She sits on the other end of the bench. Her weight causes the other end of it to go up in the air like a see-saw. Geek rolls down into her arms.

CHANCE

Fancy a roll in the hay, Whitey?

Geek stares at her mountains of flesh. He shakes his head no and runs off into the darkness. She shouts at him.

CHANCE (CONT'D)

It's your loss, Buddy! If you don't want to deflower this wobbling world of womanhood someone else will.

She sees SAM, 17, and MUSTAFA, 17, reserved, cowardly guys who sit on a bench nearby drinking booze. They realize her eyes are upon them. She strolls over with a sway in her hips and seduction in her eyes.

CHANCE (CONT'D)

I feel like a ripe passionfruit about to be plucked from the vine. Fancy a pluck, boys?

She makes kissy lips at them. The Boys panic and flee.

All around her she sees other teenagers making out. She's really pissed off. She GROWLS in frustration, opens her purse and grabs out a LARGE SHINY KNIFE.

EXT. ADELAIDE BOTANIC GARDEN - TERRACE BEDS - NIGHT

Further away and out of view of the other students is ANNA, 17, attractive, a good Catholic girl and BEAU, 18, hormone filled and horny. They kiss passionately.

There's a RUSTLING SOUND in the bushes behind them.

Afraid, Anna stops kissing.

ANNA

What was that?

BEAU

Nothing, probably just a possum.

Beau tries to resume snogging, but Anna won't let him.

ANNA

I thought I saw a branch move.  
It's scary here. Let's go  
somewhere else.

BEAU

Nothing can hurt you while I'm  
here. It's probably just the wind.

ANNA

Why don't we go back to where the  
others are?

BEAU

Because what I want to do to you, I  
don't want the others seeing.

He kisses her.

LEAVES RUSTLE again.

Anna's scared, she pulls away.

ANNA

Someone's there Beau.

Beau picks up a large stick and slowly and deliberately makes  
his way past a pile of leaves towards the bushes.  
Frightened, Anna follows closely and attaches her hand to the  
back of his shirt like a suckerfish on a shark.

BEAU

Who's there? Come out and show  
yourself.

There's no response.

BEAU (CONT'D)

I'M WARNING YOU, you better come  
out of those bushes RIGHT NOW!

Again silence, but a branch moves.

BEAU (CONT'D)

I know you're in there you pervert!

Enraged Beau swings the stick at the bushes.

ROWR!

A BLACK CAT leaps out of the bushes, Anna almost jumps a  
foot in the air. Beau laughs as the cat flees. Anna grabs  
his hand.

ANNA

Let's go. This place is creepy.

Beau drops the branch and seizes her hand.

BEAU

No!

He kisses her, and soon things get hot and heavy. Beau tries to slip his hand down her top. Anna slaps it away.

ANNA

No! I think we should stop.

BEAU

What's wrong? Everyone else is doing it. Don't you wanna do it?

ANNA

I do, but not until we're married.

BEAU

But I thought you loved me.

ANNA

I do, but--

BEAU

If you loved me, you wouldn't lead me on and then say no like this.

He undoes the top button of his jeans.

BEAU (CONT'D)

I can't hold it in any longer.  
Come on, let's do it here.

Beau leans forward, closes his eyes, puckers his lips.

Anna puts her hand to his mouth.

He kisses the palm of her hand.

He opens his eyes.

BEAU (CONT'D)

What the fuck?

ANNA

No, we should wait.

Beau shoves her hand away, grabs Anna around the waist and pulls her in close, he roughly kisses her as he rubs his groin against her and tries to take her top off.

Anna struggles, and breaks free from his grip, pushes him away then SLAPS his face.

ANNA (CONT'D)  
NO! NO MEANS NO! I TOLD YOU I'M  
NOT GONNA DO THAT!

Beau puts his hand to his stinging face.

BEAU  
You'll be sorry you did that, you  
frigid bitch! You're nothing but a  
cockteaser. We're finished.

He shoves her away and storms off into the bushes and disappears into the dark.

ANNA  
BEAU! NO! WAIT! COME BACK. I'm  
sorry.

But he doesn't stop.

All alone, Anna turns away as she tries to repair her top.

There's the sound of FOOTSTEPS. The bushes move.

Anna turns and looks in the direction of them. She frowns.

She spots a SHADOWY FIGURE.

ANNA (CONT'D)  
Beau, is that you?

There's no answer. The Shadowy Figure steps forward and reveals a LARGE SHINY KNIFE that gleams in the moonlight.

The knife goes up in the air ready to stab. Anna SCREAMS as it plunges downward.

EXT. ADELAIDE BOTANIC GARDEN - PICNIC AREA - NIGHT

Chance looks almost demonic as she brings down a LARGE SHINY KNIFE in a frenzied, stabbing action.

REVEAL to show that she is stabbing into a chocolate cake.

She sits at a park table with BETH, 18, a large girl, with such a pretty face and a great personality. At least that's how her friends describe her when they try and set her up for blind dates.

EXT. ADELAIDE BOTANIC GARDEN - TERRACE BEDS - NIGHT

Anna's dead body lies on the grass.

The Killer digs into her chest with a dagger.

Cuts out her heart and takes it in hand.

A moment later the heart is sat in her open mouth...a bite has been taken from it.

She's dragged over to the large pile of leaves, and they're kicked over her face.

EXT. ADELAIDE BOTANIC GARDEN - PUBLIC TOILET - NIGHT

Beau spray paints the word "BITCH," on a wall.

EXT. ADELAIDE BOTANIC GARDEN - PICNIC AREA - NIGHT

Chance hands Beth a slice of poorly cut chocolate mud cake. It looks like it's been stabbed rather than cut. Chance licks some icing off her fingers, before taking a bite.

CHANCE

Mmmm...you know who would like this? Anna, have you seen her?

Beth puts her slice down and makes the OK sign and fingers it with her other hand. Chance gets the picture.

CHANCE (CONT'D)

With Beau? He's such an asshole... I thought this party was going to be deadly, dead boring is more like it. You done it yet?

Beth shakes her head no.

CHANCE (CONT'D)

Ever thought of doing it with a blind guy?

With a mouthful of food, all Beth can do is shake her head no. Beth hands Chance a bottle of PASSION POP.

CHANCE (CONT'D)

Might be worth a try? I think I'm going to go crazy if I don't lose my virginity soon.

Chance stuffs a large handful of cake into her mouth. Half of it is mashed into her face, crumbs fall down into her chest. She picks some of them out of the top of her dress and bra and eats them. She gulps down some Passion Pop.

CHANCE (CONT'D)

I mean, look at us. What's not to like? I can be ladylike.

She BURPS, and they burst into LAUGHTER causing Beth to SNORT, which makes them LAUGH even harder.

EXT. ST. JUDAS HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

A small school, the motto on the wall reads - NAIVETY BETRAYS US. Students mill near the entrance.

INT. ST. JUDAS HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY - DAY

Beau takes some books from his locker. Vikram and Rocky approach. Beau slips some cash to Vikram, who pockets it.

BEAU

Here's what I owe you for the spice from last night.

VIKRAM

Cool, so did you get any?

BEAU

As if. Frigid bitch.

ROCKY

Yo, too bad man, I scored.

VIKRAM

Me too.

(to Beau)

You gonna keep trying with Anna?

Beau SLAMS his locker shut.

BEAU

That heartless bitch is dead to me.

EXT. ADELAIDE BOTANIC GARDEN - TERRACE BEDS - DAY

DOG OWNER, 70's, throws a tennis ball for his dog to fetch using a plastic ball thrower.

A YOUNG MUM, 20's, watches as her GIRL, 4, plays in some piles of leaves and jumps in them scattering them everywhere.

Fifty yards away, the GARDENER, 30's, sees this and rakes at some leaves. He shouts to the girl.

GARDENER

Hey, there's a big pile here you can jump in.

His rake hits something hard. He stares at it, goes down to his knee to brush away some leaves. It's a foot.

A look of disbelief and horror on the Gardener's face.

He frantically pulls more of the leaves off her, then stops. Unable to fathom what he sees. Anna's face, wet leaves stuck to it, her heart sits in her mouth.

The Gardener turns away and spasms trying to control his urge to vomit. He finally does. He looks up and to his horror sees the Girl sprinting his way towards the pile of leaves.

GIRL

Watch me, Mummy.

The Gardener panics, he hastily rakes and covers the face of Anna with leaves as the Daughter sprints his way.

Young Mum grabs her daughter's arm.

YOUNG MUM

No! We don't have time. You're dirty enough as it is.

Young Mum walks off with her protesting daughter.

The Gardener breathes a huge sigh of relief. He turns his back to the pile of leaves, takes out his phone and dials.

GARDENER

Hello, Police?

In the background, the DOG OWNER throws a tennis ball, and it bounces into the large pile of leaves covering Anna and disappears under them. The Dog races over to where it last saw the ball and digs furiously.

The Gardener listens to his phone.

POLICE OFFICER 1 (O.S.)

And what location are you calling from?

The Dog digs and uncovers the face of Anna.

The Dog Owner sees this and SCREAMS.

The Gardener turns around to see Anna's face uncovered and the Dog taking the heart from Anna's mouth.

The Dog Owner clutches his chest and falls to the ground.

The Gardener drops his phone and sprints over to the Dog Owner and performs CPR. As he does this in the background, the Dog sits to eat Anna's heart.

Finished with his meal, the dog races back to Anna's body and finds his tennis ball. He races back to where his owner is still getting CPR and drops the ball beside him. The Dog wags its tail ready for the ball to be thrown again.

LATER: The dog wanders over and pees on the Gardener's phone he dropped as the Gardener continues CPR on the Dog Owner.

INT. ST. JUDAS HIGH SCHOOL - HALLWAY - DAY

Beth and Chance exit the toilets and make their way to class.

CHANCE

Seen Anna?

Beth shakes her head no.

CHANCE (CONT'D)

S'pose she'll show up sooner or later.

Other students point and LAUGH at them.

TEENAGE BOY 1

Watch out it's the whale migration.

TEENAGE BOY 2

Anyone fancy playing a game of hungry, hungry hippos?

TOM, 17, a quiet, good-hearted kid, who's used to being a wallflower, approaches Chance.

TOM

Hey--

Chance grabs the front of Tom's shirt and pushes him up against the wall. Her other fist is clenched, and she's ready to deck him.

CHANCE

Tom, think twice about what you're about to say.

He timidly points to something behind her and squeaks out.

TOM

I was just trying to let you know about that.

CHANCE

What?

TOM

Your backside.

Chance is incensed. She pulls her arm back ready to sock him.

Other kids crowd around eager to watch a fight. They grab out their mobiles and record the action.

Tom covers his face as he whimpers.

TOM (CONT'D)

No! I mean look at it. I was only trying to help.

Chance pulls her punch an inch short of his face. She twists around to peer at her backside. She finally sees it. There hanging from the top of her jeans is a piece of toilet paper. It's like a small white tail. She's mortified.

She lets go of Tom and scurries off with Beth towards the toilets. All the other kids burst out laughing. Tom appears disappointed. That's not how he wanted it to happen.

INT. ST. JUDAS HIGH SCHOOL - SENIOR CLASSROOM - DAY

Chance sits in the front row next to Beth. Beau, Tom, Zita, Wang, and other students sit in rows behind them. Their teacher is MR. DUMPHREY, 40's, life's passed him by and never bothered to wave, but he still means well.

A typical classroom, except prints of THE VIRGIN MARY, JESUS, and JUDAS adorn the walls.

The classroom door opens, it's a latecomer. EDUARDO, 17, dark hair, courteous, intense, with a mysterious look. He wears a NECKLACE with a strange symbol of the sun.

FOR A COPY OF THE FULL SCRIPT SIMPLY EMAIL ME AT:  
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